

## Mikhail Gorbachev's speeches presented at Moscow Book Fair

THE collection 'Mikhail Gorbachev's Speeches and Articles' issued by Pergamon Publishers of Britain was presented to journalists last week at Moscow's International Book Exhibition and Fair. The Fair was attended by more than 100 countries.

Newsmen were told at the press conference that the collection has been issued in a total print of 50,000 copies. The book is attracting a great deal of interest not only in Britain. Orders for it have come in from many English-speaking countries, said Kevin Maxwell, Director of the publishing house.

'Perestroika' is the title given to Mikhail Gorbachev's collected speeches by Yugoslav publishers. The book has been issued in a matter of only seven days, the press conference was told by Branko Kitanovic, well-known writer and translator. Late this year 'Perestroika' will be issued in a new supplemented edition.

Another book of collected works by Mikhail Gorbachev has been issued in Vienna, in German. It was presented to journalists by Helmut Hanusch, Director of Orac Publishers.

### Eduard Shevardnadze on Soviet-US talks

ON his arrival in Washington USSR Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze answered a number of questions put by American and foreign journalists.

He said, among other things: "We have come here in working spirits and with a certain optimism, even with a cautious optimism. A really big volume of work has been done, but problems remain. Questions which seemed auxiliary yesterday are becoming more important."

Eduard Shevardnadze reaffirmed that he brought a message from General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev to President Reagan. "As to a summit meeting, all will depend on the results of our work," he said.

The USSR Foreign Minister was asked: the United States declared that the problem of warheads is not such a serious problem at these negotiations. What is your answer? "Warheads are a serious question," he said.

Is agreement near? "In principle a great volume of work has been done, but there are still serious problems," replied Eduard Shevardnadze. □

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The total print is 50,000 copies. This may be increased. Hanusch noted, since interest in the book is being shown in the FRG, Switzerland and other countries.

MORE than 9,000 contracts have been concluded at the 6th International Book Fair in Moscow, held from September 8-14 with the participation of firms from 103 countries. Mikhail Nenashev, Chairman of the USSR State Committee for Publishing, Printing and the Book Trade (USSR Goskomizdat), who headed the Fair's organising committee, described the results as satisfactory.

At a press conference in Moscow he said that considerable opportunities have emerged for further broadening and perfecting co-operation with foreign partners. After the USSR Goskomizdat was granted the right to establish direct business contacts with colleagues in other countries, broad prospects have become evident for the active development of integration in book publishing with the socialist countries. Paramount significance is attached to these ties.

The new status has enabled Goskomizdat to hold more effective mutually beneficial negotiations with other countries as well. Evidence of this are the protocols concluded at the Moscow Fair with organisations from Finland, Spain, Britain, and Belgium. Tens of proposals have been received from foreign firms on setting up joint ventures.

Some progress has been made in relations between Soviet publishers and their colleagues in the USA. Nenashev pointed out. Seminar meetings of book experts from both countries have been held. They have signed a protocol on exchange of book exhibitions.

As far as the developing countries are concerned, co-operation with them is so far carried out more within the framework of general agreements than direct contacts between publishing houses. In particular, such ties with Brazil, Cuba, Mexico, Nicaragua and other Latin American partners have large potential.

During the Fair nearly a thousand export-import contracts have been signed under the aegis of the All-Union Copyright Agency. Preliminary analysis of their contents demonstrates substantial growth of interest among the public abroad in the current changes in the USSR.

Many Western book publishing firms have signed contracts for translation and publication of works on socio-political subjects, in the first place the documents of the 27th Congress of the CPSU and works by Mikhail Gorbachev.

Foreign publishers showed interest in works by authors giving a theoretical substantiation of the processes currently underway in society, including Abel Aganbegyan, Leonid Abalkin and Tatyana Zaslavskaya. New publications of works by contemporary Soviet writers are

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## Meeting of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee

AT its meeting last week the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee discussed the question of concluding harvesting work earlier and preparing enterprises in the agri-industrial complex for winter. It was noted during the discussion that the successful solution of the food problem is largely determined by the results of this agricultural year. In the resolution adopted the situation in concluding the autumn field work and preparing for winter is assessed as extremely tense.

The Politburo discussed the question of improving the quality of medical services for the population and upgrading the functioning of health service institutions in Moscow.

The Politburo discussed the report of the governmental commission investigating the causes of the train crash at Kamenskaya station on the south-eastern railway in August 1987. The investigation showed that the crash resulted from criminal negligence by some railway workers in fulfilling their duties. The direct cause of the crash was the dispatch of a freight train whose braking system was only partially working, as a result of which the electric locomotive crashed into a passenger train. The crash entailed large loss of life. The Politburo expressed profound condolences to the families and relatives of the deceased

and rendered them the necessary assistance.

The Public Prosecutor's Office of the USSR instituted criminal proceedings in connection with the crash. A number of high officials were brought to account by the administration and the Party. The Collegium of the USSR Ministry of Railways was instructed to introduce strict order in the maintenance of means of transportation, to enhance the personal responsibility of railway chiefs, heads of departments, inspectors and heads of other units for unswerving observance of the technical rules of railway maintenance.

The Politburo discussed the results of the conference of secretaries of the central committees of the Communist and Workers' parties of the CMEA member countries for economic matters held in Sofia and endorsed the activity of the CPSU delegation at the conference. The conference's work helped speed up the working out of concrete measures for restructuring the mechanism of socialist economic integration and the activity of the CMEA, measures that were proposed at the Moscow working meeting of leaders of the fraternal parties of the Council's member countries in November 1986. The usefulness of the exchanges of opinion at the conference on matters of Party guidance of the economy and external economic activity was noted.

The meeting of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee adopted decisions on a number of other questions of the economic, social and foreign policy of the Party and state.



# Nikolai Ryzhkov receives League of Arab States delegation

NIKOLAI RYZHKOV, Member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee and Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, received in the Kremlin last Wednesday a delegation from the League of Arab States' Iran-Iraq Conflict Committee.

The delegation includes Sabah al-Ahmad al Jaber al Sabah, Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister of Kuwait (head of delegation), Chedli Klibi, Secretary-General of the League of Arab States (LAS), Tareq Aziz, Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister of Iraq, Abdul Karim Aryani, Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister of the Yemen Arab Republic, Tayeb Sahbani, Secretary of State to the Foreign Minister of Tunisia, Mehdi Zentar, Ambassador of Morocco to the USSR, and Mohammed Balkiz, Charge d'Affaires of Jordan to the USSR.

Main attention in the conversation was devoted to problems involved in settling the Iran-Iraq armed conflict, the situation taking shape in the Persian Gulf, and the prospects for normalising it and restoring peace and security in the region.

The delegation briefed Nikolai Ryzhkov on the results of the recent emergency session of the Council of the LAS in Tunisia, and the steps taken by the Committee to invigorate international efforts towards ending the Iran-Iraq war.

It was stressed that the continuation of the conflict is having a serious destabilising effect on the situation in the Persian Gulf and is fraught with a threat to international peace and security.

Nikolai Ryzhkov reaffirmed the invariable principled stand of the USSR for the

speediest settlement of the Iran-Iraq conflict, which has become a calamity to the peoples of both countries.

It was stressed that the Soviet Union considers it necessary to press ahead for the implementation of the UN Security Council Resolution 598, which was adopted unanimously and which opens the real way to ending the war and normalising the situation in the region. Special attention was drawn to the importance of the UN Secretary-General's mission envisaged in the resolution, and his mediatory efforts towards its speediest implementation.

The Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers noted that the continuation of the conflict is conducive to growing foreign interference in the region's affairs, and kindles seats of tension in the Middle and Near East. The unprecedented buildup of military power by the USA and the other NATO countries in the Persian Gulf is fraught — above all else — with the growing probability of dangerous accidents, which creates the threat of growing military confrontation. Such actions distract the world community from concentrating efforts on putting an end to the Iran-Iraq war.

The attention of the participants in the talks was drawn to the proposals put forward by the Soviet Union in the interests of normalising the situation in the Persian Gulf.

On behalf of the League of Arab States, the members of the delegation expressed gratitude for the explanation of the Soviet Union's stand, and spoke highly of the USSR's principled line towards the political settlement of one of the most dangerous seats of tension — the Iran-Iraq armed conflict.

USSR Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze held negotiations with the LAS Iran-Iraq Conflict Committee delegation in Moscow

last week.

He emphasised that the USSR firmly and consistently abides by its principled course for the undelayed end to the Iran-Iraq armed conflict.

Shevardnadze underlined that the Soviet Union firmly advocates compliance with the UN Security Council Resolution 598, which provides a political foundation for settling the Iran-Iraq conflict and creates realistic possibilities for efficient steps towards peace. The UN Secretary-General's mediatory mission should serve as the practical diplomatic mechanism of settlement. All-round support and assistance must be ensured to it.

The tension growing in the Persian Gulf area as a result of the unprecedented buildup of the USA's direct military presence there hampers the search for a peaceful settlement of the conflict. The interests of peace in the region call for a well-considered approach, and the creation of favourable conditions for putting the Security Council's decision into effect.

Stressing the constructive character of the Soviet proposals for improving the Persian Gulf situation, Eduard Shevardnadze said the USSR is ready to take practical steps towards this in the context of relevant international efforts.

The representatives of the League of Arab States highly appreciated the Soviet Union's stand on the Iran-Iraq conflict, and welcomed its efforts to eliminate this dangerous seat of tension in the Middle and Near East.

Arab states' joint steps can play a major role in settling the Iran-Iraq conflict and improving the situation in the region. For its part, Shevardnadze said, the Soviet Union will continue working comprehensively for this, both in the United Nations framework and on the basis of bilateral contacts with all sides concerned. □

## Soviet-American documents signed

THE Soviet-American agreement to establish nuclear risk reduction centres and two protocols to it were signed at a ceremony in the White House yesterday by Eduard Shevardnadze, Member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the USSR, and George Shultz, Secretary of State of the United States.

Eduard Shevardnadze and President Ronald Reagan of the United States exchanged speeches before the signing of the agreement.

"In Soviet-American relations in recent times, events like this one are not too frequent," said Eduard Shevardnadze. "However, 1987 turns out to be relatively fruitful. Last April, during the visit of Secretary of State Shultz to Moscow, we signed an agreement on peaceful co-operation in space. Today, we are signing an agreement on nuclear risk reduction centres.

"The signing by us today of this agreement marks a tangible step in the practical implementation of the understanding which Mikhail Gorbachev and you, Mr President, reached in Geneva. Nuclear war should never be fought, you both said. Let us hope that the agreement that we are signing today will help to move further towards that historic goal.

"This is a sign which may be a prelude

to more important agreements, in particular agreements on the reduction of nuclear arsenals as the General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and the President of the United States agreed in Reykjavik."

"The most important thing is to do the utmost for this to happen, for the benefit of our peoples and the entire world community.

"The sooner it happens, the better. And then, having done good work for our time, we will be able to hope that time, too, will work for us. Today, we have acted to try to ease somewhat the pressing burden of fears, uncertainties and anxieties of which people have become tired. I would like to use this opportunity to thank cordially all those who for two years worked with perseverance and dedication to prepare this agreement. I would like to pay tribute to the diplomats and experts, and to the members of the US Senate, particularly to senators Nunn and Warner, who worked with a great deal of energy and persistence to promote this idea.

"I would like to hope that this small taste of hope is a prelude to the quenching of the global thirst for peace and security."

President Reagan said in his speech that "this agreement is another practical step in our efforts to reduce the risks of conflict that could otherwise result from accident, miscalculation or misunderstanding."

"Nuclear risk reduction centres will play an important role in further lessening the chances

of conflict between the United States and the Soviet Union. They provide a means to transmit notifications required under existing confidence-building measures and could play a key role in exchanging the information necessary for effective verification of future arms control agreements."

"This agreement complements our ongoing and promising efforts in Geneva to achieve for the first time deep, equitable, and effectively verifiable reductions in Soviet and American nuclear arsenals." □

*(Continued from front page)*

attentively followed abroad. The number of export contracts for their books has increased almost by a third as compared with the preceding Fair. The export of Soviet publications on science and technology has doubled.

The business results of the Fair are good reason for optimism, Nenashev said. Yet it must be said for the sake of justice that we have in some instances made blunders, proved to be not quick enough. And yet the main aim has been achieved: Soviet books abroad will help people to get to know us closer, understand our concerns and the sincerity of our peace initiatives, and our invariable adherence to the ideas of humanism and social justice.

Preparations will soon start for the 1989 Book Fair. □



# Soviet-American Agreement on nuclear risk reduction centres

*THE newspapers Pravda and Krasnaya Zvezda carry the following article in their issues of September 16:*

On September 15, 1987, Eduard Shevardnadze, Member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee and Foreign Minister of the USSR, and US Secretary of State George Shultz signed a Soviet-American Agreement for setting up nuclear risk reduction centres and two protocols to it.

That was the successful conclusion of consultations and followed official talks the decision in principle to hold which was taken by Mikhail Gorbachev, General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and US President Ronald Reagan in the course of their meeting in Geneva in November 1985.

What is the new Soviet-US agreement signed in Washington all about?

It provides for creating a new mechanism for promptly relaying notifications — on the basis of Soviet-American agreements already in effect — of activities in the military field that can be misinterpreted by the other side, which can, for its part, add to the nuclear threat. The transmission of such information via a single channel — through the centres being set up — will furnish extra possibilities to prevent and remove dangerous situations. This is why in the preamble to the Agreement the sides reiterate their desire to reduce and eventually eliminate the risk of outbreak of nuclear war, in particular as a result of a mistake, miscalculation or accident.

Specifically, the Agreement makes the following arrangements:

Each side in keeping with the agreement will set up in its capital a national nuclear risk reduction centre of its own. The centre will function on behalf and under the control of its respective government. The staff of the national centre will be formed as the side setting it up will see fit to ensure the centre's normal functioning.

It is provided that at this stage the centres will be used to transmit notifications of ballistic missile launches under article 4 of the Agreement on Measures to Reduce the Risk of Outbreak of Nuclear War between the USSR and the United States of September 30, 1971, that is planned missile launches if they are carried out beyond national territory in the direction of the other side. Besides, the centres will relay notifications of ballistic missile launches under paragraph 1 of article 6 of the Soviet-American Intergovernmental Agreement on Measures to Prevent Incidents at Sea and in Air Space Over It of May 25, 1972, that is missile launches posing danger to shipping or air traffic. This does not, of course, cancel the existing practice of notifications used by the USSR and the United States in keeping with the 1972 Agreement in relation to all other countries.

Much importance belongs to the provision in the new Agreement, under which each side may, at its own discretion, as a gesture of goodwill and with a view to strengthening trust, use the centres to transmit, apart from the aforementioned notifications, also other messages.

This information will be relayed via a special facsimile communications line to be established between the Soviet and the American centres. The Agreement details the specific technical and operating parameters of this line.

All this means that another prompt communications line is being set up between the USSR and the United States for exchanges on matters directly related to ensuring stability and mutual trust. It should be stressed that the centres' operations will not duplicate in any way the functions of the existing direct communications line between Moscow and Washington, which makes it possible for the leaderships of the USSR and the United States to get immediately in touch with each other in the event of emergencies.

The conclusion of the Soviet-American Agreement on Nuclear Risk Reduction Centres cannot but arouse satisfaction. A significant step has been made along the confidence-building path. But it should, of course, be borne in mind that confidence-building measures per se cannot check the on-going arms race. Experience demonstrates that the continuation, let alone escalation, of military rivalry and its extension to new spheres are the principal cause of instability on the international scene. Confidence-building measures become really effective if they are taken in the context of practical accords in the field of real disarmament.

There is a simple law at work here — the lower the level of military, above all nuclear, confrontation the greater the mutual confidence and the opportunities for establishing peaceful co-operation between the states in various fields.

This is why the joint Soviet-US statement adopted at summit level on November 21, 1985 said that the sides had agreed to study at expert level the question of centres to reduce nuclear risk taking into account the issues and developments in the Geneva negotiations. The time that has passed since the Geneva meeting underscores the farsightedness of that decision.

The matter is that due to far-reaching Soviet initiatives taken in recent time realistic prospects have taken shape in the Soviet-US negotiations on nuclear and space arms for achieving accords in all directions, first of all on medium- and shorter-range missiles. Thus, there are grounds to regard the signing of the agreement on the centres as a natural step,

seeing that major Soviet-American accords in the sphere of disarmament are, as it seems, within reach, naturally if the American side also strives for that.

In this connection it is appropriate to recall that, for example, the agreement on the establishment of a direct communications line between the governments of the USSR and the US was reached at the time when the work to conclude the Treaty Banning Nuclear Weapon Tests in the Atmosphere, in Outer Space and Underwater was nearing completion in June 1963.

The 1971 Agreement on Measures to Reduce the Risk of Outbreak of Nuclear War between the USSR and the USA — the name of that document speaks for itself — constitutes the direct result of the Soviet-American strategic arms limitation negotiations that were conducted at the time and ended with the signing of the SALT-1 agreements in May 1972. Thus, the confidence-building measures taken back then were supplemented with tangible steps in the sphere of nuclear arms limitation. This is exactly what should be done now.

It should be said that one of the characteristic features of the Agreement on the centres is its intrinsic and organic interrelation with future agreements between the USSR and the US on nuclear arms limitation and reduction. This has found its reflection in the provision to the effect that in the future the list of notifications transmitted through the centres can be changed, by agreement between the parties, as relevant new agreements will be reached. In other words, the communications line between the centres can be used as a channel for transmitting information required during the implementation of agreements which are not here as yet, but which can be worked out.

The conclusion of the Agreement on the Establishment of Centres to Reduce Nuclear Risk constitutes a positive step in the development of Soviet-American relations — and for that matter on the international plane as a whole — for the Agreement on Measures to Reduce the Risk of Outbreak of Nuclear War promotes the interests of enhancing security everywhere in the world.

In this sense the reiteration in the preamble to the Agreement on Nuclear Risk Reduction Centres of the understanding reached at summit level to the effect that a nuclear war cannot be won and must never be fought is of principled importance.

As to the Soviet side, it is fully determined to do everything in order to consistently proceed along the path of ridding mankind of the threat of annihilation and to work toward the realisation of the programme for the elimination of nuclear weapons before the end of the current century — the programme put forward by Mikhail Gorbachev on January 15, 1986. It is our conviction that in the campaign against the nuclear threat not a single opportunity, not a single chance should be missed.

The successfully completed Soviet-American talks on the centres demonstrate that, given goodwill of both sides, USSR-US agreements from which the cause of peace will benefit are quite possible, despite the difficulties on the road to them. The main thing here is the political readiness of both sides to seek and ultimately find the necessary decisions and breakthroughs in the interests of ensuring a secure and safe future for all nations.

Hence the broad positive response evoked in the world by the news about the signing of the Soviet-American Agreement on Nuclear Risk Reduction Centres.

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# USSR Deputy Foreign Minister's interview

"IN recent days US Administration spokesmen have begun to encourage euphoria over prospects for a Soviet-US accord on medium-range missiles. One would like to hope that behind that is Washington's desire to reach such an accord," Alexander Bessmertnykh, USSR Deputy Foreign Minister, said on Saturday.

As part of the Soviet delegation he will participate in the talks between Eduard Shevardnadze, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the USSR, and US President Ronald Reagan and Secretary of State George Shultz, reports a TASS diplomatic correspondent.

"It would be well if behind those statements were well-worked out and well-considered compromise shifts towards resolving the issues which have not been solved in Geneva so far," Alexander Bessmertnykh pointed out.

"If this is so, we would welcome such statements. However, one is somewhat put on one's guard by the optimistic affectedness and excessive positive tone of US figures' pronouncements. The question arises whether there is something else behind them, namely, an attempt at pretending that the US side is wholeheartedly proceeding towards agreement and that the Soviet Union is to blame if there is no such agreement."

"This stratagem is not new. We have encountered it repeatedly. Our talks in Washington will show what will turn out to be the truth: the first variant or the second."

## Viktor Karpov on West German missiles and American warheads

Seventy-two US warheads to West German Pershing-1a missiles are a serious obstacle to achieving the Soviet-American agreement on eliminating medium- and shorter-range missiles — this theme is commented upon by Viktor Karpov, chief of the arms control and disarmament directorate at the USSR Foreign Ministry, in the newspaper *Izvestia* last week.

Two classes of armaments are the point of the matter, Viktor Karpov emphasises. The 'class of armaments' notion applicable to medium-range missiles and shorter-range missiles encompasses launchers, missiles and the warheads to them. We are not discussing the question of West German missiles with the USA. We are discussing the question of US warheads for the entire class of shorter-range missiles, and it is not all the same to us for what purposes the USA has these warheads: for its own missiles, for those belonging to the FRG, or for missiles of any third country. All the loopholes for bypassing the agreement in future should be closed when the agreement is worked out. And we believe the keeping of those 72 warheads triggers off a chain of opportunities for bypassing the agreement. Viktor Karpov gives the following example:

On the one hand, the FRG Chancellor says that he is prepared to give up the modernisation of Pershing-1a missiles, that is their replacement in future with Pershing-1b missiles, and is prepared to discard them. On the other hand, the US delegation to the talks insists on the United States' right to manufacture

"Soviet-American relations are undoubtedly at a very important and responsible stage of development now. On the one hand, there has appeared a real opportunity to reach an accord on a part of nuclear weapons. On the other hand, there still remain quite considerable difficulties both from the point of view of the overall progress of our relations with the United States, and from the point of view of headway at the talks on nuclear and space arms."

"Not everything is smooth over there, as some people try to describe it. We do not deny that serious progress has been achieved on the issue of medium- and shorter-range missiles through the efforts of the two sides in Geneva. The delegations in Geneva are virtually holding talks on coordinating a single draft treaty. However, the main problems remain unresolved as of today. These include, first of all, the problem of the sides' equal security, which should be reflected in a treaty."

"The United States, at least the US delegation in Geneva, is conducting talks so that the United States would retain quite a considerable advantage. I mean, first of all, the attempt at excluding from the 'double global zero' quite a number of warheads which belong to the United States and which are intended for the 72 West German Pershing-1a shorter-range missiles."

"It is known to us that the number of warheads belonging to the USA and intended for West German missiles may exceed 72. Therefore our formula is that all US warheads intended for the 72 West German shorter-range

Pershing-1b missiles. And the United States stipulates that it will be manufacturing those missiles not for its own requirements but to transfer to West Germany. So there is a discrepancy between what is said by Helmut Kohl and what is said by the US delegation at the talks.

And therein lies the crux of the problem. If the United States continues having an opportunity to manufacture Pershing-1b missiles, this will mean that it has an opportunity to supply those missiles to West Germany, which for its part does not assume any commitments not to accept those missiles from the United States. And keeping warheads for Pershing-1a missiles means an opportunity to have warheads also for Pershing-1b missiles. And what is a Pershing-1b missile? It is the first stage of a Pershing-2 medium-range missile which is fired by the same launcher. Thus, to allow the possibility of the deployment of Pershing-1b missiles in Europe under the guise of West German missiles, given US warheads to them, means actually to allow the possibility of the Americans deploying Pershing-2 missiles on this basis within a short time frame.

So the entire agreement on the elimination of medium-range missiles and shorter-range missiles as applicable to the United States would become fictitious, Viktor Karpov noted. Under the pretext of a seemingly innocent "exception" — a mere 72 warheads — the United States would receive an opportunity to bypass the future agreement not only on shorter-range missiles, but also on medium-range missiles.

So this problem is broader and deeper than what meets the eye in the debate launched in this connection. The problem involves ensuring a true zero option. □

missiles should be destroyed. Up to now, despite certain positive moves made by Chancellor Helmut Kohl of the Federal Republic of Germany, the US side declines to predict the fate of these warheads. The Americans agree to West Germany's destroying its carrier rockets."

"However, the Americans would still like to keep the warheads — the main thing which constitutes the essence of the weapons. This is, of course, an unequal approach which is designed to gain advantage."

"I would like to say also that there are difficulties of a different kind. Issues connected with verification and concerning the schedule for reduction and destruction of warheads for medium-range missiles still remain unsettled. Up to now the Americans have not given consent to a ban on the production of the Pershing-1b missiles. This is a very important question. Little is written or spoken about it."

"The Americans would like the Pershing-1b missiles to take the place of the present West German Pershing-1a's. But West Germany has refused to modernise the latter. So it is not quite clear why the United States still wants to retain the right to produce Pershing-1b missiles when the two sides are talking about 'full global zero'. So we are in for difficult talks in Washington, and it is not easy so far to predict what the outcome will be."

"Only one thing is clear: if no accord is reached, it will be quite regrettable, for the Soviet side has done and is doing in Geneva everything possible to find ways to undo the issues which still remain unresolved."

"The Soviet delegation goes to Washington with an eye to a constructive search for mutually acceptable formulas of solutions to the remaining issues."

"As a person who has been concerned with Soviet-US relations for more than two decades," Alexander Bessmertnykh pointed out, "I can say that, unfortunately, fluctuations have been characteristic of them almost all the time. There were ups and downs depending on developments in the world and on who was in office in the United States. The Soviet Union's striving to put our relations with America on a stable and solid foundation still remains a constant value in the formula of Soviet-American relations."

"When these relations are thrown into a fever, this is caused, as a rule, by our partners across the ocean who for this or that reason consider it possible to solve some or other issue at the expense of Soviet-American relations."

"For these relations to reach a stable basis, I think it is necessary that the two sides realise equally the measure of responsibility which they bear for the destiny of international security and for the destiny of the whole of mankind."

"It is their practical actions, first of all those in the field of limiting and reducing arms, that should be the measure of this responsibility. Herein is an opportunity for an abrupt and cardinal turn to stronger security."

"The Soviet Union has put forward a detailed programme for nuclear disarmament, set out in the January 15, 1986 Statement by Mikhail Gorbachev, General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. It is not a utopia, it is a purely practical programme which has already taken hold of people's minds and begins to manifest itself in treaties and agreements which are being elaborated. It will be well if the United States approaches this issue with the same measure of responsibility." □



# Vladimir Petrovsky's news conference

## *Glasnost in the military field*

"The attendance of American observers at the military exercises in Byelorussia as well as the US Congressmen's visit to the radar station under construction in Krasnoyarsk are an important step in building confidence between the Soviet Union and the United States," Vladimir Petrovsky, USSR Deputy Foreign Minister, said at a news conference last week at the USSR Foreign Ministry.

Answering journalists' questions, he emphasised that these events show vividly the Soviet Union's policy of frankness and openness in the military field.

"As far as the military exercises in Byelorussia are concerned, the Soviet side acted efficiently under the document of the Stockholm Conference. A reply to the request for the inspection was given to the Americans within less than twenty-four hours, and the next day the four-member US inspection group arrived in Minsk by their own plane."

"Several hours later the inspection group went to the area of the exercises which involved troops of an aggregate strength up to 16,000. The Americans carried out the inspection for two days, which likewise conforms to the provisions of the Stockholm document."

"During their tour of inspection the US representatives were given the opportunity to visit the area of the cities of Borisov, Polotsk

and Maryina Gorka, talk to Soviet servicemen taking part in the exercise and examine Soviet military equipment.

"I would like to stress that the Americans used their own radio systems, cameras, binoculars and recording equipment.

"In accordance with the same Stockholm Conference arrangements, the United States now is evidently to prepare a report on the inspection and submit it without delay to all countries participating in the CESC (Conference on European Security and Co-operation) process," the Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister said.

Speaking of the visit paid by the US Congressmen to the radar station under construction outside Krasnoyarsk, Petrovsky said:

"After they attended a seismic experiment in Semipalatinsk, the Congressmen were given the opportunity to tour the building of the radar station under construction, the antenna and other facilities—in short to see for themselves that the station is really still being built and work on it is far from completed.

"They were allowed to use cameras there as well. The Americans had visual confirmation that the station is meant for space tracking purposes."

In this connection Petrovsky said that the Soviet Union has meticulously honoured its commitments under the 1972 Treaty Limiting Ballistic Missile Defences and intends to continue doing so in the future as well.

"We have repeatedly said that attempts to present the construction of the Krasnoyarsk

radar station as a violation of the USSR's commitments under the Treaty are groundless. The tour of the station by the US Congressmen is further proof of this."

## *On Erich Honecker's visit to FRG*

"The Soviet side positively evaluates the results of the visit to the Federal Republic of Germany by Erich Honecker, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany," Vladimir Petrovsky told the news conference.

"We hold that the development of the dialogue between the German Democratic Republic and the Federal Republic contributes to normalising the situation in Europe, as well as to improving the overall international situation in the world which is the common home of us all," he emphasised.

## *On the Cyprus situation*

"The settlement of the situation around Cyprus is one of the acute problems in the focus of attention of the United Nations Organisation," Vladimir Petrovsky stated. He told the press conference that this problem, just as other conflict situations in the world, calls for practical actions in the first place that will promote its solution.

In this connection it is necessary to work out generally acceptable agreements on the international aspects of the Cyprus problem. The way towards this will be opened by a proposal on holding an international conference on Cyprus within the UN framework. □

# Georgi Arbatov on Reagan's latest speeches

THE latest speeches by US President Ronald Reagan have not made the immediate prospects for Soviet-American relations much clearer, but have prompted thinking on longer-term and more fundamental issues, Academician Georgi Arbatov says in last Friday's issue of *Pravda*.

"On the one hand, those speeches have been marked by a ringing anti-Soviet tone. On the other, even in a fit of anti-Soviet passion President Reagan could not conceal a desire to come to terms with the USSR on something (in this case, medium-range and shorter-range missiles) that would allow a summit meeting.

"Why does he need it so badly now, at the end of his presidency?"

"The President realised already in the first years of his tenure that an open policy of

irreconcilable enmity towards the USSR and runaway militarism is in disfavour both at home and abroad.

"It should not be ruled out that President Reagan has become aware that the ability to make a noticeable contribution to the cause of peace and nuclear arms cuts has nowadays become the most important yardstick of a politician's wisdom.

"But the President's latest speeches have been disappointing in this respect.

"By emphasising anti-Sovietism at this crucial moment, the President more or less confines possible changes in US policies and in Soviet-American relations in advance to very narrow limits, and effectively localises them in the greatest possible measure.

"He does not allow for the agreement and meeting to become an important step forward in reducing nuclear (and not only nuclear)

arms as well as in normalising Soviet-American relations.

"Despite all the brashness, even cheekiness of Reagan's latest statements, they do not convey the impression of strength and self-assurance. The contrary is more likely: these are speeches by a leader who has been compelled to go on the spiritless defensive by life itself.

"Amid changes in the international situation and in world sentiment, changes that have been spurred on by perestroika in the USSR and the latest Soviet political initiatives, classic 'cold war' politicians have suddenly found themselves out of place and, figuratively speaking, gasping for breath like a fish that has ended up on the sandy shore after being too slow to realise the tide is on the ebb.

"It is high time the darkness of prejudice and hostility in Soviet-American relations gave way to the dawn of realism and common sense," Arbatov says in conclusion. □

# War criminals must be punished

THE Ukrainian News Agency (RATAU) issued a statement in Kiev last week in connection with the International Day in Memory of the Victims of Fascism, marked this year on September 13.

The statement says that Hitlerite fascism threatened the very existence of world civilisation. The war took a toll of more than 50 million lives. The Soviet people lost 20 million people and one third of its national wealth.

Far from all Nazi war criminals who had left a bloody trail on Soviet land have been punished, the statement continues.

People of the Ukraine adopted appeals to

the governments of the United States, Canada, Britain, Australia, West Germany and Costa Rica asking them to extradite Nazi butchers staying in those countries to the Soviet Union.

The appeals to the authorities of Western countries were signed by dozens of thousands of people but have never been given a specific answer to this day, just as there has been no response to repeated official statements either.

The ruling quarters in a number of Western countries actually hide thousands of war criminals, trying to save them from just retribution.

The Soviet people's demands rest on

incontrovertible evidence of guilt of specific criminals.

The Ratau Statement emphasised that these demands are in line with principles formulated in statements of the countries of the anti-Hitlerite coalition and sealed in the code of the Nuremberg War Tribunal. They were further developed in documents and decisions of the United Nations.

Demanding retribution for Hitlerite criminals and their accomplices and followers, the Ukrainian people are guided not by feelings of revenge but the feeling of justice and duty before the victims of fascism. The impunity of these criminals encourages those who nurture plans for new ventures threatening to destroy mankind. □



# USSR Foreign Ministry press briefings

## *On missile agreement*

IN Washington they are alleging that Moscow has advanced a completely new demand within the framework of the talks on medium- and shorter-range missiles, literally at the last moment before the meeting of Soviet and US Foreign Ministers. The 'demand' concerns 400 Pershing-1a missiles in the USA that must be eliminated. Boris Pyadyshev, first deputy head of the information directorate of the USSR Foreign Ministry, said at a briefing for Soviet and foreign journalists yesterday. However, the Soviet side has stated before that this 'demand' contains nothing new.

The problem is that as regards US territory, shorter-range missiles that are manufactured and stored there can become the subject of discussion under the Soviet proposals on the talks on shorter-range missiles. Judging by reports in the foreign press, the shorter-range missiles stored on US territory are of the Pershing-1a type. This is extracted from the April 23 briefing at the press centre of the USSR Foreign Affairs Ministry recorded in shorthand. So, Boris Pyadyshev said, Washington should not pretend to be surprised when the Soviet side reminds that in accordance with the future agreement the 400 Pershing 1a's on US territory, out of 700 missiles of the same type manufactured there, must be also eliminated.

The second bluff of the American representatives in the past few days is their claim that it was new for them that the nuclear warheads on medium- and shorter-range missiles should be eliminated under the future agreement. Here as well, the American position is found wanting, the Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman said. The talks concern the elimination of medium- and shorter-range missiles as a class of armaments, which includes launchers, the missiles themselves and their

warheads. It is obvious that all three elements of the system must come under consideration.

## *On situation in the Persian Gulf*

"It is becoming increasingly clear that the main source of tension in the Persian Gulf is the build-up of the naval presence of the USA and its NATO partners," Boris Pyadyshev said at the briefing.

Damage is caused not only to common sense and the norms of international law, he stressed. Also breached is the NATO charter which prohibits the countries of the North Atlantic bloc from extending military activity beyond the European continent.

The aim of the USA is not to ensure the passage of oil tankers, the Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman said, but to produce an impression on the states of the Middle and Near East with the mailed fist, to blackmail them and take the developments in this region into its hand.

The anti-Iranian orientation of these actions is clear. Boris Pyadyshev said. They are also aimed against Iraq which is pursuing an anti-imperialist policy.

The concentration of the US and NATO forces in the Persian Gulf runs counter to the UN efforts aimed at normalising the situation in the region. In fact, Washington's actions are violating Resolution 598, which it helped to draft. A question arises concerning the responsibility of the USA before the world community. The peacemaking mission of UN Secretary-General Perez de Cuellar and his efforts aimed at implementing the unanimously adopted resolution of the Security Council are being seriously hampered.

The Soviet Union, the Soviet spokesman stressed, resolutely advocates the implementation of Resolution 598, which lays a real political foundation for settling the conflict. It potential is far from being exhausted. There is an urgent need sharply to curtail and then reduce to nought the military presence of the USA and NATO in the Persian Gulf. Normalisation in the region is impossible without this.

## *On new political thinking in the West*

FRG Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher's statement at the convention of the Free Democratic Party of the Federal Republic of Germany has been taken note of in the Soviet Union. Gennadi Gerasimov, head of the USSR Foreign Ministry's information directorate, said in Moscow at last Thursday's briefing for Soviet and foreign correspondents.

"Genscher spoke about a 'new measure of responsibility' in this age demanding that 'no policy may put the survival of mankind in question'. He also said: 'where there is no life, there is no freedom' and 'the capability to cause nuclear destruction does not give us much choice: we should take a decision against confrontation and for co-operation. History will demonstrate that freedom will triumph, but history will be able to do it only if mankind survives'.

"Let us not delve into ideology now and begin to argue what history will demonstrate or how to understand freedom," Gerasimov said. "The main thing is emphasis on survival. In this, we fully agree with Mr. Genscher."

"The same emphasis was also made by Prime Minister Ingvar Carlsson of Sweden during his meeting yesterday with US President Ronald Reagan. A nuclear war, he said, 'has only losers

and we will all be among them'. We agree with this conclusion as well.

"Finally, the final document of the 37th conference of the Pugwash Movement, which was attended by more than 200 scientists from 46 countries and ended yesterday, calls for adopting a new manner of thinking. It stresses that new thinking shows in the awareness that nuclear arms and other weapons of mass destruction have made wars utterly senseless, and that only international co-operation can prevent the further spread of those weapons and lead to the complete renunciation of war as a means of settling international disputes.

"These are just three examples," the Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman stressed, "that go to show that new political thinking and realisation of the grim realities of the nuclear age are gaining ground in the West."

## *On US stand on ABM Treaty*

Going by the first reaction of the US Administration to the fact that the Soviet side gave an opportunity to American Congressmen to visit the Krasnoyarsk radar station, Washington is continuing its groundless accusations against the Soviet side about alleged violations of the ABM Treaty. Gennadi Gerasimov observed at the briefing at the USSR Foreign Ministry press centre.

Thus, State Department spokesman Redman said that the US government agencies will be interested in studying the results of the Congressmen's trip and their report. But he said in the same breath that according to the information that the administration had on this score, there was nothing that would change its earlier stand, namely that the radar station under construction in Krasnoyarsk meant a violation of the ABM Treaty.

The Soviet Union strictly observes its commitments under the 1972 Treaty on the Limitation of Anti-Ballistic Missile Systems and intends to continue doing so, the Foreign Ministry spokesman emphasised. For this purpose the Soviet delegation submitted a draft 'Agreement on Certain Measures with regard to Consolidating the ABM Treaty and Preventing an Arms Race in Outer Space' in Geneva on July 29.

It is becoming apparent that the US side is guided by different plans, plans of implementing the 'Star Wars' programme, and is carrying matters to undermining the ABM Treaty. One of the facts proving this is a report of the US State Department published in Washington on Wednesday. It supports a broad interpretation of the ABM Treaty which allows for research and tests in the framework of the 'Star Wars' programme.

It is deplorable, Gennadi Gerasimov said, that that report was issued at a time when the forthcoming meeting between Eduard Shevardnadze and George Shultz is nearing.

## *On chemical disarmament*

Guided by the USSR's policy of openness, including in the military sphere, the Soviet Union has decided to invite representatives of the states taking part in the talks on banning chemical weapons at the Geneva Conference on Disarmament to visit a military facility in Shikhany, Saratov Region, on October 3 and 4. Gennadi Gerasimov stated at the briefing.

At the facility, standard chemical weapons and the technology for destroying them at a mobile complex will be shown.

Soviet and foreign journalists are invited.

## Afghan Foreign Minister on Geneva talks

THE Democratic Republic of Afghanistan is making every effort for the political settlement of the situation around Afghanistan and devotes the closest attention to the Afghan-Pakistani talks in Geneva, which are being held through Diego Cordovez, personal envoy of the UN Secretary-General, said Abdul Wakil, Member of the Political Bureau of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan Central Committee and DRA Foreign Minister. This principled policy, he said in a national television interview in Kabul on Saturday, is based on the will of the Afghan people who have suffered so much from the fratricidal war unleashed as a result of armed and other interference from abroad in our country's affairs.

The people of Afghanistan need peace and tranquility, the Minister continued. Proceeding from this the Afghan delegation held at this stage of the talks a flexible and constructive stand in order to ensure the drawing closer of the sides and reached agreement on issues discussed. We certainly expected from the opposite side that it would demonstrate flexibility and take steps for the restoration of peace in the region. It is noteworthy that agreement has been reached on continuing the talks. The date for resuming them convenient for both sides will be agreed upon through diplomatic channels.



# Yevgeni Velikhov — Krasnoyarsk radar does not violate ABM Treaty

IT is impossible to convert the radar station near Krasnoyarsk into an ABM radar. Three American Congressmen, Thomas Downey, Robert Carr and James Moody, could see this for themselves when they went there last week, Academician Yevgeni Velikhov, Vice-President of the USSR Academy of Sciences, said at a press conference at the USSR Foreign Ministry last Friday.

There is much talk around the Krasnoyarsk radar station. We have to listen to groundless reproaches from Washington. That is why we have decided to acquaint the American Congressmen with the facts and give them a chance to draw their own conclusions: the radar station in Krasnoyarsk does not go beyond the limits of the ABM Treaty. At the request of the guests we did not just fly to the station in helicopters, Yevgeni Velikhov said, but overflew it at an altitude which they themselves chose.

The Congressmen and a correspondent of the *New York Times* newspaper took thousands of pictures outside and inside the station and shot a video film.

It is known that the ABM Treaty allows the creation of radars which can be used to track satellites. The Congressmen could see for themselves that the Krasnoyarsk radar could not be converted into an ABM radar.

Academician Velikhov also explained that the Krasnoyarsk radar would operate only in the pulsed mode and only on objects which are of interest to researchers, in contrast to the early warning stations, which must function in the permanently operating mode. The beam of the station will look into outer space at a certain angle rather than go along the Earth's surface.

Andrei Kokoshin, Deputy Director of the Institute of the USA and Canada, who was with the American Congressmen in Krasnoyarsk, said that that radar does not have its own power source and is not designed as a bunker, suitable for operating in the conditions of a nuclear strike. The radar station building is not fitted with a system of protection against electromagnetic impulse, which is also regarded as a characteristic necessary for radars used for controlling combat operations. All this, the Soviet scientist believes, must have convinced the American guests, who also included well-known military specialists, that the facility in Krasnoyarsk is not an ABM system.

The US Congressmen and experts who visited the construction site of the Krasnoyarsk radar station say that it is no violation of the ABM Treaty. *Pravda* stresses in its commentary in Saturday's edition.

To prove it they presented their own photographs and even a video film of the station, its separate assemblies and components. In the opinion of the Congressmen and the US press the visit to the radar station has been

unprecedented in checking the observance of arms control agreements, a highly important step towards building confidence between the USA and the USSR.

But what was official Washington's reaction? They have claimed for many years that the construction of the Krasnoyarsk radar station was a breach of the terms of the ABM Treaty. Now after the Congressmen's visit it would make sense to hope for a change in the US stance, for an unbiased appraisal. Alas, this has not happened.

Both the spokesmen for the White House and the US State Department received (and implemented) instructions to say that the US administration continues as before to believe that the Krasnoyarsk radar station is a "violation of the ABM Treaty" and that "trips of this kind cannot substitute for effective verification measures". Meanwhile, in Washington they are not in a hurry to take steps at least analogous to the Soviet initiatives. The US State Department puts up visa barriers in the way of our scientists who are prepared to visit the USA to observe nuclear tests. Nothing can be heard about an invitation to Soviet MPs to visit the US radar stations in Greenland and Britain.

There is an impression that the US Administration is approaching the control problem from positions of double standards. *Pravda* notes. It is trying to call in question in every way the USSR's sincerity, while refusing itself to demonstrate even the same preparedness for genuine verification measures. □

## Academician Primakov on UN disarmament for development conference

THE USSR's delegation to the International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development held a news conference on the results of the forum last week.

Academician Yevgeni Primakov, director of the Institute of the World Economy and International Relations at the Soviet Academy of Sciences, said the general movement for improvements in the international situation has become much more broadly based, diverse and influential.

The International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development, which Mikhail Gorbachev said in his message to the participants could identify new possibilities for resolving this cardinal problem of the present-day world, has been among the more important signs of this process, Primakov added.

He said the Soviet Union in these conditions believes it essential to take new approaches in international affairs, first of all in their most important sphere — international security.

The fate of mankind depends first of all on success or failure in ensuring this, Primakov continued, saying that the new developments in the field consist of the following:

"First. The principle has been formulated of renouncing the use of military means in state-to-state relations altogether. The idea is to rule out not only a global war but also power politics at regional level and even shows of force.

"Second. The concept has been advanced of a nuclear-free world and the programme of practical action for its phased realisation has been suggested. For as long as nuclear weapons continue to exist, the USSR has unilaterally pledged not to be the first to use them. The lowering of strategic military parity and the limiting of efforts in the military field outside the bounds of reasonably sufficient defence needs have been identified as the top priority.

"Third. It has been recognised that security should be ensured mostly through political means by looking for where interests coincide and by bringing them closer together rather than contrasting them. It has been stressed in this connection that the security of one side cannot be achieved at the expense of the security of the other.

"Fourth. The Soviet Union has proposed an active quest for political solutions to existing regional conflicts. We have declared that the USSR will withdraw its troops from Afghanistan. The process of national reconciliation and of stabilising the situation in the country is being frustrated by US aid to Afghan anti-government forces. We see real possibilities for political solutions to sharp conflicts in other parts of the world, too. Progress is being made along these lines as regards Kampuchea as well — naturally provided nobody interferes with it. It is hard to believe that the massive US naval presence in the Persian Gulf can quench the fire of the Iran-Iraq war.

"Fifth. The USSR has put forward the concept of a comprehensive system of international

security. Horizontally, it should encompass all parts of the globe. Vertically, it should be multi-tier, combining solutions to problems in the military, political, economic and humanitarian fields."

"AN extensive, in fact a universal international dialogue based on recognition of the organic relationship between disarmament and development, these two mainstays of universal security, has taken place for the first time within the walls of the United Nations Organisation. And we regard this as the main results of the International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development," said head of the Soviet delegation at the Conference Vladimir Petrovsky in a TASS interview on Monday.

"Delegations of 150 states, representing the overwhelming majority of the members of the world community, displayed unanimity in understanding the inescapable reality of our time: only disarmament can make available tremendous additional resources for coping with economic backwardness and poverty," Petrovsky emphasised.

"Mankind simply does not have any other similarly big source of new funds for development. And this applies not only to the problems of developing states. The diversion of considerable means and resources for military aims limits the possibilities of the economic and scientific-technical development of all countries, and exerts a negative impact on the world economy as a whole." □



# British trade delegation in Moscow

TRADE between the Soviet Union and Britain has been developing in 1987 more successfully than last year. This was pointed out at a briefing held in Moscow on Monday on the visit to the Soviet capital of a delegation of British business circles. The briefing was attended by representatives of the USSR Foreign Trade Ministry and the USSR Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

It can be expected, the Soviet participants in the meeting pointed out, that despite the unfavourable situation bilateral trade turnover in the current year will be larger than in 1986. Both the supply of Soviet products to the British market and the supply of British products to the USSR will increase.

Big contracts worth £200 million are known to have been signed for the import of machinery

and equipment from Britain during the visit to the USSR of British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher. At the same time the partners signed papers on their intention to co-operate in implementing projects worth another £200 million.

There is every possibility of maintaining the current rate and increasing the mutual supply of commodities, it was pointed out at the briefing. The USSR Ministry of Foreign Trade and Britain's Trade and Industry Department have already drawn up a list of additional mutual export goods. This is expected to be endorsed at the scheduled session of the permanent inter-governmental Soviet-British Commission on Co-operation in Science and Technology and on Economic Co-operation which is due to be held in Moscow from October 12 to 16. An additional incentive to bilateral business ties can also be given by the broad use of new forms of trade and economic co-operation, in particular the setting up of joint ventures.

The delegation is in Moscow in association

with the British-Soviet Chamber of Commerce, and includes representatives of 45 firms. During their stay, the British businessmen will hold talks at the USSR Ministry of Foreign Trade, USSR Chamber of Commerce and Industry and branch ministries and departments.

Bernard Weatherill, Speaker of the British House of Commons, left Moscow on Saturday. He was on an official visit to the USSR at the invitation of the USSR Supreme Soviet.

Speaking with a TASS correspondent, the British MP pointed out the importance of broadening contacts between ordinary citizens and developing tourism. Restructuring and public openness are a subject of enormous interest. People in Britain are following attentively these processes and wish the Soviet people all the best, Bernard Weatherill noted.

Touching upon international issues, he pointed to the need for disarmament and spending resources on peaceful aims. □

## Joint projects versus cold war stereotypes

THE Soviet-American seminar 'On Soviet-American Images — a New Perspective', which was held in Moscow last week, has brought to light broad possibilities for mutually beneficial co-operation in the field of literature, arts and education. The seminar was co-sponsored by the Soviet Peace Committee and the Centre for Soviet-American Dialogue, a TASS correspondent reports.

What has happened here in the course of five days can be described with good reason as a cultural revolution in relations between the United States and the Soviet Union, said Rama Vernon, Director of the American centre. We the sponsors of the meeting have been overwhelmed by the stream of initiatives and proposals for joint activity and joint projects, in whose implementation we see an effective means

of overcoming the stereotypes of mutual distrust and enmity which struck deep root in our minds during the years of 'cold war'.

Some of the proposed projects are already being implemented. Thus American cartoonist Jerry Robinson has signed a contract on the publication of his drawings in Moscow's *Krokodil* magazine and the newspaper *Izvestia*.

In addition to the already existing 'Soviet-American Initiative' on co-operating in production of feature films a joint council on documentary films is being set up. The journal *Dialogue* on new political thinking in Soviet-American relations is to be issued in Moscow and Washington.

Sociologists propose holding a mutual public opinion poll on problems of war and peace, while radio journalists want to sponsor a daily hour-long exchange of current news. Scientists have also had their say: agreement has been reached to hold a scientific-practical conference in California University on the problem of agricultural production. A dialogue on the problem of AIDS has been proposed.

The delegates to the seminar are prepared to start joint work without delay. On learning about the project for a feature film 'Cossacks and Cowboys', Kris Kristofferson immediately offered his services. I would very much like to co-operate with Soviet film-makers, in addition I am a good horse rider, he said. George Barati, composer and music director, and Paul Horn, a flutist, have expressed preparedness to make guest tours of the USSR.

The programme of co-operation is to be officially endorsed at the Soviet-American meeting of people's diplomats in New York, in October-November this year, said Igor Filin, Vice-Chairman of the Soviet Peace Committee.

I MET Les Arnold at the Moscow seminar 'Soviet-American Images — a New Perspective', a TASS correspondent writes.

Les is Chairman of Arnold Magnetics, manufacturers of electronics for aerospace and the defence industry. What makes you wonder, though, is that he is the founder and head of an organisation called 'Defence Executives for Human Success' which advocates the transferring of military-related industries onto civilian lines and favours conversion.

Why should a member of the US business community advocate the idea of conversion of the arms industry — something that might leave him without profits as time goes by?

Perhaps one explanation is that Les Arnold is a Vietnam veteran who knows from his own bitter experience what war is.

However, this businessman himself believes that he is above all a pragmatic — conversion will be a step toward peace and will not interfere with profits. What is important, however, is that the latest achievements of science and technology should be not used for military purposes and that arms manufacture should stop bringing profits.

To do this, he stresses, let us replace the image of an enemy, no matter whether it is the Soviet Union or someone else, with the fight against the real enemy which is jeopardising all humankind — environmental pollution.

Let researchers spend their intellectual energy on keeping the air and the seas clean, not producing new types of weapons. A clean environment is a great value.

We should get to know each other better, Les Arnold says, get to know each other at the level of ordinary people. He believes that this is essential if the mutual stereotypes of hostility, fear and mistrust are to be destroyed.

If the Soviet Union and the United States manage to find a common language and steer off the road leading to an abyss all the money currently spent on armaments could be devoted to solving global problems plaguing the world, such as environmental pollution, hunger, poverty and disease.

A businessman has to be sure that he will not lose if he drops off military contracts, Les Arnold says. This is why it is important to bring about a breakthrough in relations between our two countries and achieve agreement on wide-scale arms reduction. Soviet and American officials could then think of carrying out joint projects on a global scale.

(N.B. The cross-heads in this bulletin were inserted by Soviet News—Ed.)

## Appeal to writers of the world

WRITERS and publishers attending the Moscow International Book Fair have urged their colleagues throughout the world to write and publish books that will unite people in their striving towards peace. They made this appeal from the international meeting 'Book and Man in Modern Society', which was held as part of the Fair.

"The book, which is capable of raising the responsibility of each reader for the preservation of ancient cultures and peace in the world, moulds a new political thinking," the Appeal says. "Write and publish books that instil in the reader humanism and hatred for war, starvation, poverty and violence."

The organisers of the meeting took note of the great contribution made by publishing to developing mutual understanding between nations. They handed honorary diplomas to Soviet and West German publishers who have put out a series of books under the general title 'Europe on the Threshold of the Third Millennium'. Similar awards were given to the organisers of the 20-volume library of Soviet and Indian literature of the 20th century. □