

## Mikhail Gorbachev's meeting with workers

MIKHAIL GORBACHEV, General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, met workers at the First State Ball-bearing Plant in Moscow on Friday. The output of this plant, the biggest of its kind in the industry, is well known abroad.

Addressing workers of the plant Mikhail Gorbachev pointed out the importance of such meetings. He said that at the recent CPSU Central Committee plenary meeting "we again set the pressing task — to revive

Lenin's notion of socialism, Lenin's understanding of people's power, Lenin's style in Party leadership. This is to be done through the maximum development of democracy, through radically transforming the whole of the economic mechanism, through the resolute rejuvenation of the Party's role in conditions of perestroika."

These tasks will be discussed at the 19th All-Union Party Conference, Mikhail Gorbachev continued (the Conference is scheduled for June

this year). "It is extremely important to us to know what is the reaction in labour collectives to the initiatives of the Party," he emphasised.

A detailed conversation with the senior executives and the leading specialists of the plant was held at the plant management office. Mikhail Gorbachev visited production shops and talked with workers. Later on, speaking at the plant's conference hall, he shared with the workers his impressions of what he had seen and expressed high appreciation of the changes taking place at the plant.

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### Mikhail Gorbachev greets Soviet-Canadian ski expedition

MIKHAIL GORBACHEV, General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, has sent a message of greetings to the participants in the current Soviet-Canadian Transarctic Ski Expedition. Within three months they are to cover 1,800 km, skiing from the Soviet Arctic coast via the North Pole to Canadian shores.

"You have adopted a good idea which is essential for people as the basis of your daring plan," the message says.

"Your expedition is an example of great courage. It furthers the glorious chronology of the polar research of the Arctic by the pioneers of our country and other states."

"Your ski trek will undoubtedly help strengthen mutual understanding and good-neighbourliness between the Soviet Union and Canada and will be of benefit to international cooperation — and not only in the cause of Arctic exploration."

Mikhail Gorbachev wished the participants in the expedition a happy journey and the attainment of their goal.

A message addressed to Mikhail Gorbachev has come in from the participants in the Transarctic Ski Expedition. The message says, in particular — "we want to show to the peoples that the North Pole can become the Pole of Peace. We believe that history's first joint transpolar expedition will serve the development of friendly relations between the Soviet Union and Canada and the cause of peace on Earth."

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## CPSU Central Committee congratulates Soviet women

THE CPSU Central Committee has cordially congratulated Soviet women on International Women's Day.

It is said in the message that constant effort toward the improvement of the working conditions and conditions of rest for Soviet women and toward larger housing construction, the construction of schools, kindergartens and creches, polyclinics and the protection of health of the mother and child are the main trends of the social policy of the Party and the state.

Socialist society is interested in high culture and decency of relations among people and in the consolidation of the family. It concentrates the efforts on bringing up the young generation in such a way that it can worthily follow in the footsteps of the parents. Women play a vital role in the solution of these important tasks and in the renewal of the spiritual and moral atmosphere in society.

The mass movement of women for peace is becoming an ever more influential force in the new international situation. The message emphasises that Soviet women make a tangible contribution to implementing the Soviet programme of the advance of humanity to a world without nuclear arms.

## At the CPSU Central Committee's Politburo

THE Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee at its meeting on Thursday discussed measures connected with the organisation and carrying-out of inspection activities in keeping with the Soviet-American treaty on the elimination of intermediate- and shorter-range missiles.

A number of specific issues were considered on preparing the Soviet side for the fulfilment of its commitments under the treaty upon its entry into force.

The Politburo approved the results of Andrei Gromyko's official friendly visit to Hungary. The common approach of the CPSU and the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party, of the USSR and Hungary towards topical issues of Soviet-Hungarian relations and international politics was noted with satisfaction.

The meetings and conversations in Budapest, held in an atmosphere of cordiality and comradely mutual understanding, demonstrated the common striving towards the dynamic development of relations of friendship and all-round cooperation between the Soviet Union and Hungary.

It was stressed that the similarity between the process of perestroika, or restructuring, in the USSR and the goals of socialist Hungary open up new prospects for the all-round development of Soviet-Hungarian ties.

The Politburo discussed the work of enterprises following the entry into force of the Law of the USSR on the State Enterprise (Amalgamation). It was noted that transition to full cost-accounting facilitates the successful implementation of the plan of the first two months of the current year.

It was emphasised at the meeting at the same time that the guidelines of the June 1987 plenum of the CPSU Central Committee for enhancing the role of enterprises in planning and subordinating their activity to consumer demands had not been implemented in many cases.

The Politburo compelled local Party bodies to get rid of command-and-administer methods of management and turn more boldly to political methods of economic management.

The Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee adopted decisions on some other issues of the domestic and foreign policy of the CPSU and the Soviet state.



# Mikhail Gorbachev's meeting with Franz Muhri

MIKHAIL GORBACHEV had a meeting with Franz Muhri, Chairman of the Communist Party of Austria, in the CPSU Central Committee on Friday.

During the talks Mikhail Gorbachev said that the new thinking enables us to strictly analyse the objective situation and to work out a responsible and effective policy.

"The developments of the past two years have shown that our way of thinking and our actions were correct," he said.

## Mikhail Gorbachev congratulates Hafiz al-Assad

MIKHAIL GORBACHEV has addressed to the Syrian leader Hafiz al-Assad heartfelt congratulations on the occasion of the 25th Anniversary of the Revolution of March 8.

We highly value the interaction between the USSR and Syria in the resolution of the fundamental problems of the present, he emphasised. Of special significance is the coordination of efforts by our countries for a Middle East settlement, which, as seen from experience, is possible only through the convocation of an appropriate international conference.

Mikhail Gorbachev stresses that people in the USSR point out with profound gratification the high level of Soviet-Syrian relations, which develop on the basis of the Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation. These relations have turned into an important factor of contemporary international life.

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Mikhail Gorbachev said that perestroika, the economic reform and the democratisation of society gives rise to a lot of uneasy and even burning questions. "Perhaps not all the problems can be resolved at once and everywhere. However, it is necessary to learn to handle the perestroika processes and not be afraid of some blunders or even mistakes in pursuing the principled line of the Party towards giving up command and administrative methods of economic management."

The Soviet leader said further that the potential of democratism is "the most reliable potential of perestroika. It has not been used to the full so far, but it is sure to be used. The task is to involve people in action on all levels of management."

In this connection Mikhail Gorbachev recalled that when the CPSU started perestroika, the West had been sure that it would end in failure. "Many people counted on that, but now that they have seen that perestroika is a reality, not just words, and that socialism is confidently moving towards rejuvenation they have got worried. All broadcasting stations working on all wavelengths have tried to convince our people that nothing would come out of perestroika. They are so unwilling to recognise socialism's viability and dynamism. However, we shall not be confused by those attacks. Soviet people know what is the ultimate goal of perestroika, what is the reason for all that is being done."

After his speech Mikhail Gorbachev answered workers' questions.

With the help of new thinking, through a policy based on it we reveal the humanism of socialist society, Gorbachev said.

Problems of European security were discussed from the viewpoint of the possibilities opened by the signing of the INF treaty — both for advancement along the path of nuclear disarmament and for the reduction of conventional arms and armed forces on an equitable basis down to the exclusively defensive level.

They described the NATO 'offset' plans as a serious threat to the emerging prospect of lowering military confrontation in Europe, drew attention to the intensification of the militarist component in integrational processes of Western Europe and reaffirmed their commitment to the concept of the common European home and the complete implementation of all aspects of the Helsinki Final Act.

Gorbachev and Muhri discussed some problems of the international communist movement.

Mikhail Gorbachev briefly described the problems being tackled at the new stage of the policy of restructuring, emphasising that the principal aim is to draw the people into all spheres of societal life. Socialism is a higher stage in the development of mankind actually notable for solving the historic task — to deal a final blow at the alienation of man.

"The most important thing to us is that socialism — through the new way of thinking and by means of new approaches and self-criticism — secures the dynamics of its development and utilises its humanistic nature. Therefore we shall firmly proceed along the chosen road," Mikhail Gorbachev emphasised.

## Andrei Gromyko receives Polish delegation

ANDREI GROMYKO, President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, received in the Kremlin on Saturday a delegation of the National Council of Poland's Patriotic Movement for National Rebirth led by Chairman of the National Council Jan Dobraczynski, prominent writer and Catholic leader. The organisation was founded in 1983 to rally various political forces declaring support for socialism.

Andrei Gromyko noted that it took great effort to uphold Poland's present frontiers at allied conferences after the war. He emphasised that these frontiers of the Polish state are equitable. "The declarations made in the West concerning these frontiers mean annoyance with the People's Republic of Poland," he said. On behalf of the Soviet leadership and the Soviet people Andrei Gromyko assured the members of the delegation that the USSR will continue supporting socialist Poland.

Referring to restructuring taking place in the USSR, Andrei Gromyko said — "we do not specify the timeframe for this process, but we wish to achieve as soon as possible the concrete aim of improving the life of people, of resolving problems in the social area, developing our economy with the use of the latest achievements of science and technology and enriching the ways of socialist democracy."

Dwelling on the problems of foreign policy, Andrei Gromyko said that humanity is living through a particularly important period — the historic Soviet-American treaty on the elimination of intermediate-range and shorter-range missiles is to be ratified. "The Soviet side expresses the hope that the USA will show utter responsibility with regard to the question of ratification," said the head of the Soviet state.

Andrei Gromyko described the Soviet-American talks on strategic offensive arms reduction as another most important event in present-day international affairs. He emphasised that the Soviet Union will be paying the utmost attention to this question and to the talks.

## At the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe

"REPORTS from Vienna, where the third meeting of representatives of CSCE member-countries is being held, show that the Western countries are not interested in progress in discussing humanitarian problems," Yuvenali Polyakov, spokesman of the Directorate for Humanitarian and Cultural Ties of the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs, said in an interview on Saturday.

"The Soviet side proceeds from the premise that readiness for extensive human contacts, for an exchange of objective information, mutually advantageous scientific ties and international cooperation in human rights is an imperative condition of easing tensions and strengthening peace," Yuvenali Polyakov stressed. "Proceeding from this, the Soviet delegation and the delegations of other socialist countries have

presented a whole series of proposals on all aspects of humanitarian cooperation for consideration by the participants in the meeting."

"Yet the situation in the editorial group drafting the relevant articles of the concluding document cannot be described as satisfactory. There are very few agreed-upon wordings that are ready for inclusion in the document," the Soviet spokesman continued. "On many issues the Western partners are keeping to an unrealistic stand, often of the nature of an ultimatum, and are making demands that contradict the spirit and letter of the Helsinki Final Act. At the very same time they are reluctant to adopt obligations concerning human rights. The impression is that somebody has decided to block the work along the humanitarian direction and under this pretext to put a brake on the work along other directions, thus making the entire Vienna meeting a sort of

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# Vladimir Kamentsev on Soviet-Finnish Commission meeting

THE 33rd session of the permanent intergovernmental Soviet-Finnish Commission for Economic Cooperation ended with the signing of a final protocol in Moscow on Friday.

It was signed by Vladimir Kamentsev, Deputy Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and Chairman of the Soviet side of the Commission, and by Kalevi Sorsa, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Finland and Chairman of the Finnish side of the Commission.

"During the session, a large amount of work was done to evaluate the present state of Soviet-Finnish trade-and-economic relations, and ways to solve the tasks facing our two countries were mapped out," Vladimir Kamentsev told a TASS correspondent.

"Over the past 20 years, goods turnover in Soviet-Finnish trade has grown ten-fold — from 400 million to 4,000 million dollars. The results of 1987 indicate that it is only through joint efforts that the sides will be able to solve

the problems of the unbalanced character of trade. As compared with 1986, goods turnover between the Soviet Union and Finland grew by more than 20%. The same increase is planned for 1988 as well. This will be achieved resultant, mainly, of changing the pattern of goods turnover and of active utilisation of new forms of cooperation."

Apart from current matters concerning Soviet-Finnish trade, the session also discussed prospects for cooperation, specifically in the development of the raw material resources of the Kola peninsula, the construction of a gas pipeline to central Finland from the Karelian Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic in the USSR's northwest, in the joint construction of a hydroelectric pumped storage power plant in the territory of Finland and in wider coordination in ship-building.

"Much attention was devoted to developing cooperation on the basis of industrial coordination and to such a new form of cooperation to us as the establishment of joint enterprises. About ten offers concerning joint ventures have come from Finnish companies. The Soviet side is

ready for such cooperation on the broadest basis," Vladimir Kamentsev pointed out.

"The question of drafting a new five-year agreement on trade as well as of working to implement the programme for the building of ships in Finland for the Soviet Union was also raised at the session. This creates good prerequisites and once again reaffirms the intention of our two countries to give greater scope to mutual cooperation on a long-term basis," Vladimir Kamentsev emphasised.

## Konstantin Katushev's talks with Ilkka Suominen

TOPICAL questions of Soviet-Finnish trade and economic cooperation were discussed at a meeting between USSR Minister for External Economic Ties Konstantin Katushev and Finland's Minister of Trade and Industry Ilkka Suominen on Thursday.

Taking part in the conversation from the Finnish side also were representatives of the big companies Neste, Nokia and Outokumpu who are staying here in connection with the regular 33rd meeting of the standing intergovernmental Soviet-Finnish Commission on Economic Cooperation.

Konstantin Katushev acquainted the representatives of Finland's business community with the changes in the system of the Soviet Union's external economic ties. It was noted that the new Ministry which effects guidance of the entire external economic complex should conduct business with foreign partners more flexibly and dynamically and facilitate the speediest solution of complex questions of trade and economic activity, including the conduct of balanced trade between the Soviet Union and Finland.

The sides studied in particular questions of increasing the export of a number of Soviet commodities to Finland and stepping up cooperation in developing the Kola peninsula's raw materials resources.

## Soviet-British trade agreement

THE USSR foreign trade association Technopromimport signed in Moscow last week a contract with the British firm Simon Carves to the sum of 274 million roubles. Under the contract a plant for the manufacture of 25,000 programmable controllers a year will be built in the capital of Soviet Armenia, Yerevan in 1988-1991.

The Chairman of the Simon Carves Board said in a TASS interview he is very glad the firm has succeeded in securing a major Soviet order in competition with firms of other countries. He said the firm's proposal to build a plant in Yerevan is backed not only by the firm's business partners but also by the leaders of the two countries. The document signed endorses the preliminary agreement concluded by the British firm with Technopromimport in December last. The contract is larger than any deal ever concluded in the industrial area between a British firm and a Soviet foreign trade association.

## USSR-U.K. television link-ups

THE USSR State Television and Radio (Gosteleradio) and British independent Thames Television will carry out an unprecedented series of television hook-ups USSR-UK. For six days in a row television viewers will watch direct dialogues between Soviet and British audiences, a TASS correspondent was told by Leonid Zolotarevsky, the Soviet anchorman of the television hook-ups.

The series will be an unusual and a complex one because the space link-ups will be between Soviet and British cities, Leonid Zolotarevsky noted. The first introductory debate will be held between Moscow and London on March 13 with the participation of people of different professions, including people broadly known in their countries. Since Britons show special interest in the events in connection with the Soviet school reform, senior graders will be

specially invited for the meetings.

Then the Soviet Baltic cities of Tallinn and Riga, and Belfast, Manchester, Glasgow and Nottingham from the British side will participate in the dialogue. The subject of the discussions have been named in advance as a result of joint discussions — detente and disarmament problems, human rights, the family and education of children, young people and their future and prospects for Soviet-British cooperation.

The idea of such a series is both interesting and well-founded, Zolotarevsky noted, since the television hook-ups which have become so popular are today the most accessible form of international communication. Nowadays not so much experts as common citizens of various countries are invited for participation in such programmes, and we can speak about the origination of a new genre — people's television journalism. The direct and frank conversations of "people's diplomats" are conducive to strengthening trust and mutual understanding.

## Soviet scientist on Phobos project

PREPARATIONS for an international space project, in which two probes will be launched to the Martian moon Phobos, have entered the decisive phase, with the first vehicle already at Baikonur Cosmodrome and the other expected there in the middle of this month, a senior Soviet space scientist has told TASS.

Vyacheslav Balebanov, deputy director of the Academy of Sciences' Space Research Institute, said that besides Phobos, the vehicles will study also Mars, the Sun and interplanetary space.

The project involves the USSR, Austria, Bulgaria, Hungary, the German Democratic Republic, Poland, Finland, France, the Federal Republic of Germany, Czechoslovakia, Switzerland, Sweden and the European Space Agency.

Scientists believe that Phobos and the other

Martian moon, Deimos, are former asteroids captured by the red planet's gravitational field. Such celestial bodies are of great interest to researchers.

The probes are to be blasted off on July 7 and 12. After reaching Mars in 200 days, they will near Phobos, getting as close as first 50 kilometres and eventually 50 metres to it, and coast over its surface in this way at a speed of several kilometres per hour for half an hour.

It is during this phase that they are to do remote-sensing studies of Phobos, including laser, ion mass analysis, deep radar probing, surface temperature reading and other experiments, and take television pictures of the Martian satellite with a resolution of several centimetres.

The vehicles will drop landers on Phobos which will analyse its rock samples to establish their

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# USSR Foreign Ministry Statement

THE other day the South African racist authorities took a decision to ban the political activities of several mass democratic organisations, including the United Democratic Front (UDF) and Congress of South African Trade Unions (COSATU). Such is a challenge cast by the apartheid regime to all honest people in South Africa coming out for freedom and justice and against oppression and lawlessness. This is another futile attempt, on its part, to quash the rising resistance to racist order and to arrest the wave of activities of democratic anti-racist organisations, in which representatives of all races and segments of the country's population participate.

It is long overdue for the Pretoria authorities to understand that the future of South Africa is connected not with suppression of the struggle of its people against the apartheid system, but with an end to reprisals and a transition to positions of thinking which will enable the country to do away with the disgrace of apartheid and to pool the efforts of all South Africans in the interests of establishing a united democratic and non-racial state.

Apartheid is doomed and it will not be saved either by a new wave of terror and reprisals, or the continued occupation of Namibia, or still acts of armed aggression against

the frontline African states. The stake on force and terror, on suppression of rights and freedoms of people shows weakness of the regime rather than its strength and demonstrates its failure and fallacy.

War declared now by the racist authorities also on those organisations which come out for non-violent methods of struggle, shows again how scornfully Pretoria treats the desire of the South African people for freedom and the basic human rights. The Pretoria regime blatantly ignores the U.N. Charter, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights — whose 40th Anniversary the U.N. will mark this year — international covenants on human rights and the Convention on the Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organisation of 1948.

The international community cannot feel secure when human values, as well as moral and ethical norms of civilisation are being violated in South Africa. The United Nations has long ago declared that the regime based on racial discrimination is unlawful and has classified its actions as the grossest violation of international law, a threat to peace and security, and as a crime against humanity.

The action of the South African government is tightening ever stronger the knot of conflict in southern Africa. In the current situation, the international community should undertake effective measures and make South Africa search for ways to a fair political settlement in that region. The embargo on arms sales to South Africa imposed by the U.N. Security Council

should be observed fully, firmly and steadily. It is inadmissible that faith in the authority of international law should be lost. It is high time that the next step was taken — the imposition of comprehensive mandatory sanctions against the apartheid regime in accordance with Chapter VII of the U.N. Charter.

The 'veto' on economic sanctions, which has been used at the Security Council many times, is tantamount to patronising the racists. This is also a 'veto' on democratisation and humanism, on human rights and freedoms in South Africa. It would be rightful to ask those imposing the veto how it coincides with their declarations about their commitment to human rights, the principles of self-determination and the freedom of peoples. It is inadmissible that this new anti-democratic act of the racist regime should again go unpunished.

The escalation of the apartheid policy is arousing wrath and indignation in the Soviet Union. Continued repression is leading to the further tightening of tensions and increasing violence in South Africa, as well as to more instability and the aggravation of the situation in the entire region which has become one of the world's seats of tension through Pretoria's fault. All this cannot but arouse serious concern.

The Soviet Union is ready to go hand in hand with those to whom the lofty U.N. principles and ideals of freedom and equality are dear. Time has come to undertake actions — and decisive ones — to eradicate apartheid and to eliminate the conflict situation in southern Africa.

## Work of the USSR's representative at the United Nations

IN connection with a further aggravation of the Iranian-Iraqi conflict the Soviet Union is taking urgent steps aimed at promoting the termination of the 'war of the cities' as soon as possible, as well as achieving a political settlement of the conflict. Alexander Belonogov, permanent representative of the USSR at the U.N., presented on Monday a vigorous démarche to Dragoslav Peic of Yugoslavia, Chairman of the U.N. Security Council.

He stated that the Security Council should use all its potentialities for stopping the 'war of the cities' as soon as possible. The Soviet representative pointed out that it was not an isolated episode, but a serious aggravation of the Iranian-Iraqi conflict. Not military facilities, but densely populated residential areas, hospitals and schools are brought under artillery fire. Guiltless peaceful civilians are killed, and material and cultural values are destroyed.

Belonogov said that it is especially important to stop the 'war of the cities' because its continuation could block the implementation of

Resolution 598 of the U.N. Security Council. The Soviet representative pointed out that the Security Council should emphatically demand that both sides immediately stop the 'war of the cities'.

A similar démarche was presented by the Soviet representative to the U.N. Secretary-General. Alexander Belonogov emphasised the need for stepping up efforts for implementing the peace-making mission of the Secretary-General aimed at putting into practice Resolution 598 of the Security Council.

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A letter from Alexander Belonogov addressed to the U.N. Secretary-General was issued in New York last week. It points to the need for carrying out on a multilateral basis an exchange of information on chemical weapons. This will contribute to the speediest drawing up, coordination, signing and coming into force of the international convention on the total prohibition and destruction of chemical weapons and in particular to the practical resolution of the questions of international control and building up the atmosphere of trust, the letter stresses.

This information shall embrace all the facilities of the state participating in the current talks on the convention — those deployed in its national territory and those in foreign territories. It will be useful, the letter points out, for the states which do not participate in these talks also to submit similar information.

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composition as well as physical and chemical properties (this will help deduce the rate of deceleration of Phobos' orbital movement and the nature of its oscillatory motions).

After that the probes will soar up to an altitude of 50 kilometres again to continue studies under a wide-ranging research programme. The mission is to last for a minimum of 18 months.

The scientific interest in Mars is, among other factors, due to the fact that that planet can be developed by man. This is why the Phobos programme provides also for making a television film of Mars, optical and temperature studies of its surface, and studies of its atmosphere, magnetic field and solar energy flows reaching it, Balebanov explained.

As far as observations of the Sun are concerned, they will be made by both probes while flying to Mars and after nearing Phobos. En route to the red planet they will also study the physical and chemical properties of the interplanetary medium.

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'hostage to the third basket'. Those who resort to such tactics should bear full responsibility for the possible consequences."

"Objective preconditions for working out substantial accords developing and deepening the cooperation of member states in humanitarian fields do exist," Yuvenali Polyakov emphasised. "One must not complicate artificially the process of reaching agreement, one must renounce the ultimatum tactics, tactics of linkages and the deliberate creation of impasses and start taking into account each other's lawful interests."

### Mikhail Gorbachev Realities and Guarantees for a Secure World

The above pamphlet is available from Soviet Books, 3 Rosary Gardens, London SW7 4NW.

Price 30p.



# At the USSR Foreign Affairs Ministry

## On Soviet cosmonaut Yuri Romanenko

SOVIET Foreign Ministry spokesman Gennadi Gerasimov has called attention to gossip and concoctions spread by mass media in some Western countries over the state of health of Soviet cosmonaut Yuri Romanenko following his record-long mission aboard the orbiting platform Mir.

Speaking at a briefing in Moscow on Thursday, Gerasimov, chief of the Ministry's Information Directorate, said the newspapers *La Stampa*, *La Repubblica* and some others had been especially active in that campaign.

"We are gratified that it is not, as a rule, Moscow-based correspondents that have been making this kind of 'discoveries'. *La Repubblica*, for example, has written about a 'dramatic deterioration' of Romanenko's health, quoting Gaetano Rotondo, chief physician at the Aeronautica research center.

"One would think that this signor has examined Romanenko or has had access to a relevant medical data. It has turned out, however, that he has not even visited the USSR and simply invented all that," Gerasimov declared.

"Yuri Romanenko is now back from his vacation in Kislovodsk and he's agreed to take part in our briefing," he added.

The newsmen were then addressed by spaceman Romanenko.

"I like journalists and respect them, just as I like and respect all earthlings. The falsehoods appearing in a number of papers about my condition cannot but put a question mark over your reputation as objective suppliers of information about this country and its achievements in space," Yuri Romanenko said.

"I hope this briefing will convince you that I am as fit as a fiddle. No complex medical experiments are needed to see this. I hope you will honestly report this in the countries you represent."

Romanenko said the Mir platform has various facilities helping to offset the adverse effects of zero gravity on humans.

"It is easy to get about in weightlessness, but the latter is a very tender and a very formidable beast which has to be battled tirelessly throughout the flight," he continued.

Detailing the means helping man's subsequent adaptation to conditions on Earth, the spaceman

said: "first of all, it is the right regimen, balanced diet, including water intake, psychological support, special-purpose physical exercise equipment making it possible to work out regularly till the end of the mission, and medical preparations."

"Soviet medicine has gained a lot of experience enabling us to fly for as long as a year and get back to earth in perfect health," Romanenko pointed out.

He said that on one of his last days in Kislovodsk he had been visited by a *Stern* magazine correspondent who had been so interested in his health that he had asked the cosmonaut to do some physical exercises, like pushups.

"I did fifteen of them on my left hand and suggested swapping roles," Romanenko continued. "The reporter first did some pushups using his both hands and when he tried it with just one hand, he fell flat on the floor."

"So I'm feeling fine, although I had to work out hard for this during the space flight. We were performing the full physical exercise programme our specialists developed for us. It was tough but indispensable."

## On Czechoslovak initiative for peace zone

The USSR Foreign Affairs Ministry's spokesman supported Czechoslovakia's proposal to set up a zone of trust, cooperation and good-neighbourly relations along the line of contact between Warsaw Treaty and NATO countries.

At the briefing Gennadi Gerasimov said that this idea, suggested by General Secretary of Czechoslovakia's Communist Party Milos Jakes on February 24, rests on a comprehensive approach to solving issues in the military, political, economic and humanitarian fields.

"In particular," the Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman said, "in the military sphere this could imply the creation of a 'rarefied' zone with a reduced level of military confrontation. The most dangerous types of offensive weapons could be withdrawn from this zone and mutual confidence-building measures taken. This approach is in line with the earlier proposals from Czechoslovakia and the GDR to create a zone free from nuclear and chemical weapons. The Czechoslovak proposal accords with the decisions of the Budapest and Berlin meetings of the Warsaw Treaty's Political Consultative Committee."

## On nuclear-free-zones meeting in Berlin

"It was learned here with interest about the constituent meeting in Berlin of the national committee for the holding in the GDR capital of an international meeting for the creation of nuclear-free zones, on June 20-22," Gennadi Gerasimov told the press briefing. He reported that the appeal adopted at this meeting and signed by Erich Honecker has been received in the Soviet capital.

The Soviet Union supports the creation of nuclear-free zones, the Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman stressed. It is certainly both useful and timely for representatives of various countries to exchange views and experience on the problem of creating such zones, he went on. Gerasimov said the USSR supports the idea of holding this international meeting for the creation of nuclear-free zones and is prepared to give assistance in holding it.

## On Cyprus President's statement

"The programme statement by the new President of Cyprus Georgios Vasiliou outlining the tasks of the new government's foreign policy activities has been studied in Moscow," Gerasimov told journalists.

"It follows from the statement that continuity of the principled political course of nonalignment of the Republic of Cyprus remains. According to the President's statement Cyprus will contribute to the cause of strengthening international security, averting the threat of nuclear war and will give support to the struggle of peoples for national liberation," the Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman said. "These tasks of the foreign policy activities of the new government of the Republic of Cyprus, set forth by President Georgios Vasiliou, are consonant with the USSR's principled line in these questions."

Gerasimov also noted that the position in favour of convening an international conference within the framework of the United Nations Organisation to settle the external aspects of the Cyprus question, expressed by Georgios Vasiliou, has Moscow's full understanding and support.

## On peaceful end of Iran-Iraq war

Gennadi Gerasimov expressed concern at the briefing about the fresh eruption of hostilities in the Iran-Iraq war. "The war of cities" may only complicate the quest for a peaceful way to settle the conflict, strengthen the mutual enmity and bitterness," he said.

"We urge the leadership of both countries to display restraint and look for ways for the settlement of the conflict not in the battlefield, but at the negotiating table."

The Soviet Union is convinced, the spokesman for the USSR Foreign Ministry emphasised, that despite the complexity and acuteness of the problems and differences which have accumulated between Iran and Iraq, there are no insurmountable obstacles in the way of reaching a peaceful settlement of the conflict. "The current dangerous spiral in the development of the Iran-Iraq conflict is only proof of the need for further intensifying the efforts to end the Iran-Iraq war on the basis of U.N. Security Council Resolution 598."

## Soviet cooperatives — draft law published

A DRAFT law on Soviet cooperatives was published in Moscow on Saturday.

The document, which is some 80 pages long, defines economic, organisational and legal conditions for co-op activities. After being discussed nationwide, it will be submitted to the Soviet Parliament.

The bill aims to encourage the cooperative movement in the country. While the state sector will retain its leading role, this movement should help saturate the market with goods and increase the range and availability of consumer services.

The draft speaks of "equal interaction" between the state and cooperative sectors and

allows co-ops to engage in foreign economic activities.

It permits cooperatives of two kinds, namely producer and consumer.

The first group of co-ops may produce, procure, process and market farm produce, manufacture consumer and producer goods, gather and recycle wastes, and mine minerals. They may also specialise in car servicing, public catering and other operations.

Consumer co-ops are those offering trading and public catering services. Along with these activities, they may organise production schemes as well.

The bill says that anybody over 16 may join a

(Continues on back page)

## Disarmament and Development

Vladimir Gurevich

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# Nikolai Chervov on NATO session

"WE certainly welcome the statement by the NATO leaders that they support the Soviet-American treaty on intermediate- and shorter-range missiles and favour its speediest ratification. Yet we have been most clearly disappointed with the final statements by the NATO session on conventional weapons," Colonel-General Nikolai Chervov, Chief of the Administration of the General Staff of the USSR Armed Forces, said on Sunday.

"Way back in June 1986, the Warsaw Treaty countries put forward at the session of the Political Consultative Committee in Budapest a specific programme for a significant reduction of conventional weapons in Europe from the Atlantic to the Urals. It is precisely a programme that was set forth in Budapest, and the aims, subject and the stages and measures of control for the implementation of this programme were pointed out," Nikolai Chervov said in an interview with a TASS diplomatic correspondent.

"For two years we have waited for an answer from the NATO member-countries. And if the leaders of the North Atlantic alliance view their statement entitled 'Conventional Weapons Control: a Programme for the Future' as a response to the Budapest programme, this is wishful thinking. I have attentively read that paper and have not discovered in it the essence of the NATO concept in the field of disarmament, or any programme as such, especially as compared with the Budapest programme."

"As far as conventional weapons are concerned, I have not found in that document any mention, for example, of a mutual reduction of armed forces and conventional weapons in Europe," Nikolai Chervov explained. "Moreover, there is an impression that they are speaking with the Soviet Union and our allies in the form of an ultimatum, and the question is raised about a unilateral reduction of the armed forces of the Warsaw Treaty Organisation. But where are the ideas, which were repeatedly put forward, about the mutual elimination of the disbalance, asymmetry simultaneously in the armed forces of NATO and the Warsaw Treaty Organisation? No such ideas are to be found in the NATO paper. Instead, an unfounded claim is made about Soviet military superiority and a Soviet military treat. In view of this, there is an impression that the NATO paper is of a propaganda character."

Then the Soviet expert quoted specific examples from the NATO paper.

*Excerpt: The Soviet Union's military presence in Europe at the level by far exceeding its needs for ensuring its defence, creates a direct threat to our security, as well as to our hopes for a change in the political situation in Europe (translated from Russian — TASS).*

"As far as the Soviet threat to the security of Europe is concerned, this is not a new allegation," Nikolai Chervov said. "It was right after the October Revolution that the British ambassador to Moscow reported to London that if an end was not put immediately to Bolshevism in Russia, the civilisation of the whole world would be in jeopardy. Since then they in the West have made claims in different wrappers about the Bolshevik, red, Soviet threat. Yet, in real fact, things stand the other way round. The Soviet Union and the Warsaw Treaty member states are encircled with many hundreds of U.S. and NATO military bases packed full with nuclear weapons, all of them being trained on the Soviet Union's territory. Considering the strategic offensive weapons of the USA, our territory is under a double threat. The Soviet Union has nothing of the kind vis-a-vis the USA. Thus who threatens whom in real fact?"

*Excerpt: Disbalance in the field of conventional weapons in Europe remains the main cause of concern about Europe's security.*

"But aren't we also concerned about that," Chervov inquired, "since two-three million-strong armies confront one another in Europe? NATO has almost 1,500 more strike warplanes than the Warsaw Treaty Organisation. NATO has almost double superiority as regards war helicopters. Why doesn't the document mention the strike tactical airforce? The mutual elimination of disbalances is necessary — from the NATO side primarily of strike aircraft. But the NATO paper says that they are concerned about Soviet tanks and artillery. But we are concerned about the NATO strike airforce and war helicopters. I will stress once again that the NATO countries stubbornly decline examining the balance of the military forces as a whole, and pick out what suits their aim best. As a result, in particular, attention is focused in every way possible only on the tanks of the countries of the Warsaw Treaty Organisation, as if NATO had no superiority in strike airforce and war helicopters."

*Excerpt: Basing itself on the Soviet Union's forward-based forces, the Warsaw Treaty has a potential for a surprise attack . . .*

"There is a rough military parity between the Warsaw Treaty Organisation and NATO. It must

be noted, for that matter, that NATO has more combat-ready divisions and brigades capable of carrying out offensive operations," Nikolai Chervov said. "The member states of the Warsaw Treaty propose to the NATO countries that an agreement be concluded on military non-aggression against one another, and that a nuclear-free corridor be created along the line of contact of the two alliances with a width of 300km, from which it is necessary to withdraw all the types of offensive weapons. Why do the NATO countries refuse to do this?"

*Excerpt: The military potential and actions by the Warsaw Treaty Organisation are, as before, shrouded into a veil of secrecy.*

"I consider it to be an unfounded statement since we have actually opened the Soviet Union's territory and the Soviet Armed Forces for inspection within the framework of the Stockholm agreements," Nikolai Chervov said. "Considerable control measures with on-site inspection are envisaged in the INF treaty. But what about the NATO member-countries? The territory of the USA and Canada has been taken out of control despite the fact that the USA is a direct participant in the Stockholm Conference on Confidence- and Security-Building Measures and Disarmament in Europe. Besides, the military activities of the U.S. navy and airforce are top classified. No talks are being held on a reduction of the navy because of the reluctance of the USA. One cannot help asking in that connection — whose military activities are shrouded into a veil of secrecy?"

"In signing that document, the participants in the NATO session proceeded, as it seems to us, from the premise that they should make the governments of their countries increase their military spendings," Nikolai Chervov continued. "But a considerably more serious case of the non-constructive character of their document is probably that the NATO member-countries do not wish to give up the concept of nuclear deterrence, which in translation into the Russian language means the more nuclear weapons, the more security — they claim. Here is what the NATO document says, in particular, in that connection:

*They (the members of the North Atlantic Alliance) will neither put forward nor take decisions leading to undermining the nuclear potential of deterrence which the allies have.*

"Thus the countries of the Warsaw Treaty Organisation, meeting half-way the NATO member-countries in the field of disarmament, put forward specific compromise proposals. Meanwhile, unfortunately, the NATO countries are going back on their word," Nikolai Chervov emphasised.

## At the Soviet-U.S. talks on nuclear testing

THE full-scale Soviet-American talks on the limitation and ending of nuclear testing are under way in Geneva.

During the current round of the talks, the delegations have the purpose of working out more effective measures to verify compliance with the 1974 Threshold Test Ban Treaty and the 1976 Peaceful Nuclear Explosions Treaty. These measures of verification will enable the USSR and the USA to shortly ratify the aforementioned treaties. Moreover, these measures of verification could be applied, in whatever degree possible, to working out subsequent agreements on the further substantial limitation of nuclear tests for number and yield.

A new impetus to the talks was given by the

February meeting of the foreign ministers of the two countries in Moscow. At that meeting an arrangement was reached to speed up the work on the corresponding protocols of verification on the 1974 and 1976 treaties so as to conclude the drafting of the protocols by the coming ministerial meeting in Washington. Taking this into account the delegations are conducting intensive work to agree upon political, juridical and technical provisions of the future protocols, viewing this work as the priority task at the given stage.

Work is simultaneously conducted on preparing a joint verification experiment at the test sites of the USSR and the USA. An agreement about such an experiment was

reached during the Washington summit in December 1987.

Definite practical results were reached at the talks at the given stage. A number of documents drafted in the working groups were agreed upon. The sides exchanged geographic coordinates of the wells at the test sites in the area of Semipalatinsk and in Nevada to be used in the joint verification experiment, as well as samples of rock that will give the sides the information about typical geological and geophysical characteristics of each other's test sites.

The USSR delegation is pressing for prompt and exact fulfilment of the coordinated tasks facing the sides at this stage of the talks and emphasises the importance of their comprehensive solution.



# On the Afghan-Pakistani Geneva talks

PROSPECT for the peaceful political settlement of the Afghanistan situation and ending the fratricidal war is closer than ever before. There is real hope that the present round of the Afghan-Pakistani talks in Geneva will be final and will lead to signing the drafted and agreed accords which will put an end to one of the most bitter and painful regional conflicts, and seal off ways for interfering in the internal affairs of Afghanistan and rendering outside aid to those who would like to impose their

will on the Afghan people by armed force.

This is also evidenced by the smile of Afghan Foreign Minister Abdul Wakil who met Diego Cordovez, intermediary at the talks and the U.N. Secretary-General's personal representative, and by Cordovez' pronouncements expressing readiness to stay in Geneva as long as necessary but preferably for a shorter time.

The Afghan delegation expresses the desire for an early end to the talks, holds a constructive position and proposes possible compromises, meeting halfway its Pakistani partners' wishes in the talks. Guided by the spirit of the recent initiatives of the Soviet and Afghan leaders,

who defined periods (acceptable for all) for withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan, removing thereby the 'last obstacle' in the way of settlement, the Afghan delegation held preliminary consultations with Moscow and informed the other side that withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan could be carried out in nine months. Incidentally, 50% of the Soviet military contingent can be withdrawn within the first three months.

On Friday the head of the Pakistani delegation, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Zain Noorani, departed for Islamabad for consultations where he is to specify the Pakistani position. The Pakistani opposition supports the signing of Geneva accords. The leaders of the main opposition alliance — the Movement for the Restoration of Democracy — on the same day met Prime Minister Junejo to call on him "not to lose the chance", sign the agreement and end the conflict leaving solution of the composition of a new coalition government for Afghanistan to the Afghan people.

This is the demand of the Afghan and Pakistani peoples who want to live in an atmosphere of friendship and goodneighbourly relations. This is the wish of all peace-loving people on Earth who believe that an end to the Afghan armed conflict will pave the way to elimination of other regional conflicts whether in the Middle East or in Asia, Africa or in Central America.

## Soviet-Japanese public opinion poll

MANKIND should enter the next century without nuclear weapons. This idea is supported by the overwhelming majority of Soviet and Japanese respondents in a joint public opinion poll conducted for the first time ever by TASS and the Japanese Kyodo Tsushin news agency. The idea of eliminating all nuclear weapons in the world by the beginning of the 21st century was supported by 99.4% of those polled in the Soviet Union and 87.3% in Japan.

In the USSR the poll was conducted in Moscow, Leningrad, Kiev, Khabarovsk and Vladivostok and in Japan on Hokkaido Island, in the Tohoku, Kanto and other areas. On arrangement between the organisers of the poll there were 635 Soviet and 1,090 Japanese respondents. They were asked to tell pollsters by telephone their views on such issues as the reduction and elimination of nuclear arms, the state and prospect of Soviet-Japanese relations.

The study showed that both in the Soviet Union and Japan the public welcomes the Soviet-American INF treaty as the first step towards a genuine liquidation of nuclear arsenals. The signing of the treaty was approved by 99.4% of those polled in the Soviet Union and 86% in Japan.

The results of the poll, which covered people from all walks of life and of all age groups, shows that both the Soviet and the Japanese public is alarmed by the U.S. administration's plans to spread the nuclear arms race to outer space. The 'Star Wars' programme was condemned by 94.8% of those polled in the Soviet Union. In Japan only 22.8% of the respondents approved Japan's participation in this programme while 57.8% disapproved and 19.4% had no firm opinion.

The role of the mass media in establishing an atmosphere of understanding and trust between countries and peoples is universally known. Yet 82.3% of those polled in Japan regard as insufficient the information about the Soviet Union that they get from the Japanese mass media, books and films. Soviet people are somewhat better informed about their far eastern neighbour, dissatisfaction with the amount of information about Japan being expressed by 62.2% of the respondents.

Is it that this shortage of information is responsible for the forming in neighbour nations of an insufficient and sometimes distorted, false perception of each other and the history of relations between them? Only 35.4% of Japanese

replied in the affirmative to the question "do you regard the Soviet Union as an economically developed country?" And 74% of Japanese gave a negative answer to the question whether they regarded the boundaries between the Soviet Union and Japan established after World War Two as fair.

In the Soviet Union 97.9% of the respondents regard Japan as an economically developed country and only 2.5% think the present Soviet-Japanese border is unfair.

The main result of the poll evidently is the striving expressed by its participants for the development of understanding between the Soviet Union and Japan. The question "do you want an improvement of Soviet-Japanese relations?" received a positive answer from 98.9% of the respondents in the Soviet Union and 84.2% in Japan. An expansion of Soviet-Japanese trade and economic relations, including the setting up of joint ventures, is favoured by 96.5% of the Soviet respondents and 61.8% of those in Japan.

## At the Soviet-U.S. Geneva talks

AT the meetings held in Geneva at the beginning of the current week during the Soviet-U.S. talks on nuclear and space arms, the Soviet delegation submitted for consideration the combined texts of draft protocols on inspections as well as on conversion or elimination in view of a treaty being prepared on a 50% cut in strategic offensive arms.

The documents submitted by the Soviet side take into account the experience of the drafting of the INF treaty, as well as the U.S. proposals on appropriate issues. They have been drawn up so as to make it possible to record already at this stage the coinciding aspects in the approaches of the sides as well as clearly to designate further directions of work with a view to fully coordinating the protocols.

The submitting of the above-mentioned important proposals precisely in such version is prompted by the striving of the Soviet side to use most efficient ways of work at the talks so as to ensure the accomplishment of the task set to the two delegations — to draft a treaty on a 50% cut in strategic offensive arms in the conditions of compliance with the ABM Treaty for signature at the forthcoming regular Soviet-U.S. summit meeting in Moscow.

## Pravda on Bangladesh Communist Party's 40th Anniversary

"THE Bangladesh Communist Party is entering the fifth decade of its existence as an active force of the people in the struggle for their better future," the newspaper *Pravda* says in connection with the 40th Anniversary on Sunday of the founding of the Bangladesh Communist Party.

In its dispatch from Dhaka the newspaper touches upon the difficult path traversed by the Party and the complicated situation in the country in which the Bangladesh communists have to work.

Today, the dispatch says, the Communist Party of Bangladesh is a "noticeable force in the country and enjoys well-deserved prestige and influence among the people".

"Over the past three years, the number of Party members has trebled," the *Pravda* correspondent was told by N. Islam, Secretary of the Central Committee of the Bangladesh Communist Party. The influence of the Party has particularly grown in the countryside, where 90% of the country's population live. Eight years ago the Bangladesh Communist Party had its organisations in 30 districts, today it functions in 60. We have now nearly sixteen hundred primary organisations.

The statement by Sayfuddin Ahmed Manik for *Pravda* says that the Communist Party of Bangladesh is an active contingent of the international communist movement. It stands firmly on the positions of proletarian internationalism and Marxism-Leninism. The statement also stresses that the Communist Party of Bangladesh ardently supports the USSR's proposals on Afghanistan and is convinced that their implementation is the sole correct way towards the speediest settlement of the Afghan problem.



# Svetlana Savitskaya on the Soviet Peace Fund

"THE Soviet Peace Fund has been promoting peace and international solidarity for over a quarter of a century," Svetlana Savitskaya emphasised in a speech last Friday. The USSR Pilot-Cosmonaut and deputy head of the Soviet Peace Fund was speaking at the opening in Moscow of the plenary meeting of the Soviet Peace Committee and the Soviet Peace Fund. She recalled that Soviet people voluntarily donated 273 million roubles to the Peace Fund last year. The money came from tens of millions of Soviet citizens and thousands of peace shifts.

It is the result of extensive work of peace committees, branches of the Fund and its 350,000 public commissions.

Svetlana Savitskaya said that in 1988 and later on the money raised by the Fund will be channelled to the realisation of concrete programmes and projects of the Committee of Soviet Scientists for Peace and Against the Nuclear War Threat, the National Committee of Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War, the Soviet Ecology and Peace Association and the Peace to the Children of the World Association. It will be spent as well on a comprehensive programme of Soviet-American children's and youth exchanges, including the

Samantha project. Part of the money will be spent on the solution of social problems connected with the planned transfer of a number of arms-manufacturing plants to civilian production, and on research and publicity activities connected with the problems of peace and disarmament.

"This year we shall establish direct ties with our foreign partners. Together with similar organisations from socialist countries we shall develop and implement joint programmes for rendering material assistance to Nicaragua, Ethiopia and national liberation movements in the south of Africa. We come out for the establishment and development of contacts with the antimilitarist and pacifist funds of the U.S., Canada, Denmark, Finland, Sweden and other countries," Svetlana Savitskaya pointed out.

## Soviet peace movement at new stage

"SOVIET peace advocates are seeking to participate actively both in implementing the country's foreign policy and in its drafting," said author Genrikh Borovik, Chairman of the Soviet Peace Committee. On Friday he delivered the report "Place and Tasks of the Soviet Peace Movement in the Process of Perestroika" at the plenary meeting of the Soviet Peace Committee and the Board of the Soviet Peace Fund.

"The headquarters of Soviet peace advocates formed at the turn of the 1940s and 1950s put as its aim broad publicity among the public of the peaceful policy of the CPSU and the Soviet Government. Regrettably, in the years of stagnation its activities displayed elements of

formalism, over-organisation and a shortage of creative initiative. Now the task is to restore and strengthen the prestige of the Peace Committee inside and outside the country," said Genrikh Borovik.

In this connection Borovik pointed to the great importance of open discussion of issues of peace and foreign policy and called for concentrating efforts on stepping up creative activities of 138 republican, territorial and regional peace committees, peace fund branches, discussion clubs and independent associations and amalgamations.

"Foreign policy stops being a province of professionals, and people's diplomacy is intruding more actively into this sphere," the Soviet Peace Committee Chairman pointed out. "The recent public hearings at the Soviet Peace Committee concerning ratification of the INF treaty are graphic evidence of this."

"Close interaction with public groups engaged

in cultural, enlightenment and humanitarian activities in the spirit of peace (Retired Generals and Admirals for Peace, Ecology and Peace, Peace to Children of the World, arms conversion and others)," noted Genrikh Borovik in conclusion, "will help broaden the social base of the Soviet peace movement."

### Soviet Peace Committee receives U.N. Diploma

THE Soviet Peace Committee has been awarded a special U.N. Diploma and the honorary title of Peace Ambassador that goes with it in recognition of the activities of Soviet peace campaigners in 1986 — proclaimed the United Nations Year of Peace.

Many of the peace initiatives advanced by the Soviet Peace Committee have won worldwide support and promoted the world movement for disarmament and security.

U.N. diplomas have been awarded to other public organisations in the USSR and another 59 U.N. member-countries.

The Diploma to the Soviet Peace Committee was presented by Geliy Dneprovsky, head of the U.N. Information Centre in Moscow, on behalf of U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar, in Moscow on Friday. He expressed the hope that public organisations awarded the honorary title will continue their peace co-operation with the United Nations.

The Diploma was received by writer Genrikh Borovik, Chairman of the Soviet Peace Committee, who thanked the United Nations for the honour and noted that it must be shared by millions of Soviet peace campaigners.

## Soviet Peace Committee and Peace Fund plenary meeting

THE Soviet peace movement will conduct dialogue with an ever growing number of foreign partners, and will intensively use various forms and methods of people's diplomacy aimed at confidence building and at the destruction of propaganda stereotypes and the artificially created enemy-image. This is stated in a resolution of the plenary meeting of the Soviet Peace Committee and the Board of the Soviet Peace Foundation held in Moscow last week. The tasks of Soviet peace supporters in conditions of restructuring were discussed at plenary sittings and at round-table conferences.

The participants in the plenum said that in establishing new political thinking, they will be striving for informal lively communication with various sections of the public abroad. It has been decided to expand such forms of co-operation with influential antiwar movements as

peace marches and cruises, direct ties between local organisations.

Prominent public figures, workers in science and culture addressing the plenary meeting emphasised that perestroika has awakened the civic conscience of people, enhanced their social activity immeasurably. In new conditions the peace movement is called upon to become an effective channel for the manifestation of the will of the people and to strengthen its moral and political unity. The participants in the plenum declared for an open and democratic discussion of the problems of peace and foreign policy, for the holding of political debates, sociological surveys and opinion polls.

"The plenum has shown that working in the peace committees — in the centre and in localities — are truly enthusiastic people who devote their time and efforts to the great cause of peace. All of them take part wholeheartedly in the process of perestroika," Genrikh Borovik told a TASS correspondent. "Many concrete proposals were made. Their implementation will impart greater scope and dynamism to the peace movement."

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co-op, either a producer or a consumer co-op or both.

People employed in the state sector may be a member of only one producer co-op and work there after hours.

The document formalises a co-op's right to fix any prices for its goods and services that it thinks the market will bear. The earnings of co-op members will not be limited, but the government, guided by the goal of consistently enforcing the principles of social justice, will regulate incomes by dint of taxation.