

International Intelligence

Marshal Ogarkov has not been demoted

In an interview with the French Press Agency in Moscow on Oct. 11, Vadim Zagladin, first deputy chief of the Soviet Central Committee's International Department, admitted that former Chief of Staff of the Soviet Armed forces Marshal Nikolai Ogarkov has been moved "to a very high-level position" in the defense ministry and was not, as had been speculated in the Western media, "demoted" to head the Voroshilov Military Academy.

Zagladin also said that the question of space-based weapons continues to be "the number-one problem" in the world today, and attacked Washington for not wanting to seriously negotiate a total ban on space weapons.

On Oct. 12, that "demoted" military leader showed up in East Berlin on an official mission of the Soviet Politburo. He was received by East German party and state leader Erich Honecker, Politburo members Egon Krenz and Heinz Hoffmann, who is also the defense minister, Horst Strelitz, commander of the East German ground forces, and Mikhail Zaitsev, commander of the Group of Soviet Forces in Germany.

The East German news agency ADN reported that Marshal Ogarkov emphasized the need to strengthen the cooperation of the two armies. Honecker denounced NATO's policy of "armed escalation and confrontation," which he said had to be answered by the "further increase of fighting power and combat readiness" on the part of the Warsaw Pact.

According to a wire by West German news service DPA, Ogarkov went to East Berlin in his new function as commander-in-chief of the Western Theater of War. Radio Liberty sources speculate that a special position has been created for Ogarkov, that of military adviser to the General Secretary of the Soviet Communist Party.

The French daily *Le Figaro* commented on Oct. 8 that "once again the U.S. is falling into the trap" of believing Soviet disinformation. It appears likely that Ogarkov has

in fact been promoted to "Grey Eminence of the Soviet War Machine," *Le Figaro* concluded.

Did Wörner warn of war in Europe—or didn't he?

One day after German and foreign news-wires reported from Rome on Oct. 11 that West German Defense Minister Manfred Wörner had warned of an imminent Soviet war threat to Europe, press spokesmen for the minister began to vigorously deny that Wörner had ever made such a statement.

Associated Press had reported that Wörner said in a press conference in Rome that "the situation in Western Europe is so unstable that one cannot rule out that war might break out from one moment to the next."

Associated Press is now being charged with transmitting a "wrong translation of Wörner's statements." While AP in Rome initially stood by its original report, it later changed its tune and denied having said this.

According to the new version, Wörner said he was "very much concerned about weaknesses at NATO's southern and northern flanks," and that "there is no doubt the Soviets are trying to shift the strategic balance in Europe."

Wörner, in public statements at the meeting of NATO's Nuclear Planning Group in Stresa, Italy, emphasized his opposition to the U.S. Strategic Defense Initiative. "I believe the Federal Republic of Germany has neither the technological capabilities, nor the political commitment to construct space weapons," he said. He added that he has not changed the negative view of the SDI that he voiced at the last NATO meeting in Cesme, Turkey, at the end of March.

Another KAL massacre averted just in time

The pilot of an American-owned charter plane on Sept. 30 averted a replay of last year's Soviet shootdown of a Korean Airline plane, which killed 269 civilians. The pilot

signaled Norwegian authorities, who promptly confirmed that his flight was off course.

The plane, a Boeing 707 carrying 200 Fijian troops to Tel Aviv as part of the peacekeeping force in Lebanon, was flying via the polar route from Anchorage to Amsterdam, but strayed 500 miles off course and to within 15 miles of Soviet airspace. It was heading in the direction of one of the Soviet Union's most heavily defended strategic areas, the Kola Peninsula, where much of the northern fleet is based. The pilot stated that his radar was malfunctioning.

Greens launch new Australian party

A new "antinuclear, disarmament party" was launched in Australia during the first week of October, to synchronize the Pacific flank of the Green "peace movement." The Australian Greens are leading the drive for "decoupling" of the Pacific nations from the United States, working closely with the Stockholm International Peace Institute (SIPRI) outpost in New Zealand to recruit neighboring island nations to the idea of a Pacific nuclear-free zone.

Establishment of a Green party coincides with Labour Prime Minister Bob Hawke's announcement on Oct. 10 that general elections for both parliamentary houses will be held Dec. 1, sixteen months ahead of schedule.

Hawke, a former trade union boss, has come under pressure lately from the conservative minority for alleged connections to organized crime, and for being soft on drugs. He has been accused of quashing a federal investigation just as it was closing in on top-level crime connections to the federal government and the state government of the Labour Party bastion in New South Wales.

The conservative attacks on Hawke, however, may open up just the flank that the freezeniks have been looking for to move Labour out from under Hawke's control. At Labour's convention in August, Hawke barely defeated resolutions calling for shutting down three U.S. military facilities, and

for banning nuclear-powered and nuclear-armed vessels from Australian ports. What Hawke defeated became the winning electoral platform of neighboring New Zealand's new Labour government, which is now pressuring Hawke to take a firmer stand in revising the ANZUS defense treaty linking Australia, New Zealand, and the United States.

East Germans display new Soviet weapons

Under the approving eye of Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko, the East German Armed Forces staged a one-hour military parade on Oct. 7 which was billed as the official highpoint of festivities marking the 35th anniversary of the German Democratic Republic (GDR).

Aside from the ultra-militaristic aura of the parade, which featured East German "National People's Army" (NVA) units goosestepping to martial music, the spectacle corroborated intelligence assessments given to *EIR* that the East German military's equipment is "the most modern available . . . not differing from the weaponry issued to the Soviet forces stationed in the GDR."

The NVA tanks in the parade were T-72s, the main battle tank of the Soviet forces. The same comparisons held true for the self-propelled guns and mobile multiple rocket-launchers also viewed in the parade. An overhead "flyby" consisted of 48 helicopters both of the Mi-8 transport type and the "Hind" Mi-24—the most modern helicopter gunship in the Soviet inventory. The GDR also placed on parade modern land-based mobile cruise missiles, stationed with units in the Rostock area on the Baltic Coast.

In addition to the East Berlin parade, major naval units of the Soviet Baltic Fleet joined with the Polish Navy and the East German Navy for a naval display at the GDR naval headquarters at Rostock.

A leading West German expert on the Soviet bloc military told *EIR* that, with the exception of nuclear and chemical warheads, the East German Army and Air Defense is as well equipped as its Soviet coun-

terpart, and possesses both "the SS-21 and the SS-23 launchers and missiles . . . and the most modern SAM missiles."

Willy Brandt covers for Peruvian terrorists

Socialist International chairman Willy Brandt defended Peru's Shining Path terrorists (*Sendero Luminoso*) during a visit to Peru on Oct. 9. After meeting with President Fernando Belaunde Terry and with the leadership of the Socialist International-affiliated APRA party, Brandt told the press that he sees a distinction between "some cases of terrorism [which] are part of international movements," and those which "belong to [specific] regions because of different causes."

He placed the Shining Path gang among this latter, more legitimate, group, despite the Shining Path's blood-curdling record of butchery and the massive evidence of its foreign links. Brandt had received "tons of information on the problem of terrorism" while he was in Peru, he told a press conference, and "according to the personal impression that I have, it would be wrong to say that what is happening in this country forms part of an international terrorist movement."

There are signs that the Socialist International is now prepared to involve itself in "mediating" the warfare conditions it is now helping promote. Armando Villanueva, the APRA leader who was the first leading Peruvian figure to call for a "dialogue" with the Shining Path, to "bring it into the political system," accompanied Brandt to Venezuela on Brandt's plane. Indicating that the topic of "negotiations" with the Shining Path killers was on the agenda, Villanueva told reporters that his proposal in this direction had been picked up by the Franciscan order.

Brandt also warned the United States not to intervene in Nicaragua, saying it would be a "big mistake." "I just hope it does not happen, because it would damage the international image of the USA severely" as well as turn The United States' allies in Europe and Ibero-America against it.

Briefly

● **THE COLOMBIAN** Roman Catholic Church has gone on the war-path to prevent the visit of the infamous Brazilian transvestite "Roberta Close" to Colombia. A scandal has been created in Colombia because of the praise for Close by former President Alfonso López Michelsen. The trip is scheduled to take place in October.

● **L'HUMANITÉ**, the daily of the French Communist Party, printed a 200-word article on Oct. 6 attacking the Schiller Institute, in the middle of a full page dedicated to the mobilization of the Moscow-inspired peace movement. "The other day in Bonn," writes the daily, "three of them were having a petition signed around a placard that read: 'It's better to have both feet in NATO, than a frozen ass in Siberia' . . . But the same worrisome spectacle has just been imposed on Parisians as well. At the Rue de Rivoli . . . one could read the totally vulgar placard: 'Better a Pershing in your garden, than a Russian over your wife.'"

● **POPE JOHN PAUL II** condemned the theology of liberation in Santo Domingo on Oct. 11. "The primary liberation that man must obtain is liberation from sin, from social evil that is lodged in his heart, and which is the cause of social sin and of oppressive structures." The Pope stressed that the Gospel prohibits "recourse to the methods of hatred and violence," and rejects the idea of "the poor as a class, as a class in struggle."

● **PRESIDENT MARCOS** of the Philippines charged Cardinal Jaime Sin, Archbishop of Manila, on Oct. 5, with "fanning the flames of rebellion" against the government and breaching the constitutional separation of church and state.