

Anguitar, a Central Committee member of the Spanish Communist Party who was acclaimed at the last party congress as the "Red Caliph." In 1982, Anguitar decided to transform Cordoba's cathedral Santa Clara into a mosque at the request of Ali Kittani—a decision cancelled after much protest by the Roman Catholic population. More important has been Anguitar's sponsorship of the association in repeated trips to Moscow to attend "peace conferences" organized by Russian Orthodox Church's Patriarch Pimen.

In the same vein, Anguitar has frequently welcomed Ahmed Ben Bella and the ex-communist convert to Islam, Roger Garaudy to Cordoba. There is little doubt that Cordoba has become a key connecting center between Islamic fundamentalist networks and Soviet intelligence. Financing has also come from private Spanish businessmen.

According to Spanish sources, the Soviet aim is not merely to give the Northern African states the "Iran treatment," but to weaken NATO's southern flank by creating a crisis between Morocco and Spain. This could be done over the issue of Ceuta and Mellila, two Spanish cities within Moroccan territory which have been kept under Spanish sovereignty pending a solution to the problem of the British base of Gibraltar on Spanish soil.

Though a *modus vivendi* has since long been found between Rabat and Madrid over that issue, there is the fear that Soviet-controlled Islamic-fundamentalist or separatist groups could stage a military provocation against these towns to launch the two countries into a confrontation. The Libyans have been very active in propaganda on the issue. A confrontation would have immediate effects on the Spanish internal situation and serious consequences on NATO's southern flank at a moment of a Soviet war buildup, including in the Mediterranean.

Alongside their naval deployment in the Mediterranean off the coasts of these countries (see article, page 30), the Soviets have recently devoted interesting military and diplomatic efforts to these countries.

In Morocco, the U.S.S.R. has had the opportunity to build up its on-the-ground presence, and its economic leverage, by means of the personnel sent there to work on a \$2 billion phosphate mining, processing, and shipping project being carried out with Soviet assistance. In December 1983, a new Soviet ambassador arrived in Morocco: Malik Fazylov, originally a party figure in Soviet Kazakhstan and one of the top Soviet diplomats of Muslim origin—who are customarily posted in countries targeted for Soviet destabilization and asset-building.

A high-ranking military delegation under Chief of Staff Marshal Nikolai Ogarkov paid a visit to Algeria in December. Earlier in 1983, Rear Admiral Selivanov dropped in on the Tunisian defense minister with a party of warships. And in November, Central Committee official Karen Brutents, an old hand in Soviet liaisons with parties, grouplets and terrorists in the Middle East, attended a congress of the Moroccan Communist Party.

## Andropov tells Reagan:

by Rachel Douglas

Timed for the day of President Reagan's State of the Union message, the Moscow daily *Pravda* published a statement on Jan. 25 in the name of party chief and head of state Yuri Andropov, who has still not been seen in public since last August. Saying that the Reagan administration "bears full responsibility" for the international crisis, Andropov addressed the United States in an ultimatum-like tone. "Before it is too late," he wrote, "the United States and NATO should display readiness to return to the situation that had existed before the commencement of the deployment of the Pershing IIs and cruise missiles." Only then might the U.S.S.R. show up at the negotiating table again, since it opposes "conducting talks for the sake of talks."

The statement included a denunciation of "the arms race in outer space," Moscow's shorthand for Reagan's anti-missile defense policy of March 23, 1983, which the Kremlin is doing everything conceivable to sabotage.

This was spelled out much more explicitly in an interview given to the Italian newspaper *La Repubblica* by Andropov's righthand man for U.S. affairs, Georgi Arbatov. In his professorial guise as head of Moscow's U.S.A.-Canada Institute, Central Committee member Arbatov handles many contacts with American politicians. His aim in the Jan. 25 interview was to equate Reagan's beam-weapons defense policy with the abandonment of Europe by the United States—a giant lie. The truth is that beam-weapon defenses for NATO are the organizing focus for people in Europe who are mobilizing to stop the so-called decoupling of Western Europe from NATO.

Henry Kissinger said in Brussels recently that the United States would not defend Western Europe in case of attack. Arbatov took the cue: "If you follow the European discussions, you hear that the U.S. does not intend to sacrifice itself for Europe, and to exchange Rome for Chicago." This means, according to Arbatov, that nuclear deterrence no longer works and there are two alternatives: "The first is to manifest a capacity to fight and win a war. . . . One example for such an orientation is Star Wars"—the derogatory name for the beam-weapons policy. Alluding to the picture painted by Henry Kissinger, West German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher, and Ambassador Arthur Burns of a "Fortress America" protected behind a shield of beam weapons, while Europe is sent to hell, Arbatov lied that "Star Wars" would mean for Europe to be the battlefield of "limited nuclear war."

The other road offered by Arbatov is collective security

# 'capitulate, then talk'

for all of Europe, including the Soviet Union. Arbatov said that Moscow is ready to "talk" to the Europeans, but not to Reagan: "I also believe that public opinion in Western Europe, though refusing to admit it, agrees on the fact that their main ally, the United States, has a very extremist government, deprived of any experience, and led by provincial ideologists who try to make policy on a strange basis, to say the least."

Some Western European leaders now feel "encouraged" by this Soviet tactic aimed at making them turn their backs on Washington and initiate an "independent dialogue" with Moscow. French President François Mitterrand, an observer in Sweden noted, would like to receive a special invitation to go to Moscow. British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher has made it clear that if U.S.-Soviet contacts like the meeting of foreign ministers Gromyko and Shultz in Stockholm the week of Jan. 16 fail to produce anything, she would welcome Gromyko in London.

## Gromyko's performance in Stockholm

Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko had stormed into a European security conference in Stockholm to deliver a diatribe against the Reagan administration and a barrage of threats to the European members of NATO. While Gromyko spoke, the Soviets escalated war preparations in the heart of Europe, on its northern flank and on the southern flank, the Mediterranean Sea.

Gromyko's tirade against the United States on Jan. 18 was an accurate description of Moscow's own behavior. He bellowed that "militarism, enmity, and war psychosis are being exported to Western Europe along with missiles." He accused Washington of "a maniacal obsession" with arms, "criminal and dishonest methods," and "militarism akin to drug addiction."

On Jan. 17, the Soviet military daily *Krasnaya Zvezda* (*Red Star*) announced that the short-range nuclear missiles installed in East Germany and Czechoslovakia since December are now operational and being manned by Soviet crews. These weapons, allegedly a response to the American Pershing II and cruise missiles newly deployed in Western Europe (which were already in answer to the upgrading of Soviet capabilities with the mobile intermediate-range SS-20), include the SS-21, SS-22 and SS-23, which have ranges of from 70 up to 600 miles.

The Soviet press agency Novosti tried to intimidate

France, with the warning that no "nuclear Maginot line" will save France from annihilation if nuclear war breaks out.

*Krasnaya Zvezda* and the weekly *Literaturnaya Gazeta* harped on the alleged neo-Nazi threat coming from West Germany. "Officially, West Germany distances itself from fascism," wrote *Literaturnaya Gazeta's* Bonn correspondent. "Meanwhile, the roots of Nazism have not been eradicated."

## War plan

These propaganda blasts are far from random harassment of the Europeans. They refer, particularly the "anti-Nazi" line, to specific war options of the Soviet command, such as a strike against West Germany on the pretext of stopping a tide of neo-Nazism. This would throw down the gauntlet to the United States, saying: back down and abandon Western Europe to the Soviet sphere of influence, or go to nuclear war right now.

*Izvestia* commentator Valentin Falin, a former Central Committee official and ambassador to West Germany, alluded to this Soviet contingency—in the mirror-image fashion of Gromyko's speech. Falin claimed to have discovered a "secret U.S. military plan" for a surgical strike by "NATO's northern group" against the borders of Warsaw Pact countries, to test the Soviet reaction and then retreat.

A number of recent Soviet military moves constitute flanking actions for such an adventure by Moscow in the heart of Europe. Scandinavia and the Baltic Sea have been the scene of multi-layered Soviet operations, ranging from the redeployment of nuclear-armed ships from the Northern Fleet to the Baltic Fleet to the sabotage of Sweden's electricity supply and other dirty tricks by Soviet special forces. On the eve of the Stockholm meeting, the Baltic World Conference released a report on the Soviet build-up in Northern Europe, which concluded that "Soviet military planning provides for the occupation of Scandinavia as a whole." The Soviets, according to the report, are basing SS-20 missiles in Soviet Estonia.

Gromyko, however, said it was "appropriate to recall that the Soviet Union backs the proposal to declare northern Europe a zone free of nuclear weapons."

Experts in naval affairs are giving close attention to Soviet fleet activity around the straits between Denmark and the rest of Scandinavia, and the Straits of Malacca dividing the Pacific and Indian Oceans, both crucial passage points for the Soviet navy in wartime.

With an attack on Japan, the Soviet party daily *Pravda* revealed the global scope of Moscow's war preparations. It warned Japan of dire consequences if Tokyo assists the United States in developing laser systems for anti-missile defense. Coupled with a new round of Soviet denunciations of China after Prime Minister Zhao Ziyang's tour of the United States, this threw the spotlight onto the Far East military theater, which is covered by one of the five super-commands set up by Moscow in anticipation of global war.