

Mikhail Gorbachyov's speech at friendship rally in Budapest

BUDAPEST, June 9, TASS: Mikhail Gorbachyov, General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, addressed a Soviet-Hungarian friendship rally held at the Csepel machine-tool manufacturing plant today. He said:

Dear Comrades,

Hearty thanks for the warm and cordial welcome. I thank you from the bottom of my heart, dear Comrade Kadar, and all Hungarian friends, for the kind words said here about my country, about Soviet-Hungarian friendship.

It is not my first visit to Budapest. And this further encounter with your beautiful capital and the tour of the plant gives me grounds to say that the country is living at a good, working rhythm. Here, at the Csepel plant, I feel the atmosphere of concern not only for the affairs of this enterprise, but also for the affairs of the country—an atmosphere well familiar to me from the meetings I have had in work collectives in the Soviet Union.

Yesterday we had a substantial conversation with Comrade Kadar. We spoke of sharp changes in the world, the problems of world socialism and about the way Hungary and the Soviet Union are tackling the tasks set forth by the congresses of our parties. The essence of these tasks both in Hungary and the Soviet Union is evident—to work better, more efficiently, the way the present time demands.

And the time gives no other choice either to you or us, or to other fraternal countries. It delivers a new historical challenge to the ability of socialism for a creative search. We have no right to remain where we are, or to lag behind. Only if we put on speed shall we be able to place the immense reserves and opportunities of socialism in the service of the working people—and hence solidify the positions of our countries and of world socialism in the international arena, boost its authority, and enhance its attractive force and impact on the course of events, on the struggle for averting a nuclear holocaust.

This is the essential meaning and the objective of the strategy of acceleration of the socio-economic development of Soviet society, the strategy formulated by our Party. This task, as you understand, is a major and difficult one, both as regards its scale, the approach to it and the methods for accomplishing it. In essence, we have just embarked on its implementation, we have achieved the first results, albeit modest results so far. Much is still to be accomplished.

Is everything clear here? Probably not yet everything. The objective and the policy line are clear. It is the intensification of the entire national economy on the basis of the introduction of the most advanced equipment and technology. It is the re-structuring of the entire system of

management in compliance with the imperatives of the day, a bold reform of the economic mechanism on the basis of improvement of centralised planning and full-scale cost-accounting. Thus, the case in point, if you want, is a decisive renovation of many sides of the life of Soviet society, and a profound psychological re-structuring.

The course, let me repeat, is clear. It has been approved by the Congress, by the entire Party and the people. But the tactics, methods and forms of the realisation of the charted course are still to be elaborated and specified, with reliance, naturally enough, on everything that has passed the practical test, both at home and in the fraternal countries.

As we see it, the key to success lies in the vigorous constructive endeavour of the masses, in the broadest possible development of their own activity. And this cannot be achieved without the further refinement of socialist democracy, which assigns a really leading role to the working people: the role of true master in production, in society, in the state.

We proceed from the premise that we need more dynamism, more social justice, more democracy, in a word, more socialism. Herein, as the CPSU sees it, lies the main source and reserve for the acceleration of development of society. Our workers, all the working people ardently support such a line, regarding it as their own vital undertaking.

The countries of the socialist community have one more source of acceleration which our Party intends to use to a fuller extent as well. This is the exchange of experience of socialist construction. The CPSU treats with attention and respect the search for ways to accomplish no easy economic and social tasks—a search that is under way here, in Hungary, and in other socialist countries. We rejoice at the achievements of our friends, and are trying to employ everything useful that fits our country. Of course—and we know this from our own experience—no one is fully insured against failures and miscalculations. But we communists have one decisive criterion to judge whether an experiment is justified and correct. This criterion is the practical strengthening of socialism in all spheres—economic, political and spiritual.

Now the case in point is to shunt the international co-operation of the socialist countries on to the rails of intensive development as well, to make it deeper and more resultative, to renovate the mechanism of political and economic co-operation, including within the CMEA framework.

For instance, Soviet and Hungarian scientists, economists and economic managers are working to set up joint enterprises, mixed firms, scientific groups and laboratories. It is correct that they are to be established in the priority fields of machine building, in electronics and microelectronics, robotics and biotechnology.

This task, I believe, has a bearing on the Csepel workers, too. For, metaphorically speaking, the front-line of the battle for a more dynamic and fuller blending of socialism

with the newest equipment and technology passes through the workshops of your plant as well. Today it is also the front-line of contemporary interaction of the fraternal parties, peoples and states. Your work, just as the work of thousands of other work collectives, is contributing to the realisation of the Comprehensive Programme for the Scientific and Technological Progress of the CMEA Member-Countries.

As you understand, comrades, at our meeting here I cannot bypass international affairs. Foreign policy has long ceased to be the domain of the diplomats. It has a bearing on every person, his destiny, his life. Such is the reality of our time, the reality of this nuclear age.

One and a half months ago a misfortune occurred—a reactor broke down at the nuclear power plant at Chernobyl. There was loss of life. The misfortune pained the hearts of people in many countries. I would like to use this occasion to express gratitude to you, citizens of Hungary, for your expressions of sympathy, for your solidarity, for your readiness to help.

We are conducting a detailed investigation into the technical causes of the accident, we are learning lessons from them, we are doing, and we shall do, everything to avert such accidents in the future. Safety measures are being enhanced at all nuclear power plants, both those in operation and those under construction.

Chernobyl is another reminder that man has put into operation truly fantastic forces which must be kept firmly in rein.

You know that the Soviet Union has put forward concrete proposals on a serious strengthening of the international regime for the safe development of the nuclear power industry. And we intend to press ahead with this.

One could think, for example, about organising co-operation within the IAEA framework between the leading countries in the field of nuclear power engineering so as to create a cost-saving and, most importantly, a more reliable new-generation reactor.

Worthy of special attention is an elaboration of the issue of the material and moral-psychological damage done in the event of accidents at nuclear power plants. We hold that legislation should be adopted on that issue, under which states would commit themselves to grant free medical aid, housing and other material support to the victims. It goes without saying that all attempts at using accidents for building up tensions and distrust in relations between states should be excluded.

Another aspect of nuclear security is the prevention of nuclear terrorism. Examples are known when damage was deliberately done to nuclear industry plants in the USA and Western Europe, and of theft of highly enriched fissionable materials. Therefore it is a task of paramount significance to work out a reliable system of measures to prevent nuclear terrorism in all of its manifestations.

The peaceful atom, in common with a peaceful outer space, takes concerted efforts by all states

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so that these issues may be resolved not among the circle of the chosen few, but with the participation of all the states concerned.

Yet this is not the only lesson that all of us have to learn from accidents in the nuclear power industry. The accident at Chernobyl can by no means be compared to the possible consequences of the explosion of even the smallest—by modern standards—nuclear bomb. Tens of thousands of nuclear munitions have been accumulated in the world, and each of them, I stress just one of them, can cause a catastrophe whose scope would be simply beyond imagination. Such are, comrades, the realities of this nuclear age.

Our approach to international affairs can be expressed as follows: nuclear war must not be permitted, nuclear weapons should be destroyed. Proceeding from this, the Soviet Union has put forward a practicable programme for the total elimination of nuclear weapons. It has the support of our friends and allies, all sensible people.

Therefore, comrades, we are so firm on the issue of nuclear testing. Banning them is putting up the first solid barrier in the way of a build-up of mass destruction weapons. And the attitude of states to that problem is a kind of touchstone to test their policy. Those who strive for the elimination of nuclear weapons are demanding a ban on them. Those who cling tenaciously to such weapons are doing everything so that testing should continue.

It will soon be a year since the Soviet Union last conducted nuclear explosions. This is evidence of a serious, responsible attitude to the problems of war and peace. But take the USA. They cannot imagine a single day there without nuclear weapons testing. They say that under the present-day conditions it is impossible either to increase or perfect the available potential without them.

Well, indeed, one cannot improve old weapons or develop new ones without testing. But that is precisely what we want. The Soviet Union proposes that nuclear weapons be done away with. That is why we accepted the risk for the

sake of peace in extending our unilateral moratorium.

The Soviet Union is persuading the United States to follow our example and then agree on the prohibition of nuclear tests for ever, with comprehensive, reliable verification of such an agreement. But all the signs indicate that in Washington they are ready to put at risk the destinies of mankind for the sake of their selfish interests. It is an absurd, immoral and most dangerous policy.

There is one more thing I cannot fail to mention here, in Budapest. This concerns the situation in Europe. So many nuclear weapons have been accumulated here that our densely populated continent has become literally the most explosive part of the world.

At the Soviet-American talks in Geneva, we advanced a new draft aimed at ridding Europe of Soviet and American medium-range missiles. This applies to a total of several hundred nuclear warheads capable of turning the European land into an inferno. A unique chance has been given to beat a road towards nuclear disarmament in Europe and the world at large.

Indeed, Britain and France also have nuclear weapons. So far, they are not the subject of any talks. Our position is as follows: what is important is that this potential should not grow if the USSR and the US scrap their medium-range missiles.

But we are prepared to go even further, and have already suggested to London that if it abandons nuclear weapons, the USSR will reduce its nuclear systems on a commensurate scale.

Of course, this issue cannot be settled at once. But it is possible to act in stages. Say it is possible to agree on a mutual step-by-step and equivalent reduction of the nuclear potentials, on the principles of equal security and under reliable control. The Soviet Union is prepared to start such talks with Britain and with France.

We are asked: what about non-nuclear

weapons? There are large quantities of them in Europe, too, and they in themselves pose a formidable threat. Our countries favour substantial cuts in conventional armaments in Europe—from the Atlantic to the Urals.

We are going to discuss such a programme, elaborated in detail and intended for a certain period, at the meeting of the Warsaw Treaty Political Consultative Committee which opens in Budapest tomorrow.

Comrades, we are living through a difficult and complex period. But I'll declare with all conviction that mankind is capable not only of surviving, but also of learning to live as humans should, that is in conditions of peace and freedom.

But it is necessary to fight for this, and to fight stubbornly and in unison. Not only against the threat of war, but also for deepening international co-operation between nations, for the sake of exploring both our planet and outer space.

The USSR will shortly submit to the United Nations a proposal of principled importance. Its essence is simple: to make space an arena of 'Star Peace', rather than 'Star Wars'. It is within mankind's powers to achieve through concerted effort a breakthrough in the study and use of the universe for our common needs on Earth.

This is a serious and large-scale programme. To implement it, we suggest setting up within the UN framework a world organisation on outer space.

This would meet the interests of all states—big, medium and small. The experience accumulated by the socialist countries at Intercosmos shows that this is precisely so.

Comrades,

History has developed in such a way that the destinies of socialism in our countries became closely interconnected from the very beginning. The victory of the socialist revolution in Russia opened up prospects for the establishment of the power of the Hungarian workers.

The heroic struggle for the Hungarian Soviet Republic in 1919—in which Csepele proletarians also took part—facilitated in its own way the consolidation of Soviet power on Russian soil.

V I Lenin and the first generations of Soviet and Hungarian communists bequeathed to us loyalty to proletarian class solidarity. It is helping to implement in life and, when need be, courageously defend our common gains, all the best and most valuable in relations between our peoples, the communist goals and ideals.

Dear Comrades,

Thank you once again for the cordial reception. I wish you and all Hungarian people success in building socialism, in implementing the decisions of the 13th Congress of the HSWP. Let peace and co-operation triumph in your land, in Europe and beyond! □

Budapest meeting

BUDAPEST, June 9, TASS:

A meeting between Mikhail Gorbachyov, General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and Janos Kadar and other leaders of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party was held on June 9. Also taking part in the meeting were members of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the HSWP, the Chairman of the Central Control Committee of the HSWP and secretaries of the Central Committee of the HSWP; taking part from the Soviet side was Vadim Medvedev, Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and other Soviet comrades.

There was a comradely conversation on topical questions of the implementation of the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress and the 13th Congress of the HSWP. Priority attention was paid to prospects for the development and deepening of Soviet-Hungarian co-operation.

Other questions were also discussed. □

SOVIET AMBASSADOR'S PRESS BRIEFING

WASHINGTON would rather "open the floodgates for an uncontrolled arms race" than moderate its own military programme, Soviet Ambassador Leonid Zamyatin told journalists in London last week.

He was speaking at a press briefing on June 3 in the wake of President Reagan's May 27 announcement that the United States would no longer observe the SALT-2 arms limitation treaty.

Mr Zamyatin rebutted US accusations that the USSR had breached the SALT agreements: "These clumsy allegations were without proof from beginning to end," he said.

"Such violations did not take place, and the US administration is well aware of that."

The Soviet side complied literally and entirely with all the obligations which it had undertaken, the Ambassador pointed out.

He emphasised that the Soviet Union would not permit the undermining of military-strategic parity: necessary retaliatory measures would be taken as soon as the United States exceeded the established levels of armaments.

Ambassador Zamyatin pointed out that Mikhail Gorbachyov had stressed to the British parliamentarians in Moscow recently that a nuclear test ban could be the first practical step leading to disarmament.

The USSR had given up nuclear arms testing for a whole year, the Ambassador said. Such a period should be more than enough for the American side to take reciprocal steps.

Emphasising the tense international situation, the Ambassador said that the Soviet side had hoped that the framework for major agreements agreed upon at the Geneva summit would have been followed by progress, but that instead we had seen a reverse.

Answering questions, the Ambassador underlined that the Soviet Union stood for strict control and verification—and for control over agreements, not just control for its own sake.

Controllers should not supervise nuclear arms tests, but actually control them, he said.

Mr Zamyatin also said that the USSR would soon be putting forward proposals for cuts in conventional arms.

And on the question of a future Soviet-US summit, he said that there were no preconditions from the Soviet side.

A summit, however, must be conducted in accord with the Geneva spirit, he stressed, and it was not possible to use a summit just as a cover for the arms race.

On his meeting with Sir Geoffrey Howe last week, the Ambassador reported that he had appealed to Britain to become an active participant in preserving the SALT agreement. He had also outlined Soviet considerations with regard to the creation of an international regime for the safe development of nuclear power engineering.

No firm date had yet been fixed for the visit of Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze to Britain, he said, but the middle to end of July was a possibility. □

Mikhail Gorbachyov meets Janos Kadar

BUDAPEST, June 8, TASS:

A MEETING between Mikhail Gorbachyov, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union (CPSU), and Janos Kadar, General Secretary of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party (HSWP), took place here today.

The leaders of the two parties informed each other of the course of implementation of the decisions of the 27th Congress of the CPSU and the 13th Congress of the HSWP, and exchanged views on the state of and prospects for further development of Soviet-Hungarian co-operation, topical matters of world politics as well as of the international communist and working-class movement.

It was emphasised that the common goal of the CPSU and the HSWP was to accelerate socio-economic development and scientific and technological progress, to raise people's well-being and to refine socialist democracy along the lines of fuller utilisation of the potentialities and advantages of socialism.

Mikhail Gorbachyov and Janos Kadar stated with satisfaction the fruitful development of fraternal friendship and all-round co-operation between the Soviet Union and Hungary in the spirit of mutual trust and mutual understanding. Of particular importance are the traditionally sincere, comradely relations between the CPSU and the HSWP, their mutual solidarity and support in the accomplishment of tasks facing them, and their regular effective exchanges of views and experience. There exists full unity of views between the two parties in their approaches to all the principal matters of social development and world politics. The CPSU and the HSWP come out in favour of further deepening Soviet-Hungarian relations on the basis of the principles of Marxism-Leninism and socialist internationalism. They will continue to act so that the development of co-operation, the study and use of each others' experience could increasingly contribute to advancing the cause of socialist construction.

Special attention was given to stable development of bilateral economic, scientific and technical contacts. Much importance is being attached to the fact that the two countries' co-operation in the current five-year period, too, is maintained on a firm basis, with due regard for the existing resources and requirements. The need was pointed out to accelerate the work already started to deepen specialisation and coordination of production, to prepare major Soviet-Hungarian agreements on economic co-operation extending for a period after 1990, to introduce new, advanced forms of co-operation, to establish direct ties between enterprises, and to create joint economic organisations. It was agreed that necessary measures would be taken through the channels of the governments of the Soviet Union and the Hungarian People's Republic.

The two parties are fully determined to continue to promote in every way the strengthening of the unity and cohesion of the socialist community, the effective coordination of the interests of fraternal countries, and a renewal of the means and methods of their political and economic co-operation. They consider it important to achieve further substantial progress in this field in the spirit of the decisions of the congresses of the fraternal parties and the accords reached at the collective meetings of their leaders.

The sides expressed conviction that the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance (CMEA) was the firm mainstay of the development of all CMEA member-countries. The

perfection of its activities and the introduction of a new machinery of socialist economic integration will to a still greater extent promote an acceleration of the socio-economic progress of fraternal countries. The most topical task now is to implement successfully the Comprehensive Programme for the Scientific and Technological Progress of the CMEA Member-Countries up to the year 2000.

The USSR and Hungary invariably proceed from the assumption that the interests of international peace require energetic, coordinated actions by socialist countries in the world arena. They emphasised that the effective activities of the Warsaw Treaty Organisation in the present-day situation are an indispensable condition for and a major factor in the maintenance of peace and international security. Conviction was expressed that the meeting of the Political Consultative Committee of the Warsaw Treaty member-countries in Budapest will contribute to strengthening the unity of the allied countries, and to stimulating their coordinated foreign-policy activities in developing a constructive dialogue.

Mikhail Gorbachyov and Janos Kadar pointed out that there was no task more topical and urgent now than to preserve peace and curb the arms race, that of nuclear arms in the first place, and to prevent its spread to new spheres. Responsible actions and constructive efforts on the part of all countries are essential in the present-day international situation. Concern was expressed over the fact that the international situation remained tense as a result of the actions of US extremist circles and of their allies. Acts of imperialist interference, pressure and economic discrimination against sovereign countries have become frequent.

The two parties are convinced that only peaceful coexistence of countries with different social systems can ensure a safe future for mankind. They consider it inadmissible that the opportunities that opened up after the Soviet-US summit meeting in Geneva are being missed through the fault of the imperialist forces. It was pointed out that it was possible to settle all contentious issues and improve international

relations only in the event of real readiness on the part of the USA to reach agreements.

On behalf of the HSWP and all Hungarian people, Janos Kadar gave a high appraisal of and expressed support for the Soviet Union's striving for an improvement of the international situation, and its readiness for talks and all-embracing initiatives aimed at ensuring lasting and secure peace.

The leaders of the CPSU and the HSWP again pointed out the great importance of the strengthening of peace, peaceful relations and co-operation in the European continent. The CPSU highly appreciated the HSWP's constructive efforts aimed at further developing the Helsinki process.

Mikhail Gorbachyov and Janos Kadar stated that the CPSU and the HSWP would in every way contribute to strengthening internationalist solidarity and equal co-operation among the communist and workers' parties in the striving for the attainment of common goals, for peace and social progress. They welcome the creative, open and comradely exchange of views, which assists better mutual acquaintance with the state of affairs and with each other's work, the search for answers to the new questions being put by life, and the strengthening of relations between fraternal parties.

In the interests of peace, better mutual understanding and joint actions, the CPSU and the HSWP will continue to co-operate with socialist and social-democratic parties, with mass democratic and anti-war movements, with the forces of social and national liberation, and with all currents and organisations that are aware of their responsibility for the cause of peace and peoples' security.

Mikhail Gorbachyov's and Janos Kadar's conversation, which passed in an atmosphere of cordiality and in the spirit of friendship which is characteristic of the relations between the two parties, states and peoples, confirmed full unity on all the matters discussed.

Mikhail Gorbachyov invited Janos Kadar to visit the Soviet Union. The invitation was accepted with gratitude. □

At the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee

MOSCOW, June 5, TASS:

AT its meeting on June 5 the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee heard a report from the government commission about the progress of operations to overcome the consequences of the accident at the Chernobyl nuclear power plant, and on further measures devised to intensify these operations.

It was noted that an intensive effort was in progress at the site of the power plant and the adjacent terrain to deactivate the territory, buildings and structures, and that operations were under way to protect bodies of water from contamination. The levels of radiation are steadily declining.

The Political Bureau agreed with the measures worked out by the government commission and the schedule for carrying through the conservation of installations of the 4th power generating unit of the nuclear power plant. It approved the proposals of the Council of Ministers of the USSR and the Central Council of Trade Unions of the USSR on the further improvement of pay rates and of the material supply for the workers

taking part in eliminating the consequences of the accident. The Political Bureau emphasised the task of ministries and departments, local Party and state bodies to continue showing special concern for the workers, specialists and servicemen carrying out responsible assignments in the region of the accident.

Measures were endorsed to ensure the employment, provision of housing and improvement of social and everyday services to the population evacuated from the danger zones. With this aim it is planned to ensure full employment in June and to solve all questions connected with the provision of the evacuated families with well-appointed housing not later than in October.

The Political Bureau considered the results of the conference of diplomatic workers held recently at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the USSR, at which Mikhail Gorbachyov made a speech. It was noted that the concrete tasks of the diplomatic corps formulated at the conference, with a view to implementing the strategic line worked out by the 27th Congress of the CPSU, should form the basis of the activities of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the USSR and of all departments taking a direct part in carrying

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Nikolai Ryzhkov's speech at reception for Prime Minister of South Yemen

MOSCOW, June 4, TASS:

"SOLIDARITY with the country's progressive forces and strict non-interference in its internal affairs formed and continues to form the foundation of the Soviet Union's principled stand in respect of the events in South Yemen."

This was stated by Nikolai Ryzhkov, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee and Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR. He was speaking at a dinner given by the Soviet Government in honour of Yassin Said No'man, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Yemen Socialist Party and Prime Minister of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen.

"The Yemen Socialist Party's course of preserving and consolidating the progressive regime in the country, continuing the peaceloving foreign policy and its equal co-operation with neighbouring and all other countries, primarily Arab countries, has the Soviet Union's full understanding and support," Nikolai Ryzhkov stressed.

"We approach with due attention the difficulties that South Yemen has to overcome in the process of eliminating the consequences of the January events. Taking account of this the Soviet

Union will further give it the necessary assistance and support," he said.

Nikolai Ryzhkov noted that the USSR and the PDRY had accumulated substantial experience in the field of economic ties. A number of important projects in the field of energy and agriculture, transport and construction are being built in South Yemen with the participation of Soviet specialists. "Geological prospecting work is being expanded, and co-operation is developing in the field of training national personnel and in the field of education and medical services. The talks that have been held and the accords that have been reached will make it possible to develop these fruitful ties further, to make them increasingly more effective," Nikolai Ryzhkov stated.

"Our meetings have confirmed again the coincidence or closeness of the views and evaluations of both countries concerning fundamental problems of the present international situation and the situation in the Middle East," he continued.

"The tension existing in international relations, caused by the actions of American imperialism and its allies, requires the cohesion of all progressive forces in the struggle to avert war, safeguard peace and ensure the freedom and independence of peoples. The Soviet Union's large-scale programme for averting a nuclear catastrophe and eliminating weapons of mass

annihilation before the end of the present century, and of creating an all-embracing system of international security, is being received with vigorous support in the world," Nikolai Ryzhkov said.

"The settlement of regional conflicts, including in the Middle East, would be of much importance for improving the general situation in the world," Nikolai Ryzhkov stressed. "Together with Democratic Yemen and other Arab countries the Soviet Union resolutely condemns the American aggression against Libya, the campaign of blackmail against Syria and the attempts by the United States and Israel to dictate their will to Arabs. We will further support the just demands of the Palestinian people, their inalienable right to self-determination, including the creation of their own state."

"The Soviet Union believes that even the most complex international problems lend themselves to solution," the Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers stated. "But for this the exponents of the positions-of-strength policy must realise the groundlessness of their ambitions to achieve strategic military superiority and must conduct relations with all countries on the basis of the principles of non-interference in internal affairs, equality and due consideration for mutual interests. Such an approach would benefit all peoples and the cause of preserving peace in the whole world," Nikolai Ryzhkov stressed. □

SOVIET-SOUTH YEMEN TALKS

MOSCOW, June 4, TASS:

TALKS began in the Kremlin today between Nikolai Ryzhkov, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee and Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR, and Yassin Said No'man, member of the Political Bureau of the Yemen Socialist Party Central Committee and Prime Minister of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen.

The talks, which passed in an atmosphere of friendship and mutual understanding, centred on questions of further developing Soviet-South

Yemen co-operation in the political, economic and other fields.

The Soviet side expressed support for the efforts of the PDRY leadership to overcome as speedily as possible the grave consequences of the events in January and to develop the country's economy in the interests of the broad masses of working people.

Nikolai Ryzhkov informed Yassin Said No'man about the measures taken by the Soviet leadership to give Democratic Yemen assistance in solving the top-priority tasks facing it.

Both sides expressed satisfaction with the development of interaction and all-round co-operation and noted that possibilities existed for further deepening and expanding all-round

ties in accordance with the provisions and aims of the 1979 Treaty of Friendship and Co-operation.

Yassin Said No'man expressed gratitude to the Soviet Union for the unselfish aid and support to Democratic Yemen.

He informed the Soviet side about the efforts of the PDRY's Party and state leadership to overcome the consequences of the tragic events of January this year and normalise the situation in the country. The general amnesty that had been announced, and the measures that were being taken to strengthen and invigorate Party organisations and representative bodies were of much importance in this respect.

The invariable nature of the Yemen Socialist Party's guidelines, its adherence to the aims of the South Yemen revolution and the cause of developing relations of friendship and co-operation with the Soviet Union and other socialist countries, with all peaceloving states, was confirmed.

There was a detailed exchange of views on pressing international problems, including on questions of the situation in the Middle East. The common view was expressed that responsibility for the present aggravation of the international situation rested with the United States and its closest NATO allies, in continuing to build up the arms race, trying to spread it to outer space, pursuing a policy of aggravating the situation in the Middle East and blocking a settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Yassin Said No'man stated the PDRY's support for the foreign policy initiatives set forth by the 27th CPSU Congress, noting that the peoples of the whole world were interested in their implementation. The PDRY Prime Minister spoke about the efforts of the leadership of Democratic Yemen directed at developing and consolidating relations with Arab states and also with neighbouring countries of the region. He expressed gratitude for the USSR's consistent and principled stand in support of the just struggle of the Arab peoples for their lawful rights and interests. □

Eduard Shevardnadze meets PDRY Foreign Minister

MOSCOW, June 4, TASS:

EDUARD SHEVARDNAZE, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the USSR, and Abdul Aziz Abdo al Dali, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Yemen Socialist Party (YSP) and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen (PDRY), had a conversation today.

Abdul Aziz Abdo al Dali is currently in Moscow with the South Yemeni delegation led by Yassin Said No'man, Prime Minister of the PDRY.

Successful development of friendly Soviet-South Yemeni relations in all fields was pointed out with satisfaction during the conversation, and mutual striving was expressed to further broaden

and deepen all-round contacts between the USSR and the PDRY in the interests of the peoples of the two countries on the firm foundation of the 1979 Treaty of Friendship and Co-operation.

Matters of the development of the present-day international situation, particularly the situation in the Middle East, in the Indian Ocean area and in the Persian Gulf, as well as some other things were considered.

When discussing the situation in the Middle East, the sides strongly condemned the anti-Arab actions of the Washington Administration and of its Tel Aviv ally, aimed at imposing their military-political *diktat* upon the Arabs.

The need to achieve a just and comprehensive settlement of the Middle East conflict as soon as possible on the basis of the collective efforts of all sides concerned, including the Palestine Liberation Organisation, was particularly emphasised. It was pointed out in this connection

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Mikhail Gorbachyov's book published in English

LONDON, June 5, TASS:

THE book Selected Speeches and Articles by the General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, Mikhail Gorbachyov, has been brought out in English by the Pergamon Press publishers in Great Britain.

The book contains a preface to British readers by Mikhail Gorbachyov which reads as follows:

As I agreed to write a preface to my selected works to be published in Great Britain, I recollected the impressions of my visit to your country in 1984. My discussions with British statesmen and businessmen and members of the public reaffirmed my conviction that great unused opportunities exist in Soviet-British relations. This is true of all areas, ranging from politics to sport and tourism.

Needless to say, the social systems in our two countries are different and they are divided in their approach to vital international problems. The Soviet Union and Great Britain belong to opposing military-political alliances. These are the hard facts. However, they should not make us blind to what is immeasurably more important; namely, the possibility and necessity of fruitful and full-blooded co-operation between the Soviet Union and Great Britain to promote peace in Europe and throughout the world. This co-operation could include broad mutual ties in the economic, scientific, technological and cultural fields and, of course, in politics. The benefits would be mutual.

At our 27th Congress, the documents of which are partly included in this collection, we made decisions of principle on the need to organise constructive and fruitful co-operation of states and peoples on a worldwide scale.

Our own plans are truly great. We expect to double the country's productive potential towards the end of the century and to advance the Soviet people's standards of life to a new level of quality. Our strategic line of boosting the country's socio-economic development integrates emphasis on scientific and technological progress with radical economic reform and a widening of democracy; that is, the broadest possible involvement of the working people in the management of affairs of state and society.

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out in practice the peaceloving policy of the Soviet State on the international scene.

The Political Bureau summed up the results of the talks and conversations held by Mikhail Gorbachyov and Eduard Shevardnadze with the Japanese Minister of Foreign Affairs, Shintaro Abe. The mutual interest in a progressive development of Soviet-Japanese relations was pointed out, and preparedness was expressed for a dialogue and joint search for greater mutual understanding and co-operation in the interests of the peoples of both countries, ensuring security in the Asian-Pacific region. The talks have made it possible to find points of contact in the approach to specific issues of special interest to Japan, and reach agreement on the development of trade-economic, scientific, engineering and cultural exchanges. It was pointed out at the same time that while favouring a peace treaty with Japan, the Soviet Union was against burdening the preparations with problems which had been settled by the outcome of the Second World War.

The results were approved of the talks held between Nikolai Ryzhkov and Yassin Said

Now that the Congress is over, I believe we are entitled to say that by ridding ourselves of whatever hindered our development and by reviewing realistically our achievements, as well as our errors and setbacks, we have laid the groundwork for using the enormous constructive potential of the socialist system much more efficiently than before.

Naturally, we have no intentions to restrict ourselves to self-isolation. The Soviet Union is a member of the world community of nations fully aware of the responsibility this fact involves. We proceed from the principle that an interdependent world, torn by contradictions yet integral in many ways, is taking shape through a dialectical conflict of opposites, feeling its way as it were. The formation of this interdependent and integral world is the essence of present-day social development and requires a new approach to international relations, a new philosophy of world politics. In other words, it is a question of working out a concept of international security to be adopted by all to enable us to retreat from the brink of nuclear war.

The realities of the nuclear age prove conclusively that military technology alone, even the most sophisticated kind, cannot guarantee national security. The advancement of weaponry is reducing to nil the significance of the vast oceans and enormous land distances, let alone mere straits. Modern weapons have turned military power into a veritable boomerang, a nuclear one moreover, that is as sure to hit the thrower as his adversary. Therefore, concern for national security now demands the most scrupulous consideration of the security interests of other states. Mutual and equal security of all is imperative. This is our final conclusion.

The world is in a state of rapid change. Any social status quo is simply impossible. The existence of antagonisms in our complex and many-faceted world makes it incumbent on states to realise their common interest and, most important of all, to learn the science and art of peaceful coexistence, to exercise restraint and circumspection on the international scene, to behave in a civilised manner—that is, to observe the rules of correct international intercourse and co-operation.

In short, it is imperative to renounce resolutely and for good the ways of thinking and acting that

No'man, member of the Central Committee of the Political Bureau of the Yemen Socialist Party and Prime Minister of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen. It was pointed out that the talks had borne out the identity of views on issues of all-round co-operation between the USSR and the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, and on the struggle for a just Middle East settlement, for peace and detente. The Soviet-Yemeni meeting constituted a new step in strengthening friendly relations between the two countries.

Vitali Vorotnikov gave a report on the participation of the CPSU delegation in the work of the 19th Congress of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party and the delegation's meetings with Jambyn Batmuh and other Mongolian leaders; the Political Bureau stressed the determination to continue further steadfastly developing the time-tested historical practice of fraternal friendship and co-operation between our parties and countries, on the basis of the principles of Marxism-Leninism and socialist internationalism.

The Political Bureau also passed decisions on a number of other issues of the home and foreign policy of the CPSU and the Soviet State. □

have taken shape over the centuries on the principle that war, armed conflicts and a contest in armaments are permissible in the conduct of national policy. It is impossible to win such a contest, let alone a nuclear war. Contradictions should be settled on the lines of peaceful competition alone.

Such is our concept of national security in broad outline. It is the basis for the programme of establishing a comprehensive system of international security advanced by the 27th Congress of the CPSU.

I realise that the ideas we put forward at our Party Congress may give rise to counter-proposals. We would welcome peace initiatives by other states.

I want to note at the same time that our proposals mean more than the offer of a dialogue. There is a dialogue in progress, although it is rather half-hearted at times. We invite other countries, including Great Britain of course, to take part in a collective effort to avert the danger of nuclear or any other war. It is the common duty of all states regardless of their social systems to deal effectively with the global problems facing mankind.

Great Britain has long been a great power. Mankind owes to British genius many of its cultural achievements, great scientific discoveries and brilliant inventions. I am not just paying compliments. The history of Great Britain, like that of many other countries, does not consist merely of bright pages. However, our common concern for the future of mankind has come to the forefront.

I am confident that fruitful Soviet-British co-operation could greatly contribute to normalising international relations and changing over from confrontation and suspicion to good-neighbourliness and mutual trust. The Soviet Union is prepared for such a new deal.

I avail myself of this opportunity to reaffirm the Soviet people's willingness to develop friendly ties with the people of Great Britain and I wish them peace and prosperity.

March 1986

M. S. Gorbachyov.

Selected Speeches and Articles is the first such collection of Mikhail Gorbachyov's to be published in Britain. It was launched at the Soviet Embassy in London on June 5.

Introducing the book, Ambassador Leonid Zamyatin recommended it as a well-reasoned and comprehensive account of the strategy of the Soviet Communist Party, the "new political thinking".

It explained the aims of the reorganisation under way in the USSR, the accelerated development of Soviet society and Soviet foreign policy "from the primary source, from the works of the leader of our Party".

It included Mikhail Gorbachyov's speech to the recent Party Congress, which contained "the core of the new philosophy of world development and international affairs in the nuclear age".

"The essence of this approach is to defend life on Earth, to secure peaceful co-operation in an inter-related world, to enter the new century without weapons of mass destruction," said Mr Zamyatin.

The Soviet Union was ready for not only a dialogue with British politicians, but "joint practical efforts in order to ensure peace".

Robert Maxwell, head of the publishers

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Press conference at Soviet Foreign Ministry

A NEWS conference was held at the Press Centre of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the USSR on June 4 for Soviet and foreign journalists, relating to the issues of strategic arms limitation. Taking part were Marshal of the Soviet Union Sergei Akhromeyev, Chief of the General Staff of the Armed Forces and First Deputy Minister of Defence of the USSR, and Alexander Bessmertnykh, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of the USSR.

At the opening of the news conference it was declared that the statement made by President Reagan the other day about the refusal of the United States to comply any longer with the 1972 Interim Agreement on Certain Measures with Respect to the Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms (SALT-1) and the 1979 Treaty on the Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms (SALT-2) means that the present American leadership have chosen to terminate unilaterally their commitments under major international legal documents which the USSR and the US have been observing on mutual terms.

This is, in point of fact, an attempt at breaking the military parity between the USSR and the US which is basic to strategic stability in the world. This act is fraught with grave consequences for international security.

The White House version, fabricated in a bid to justify the motivation of and background to the measures now being taken to destroy the foundation of the process of arms limitation and reduction, is disproved by hard facts.

Fact one. The United States, contrary to Washington's claims, has done nothing in recent years to contribute towards an "atmosphere of mutual restraint" with respect to strategic offensive arms limitation. The present administration has neither cut nor in any way restricted any of its military programmes. On the contrary, a comprehensive programme has been devised and is being implemented in time of peace for a sweeping arms build-up, involving all the components of the American strategic triad—new intercontinental ballistic missiles, missile-carrying submarines, heavy bombers, and Cruise missiles of all basing modes.

The US has started to carry through the 'Star Wars' programme and to develop space strike armaments. It now wants to give the arms race a space dimension as well. The US is preparing to manufacture a new type of weapon of wholesale annihilation—chemical binary munitions. One can see no evidence of restraint in the administration's stubborn reluctance to join the Soviet moratorium on nuclear explosions which is still in force.

Fact two. It is not the Soviet Union, as they have been claiming in the White House, but the United States that has been refusing to conduct serious negotiations on arms limitation and reduction.

The USSR has come forward with an integrated programme for the elimination of nuclear, chemical and other weapons of mass destruction in the world. It has put forward proposals for a substantial reduction of armed forces and conventional arms in Europe. At the nuclear and space arms control talks, it has proposed specific measures for carrying out the first stage of a nuclear disarmament programme—to agree on deep (50 per cent) cuts in the respective nuclear armaments of the USSR and the US and to have all the Soviet and American medium-range

missiles in the European zone scrapped.

Has the United States produced any new proposals at the talks in recent times? No, not a single one.

Fact three. American representatives, including the President, are trying to justify the decision to withdraw from the Interim Agreement and the SALT-2 Treaty by references to some "Soviet violations" of these documents.

None of these claims has any more or less serious ground to stand on. The US is deliberately distorting the picture, distracting attention from its own violations of treaties and agreements.

Fact four. While refusing to comply with the Interim Agreement and the SALT-2 Treaty, the US Administration would at the same time like to pretend that it will "technically" observe the SALT-2 Treaty for a few months more (until the US has gone beyond the 1,320 limit of strategic carriers with independently targetable warheads) and will, you see, in the meantime, be monitoring the conduct of the Soviet side and "taking it into account".

This is an absurd way of reasoning. It is not for those who break treaties to pose as their guardians. Besides, one cannot declare a treaty or agreement to be "dead" and at the same time observe them even "technically".

Washington's present course can be summed up as follows: whenever any of the US military programmes come into conflict with the limitations under existing treaties, these agreements are dropped. Without doing anything in real terms for the achievement of new accords, the US is breaking the arms limitation treaties and agreements achieved in the 70s.

As stated by the Soviet Government, the United States will not succeed in gaining any military advantages for itself at the expense of somebody else's security. The Soviet Union will take the necessary practical measures to prevent the military-strategic parity from being upset. The American side must have no illusions on that score.

Journalists then had their questions answered.

QUESTION: What will be the effect of Reagan's decision on non-compliance by the United States with the SALT accords on the nuclear and space arms control talks?

ANSWER: Certainly negative. Considering the interdependence of the issues discussed and decided in Geneva, it is not difficult to foresee that a drastic worsening of the state of things with regard to the strategic arms group cannot but tell on the general state of the talks.

QUESTION: President Reagan says that the US will "show restraint" in the development of its strategic offensive arms. Is the USSR prepared to reciprocate that?

ANSWER: In exchange for the treaty worked out in line with the principle of equality and equal security, the US President is promising not to deploy more "strategic nuclear delivery systems" and also "strategic ballistic missile warheads"—that is, only those carried by IBMs and SLBMs—than the USSR.

As you see, the US President says nothing at all about equality in terms of heavy bombers and airborne Cruise missiles. He wants to have at least a triple advantage in that sense without the Soviet Union having the right to make up for it with ballistic missiles which are the basic components of our strategic deterrence. Nor does he say anything about the sea-based Cruise missiles of which the US is planning to have several thousand. He keeps silent about his medium-range missiles in Europe which are strategic

weapons in relation to the USSR.

So what kind of restraint can they talk about if they want us not to build up any arms, while the American side would be building up its own stock by the thousand?

QUESTION: It is pointed out again in President Reagan's statement that the SS-25 missile is a second new type of ICBM, prohibited by the SALT-2 Treaty. Is this true? If not, what is the idea of repeating this over and over again?

ANSWER: The Soviet Union has tested only one new type of ICBM—the RS-22. This is allowed by the SALT-2 Treaty.

In speaking about the tests of a second new type of ICBM in the USSR, the Americans mean the RS-12M missile which is a modernisation of our old RS-12 ICBM. Such modernisation is not prohibited, and it is carried out strictly in accordance with the treaty's provisions.

The clear provision of the SALT-2 Treaty on the composition of the elements included into the so-called "throw weight" of a missile has been deliberately distorted in the United States. Contrary to this provision, the weights of some throw-weight elements (the means for overcoming ABMs and the warhead homing device) are not included in the throw weight of the old missile (RS-12) and, conversely, the weight of the equipment which is used only in the process of tests is illegitimately included in the throw weight of the modernised ICBM (RS-12M). In this way a "problem" has been created.

The aim of all this is abundantly clear. The United States already has one new type of ICBM (MX), and is now developing a second new type of ICBM (Midgetman) which conflicts with the treaty. Hence the attempts to obtain a 'right' to a second new type of ICBM, and, in parallel with this, to malign the USSR as a partner in the talks and to prepare the ground for renouncing the commitment to observe the SALT agreements. It is relevant to say here that when the decision on the Midgetman missile, in addition to the MX, was adopted in the United States, there was no mention whatsoever of the Soviet RS-12 missile. The story about a "Soviet violation" of this part of the treaty emerged later, and for quite clear reasons.

QUESTION: What can you say about the coding by the Soviet Union of the telemetric information during the ballistic missile tests. Is it not a violation of the SALT-2 Treaty?

ANSWER: The SALT-2 Treaty does not ban coding of the telemetric information transmitted from the missile. The second common understanding of Item 3 of Article XV of the treaty says that each party is free to use different methods to transmit telemetric information during tests, including its coding, with the exception of cases when such coding impedes verification of compliance with the provisions of this treaty.

What provisions of the treaty are meant here? First of all, those relating to defining a new ICBM type—the type of fuel used, the number of stages, the length, the maximal diameter, the start and throw weight of the missile under consideration, and the number and weight of the warheads. They have been defined in the agreed-upon statements concerning Article IV of the treaty.

We strictly comply with all this. But, since the American side raised the coding issue, the Soviet side displayed its constructive approach and expressed its readiness to settle it on a mutual basis. We proposed naming and agreeing upon the telemetric-information parameters which, in the view of the American side, should not be coded.

But the American side stubbornly avoided settling the issue which it had raised. In the light

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Press conference on Chernobyl

SCIENTISTS, engineers, radiation monitors, doctors, builders and servicemen are heroically fighting the aftermath of the accident at the Chernobyl nuclear power plant.

The events at Chernobyl worry not only government experts and nuclear power specialists. Representatives of the world's leading newspapers and television companies have the opportunity regularly to inform their readers and viewers about the operations carried out at the crippled reactor, and report the radiation situation in the regions adjoining the power plant. In this connection a fifth meeting with journalists was held on June 5 at the Soviet Foreign Ministry Press Centre.

"The events in Chernobyl were a serious lesson for us Soviet people and for all mankind," Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Vladimir Petrovsky said in an opening statement. "Such tragedies related to the development of science and engineering are a test not only of people's courage and moral qualities but also of the degree of responsibility which states and individual citizens demonstrate in our harsh nuclear and space age. The Chernobyl disaster clearly showed that the actions of the Soviet Government were guided by an awareness of responsibility and a concern for people and also by the principle of social justice.

"A great measure of responsibility was manifest in the regular provision by the Soviet Government of information about progress in the clean-up work, the close and constructive co-operation arranged in the early days with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and the conclusions about the international implications of the accident made by the Soviet Union.

"Firstly, we proposed arranging broad co-operation in creating an effective regime for the safe development of nuclear power engineering in the world. We believe that a system of early

warning and information about accidents and failures at nuclear power stations should be established within the framework of such a regime, especially when such accidents lead to radiation leaks, and also an international mechanism for the provision of prompt mutual assistance when dangerous situations develop.

"Secondly, we considered it necessary to step up efforts to ensure the complete elimination of nuclear weapons by the end of the century. A nuclear weapons test ban might be a first practical step in this direction. The Soviet Union has therefore again extended its unilateral moratorium on nuclear explosions till August 6 of this year. All these considerations were spelled out by Mikhail Gorbachyov in his address on Soviet Television. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the USSR is now receiving queries about the messages sent by the General Secretary of the Soviet Communist Party Central Committee on this matter. A few days ago his messages were handed to the leaders of all countries and also to the heads of some international organisations. They contain new proposals which, if accepted, would ensure effective and safe development of nuclear power engineering."

The Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister said that the socialist and non-aligned countries, a number of Western countries and thousands of ordinary people throughout the world had demonstrated a sense of responsibility in their reaction to the accident. "We thank all for their sympathy and offers of help," he said. "At the same time, the importance of the event requires that we also speak about those who have failed to stand the test. The Chernobyl accident revealed like litmus-paper the fact that there are in the capitalist world influential forces which need confrontation in order to be able to continue conducting nuclear explosions and stockpiling weapons of mass destruction, and which need slander and fear to sow mistrust—frankly speaking these efforts are futile—in the Soviet Union and its peaceful

policy. I hope the situation will change for the better, not only in Chernobyl (of this we are convinced) but also in international relations."

Yuri Batalin, Deputy Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, also spoke at the press conference. "The aim of all those now working in the closed zone is to reduce the danger to a minimum, not only for today, that is for those who are fighting the aftermath of the accident, but also for the future, that is for the specialists who will return to the station and for the people who will return to their homes," he said.

Yuri Batalin told journalists about a wide range of measures planned to eliminate the aftermath of the accident. "A few days ago, I visited the Chernobyl power plant with a group of builders and designers who had worked out fundamental technical solutions for the new stage of work, including the burying of the No. 4 reactor and making the territory of the station and the adjoining area absolutely safe. Thus, rescue workers have now given way to builders," he said.

"The situation at the station does not yet allow us to work on a broad front—radiation levels are still too high in the immediate proximity of the crippled reactor. Taking into account the radiation situation, we have drawn up a plan of immediate and long-term measures. Everyone wants to know what the burying of the No. 4 reactor means. We are building a complex of structural elements that would effectively prevent the release of any aerosols, even aerosols with low radioactivity.

"The second major task is to develop a reliable remote-control method of monitoring the reactor after its burying. It would not be an ordinary burial. It would be an installation that we would constantly monitor for years, including remotely controlled monitoring of processes inside the reactor.

"Major complicated projects are being mounted to guarantee that local water does not reach water supply sources. The initial stage of this work has been completed, with temporary systems having been built to isolate the run-off of flood and rainwater from the surface. Specialists will also establish full control over subterranean waters. These systems will also operate automatically and will be equipped for the purification, discharge and distribution of subterranean water.

"These undertakings will be effected in a short time. Some of them will be completed very soon and others before the end of the year. Task groups established for the purpose include highly qualified specialists, mostly volunteers. This helps us save time and makes for reliability. It is only natural that dosimetric and medical check-ups dominate the efforts of task groups.

"Maximum safety with minimum risk is the motto of the operations headquarters established to combat the consequences of the accident. It is observed strictly, both in the immediate vicinity of the reactor and within a 30-km zone which was set up with a margin.

"After careful inspection it has been established that some sectors of this zone are no longer unfit for residence," Yuri Batalin said. "The people of some populated localities have been permitted to come back. A major decontamination effort is still needed in some communities. All evacuees have been provided with temporary housing and all have been given jobs. The government has allocated considerable resources, including frame houses, to install all evacuees for the time being and allow them to live in the customary manner."

Turning to the reasons for the accident, Batalin said that time was needed to give a comprehensive assessment of what had happened.

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of the US decision on the SALT-2 Treaty, it has become clear that the United States was not at all interested in settling this issue but only wanted to keep it on the list of the groundless charges against the USSR.

QUESTION: The US Administration considers the radar station which is being built in the Krasnoyarsk area in the USSR to be a violation of the ABM Treaty. On the other hand, it is well known that the United States is deploying a large radar station in Greenland and intends to place an analogous station in Britain, which causes concern to the Soviet side. Can you clarify the situation obtaining in this field?

ANSWER: We have repeatedly tried to show to the USA by means of facts that the Krasnoyarsk radar station, which is now under construction, is not designed to fulfil any ABM functions. It is a station for tracking space objects, both Soviet and American, and has nothing to do with the ABM Treaty. This will become clear once and for all when the station begins to operate in the sending mode.

As for the new US powerful phased-array radar installations, one of which is being deployed at Thule, Greenland, while the other is likely to be built at Fylingdales, Britain, they actually constitute a violation of the ABM Treaty. The US side itself admits that these installations are intended to warn of a ballistic missile attack. But, as is known, the treaty stipulates that the installations of this kind should be placed only on the periphery of national territories. Naturally, neither Greenland nor Britain is the periphery or territory of the USA. Though in this respect the USA is clearly contradicting the ABM Treaty and we could insist on having

the situation redressed without any reciprocal steps from the USSR, the Soviet side, displaying goodwill, is offering to look for solutions to the radar issue. For example, in order to lift concerns on both sides, we have communicated to the Americans, at various levels, the following proposal. We would mothball the Krasnoyarsk radar installation in its present state in exchange for the USA dismantling the Greenland radar and relinquishing its plans for the radar in Britain.

The Americans have the proposal, but the USA clearly has a stake in preserving the issue, rather than removing it, the intention behind this being obviously to exploit the Krasnoyarsk radar issue for provocative political aims to complicate the arms limitation and reduction process.

QUESTION: How, do you think, can US President Ronald Reagan's decision affect the planned Soviet-US summit?

ANSWER: The Soviet side has repeatedly stated its concept of the Soviet-US summit.

It ought to be held in a favourable political atmosphere, with both sides displaying their will to achieve concrete practical agreements, primarily on arms limitation and reduction.

The United States' provocative steps to scrap the 1972 Interim Agreement and the SALT-2 Treaty are in no way indicative of its desire to help create a favourable atmosphere, let alone move toward concrete agreements. Moreover, by these and other actions, which we have repeatedly remonstrated with the US side about, the present administration has shown that, though claiming to be in favour of the summit, it is doing everything to dash its chances.

The speaker also answered other questions.

(Pravda, June 5. In full) □

(Continued on next page)

Soviet Government statement on World Environment Day

WORLD Environment Day, which is traditionally observed on June 5, will be marked this year with a symbolic ceremony of planting a tree of peace, at the proposal of the leaders of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). This has a profound meaning—to protect our Earth together, to affirm a choice for peace and security and against war, a choice worthy of people.

Holding this ceremony in Moscow, we are reaffirming once again the invariable, consistent striving of our country for peace, for the development of peaceful international co-operation. It is expressed with new force in the resolutions of the 27th CPSU Congress. Our country has set forth a concrete programme for creating a comprehensive system of international security, a concept of a non-nuclear world, aimed at halting the arms race on Earth, preventing it in space, and ridding nations of the nuclear threat.

The Soviet Union is convinced that in the nuclear-and-space age the security and survival

of every state and international security as a whole can be ensured not by military-technical solutions, not by the build-up and sophistication of military arsenals, but by their consistent reduction, by total elimination of the weapons of mass destruction. These are the goals pursued by the new Soviet proposals to stop nuclear tests, rid mankind of nuclear and chemical arms and reduce conventional weapons, proposals which have evoked broad response throughout the world. Striving to ensure in practice that nuclear explosions should never destroy man's environment, the USSR has decided to extend its unilateral moratorium till August 6, 1986, so as to give the USA one more chance to join this highly important undertaking.

Environmental protection, concern about the preservation of natural riches and rational and far-sighted use of resources, which ensure the conditions for mankind's prosperity, is a noble but also far from easy task of our time. Its solution has become a nationwide undertaking in this country. Implementing the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress and strengthening the economic might of our homeland, the Soviet people show daily concern for the protection of the environment.

The problem of protecting and improving the environment has long ceased to be a matter for individual countries. Its character is emphatically global, and its solution requires united efforts by all states. Having drawn serious conclusions from the accident at Chernobyl, the Soviet Union is consistently advocating the broadest possible co-operation with all countries in solving this problem as well. It is clear that such co-operation can be successfully carried out only in conditions of durable peace on Earth. It is inseparable from the efforts to prevent a nuclear disaster, the most horrible thing that can befall our planet.

Our country will continue taking part in the implementation of the goals of the International Year of Peace, and will actively contribute to the development of co-operation in environmental protection, in which an important role belongs to UNEP.

Let the seedlings of peace strike firm root everywhere, let them grow into the trees whose foliage will never be scorched by the flames of thermonuclear conflagration. Let them witness the world entering the 21st century without nuclear weapons.

(Novosti Press Agency, June 5, 1986.) □

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"While we have a fairly firm opinion of some issues, other matters still have to be looked into in greater detail," he said. "Hasty decisions about the reasons behind such an unexpected and tragic event would lead only to muddle and over-reaction. We must be very careful because we have to deal not only with this specific case but also with greater safety in the nuclear industry overall. Unlike the build-up of nuclear arsenals, the nuclear industry is crucial to the progress of civilisation. Soviet citizens and sober-minded people everywhere are now aware of the need to take urgent measures to outlaw nuclear weapons and end their tests."

Participants in the press conference then answered questions from journalists. Questions were also answered by Yuri Izrael, Chairman of the State Committee for Hydrometeorology and Environmental Control, Andranik Petrosyants, Chairman of the State Committee for the Utilisation of Atomic Energy, Oleg Shchepin, USSR First Deputy Minister of Health, and Valeri Legasov, first deputy director of the Kurchatov Institute of Atomic Energy.

In reply to a question about the role which the IAEA could play in enhancing the safety of the nuclear power industry, Andranik Petrosyants said: "In his televised address last month, Mikhail Gorbachyov made a clear point of raising the role of IAEA in this context. I should like to point out that this organisation is highly sympathetic and objective in its approach to the accident. Virtually a few days after the speech by the General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, the agency passed a decision in which it emphasised the need for international co-operation in guaranteeing the reliability and safety of atomic power stations. It is imperative

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Pergamon, said it was important to read and know the ideas of one of the two leaders on whom peace most depended.

"We may not necessarily agree on many issues of international policy, but we all want to live on this planet," he said.

Also present at the launch of the book were Members of Parliament, prominent representatives of political and public circles, and representatives of science and culture. □

to set up a system of early notification about accidents, especially in cases accompanied by fallout. The IAEA intends to hold a special conference soon on the whole range of problems of the safe development of nuclear power engineering."

Journalists enquired about the radiation situation in the disaster area. "Thorough surveys of the radiation situation", commented Yuri Izrael, "have been going on from the very first day. Today the situation has stabilised and radioactivity has decreased appreciably as a result of natural decay and active decontamination measures. As for the question about whether there are zones which have been rendered unsuitable for human habitation for a long time or even forever, I have the following to say. We are studying the suitability and safety of local territories for normal life and agricultural production. The bulk of these territories will eventually be reclaimed. But the question of when exactly people will return to the territory adjoining the damaged reactor for permanent work is still open and requires further careful study."

Japanese and American correspondents enquired about the condition of the people who had been affected in the first days of the disaster. "Not a single person has been added to the group of patients who were hospitalised on April 26 and 27," replied Oleg Shchepin. "All in all, there are 187 people with diagnosed cases of radiation sickness of varying severity in clinics and rehabilitation hospitals now. Despite the measures taken and effective medical aid, 24 patients have died. There have been 19 bone marrow transplants. Six of the patients who have undergone this operation are alive, and we would like to hope that they are on their way to recovery.

"More than a month has passed since those first days of grave anxiety, but some Western journalists are still not averse to flabbergasting their readers with new 'Chernobyl sensations'. There have been new references to Western embassies in Moscow claiming that foodstuffs are appearing in the Soviet capital—notably milk—bearing traces of radioactivity.

"It is hard for me to say what line of conduct has been chosen by those embassies," said the First Deputy Health Minister. "It is easier for me

to tell you about the situation with the foodstuffs. The sanitary inspection authorities, together with the workers of the agro-industrial complex, are not allowing a single batch of farm produce into open trade, including on food markets, without proper inspection."

A Soviet journalist asked why some of the Western governments were, on the one hand, saying that there was no real danger to their countries and peoples from the disaster, and on the other hand continuing to participate in the build-up of hysteria and hostility towards the USSR, and passing decisions on restricting trade, economic and other links with the East European socialist countries.

"The explanation is quite simple," said Vladimir Petrovsky. "The objective fact of the absence of any real threat to those countries is absolutely obvious. The initiators of the immoral campaign to work up fears, psychosis and gloating over other people's disaster are not concerned about the real state of affairs or about the fate of the people. They are only looking for a pretext to cast a shadow on the USSR and weaken the impact of the Soviet initiatives aimed at stopping all tests of nuclear weapons and at scrapping those weapons altogether. Their goal is to distract the world's attention from actions leading to the exacerbation of the nuclear threat and to take the edge off the growing international criticism of the United States and its closest allies. As for the trade embargo, here we have, besides the policy of confrontation, the selfish interests of the Western economic circles which are trying to hit their competitors at any cost, to drive up prices and to seize new markets."

(Pravda, June 6. In full) □

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that the convocation of an international conference on the Middle East could be a concrete way for such a settlement.

Eduard Shevardnadze and Abdul Aziz Abdo al Dali declared for the earliest cessation of the Iranian-Iraqi war and for a settlement of the conflict by political means, which would meet the interests of the peoples of Iran and Iraq and would contribute to stabilising the situation in the Persian Gulf area and to strengthening international security as a whole. □