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Note from Robert A. Poteete, P/PMI, editor of *America Illustrated*: The following article is translated in full from *Smena*, the Komsomol (Young Communist League) newspaper of Leningrad, dated 6 June 1986.

Sunday Guest

"They're counting on an unformed person, thereby giving him a quite definite model of behavior," says Ernest Shiryayev, deputy director of the Komsomol committee at Leningrad State University and a candidate in psychological sciences. [Translator's note: this blurb is at the top of the article with a photo of Shiryayev and copies of *America Illustrated*, *Anglia*, and *Guten Tag*.]

THE VIRUS OF "TRUTH"

"War and Peace in the Pacific" is the title of a review by Robert L. Taylor in the magazine *Amerika*, published in September of last year. It's all very flashy: maps, text, high-quality topical pictures — the polished "hit" of the issue, a weighty flag 20 pages in length. Short subheads, like milestones, lead the reader to the conclusion held dear by the author — a conclusion that is topical today as well.

And so, about the subheads: "War began for America with an attack on Pearl Harbor and the fall of the Philippines." "Bombing by B-29s helps bring about surrender." I've skipped four other subheads on purpose, for they have a tangential rather than direct relation to our discussion. These "milestones" add the very stresses the Soviet reader must learn so that, naturally, he can imagine how the Stars & Stripes was raised above the Pacific Ocean in the years of the Second World War. Between these "milestones" is the truth, and it is thus:

On September 2, 1945, Japan and the United States ended four years of bitter warfare...

All through 1940 and '41, America's leaders had debated what they should do about the war in Europe. They wanted to help Britain in its struggle against Hitler, but were hindered by America's "strong tradition of staying out of the troubles of the rest of the world." [Translator's note: quotes around phrase were added by *Smena*.]

...On August 8, the Soviet Union declared war on Japan and became a participant in the war in the Pacific. A few days later, on August 14, Japan surrendered... Emperor Hirohito's decision...

I solicited comment on these excerpts from the magazine article from Ernest Shiryayev, deputy secretary of the Komsomol committee at Leningrad State University, candidate in psychological sciences, and leader of a student research group analyzing materials from the foreign press.

ES: This text is surprising, at least. If you read it without thinking, without comparing the author's facts with the actual tragic events in the years between 1940 and 1945, one could get the impression that the Pacific theater was the main one. There was no fascist Germany, there was no Second World War, no Great Patriotic War, tens of millions of people didn't die on the European continent, and only the USA fought "bitter" battles against Japan while trying to figure out how to help England in its "struggle" against Hitler...

VM: Ernest, in this conversation we realize that we're not trying to take on the role of critics of our American journalist colleagues. Our opinion is calculated more at the young Leningrad reader who comes upon a copy of *Amerika*.

ES: Sorry, but then let's broaden the object of our discussion and include the magazines *Anglia* and *Guten Tag* [Translator's note: *England* and *Good Day*, the English and German counterparts of *America Illustrated*]. All these magazines are known well by our young people. They are published and dis-

tributed according to agreements worked out by the USSR, USA, England, and FRG. They can be subscribed to at Soyuzpechat offices within print run limits set by the agreements. That means that they come out in limited quantities. However, if you aren't able to buy them, you can find them at any large library.

According to our study, carried out among students, *Anglia*, *Amerika*, and *Guten Tag* are the most interesting of all Western foreign [sic] magazines published in Russian. By the way, according to our data, every fourth student reads them. And the degree of regularity depends on many factors: interest, time of year, amount of free time... There are times when the magazines lie in the library in mint condition — scarcely anyone touches them. In a word, as far as I know there's no hullabaloo about them. I should note that during a quick analysis it becomes clear that these magazines cloy when read regularly. Moreover, the reader gets the idea that the published material as a whole is aimed at a dimwitted reader. An obvious example of that is the above-noted article about the surrender of Japan. After all, such an allegation is wildly at odds with historical facts. The emperor did make his decision, but only under the influence of a swift thrust by Soviet troops. In fact, he had no other option. But the American researcher is purposely silent about this fact.

With superficial familiarity the reader, as a rule, pays attention to that which lends itself to visual perception rather than serious analysis. For example, young men are more interested in music and cars, girls care more for fashion. A lot depends on the presentation of the material: its design, headlines, print quality. Those who study magazines more seriously are interested in the mechanism of presentation, the intended psychological loading, tendencies in the selection of subject matter...

VM: When naming the magazines in order, you listed *Anglia* first. Was that coincidental, or...?

ES: More "or."

VM: A convenient format?

ES: I too thought so at first. On the other hand, in the publishers' planning, it's somehow more democratic. They write about simple things in it, things a person deals with every day. Its basic orientation is on youth, specifics, leisure. *Amerika* devotes a lot of attention to business, economics, and even politics, trying to prove its political principles. *Guten Tag* is heavy in style, propagandizing the respectable lifestyle of the German middle bourgeoisie, and to a certain degree reflecting the ideology of the Christian Democrats. It avoids extreme points of view (perhaps that's just its style).

VM: The English stuff proved more attractive?

ES: Let's put it this way. We think specificity is more important than general, washed-out phrases. *Anglia* seems to present material in an open way: here's a family, its income, expenses, interests, and possibilities. And it's always stressed that young English couples live by themselves. Young people save money, buy houses, order their lives. The effect is calculated at possible comparison with our own complexities. They don't make any direct comparisons with the situation of our youth. Comparison on many vitally important points is not in their favor. What is not advantageous to them at all remains in the shadows. And only out of context do you learn that the chance of acquiring an apartment is open only to a small percentage of English youth, as a rule, those from high-income families or those who have worked especially hard. Having just created a material basis, Englishmen start a joint life. That's the kind of families talked about in the article [sic]. To project that onto our life is meaningless. But naive people, reading such an article, try somehow to compare, even yearn for it, for some reason comparing themselves with those who, having completed their education, are looking in vain for a chance to start a career. I know many such Englishmen, including unemployed historians, philologists...

Or another example. In one issue of *Anglia* there was a story on the training of soccer stars. They boasted of a system of soccer schools where for a minimal fee practically any young-

ster who wants can get training. In the summer they organize special camps in which the boys continue to improve their skills. As it turns out, this minimal amount, calculated in our money, is 180 rubles a week, and a week in the summer camp costs 120 rubles. It's obvious, of course, that not everybody who wants to can get into these schools, especially those whose parents sit at home unemployed.

If *Anglia* systematically propagandizes the cult of money, then *Amerika* has a different characteristic feature: importuning the American way of life. Alexander Trofimov, a student in my group, has analyzed this magazine from the 1970s and has found a regular pattern: almost every article contains a hidden correlation of subjects aimed at propagandizing the exclusiveness of America. Say, they're writing about the development of world astronautics, terms such as "free spirit," "national freedom" pop up in every paragraph. The thought automatically comes to mind: America's quest for space is America's quest for freedom, a realization of the American spirit. The aim of such an article is subconsciously to create an impression of American exclusiveness, at the root of which is an expressed individualism — the "I" of a white-toothed fellow with mighty fists. This line is followed continuously.

VM: Ernest, this consideration of individualism, independence of spirit, even the very choice of materials — is it meant for readers in adult categories or is it based, say, on the situation and conditions in our country?

ES: Without a doubt, it's all calculated and designed for the young reader, basically, in the category from 17 to 24 years, when a young man or woman is entering a period when it is necessary to choose one's important life values. They're counting on an unformed person, thereby giving him a quite definite model of behavior. And sometimes a person bites on it: it's easier for him. And if in this formative period he encounters certain other difficulties, then he adopts completely some of these "prescriptions" for expressing his "I" without thinking much about their ideological stuffing.

These magazines have been writing a lot lately about women. There's a steady stream of propaganda about women's liberation from domestic conditions, the attainment of a certain status quo [sic] in society thanks to their independence in personal life and the assertion of the concept of making their own decisions. While we maintain that there is a connection between collectivism and the expression of individualism, that they penetrate each other, Western ideology, tearing away collectivism, lauds individualism to the skies. Writing about particular individuals, the authors of such articles, naturally, count on the acceptance of their prescriptions by some of our girls, who come to the conclusion: Are we any worse? We'll act the same way and then we'll be successful. But they're completely forgetting that our society is strong through its collective solidarity and unity, that the principle "One for all and all for one" arose historically in

our country. However, not everybody comes to such conclusions. Some people, through the externalities shown in these magazines, are changed inside. This leads somewhat later to tragedy in their personal lives and work when they lose that healthy emotional charge.

VM: Do other magazines have similar themes? Or do the Russian-language magazines show a special choice of materials?

ES: The above-noted magazines have a particular selection of articles. In them we find practically none of the sensationalism in which other Western magazines are so rich. They don't curse us, they take a positive approach, as a rule transmitting information in a subdued tone that evokes trust. And a person without a well-formed, firm Weltanschauung unwittingly gets the idea from the articles that life is beautiful in these countries; sure, there are problems, but see how wisely they try to solve them — and do. Thus he can fall in with the defenders of the "beautiful" Western life.

VM: Ernest, now we seem to be talking about the theoretical aspect of the analysis done by your student group. What does this look like in practice? After all, a young reader must in principle interpret certain nuances in foreign magazines...

ES: The analysis of magazines is not our primary concern, although it does provide a topic of conversation. Our group is more involved in analyzing the effect on the reader of the content of one article or another, how it is interpreted. Clearly, this approach has affected the composition of our group: mostly psychologists. We try to study the effect of published propaganda materials from the inside out. True, our work sometimes gets kind of stopped up. After a while, we start to move ahead again. An obstacle in science serves also as a sort of impetus, the start of a new search for problems. We've already published some of our material in the university weekly. A start has been made, but there's still plenty of work left....

VM: You know, I've heard Americans say — when the conversation turns to political events in the world, to their aggressive actions — "Well, you are an ancient country, therefore a wise one, but ours is still sort of adolescent. So you should conduct yourselves with more restraint, but we can sometimes 'kick up.'"

ES: Alas, in their Russian-language magazines they don't write about such kicking up and its consequences, for example, aggression against Grenada and Libya, the feeding of various "contras," and support for apartheid in South Africa. They know the political cost of these actions and don't want to compromise themselves.

And while their actions can be compared to those of an "adolescent," they cannot be justified. Willfulness and impulsiveness are characteristics of adolescence, but God grant that such adolescence passes quickly.

The guest was interviewed by V. Melent'ev



August 8, 1986

Dear Larry,

Your note was encouraging and appreciated.

Sensing the support of most of those around the table, I have moved to put into place here a unit capable of preparing rapid and powerful responses to Soviet propaganda initiatives, and also capable of advancing our policy positions with the kind of force and specific example which currently characterize VOA editorials.

You will, of course, receive these products; your thoughts and guidance will always be welcome.

Sincerely,

Charles Z. Wick
Director

The Honorable
Larry Speakes
Deputy Press Secretary to
the President
The White House

**United States
Information
Agency**

Washington, D C 20547

Office of the Director

4-4-86



July 31, 1986

Dear Larry:

Our Mexico City Embassy has recommended that President Reagan grant interviews with two Mexican journalists, Miguel Aleman of Televisa, and Regino Diaz Redondo of Excelsior, prior to his August 13 meeting with President Miguel de la Madrid. USIA would like to add its support to that request.

I understand that Miguel Aleman, the executive vice-president of Televisa, and a son of a former Mexican president, has written you directly asking for the interview. You will remember that he made a request prior to the January meeting and that it was not granted. In addition to the television interview, Mr. Aleman would most likely publish the text verbatim in the daily Novedades newspaper chain, of which he is one of two owners. Both Televisa and Novedades are conservative, pro-American news organizations and good choices for an interview with the President. Televisa reaches an audience throughout Mexico of approximately 30 million. The interview would also reach millions in the United States, as Televisa news programs are carried by the Spanish International Network (SIN). The Novedades newspaper chain consists of the flagship in Mexico City with a circulation of about 50,000, and five provincial newspapers located mainly in the central portion of Mexico.

The other request that we strongly support comes from Regino Diaz Redondo, the editor-in-chief of Mexico City's most prestigious and influential newspaper, Excelsior. Mr. Diaz Redondo has interviewed many world leaders and the story would cover much of page one of this widely-read newspaper. The interview would also be carried by Excelsior's wire service meaning nationwide coverage. Excelsior has a daily circulation of around 185,000. It is nationalistic in orientation, which, in the Mexican context, means that it is often critical of the United States and any perceived infringement on Mexican sovereignty. But, given the influence the Mexican Government exercises with the Mexican media and its determination to have this visit portrayed positively, the President's interview would resound throughout Mexico.

The Honorable
Larry Speakes
Assistant to the President and
Principal Deputy Press Secretary
The White House

We do not recommend that the request from Jose Carreno, the Washington correspondent of Mexico's official news agency, NOTIMEX, be granted at this time. He had a written interview with the President prior to the January, 1986 meeting between the two presidents.

With best personal regards.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Charles". The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping initial "C" that loops back under the name.

Charles Z. Wick
Director



July 30, 1986

Dear Larry:

As you may know, USIA is currently hosting a Soviet Exchange Delegation for discussions under the President's Initiative and the General Exchanges Agreement between the United States and the Soviet Union.

In preparation for these meetings, I asked for a compilation of recent Soviet propaganda attacks on the United States, a copy of which is attached. I thought you might find it of interest and use.

Best wishes.

Sincerely,

Charles Z. Wick
Director

The Honorable
Larry M. Speakes
Assistant to the President and
Principle Deputy Press Secretary

Weinberger Letter

Asked if Weinberger would be fired for throwing a pall over the Administration's efforts to convince the public of its sincerity in seeking mutually acceptable solutions with the Soviet Union, the President answered "hell, no". There appeared to be no need to fire the Defense Secretary because his views are perfectly in tune with those of the Administration. He may be less diplomatic about choosing words than the President's aides, but he certainly reflects the current thinking in Washington. (Radio Moscow, November 19)

UN Resolution on Nuclear Test Ban

On November 21 the First Committee of the UN General Assembly adopted a draft resolution on the immediate termination and prohibition of nuclear weapons tests. ... The initiative in such a topical matter was taken by the USSR and other socialist countries. ... The fact that the U.S., Britain, and France voted against the draft resolution shows once again that they intend, contrary to the will of an overwhelming majority of the world community members, to go ahead with work to develop new types of weapons of mass destruction. (TASS, November 22)

Geneva Summit

At Geneva the U.S. Administration showed a lack of readiness for solving problems vital for an end to the arms race. It is yet to summon its resolve and political foresight to meet the constructive Soviet proposals halfway. But that, of course, doesn't mean that the summit was a failure. Every action needs a beginning. It remains to be seen if Washington is aware that humanity is facing perhaps the most critical stage in its history and whether more steps will follow the summit and the accords it produced. (Radio Moscow, November 23)

Geneva Joint Statement

Attempts by official representatives of Washington within merely a few days of the signing in Geneva of the joint Soviet-U.S. statement to carry out a revision of the sides' obligations laid down in it "to avert an arms race in space and curb it on earth" evoke surprise. Attempts to distort the USSR's position on problems of the nonmilitarization of space are incompatible with the spirit of the top level meetings in Geneva. (TASS, November 25)

Budapest Cultural Forum

The cultural forum has been a success, although the delegations of Western countries torpedoed the signing of the final document. (TASS, November 25)

Reagan Human Rights Day Remarks

Neither the proclamation nor the remarks by the President made any mention of the crying violations of the basic human rights and freedoms which are a daily occurrence in today's America. As a matter of fact, the proclamation and the pompous ceremony were organized precisely with the aim of putting up a smokescreen for these violations, distracting the attention of the American and international public. (TASS, December 11)

U.S. Lie Detector Tests

Tens of thousands of employees of U.S. governmental agencies will now be subjected to humiliating loyalty checks with the help of lie detectors. ... It is clear that the measures taken under the NSC directive will only intensify the atmosphere of spy mania in the USA. This, in turn, will create a suitable background for the operation of various special agencies, the FBI in particular, engaged in the notorious witch hunt. (TASS, December 12)

UN Resolution on Afghanistan

The resolution is full of malicious lies and slanders against the legitimate government of Afghanistan and the gains of the Afghan people. The real aim of that crude anti-Afghan provocation is to kindle an atmosphere of enmity towards the peoples of democratic Afghanistan, to try to justify the undeclared war which was unleashed against it by the U.S. and international reaction after the victory of the April revolution of 1978. (TASS, December 14)

Shultz European Trip

Resorting to outright anti-Soviet and anti-communist rhetoric in the course of his West Berlin press conference, he exerted quite an effort to call into question the possibility of peaceful coexistence on the European continent and tried to lay all blame for that on countries of the socialist community. Shultz's tough pronouncements are coached in tones reminiscent of the cold war. (TASS, December 15)

U.S. Support for Terrorism

Shultz pounded a table in anger after the Yugoslav foreign minister said that "although Yugoslavia condemns terrorism, one must also view the causes that lead to it." Why is it that the phrase infuriated the head of the foreign policy department of the USA? Isn't it due to the fact that the policy of the U.S. itself should be justifiably assessed as one of the main causes of the spread of terrorism, for the struggle against which Washington demagogically calls? (TASS, December 18)

U.S. Attitude Toward The Geneva Summit

Reactionary, aggressively-minded circles in the U.S., who at one time applied quite some effort to wreck the Geneva meeting, are now going on the attack against its consequences. An extensive campaign has been unleashed against the normalization of relations with the USSR and the strengthening of mutual trust in Soviet-U.S. relations which the two sides agreed on in Geneva. Press propaganda, television, and movies are being actively used to whip up mistrust and hostility toward the USSR and the Soviet people. (Pravda, December 19)

UN Resolution on Non-Use of Force

Why does the U.S. Administration oppose the principle of non-use of force in international relations? The answer lies in the U.S. foreign policy based on the use of force as the principal way to attain foreign policy goals. ... If the principle of non-use of force was adopted earlier, there would have been no U.S. "dirty war" in Vietnam, no landing of U.S. troops in Lebanon and the bombardment by the "New Jersey" of peaceful Lebanese villages, no invasion of Grenada. The situation would remain calm in Afghanistan ..., and Central American countries, primarily Nicaragua, would concentrate their attention on resolving economic and social problems, and not on the mobilization of the people in repulsing the armed aggression organized by the U.S. (TASS, December 19)

U.S. Test Moratorium Rejection

It is clear not only to experts but to the wide public what great significance the proposed ban would have: the halting of nuclear tests means the halting of the nuclear arms race in its most dangerous qualitative sphere. It is even clearer in this matter than in any other that there are no substantial reasons or motives at all for a rejection of the Soviet proposal and that such a rejection can only be explained by one thing -- by the fact that the U.S. wants to continue the arms race. (TASS, December 29)

U.S. "Goldstone" Test

Continuing nuclear tests, the U.S. Government increasingly opposes itself to the clearly expressed will of the overwhelming majority of state, the demands of the broadest segments of the world public, ignores warnings coming from many influential politicians and public figures in the U.S., and members of the U.S. Congress. The development of ever new means of warfare in space and on earth continued by the U.S. contradicts the admission by the U.S. leadership that a nuclear war must never be fought and that there must be no attempts to achieve military superiority. (TASS, December 30)

Lifting of Martial Law in Pakistan

Local observers view the lifting of martial law as a farce intended to provide a pseudo-democratic cover for the crimes of the military regime against its own country and against peace and security in the region. At the same time, observers also point out that this farce has been enacted with Washington's blessing. (TASS, December 30)

Training Facilities for Terrorists

The aim of the [U.S. mercenary training camps] is to prepare strike units of mercenaries who will be able to carry out terrorist actions against Cuba, Nicaragua, and other independent countries in Latin America, Africa, and Asia. ... Police and the FBI know well the addresses of the terrorist training centers, but none of the American mercenaries has yet been brought to trial. The authorities put no obstacles in the way of this activity. This graphically demonstrates the hypocrisy of the U.S. Administration which uses the campaign of combating "international terrorism" as a smokescreen for interference in the internal affairs of other states and peoples. (TASS, January 1)

SDI

Through the efforts of U.S. military-political circles, trickery and deception have reached literally cosmic heights. By plugging the idea of "star wars", the Pentagon and its patrons and allies are deliberately misleading the U.S. public and Congress, and the Western countries which the White House is seeking to harness to the chariot of its militarist policy. (Izvestia, January 2)

U.S. Central America Policy

In its Central American policy the U.S. Administration intends to continue pursuing a course of great-power chauvinism, diktat, and intolerance of any manifestation of independence on the part of other countries and peoples. This is born out by pronouncements made by President R. Reagan in his interview with the Mexican press agency NOTIMEX. ... Washington is sabotaging the Contadora process in every way, having unleashed the hands of the CIA mercenaries from the ranks of the so-called "contras" in an undeclared war against Nicaragua, striving to overthrow the government of that country which is not to Washington's liking and to alter the sociopolitical system freely chosen by the Nicaraguan people. (TASS, January 2)

Libya

Anti-Libyan hysteria has been unleashed in the U.S. by way of psychological preparation for the launching of a [military] strike. The notorious "fight against terrorism" has again been chosen as grounds for this. ... It turns out that any foreign government which suddenly becomes not to Washington's liking ... may be simply overthrown, by force if necessary. (TASS, January 6)

Anti-U.S. Sentiment in Philippines

Domestic developments in the Philippines show how potentially dangerous it is for developing countries to ally themselves with the U.S. In times of relative stability developing countries have to pay an enormous price in order to maintain their alliance with the U.S.; in times of internal instability and crisis, such an alliance becomes a tool for exercising brute pressure and interfering in internal affairs that threatens the independence of developing countries. (Moscow Radio Peace and Progress, January 7)

Euromissiles

The U.S. has deployed 156 Pershing II missiles in West Germany and not 108 as it formally announced. ... It is not the first time Washington is cheating on the number of its missiles. The American missiles may be trained on the socialist countries, but they as well reach the Middle East, North Africa, and other regions. America's missiles obviously threaten many countries. (Radio Moscow, January 9)

U.S. Anti-Sovietism

An atmosphere of vituperative anti-Sovietism and suspicion towards Soviet diplomatic personnel and Soviet representatives in the U.S. is encouraged by U.S. official authorities and now goes beyond the "usual" boundaries. ... So on the one hand we have calls for "better understanding" and on the other the true attitude of the official authorities, which are actually inspiring provocative anti-Soviet campaigns. (TASS, January 10)

Whitehead Trip

The essence of the State Department's diplomatic moves is the sending of an emissary to bring outright pressure on governments of countries -- the U.S.'s partners in NATO -- to force them to follow obediently in the wake of the anti-Libyan policy of the present U.S. Administration; in other words, to resort to political pressure. ... Whitehead's trip is just another attempt to compel the U.S. allies to join Washington in its anti-Arab policy. [TASS, January 14]

U.S.-Libya

Libya has become a victim of U.S.-Israeli subversive actions because Qadaffi rejected the conspiracy of the U.S. and Israel in whatever form. ... Do the tracks of the terrorist acts in Rome and Vienna not lead to the CIA and the Mossad? ... Israel, stirring up the situation, wants once again to look like the victim of terrorism by the Palestinians and all Arabs, and, in this case as happened

before, to carry out "acts of revenge" with impunity. Here are the roots of CIA and Mossad activity in the Middle East, the Mediterranean, and in Western Europe. (TASS, January 14)

U.S. Interventionist Policies

... The U.S. is currently carrying out more than fifty subversive operations abroad. It is this activity of the U.S. which bears the hallmark of state-sponsored terrorism -- one of the main causes of so-called "regional conflicts" which the Washington Administration is seeking to use in order to undermine all efforts directed at creating an atmosphere of trust in the name of averting the war menace and strengthening peace. (TASS, January 15)

U.S. Nuclear Tests

By setting off new nuclear devices, Washington demonstrates contempt to the commitment formalized in the joint Soviet-U.S. statement following the November summit meeting (TASS, January 21)

ABC "Amerika" Series

This piece of television hack work is a routine murky variation on the theme of the "Soviet military threat" on which the bosses of ABC did not begrudge spending 40 million dollars. It distorts the history and ignores the peace-loving policy of the USSR. ... Under pressure from the democratic public, the television company bosses were forced to stop work on "Amerika." The concoction of a new portion of anti-Soviet slander was assessed by progressive forces in the U.S. and outside that country as a betrayal of the spirit of Geneva, but the retreat by ABC management aroused unconcealed annoyance in the White House. (TASS, January 23)

U.S. "New Globalism"

The architects of "new globalism", the doctrine of direct armed interference by the U.S., in an attempt to camouflage their hegemonistic designs, resort to propaganda gimmicks of all sorts to distort the situation by prattling about the "legitimacy" of the fight against "international terrorism", about the "need to ensure U.S. national security." ... This hegemonistic doctrine is a tool of crude, including armed, interference by the U.S. in the regions and parts of the world where the U.S. would like to establish its domination. (TASS, January 27)

Shuttle Explosion Investigation

... The White House will soon announce the setting up of an "independent group" to study the prospects for the U.S. space program in light of the Challenger disaster. ... It is evidently

the U.S. Administration's intent to launch a broad campaign to brainwash the country's public opinion with the aim of crushing the fears of Americans who believe that Challenger's fate is a serious warning to those who plan to deploy weapons systems in space. (TASS, January 31)

Reagan Remarks to Conservative Political Action Conference

... Reagan again turned to his pet theme -- anti-Sovietism and anti-Communism. He directed rude and wholesale criticism against the Soviet Union's foreign policy, ascribed "expansionist aims" to it, openly called for implementing American-style "freedom" throughout the world, including in socialist countries, and for giving every possible assistance to forces of counterrevolution and antisocial elements on the CIA's payroll. (TASS, January 31)

Savimbi Visit

Receiving this out-and-out terrorist in Washington, with honors befitting top statesmen, the Reagan Administration, for the umpteenth time, has shown its support for the undeclared war against Angola and its adherence to the policy of state terrorism. (TASS, January 31)

Haitian Unrest

... They in the U.S. clearly hope for a palace coup in Haiti under U.S. Embassy control that would make it possible to lower the momentum of the popular struggle and replace the butcher of the Haitian people with a less odious puppet. This would make it possible to preserve for the U.S. monopolies positions of diktat in that country. (TASS, January 31)

Rene Theodore, general secretary of the Central Committee of the United Party of Haitian Communists, has exposed the intentions of the U.S. to invade Haiti. (TASS, February 3)

State of The Union Address

... The American leader needed the false, totally groundless accusations against the Soviet Union in order to provide a propaganda justification for the course towards a further unrestricted escalation of the arms race.... One of the chief theses of the address is that America should and will arm itself, and that its course is the position-of-strength policy. In other words, the U.S. intends to follow the path which has already led mankind to an unprecedented arms race, to great disasters. (TASS, February 6)

Reagan Budget Message

So what is the course for the foreseeable future proposed in this message? Briefly, this course may be characterized as a program of unrestrained militarization and imperial globalism. (TASS, February 7)

Haiti

It is with U.S. connivance that the Duvalier tyranny subjected the local population to utter poverty and lawlessness. It is under this rule that this nation of 6 million people has been turned into a virtual island prison.... And it is a sad irony that a country that professes promotion of human rights around the world should have been the one to provide the Haitian dictator with a getaway plane and find him a safe haven. (Radio Moscow, February 7)

Grenada

Last spring President Reagan laid a wreath at a cemetery in Bitburg, Germany, where war criminals, members of the Nazi SS are buried. Now he is going to lay a wreath at a monument to the victors of Grenada, if victor is the right name for those who have trampled underfoot the sovereignty of a tiny country and have thrown it back many years. (Radio Moscow, February 19)

Without so much as a shade of embarrassment, the White House incumbent described an act of state terrorism -- the seizure of the tiny insular state of Grenada on which the Pentagon brought down the might of its intervention forces -- as the liberation "of the people of Grenada from the grip of tyranny." (TASS, February 23)

Philippines

The arguments about "defending democracy", the struggle against corruption, and the concern for justice are only camouflage, a propaganda screen for Washington's basic political goal: to keep its positions in the Philippines and to ensure tools of pressure on a country where events have recently developed that are patently not in the U.S. favor. This is precisely why the U.S. corridors of power are worrying, entire detachments of "arm-twisting" experts have been cast into the Philippines, and the forces of the Pentagon have begun to act. (Pravda, February 21)

U.S. Reply to Gorbachev Proposals

Judging by first press reports, the reply does not go farther than repeating the U.S.'s well-known nonconstructive stand in this matter which is of major importance to the destiny of the world. The reply, which constitutes a propaganda strategem designed to justify

Washington's unwillingness to take real steps along lines of ridding the world of the threat of nuclear annihilation, also pursues the aim of diverting attention from the Soviet proposals and of justifying the U.S. Administration's course towards further spiralling up the arms race. (TASS, February 24)

U.S. Response to Gorbachev Proposals

It must be clear to everyone that such horrible weapons ... must be eliminated and that there cannot be a thinking individual who would oppose the concept of a world without nuclear arms. But they in Washington think along different lines. The so-called "answer" to the Soviet initiatives, the "new" U.S. proposals, attest to a different thing. ... Everything has been done to place an insurmountable barrier to the solution of all problems. (TASS, March 3)

Duvalier, Marcos

However different the concrete social, economic, and political realities are in [Haiti and the Philippines], one should not deflect one's attention from the things common there, which are typical of Washington's policy and have come to be known as "the neoglobalism doctrine." Judging by everything, the lessons of history have been utterly lost on U.S. ruling quarters which continue looking at the world as if it were their baliwick. When they are compelled, for this or that reason, to get rid of reactionary puppets who have compromised themselves beyond salvage, they present this to the world as a "triumph of democracy" U.S.-style, while in fact trying to repeat the Haitian "voodoo" trick of reviving another "zombi" and forgetting in the process that the world has changed and does not want to lie down in the procrustian bed of American "doctrines." (TASS, March 3)

U.S. Aid to Contras

Those who are trying to restore the old order -- those who are killing Nicaraguan civilians, blowing up economic and civilian facilities -- enjoy Washington's unreserved support. And they stand to get an additional 100 million dollars for their campaign of terror. In other words, the U.S. aid package is to perpetuate bloodshed and suffering in Central America. (Radio Moscow, March 4)

Bush Task Force on Terrorism Report

"International terrorists" is a tag the U.S. Administration hangs on whole states, national liberation movements, and organizations as well as individuals opposing Washington's imperialist interventionist policies in various parts of the world. ... The task force's report furnished further evidence that the Reagan

Administration is going to flagrantly breach norms of international intercourse and even the legislation of the U.S. itself under the pretext of "combatting international terrorism." (TASS, March 7)

Habib Mission

Habib has long been known as a clever specialist in "diplomatic cover-ups" of Washington's foreign policy adventures and those of its allies in various parts of the world. The White House is trying to present Habib's appointment as proof of its desire to seek "diplomatic paths" to a settlement of the crisis in Central America, especially as regards Nicaragua. But the Administration's hypocrisy is evident. (TASS, March 7)

Cuts in Soviet UN Staff

Seeking to force changes in UN policy to meet Washington's interests, the U.S. does not stop short of raw pressure and blackmail or shrink from direct violations of its international commitments in a bid to work up an atmosphere around the UN which hinders the work of that authoritative international forum. (TASS, March 8)

U.S. Response to The Delhi-6 Test Ban Proposal

The reply of the U.S. Administration, which flatly rejected that major international initiative without going to the trouble of seriously examining it, shows that Washington is opposed in principle to the elimination of nuclear weapons. The U.S. stand also illustrates the hypocrisy of the White House, which calls for ridding mankind of the threat of nuclear war while carrying on strenuous preparations for such a war. (TASS, March 12)

Contra Aid Campaign

In the truly schizophrenic anti-Nicaraguan campaign that has been stirred up recently by the White House aimed at brainwashing Congress and U.S. public opinion, dirt is in abundance. But to be more precise, this whole campaign is an out and out stream of political filth. There are no falsifications, lies, or slander to which the leaders in Washington would not resort for the sake of implementing their mindless idea of reprisals against the Nicaraguan revolution, for the sake of overthrowing the Sandinist government and foisting upon the Nicaraguan people a new pro-U.S. regime similar to the Somoza tyranny. (TASS, March 17)

Philippines Situation

All the events [in the Philippines] are unfolding against a background of continuing pressure from the U.S., Japan, and other

imperialist states which are declaring their intentions of "assisting" the new government. However, the advice of these "helpers" amounts to attempts to channel the domestic economic, foreign economic, and foreign policy activities of the new Philippine authorities into unquestioning subordination to the international banks, multinational monopolies, and U.S. global strategic interests. (Izvestiia, March 21)

U.S.-Soviet Summit

... One thing is obvious. Washington over the past few weeks has been carrying out a planned campaign to worsen the international situation and to reduce to nothing the very possibility of another Soviet-American summit. (Radio Moscow, April 5)

Bush Trip To Near East

Using as a pretext the tensions which have emerged as a result of the protracted Iran-Iraq war, Washington is building up its military presence in the area of the Persian and Oman Gulfs. ... Obviously all the aims of the current tour of the American Vice President have nothing to do with the real interests of the Arab countries. (TASS, April 6)

U.S.-UN

In its attempt to complicate to the maximum the activity of the United Nations, to hamper the normal participation in it of sovereign countries, which pursue a policy unsuitable to the U.S., the U.S. Administration has recently taken a whole number of arbitrary unilateral steps in violation of both its own commitments to the UN and norms of international law. These are illegitimate demands made on a number of states concerning the size of their UN missions, the attacks on UNESCO and other specialized agencies which are not to Washington's liking, financial blackmail of the UN, the launching of slanderous campaigns against it in the press, and the moves to create an atmosphere of intimidation and terror around foreign diplomats accredited at its headquarters in New York. (TASS, April 8)

U.S. Attack on Libya

From words -- rude and inadmissible verbal attacks against Libya and its leadership, from military demonstrations and provocations against that sovereign and freedom-loving country -- Washington has moved to naked aggression. Neoglobalism, the American Administration's officially professed doctrine, has started speaking in its true tongue of bombs, flames and death. The very same tongue that Washington used when dealing with Vietnam as it scorched its people and land with napalm, the very same tongue that it is using

with free Nicaragua while sending hired killers, the Somozists, against its people, the tongue of aggression by means of which it made short shrift of Grenada. (TASS, April 15)

Reagan Chamber of Commerce Speech

Making recourse to high-flown style, Reagan spoke today about "a refreshing breeze" that is "felt across the face of mankind", about "winds of freedom" that "are blowing, clearing the air, opening the view of a new and wondrous horizon." But this bombastic style could not conceal a hard fact that by proclaiming as "freedom fighters" inveterate terrorists whose hands are stained with blood of innocent people, the U.S. Administration will be stepping up the support for bandits and will be demanding the same from "friends and allies". (TASS, April 23)

U.S. Foreign Policy

Washington's course of provoking regional conflicts ... is perilous to the whole world. When a great power, a member of the UN Security Council, is guided in its conduct by the law of the jungle rather than norms of international law, the security of everyone is called into question. Unlike the fabricated "Libyan threat", Washington's actions constitute a real threat to world peace. (TASS, April 23)

U.S.-Libya

The more the smoke of the fires caused by the U.S. air pirates' barbaric bombings of Tripoli and Benghazi clears, the thicker becomes the propaganda fog created by Washington in connection with this act of overt aggression, this glaring violation of international law and generally accepted human morality. ... Neither the smoke of the fires in Libya, nor the propaganda fog in Washington are able to conceal the true face of the aggressors; on the contrary, they expose them even more clearly as the large-caliber gangsters and liars they are. (Izvestiia, April 25)

Tokyo Summit

Under the pretext of community of interests, the U.S. intends to seek accord in Tokyo. But according to Washington's traditions, this will be done by means of pressure and diktat, with reliance on U.S. economic might which cannot but cause counteraction by U.S. allies. (TASS, April 28)

SDI

... As a result of this policy of the U.S. Administration, the USSR and the USA, their allies, the whole world will land in the near future in an absolutely uncontrolled arms race, in strategic chaos,

the most dangerous undermining of stability, universal uncertainty and fear and the resulting heightening of the risk of catastrophe. Those who push the U.S. on the road of "star wars" assume great responsibility not only to the American people, but also to the nations of the whole world -- they jeopardize mankind's very existence. (TASS, May 5)

Tokyo Summit Terrorism Declaration

Naturally, one could hardly expect that in discussing the problem of terrorism, the seven would make a proper assessment of Washington's state-sponsored terrorism which is practiced worldwide -- from Libya and Lebanon to Grenada and Nicaragua. "Western solidarity" did not allow the partners to rise above their class interests. But having condemned Libya and failing to condemn the U.S., they in fact sided with the imperialist policy of Washington and gave it the green light for new acts of state terrorism against other nations. (TASS, May 5)

Berlin Disco Bombing

The provocation of the blast at "La Belle" discotheque bears the clear fingerprints of the CIA. And these dirty traces cannot be erased by any attempts by Washington to shift responsibility for the terrorist act onto Libya, Syria, or any other country not to the liking of the White House. (TASS, May 8)

Chernobyl

Spreading allegations and falsehoods about the accident at [Chernobyl], they in Washington who orchestrate propaganda hullabaloo clearly miscalculated. Fanning up allegations about the accident -- which is insignificant in its scope compared to the menace with which nuclear war, the nuclear arms race, and creation of space strike weapons are fraught -- they showed that Washington's "cave-man's code" is utterly unacceptable for the nuclear-space epoch and poses mortal danger to humanity. (TASS, May 11)

U.S.-Israeli-Syrian Tension

The aggressors have the same scenario: at first accusations of "terrorist actions, then military preparations. The [Algerian newspaper Al Sha'b] calls attention in this context to the fact that Tel Aviv started its sabre-rattling right after the end of the Tokyo summit where the U.S. Administration literally egged its other participants on the struggle against "terrorism". This means in Washington's parlance a military strike at any country objectionable to it. (TASS, May 11)

Chemical Arms

The U.S. would like to flood the NATO countries in Europe with new weapons of mass annihilation. If the region is turned into a theater of fatal chemical warfare, civilians will inevitably become the main victims. The U.S. clearly hopes to ward off a strike of retaliation from its territory and place the territory and population of its allies under a strike of this kind. (Radio Moscow, May 12)

Geneva Promises

Washington has now taken practical steps to turn outer space into its military stronghold, to start an arms race there which would have unpredictable and irretrievable consequences. The fundamental agreement not to allow the militarization of space reached at the Soviet-American summit last November has been violated. One has to ask again and again, can the promises made by the Washington Administration be trusted? (Radio Moscow, May 14)

South African Raid

Analysts point out that Pretoria concert all such actions with the White House which regards the apartheid state as its main ally in conducting the doctrine of neoglobalism in Africa. (TASS, May 19)

U.S. Media on Chernobyl

In recent weeks the world has observed the shamefully cynical and dishonorable picture of the behavior of those circles in the U.S. and in certain NATO countries which set the tone for their political and propaganda machine. The signal came from Washington. ... They have balked at nothing -- supplying the press, radio, and TV with the most shameless fabrications in the guise of "information", palming the media off with crude falsifications, or producing fabrications of certain "eyewitnesses" who allegedly witnessed "horrors". (Pravda, May 22)

Nevada Nuclear Test

The world has been outraged by yet another nuclear blast at the testing range in Nevada. Ostentatiously ignoring public demands in its own country and abroad for an end to the nuclear arms race which poses a deadly threat to mankind, Washington presses on with its nuclear testing program. The world can clearly see once again that the USSR and the U.S. have opposite approaches to international affairs. (TASS, May 22)

U.S., UK South Africa UN veto

The U.S. and Britain, by having resorted to veto in the UN Security Council, have once again appeared before the whole world as the inspirers of state terrorism, as patrons and inciters of the bandit regime of the Republic of South Africa. ... By their actions, Washington and London only confirmed the conviction ... that the system of apartheid is being encouraged and kept intact by the political and economic support which South Africa's racist regime receives from some countries. (TASS, May 24)

SDI

The plans for overt space militarization are, of course, veiled with rhetoric for peace, intended for a most cynical and gross deception of public opinion, while in reality the U.S. Administration's whole military policy is directed at restoring former U.S. military superiority and upsetting the existing strategic military balance. (TASS, May 28)

UN Session on Africa

The so-called contribution of imperialism, above all American, to African affairs is not limited to economic diktat. It manifests itself in acts of aggression, in armed interference in home affairs of sovereign African states, in plots to overthrow progressive regimes, in fanning regional conflicts and seats of tension and in crimes of terrorists and mercenaries. These are bombs and missiles blasting schools and nurseries in Tripoli and Banghazi, these are hundreds of killed and wounded women and children, these are also attacks of trigger-happy South African racists on Zambia, Zimbabwe and Botswana. These are millions of dollars for the upkeep of UNITA and other anti-government terrorist units bringing suffering and death to innocent Africans. (TASS, May 28)

U.S. SALT II Decision

The U.S. Administration, of all ... possible actions regarding the strategic arms limitation treaties and agreements, adopted precisely the one which undermines the foundation of the process for limiting and reducing such arms. Confronted with the choice of whether it should moderate its own arms programs or open the floodgate to an uncontrolled arms race, Washington preferred the latter. (Pravda, June 1)

Bern Human Contacts Meeting

The U.S. has shown its utter disregard for the interests of Europe, for the needs and aspirations of millions of people. It ultimately showed that the talk about human contacts and human rights is

nothing more for the U.S. than a smokescreen under which to stage anti-communist campaigns and psychological warfare. (TASS, June 2)

U.S. SALT Decision

Everything that has been attained and has become the foundation of more or less normal relations between our countries, no matter how tense, is now questioned. These are first of all SALT I and SALT II and also the ABM agreement. The U.S. scraps all these documents. ... So it seems that the two countries will have little left to their credit as far as the development of relations between them is concerned. (Radio Moscow, June 6)

Terrorism

It seems clear that in order to put an end to international terrorism, it is necessary to determine its root causes and remove them. What are these root causes? They are crisis and conflict situations engendered by the policy of neocolonialism, racism, foreign intervention -- in other words, by everything that is the essence of the imperialist policy of the U.S. and some of its allies (TASS, June 6)

Waldheim Election

It is noteworthy that the U.S. Administration and Zionist circles resorted to flagrant interference in the pre-election struggle and launched a campaign of personal hostile attacks against Waldheim in an attempt to influence the outcome of the presidential elections. ... The unseemly undertaking of the Zionists and their patrons in the Washington Administration has been viewed among UN circles as one of the components of "psychological warfare" launched by Zionist forces and the government of the U.S. against the United Nations in order to discredit the world body. (TASS, June 8)

State Department Human Rights Reports

As was the case more than once in the past, the fresh campaign being started by the U.S. foreshadows turbid streams of lies and slanders against the socialist countries and the staging of anti-Soviet shows at the highest levels. ... The concept and definition of human rights has proved to be distorted beyond recognition This hypocritical policy particularly clearly manifests itself in the foreign policy pursued by the White House, where under the cover of "defense of human rights" the U.S. Government supports regimes and groupings which openly reject democracy and freedom. But these regimes and groups are Washington's best friends, while money actually taken away from the American poor is spent on arms and support for the oppressors of democracy and freedom. (TASS, June 10)

U.S. "Peace Rhetoric"

So as we see, Washington's intentions should be judged by its actions rather than by the Reagan Administration's peace rhetoric. And these actions show that the escalation of the offensive arms race and reliance on global U.S. military superiority have always underlaid Washington's approach to international problems. (Radio Moscow, June 12)

West German Prisoners in Nicaragua

U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz, trying to white-wash crimes perpetrated by CIA mercenary gangs in Nicaragua, made absurd charges against the eight West German internationalist builders who had been held by Somozist killers as hostages for 24 days. ... While holding forth on their commitment to "war on international terrorism", the U.S. leaders did not move a finger to secure the release of the hostages, whose lives were in mortal danger. (TASS, June 15)

U.S. Veto of S. Africa Sanctions

With this veto, the U.S. and Britain oppose themselves to the overwhelming majority of Security Council members and practically the entire world community. This has happened many times. ... The U.S., Britain, and other Western powers that are not so openly pro-racist do not want changes in South Africa because the apartheid regime safely protects their political, economic, and military-strategic interests. That is why they maintain close trade and economic ties with the regime and continue to arm it. (TASS, June 19)

Reagan Receptions for Contras, Afghans

The fact that the mercenary leaders were received as important political personalities was a deliberate act of provocation. The Washington Administration will willingly strike a deal even with the devil just to have an opportunity to intervene with brute force, terror, and subversion in the internal affairs of states following independent policies. (TASS, June 19)

Reagan Glassboro Speech

The President's speech is, as usual, crammed with anti-Soviet cliches about a "promise" supposedly given by the CPSU "to subordinate the whole world to communist supremacy", about Soviet expansionism, totalitarianism, and so forth. (Pravda, June 23)

Contadora Process

The U.S. Administration is seeking to thwart the Contadora Group's efforts to achieve a peaceful settlement in Central America while laying the blame on the Nicaraguan government. ... The U.S. Administration, however, in banking on raw force, is not going to agree to a peaceful settlement of the Central American conflict. (TASS, June 23)

Geneva Space Weapons Talks

We are forced to note with regret that all the efforts made by the Soviet delegation to move the negotiations from their present deadlock have not yet received support from the U.S. delegation, and that all the responsibility for the absence of positive results at the negotiations on nuclear and space armaments lies fully with the U.S. side. (TASS, June 26)

Contra Aid

Under massive White House pressure, the House of Representatives ... voted to allocate 100 million dollars to the gangs of Somoza cutthroats that are active on Nicaraguan territory. The U.S. Administration is waging its undeclared war against sovereign Nicaragua through this CIA army that Washington attempts to portray as "freedom fighters". (TASS, June 26)

U.S. Attitude Toward Disarmament

Since coming to power in 1980, the Reagan Administration has not undertaken a single step toward disarmament. On the contrary, it has been pursuing a policy of building up the U.S. nuclear potential, ... with a view to gaining an edge over the Soviet Union. The Administration frustrates all chances, however slight, to achieve agreements with the Soviet Union on limiting and reducing armaments. (TASS, July 1)

U.S. Independence Day

Proclaiming the U.S. to be "the standard-bearer of freedom", the U.S. Administration at the same time flouts genuine freedom and independence of peoples wherever U.S. aircraft carriers and bombers can reach, wherever U.S. Marines can land. Thus Grenada was crushed, bombs were dropped on peaceful people of Tripoli and Banghazi, Lebanese peaceful villages were shelled from guns of the New Jersey battleship. Now the best allies of the White House -- the Pretoria racists and Pinochet men -- throw gas bombs at real fighters for freedom and fundamental human rights, set dogs on them, shoot them dead. And representatives of the Pretoria racists and the Pinochet regime will be present as guests of honor at tomorrow's celebrations in New York. (TASS, July 3)

Geneva Space Arms Talks

The U.S. proposals submitted on November 1 last year directly concerning strategic offensive arms form no basis for the adoption of a mutually acceptable solution. They are aimed at one-sided military advantages for the U.S. and are in fact proposals not for the reduction of nuclear arsenals but for their buildup, and, moreover, in directions that are considered advantageous in Washington. Nonetheless, they continue there to adhere doggedly to this wittingly dead-end stance, hypocritically declaring that the USSR has allegedly not given a suitable response. (Pravda, July 4)

Geneva Human Rights Meeting

As far as Washington is concerned, it ignores the [Human Rights] Committee decisions and its work and is still unwilling to participate in an international pact on civil and political rights. Official Washington loves to act as a "champion" of human rights, but, in fact, is an opponent of international cooperation aimed at encouraging universal respect of human rights and basic freedoms for all, without any discrimination whatsoever. (TASS, July 8)

Philippine Coup Attempt

... The U.S. is watching with alarm the growth of the movement in the Philippines against U.S. bases and is afraid that these antiwar feelings may be reflected (even on a small scale) in the new constitution In such a situation any rocking of the boat or destabilization of the country ... is viewed by the independent republic's enemies as a "natural ally" and an additional means of pressuring the present government and its supporters. Thus, even if official Washington continues to express sympathy for the current president, that does not exclude the possibility ... that it is playing some kind of game. (Pravda, July 8)

Helms visit To Chile

Helms' visit to Chile shows that the U.S., which installed Pinochet in power by engineering the overthrow of the popular unity government of President Salvador Allende, remains the general's loyal friend. Small wonder that Pinochet, inspired by such support, announced yesterday that he was not going to renounce the presidency, usurped by him, at least til 1997. (TASS, July 12)

Namibia Conference

... The decisions of the international community may, as in the past, remain only a paper if the USA and its allies carry on the policy of encouraging the crimes of apartheid, continue attempts at preventing the granting of genuine independence to Namibia. (TASS, July 12)

Pakistani PM Visit To U.S.

The fact is that over the years, Pakistan has been a special base for waging an undeclared war against Afghanistan, and this is the only base within reach of the U.S. The Reagan Administration is applying a tested method to take advantage of this base in the future as well -- and hence Pakistan has been promised four million dollars in aid. (Radio Moscow Urdu, July 18)

Nicaraguan Revolution Anniversary

The independent policy of Nicaragua and its efforts aimed at building a society of social justice evoke hatred in the U.S. ruling circles. In a futile attempt to destroy the Sandinista people's revolution, the present U.S. Administration unleashed a dirty war against the Nicaraguan people which claimed the lives of thousands of citizens of the Republic. Mercenary terrorists recruited by the CIA from among Somoza punitive troops penetrate Nicaragua from the territories of neighboring countries in order to kill defenseless peasants, burn their homes and crops, destroy everything that was created in the years of people's power. However, despite the crimes committed by the Somoza supporters and the military assistance rendered to them by Washington which is running into millions of dollars, the revolution stood its ground. (TASS, July 19)

Anti-Drug Operations In Bolivia

Speaking in an interview to The New York Times, Jacobo Liebermann, an advisor to the Bolivian president, said "We would have liked assistance of a different nature entirely run by the Bolivians. But instead we got the invasion of Normandy." The decision of the president taken without the approval of the National Congress and the fact of Washington's interference in the internal affairs of an independent state drew strong protests from broad political and public circles in Bolivia. (TASS, July 21)

Hassan-Peres Talks

Observers believe that in actual fact the point at issue is a fresh attempt of Israel and the U.S. ... to force on the Arab nations the capitulatory versions of a Middle East settlement according to the Camp David scenario, which has been resolutely rejected by the Arabs. The point at issue is, apparently, the striving of the imperialist and Zionist circles to draw new countries into separate deals to the detriment of the vital interests of the Arab peoples. These efforts are being made at a time when the Israeli aggressors, far from displaying preparedness to withdraw troops from the captured Arab lands, are clearly leading things to a perpetuation of the occupation regime and annexation of new territories. (TASS, July 22)

AIDS

U.S. soldiers are actively spreading the disease abroad. There are several hundred cases in the FRG and the number is increasing each week by 6-7 people. ... The U.S. press is publishing a mass of material alleging that the origin of the disease is in Africa, while in fact there are only 10,000 cases there -- almost 15 times less than in the U.S. army. In the opinion of Christopher Williams, a well-known virologist at the Nigerian university of Ibadan, AIDS is a rare variant of a retrovirus encountered in African countries, but its transformation occurred outside of Africa. In the USA, big business is engaged in bacteriological warfare; for example, 34 leading warfare centers, with 73 branch organizations, are engaged in creating such weapons. (Sovetskaia Rossiia, June 8)

Director Wick

Wick and his masters are frightened by the truth about the Soviet Union, the truth of ideas of peace and socialism, democracy and progress. And so they try to suppress it (the lie is the most loathsome form of suppression). Yes, it is you who are afraid of our truth, Mr. Wick. It is you, despite all your vows and assurances, who is impeding the strengthening of friendship and cooperation between our peoples. (Izvestiia, June 7)

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

July 28, 1986

Dear Charlie:

Friday's meeting here at the White House was a good one, and I know you and I were on the same wave length. I appreciate your lending your support, and together we'll go for a breakthrough.

Again, thanks.

Best regards,



Larry Speakes
Deputy Press Secretary
to the President

The Honorable Charles Wick
Director
United States Information Agency
Washington, D.C.



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MEMORANDUM FOR: The Honorable
Larry M. Speakes
Assistant to the President and
Principal Deputy Press Secretary
The White House

FROM: Charles Z. Wick *CZW*
Director

SUBJECT: West European Opinion on the SALT II
Interim Restraint Approach

The attached West European survey results, compiled by the Agency's Research Office, show surprising public support in France and Britain for the U.S. interim restraint policy.

The flash telephone survey, conducted over the weekend of June 6-8, shows that:

- o Of those with an opinion: a majority of the French believe that if Moscow has violated arms control agreements, the U.S. should stop observing the agreements or observe only parts of them; half the British agree. But West Germans say the U.S. should continue to observe agreements.
- o However, the belief that the Soviets have violated existing agreements is not widespread. And only a handful think the Soviet violations make any military difference. Large numbers simply haven't heard enough to say.

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SW 3/1/18

Foreign Opinion Note

United States Information Agency
Washington, D.C. 20547



Office of Research

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Flash Survey Results:

June 12, 1986

FRENCH PUBLIC ACCEPTS INTERIM RESTRAINT APPROACH; BRITISH SPLIT EVENLY, GERMANS OPPOSE

USIA-sponsored telephone surveys June 6-8 in Britain, France and West Germany suggest surprising public support in France and Britain for the U.S. interim restraint policy, announced May 27:

- o Of those with an opinion, a majority of the French say that if Moscow has violated arms control agreements, the United States should stop observing those agreements or observe only parts of them. Half the British with an opinion agree. The West Germans generally want the U.S. to continue observing arms agreements even if Moscow has violated them. (Table 1)
- o Majorities in Britain and France (by 2-1 and 3-1) would favor delaying a new arms control agreement with Moscow if the Soviet Union has violated existing arms control accords. Germans overwhelmingly would oppose such a policy of delay. (Table 2)
- o There is widespread unawareness of Soviet violations. Only one-quarter to about one-half of the publics know the Soviet Union has violated existing arms control agreements. Even fewer think the Soviet violations make any military difference. (Table 3)
- o Between 40-65 percent haven't heard enough to say whether the U.S. or the USSR have or have not violated "existing arms control agreements"; one-quarter to one-half think both the U.S. and USSR have violated them. (Table 4)

Nuclear testing: widespread support for an agreement, even if not fully verifiable

The idea of a moratorium on all testing of nuclear weapons is widely popular, even though half in each country think the Soviet proposal was "mainly for propaganda purposes":

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SW 5/1/88

- o Even if it is not possible to detect all violations, at least 75 percent in each country favor a comprehensive U.S.-Soviet test ban agreement. (Table 5)
- o March polls showed that Europeans gave lower priority to a test ban than to reducing nuclear missiles. The March and June polls, taken together, suggest that a test ban may be widely supported but as a secondary objective.

Chernobyl cover-up leads to public desire for on-site inspection of arms accords

Virtually everyone in these three countries has heard about the April 26 Chernobyl nuclear power plant accident, and:

- o More than 80 percent in each country believe the Soviets "covered up important facts related to the accident."
- o Over 80 percent also agree that the Soviet handling of the accident has "increased the need for on-site inspections under future arms control agreements." (Table 6)

Prepared by:
P/R Staff

N-6/12/86

Approved by:
Nils H. Wessell, Director

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TABLE 1

If the Soviet Union has violated existing arms control agreements, what do you think the U.S. should do -- continue to observe the agreements, observe only parts of the agreements, or stop observing the agreements entirely?

| | <u>Britain</u> | <u>Germany</u> | <u>France</u> |
|---|----------------|----------------|---------------|
| <u>Those with an opinion:</u> | | | |
| Continue to observe | 48% | 65% | 42% |
| Observe only parts | 23 | 25 | 27 |
| | 52 | 35 | 58 |
| Stop observing | <u>29</u> | <u>10</u> | <u>31</u> |
| | 100% | 100% | 100% |
| Proportion of Total Sample Who Don't Know | 17% | 9% | 17% |

TABLE 2

If the Soviet Union has violated existing arms control agreements, would you favor or oppose delaying a new arms control agreement until the Soviets have corrected their violations?

| | <u>Britain</u> (973) | <u>Germany</u> (500) | <u>France</u> (509) |
|-----------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| Favor delaying | 54% | 24% | 59% |
| Oppose delaying | 26 | 63 | 17 |
| Don't know | <u>19</u> | <u>13</u> | <u>24</u> |
| | 99% | 99% | 100% |

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TABLE 3

As far as you know, has the Soviet Union observed existing agreements on arms control or has it violated these agreements, or haven't you heard enough to say?

[IF VIOLATED:] Would you say these violations have given the Soviet Union important military advantages over the United States or haven't they made much difference militarily?

| | <u>Britain</u> (953) | <u>Germany</u> (500) | <u>France</u> (509) |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| Observed | 10% | 12% | 8% |
| Violated: but little difference | 16 | 20 | 17 |
| with military advantage | 7 | 20 | 17 |
| not sure what effect | 3 | 8 | 11 |
| | <u>26</u> | <u>48</u> | <u>45</u> |
| Haven't heard enough to say | <u>65</u> | <u>40</u> | <u>47</u> |
| | 100% | 100% | 100% |

TABLE 4

As far as you know, has the United States (Soviet Union) observed existing agreements on arms control or has it violated these agreements, or haven't you heard enough to say?

| | <u>Britain</u> (973) | <u>Germany</u> (500) | <u>France</u> (509) |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| <u>United States</u> | | | |
| Observed | 9% | 18% | 14% |
| Violated | 29 | 42 | 38 |
| Not Heard Enough to Say | <u>62</u> | <u>41</u> | <u>48</u> |
| | 100% | 101% | 100% |
| <u>Soviet Union</u> | | | |
| Observed | 10% | 12% | 8% |
| Violated | 26 | 48 | 45 |
| Haven't heard enough to say | <u>65</u> | <u>40</u> | <u>47</u> |
| | 101% | 100% | 100% |

TABLE 5

If it is not possible to detect all violations of a nuclear test ban would you favor or oppose a U.S.-Soviet agreement to ban all nuclear tests?

| | <u>Britain</u> (973) | <u>Germany</u> (500) | <u>France</u> (509) |
|------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| Favor agreement | 80% | 74% | 79% |
| Oppose agreement | 10 | 19 | 9 |
| Don't know | <u>10</u> 100% | <u>7</u> 100% | <u>12</u> 100% |

TABLE 6

Do you agree or disagree that the Soviet Union's handling of the Chernobyl nuclear accident has increased the need for on-site inspections under future arms control agreements?

| | <u>Britain</u> (973) | <u>Germany</u> (500) | <u>France</u> (509) |
|------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| Agree | 85% | 91% | 82% |
| Disagree | 4 | 6 | 4 |
| Don't know | <u>10</u> 99% | <u>2</u> 99% | <u>14</u> 100% |



May 22, 1986

Dear Larry:

Thank you so much for your very thoughtful letter of May 14.

Your kind words concerning the support USIA provided the Office of the Press Secretary during the President's trip to Indonesia and Japan are greatly appreciated by us all. It is very nice of you to always take the time to express your appreciation for the individual contributions made by the men and women of USIA. Please be assured that we have shared your considerate letter with everyone who provided you with assistance.

Kindest regards.

Sincerely,

Charles Z. Wick

The Honorable
Larry Speakes
Deputy Press Secretary
to the President
The White House



April 14, 1986

Dear Larry:

The Voice of America's new broadcast service to Europe went on the air last October and already has attracted a wide audience and favorable press attention.

As this recent article in Stars and Stripes explains, VOA-Europe has been a means to counter "propaganda and disinformation" about the United States with which government officials in Western Europe felt their countries were being bombarded.

Our public surveys show that young Europeans have an especially negative view of the United States and VOA-Europe is working to counter those misperceptions. I thought you might be interested in reading about this newest U.S. Information Agency initiative which we believe will make a constructive contribution toward strengthening the Atlantic Alliance.

Sincerely,

Charles Z. Wick
Director

The Honorable
Larry M. Speakes
Assistant to the President and Principal
Deputy Press Secretary
The White House

VOA broadcasts America to Europe

Stories and photos
by CHARLIE BOWDEN
Munich bureau

MUNICH — Born of an idea mentioned in a speech nearly a decade ago, a fledgling radio station that signed on in October has grown into a beacon that by the end of March could reach a potential audience of more than 26 million people in Western Europe.

Says the station's jingle: "We're an idea whose time has come — we're VOA-Europe."

VOA-Europe broadcasts in English from studios in Washington. It first went live by satellite to Paris for re-transmission via FM in October. In January, after 25 years of silence, the Munich headquarters came alive on medium wave frequency (AM) 1197 with 300,000 watts of power, six times as much as the strongest radio station in the United States.

Depending on weather conditions, the station's signal can reach as far as England, Scandinavia and Rome during its three broadcast times: 8 a.m. to noon, 2 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. and 1 a.m. to 3 a.m.

Director Frank Scott, lured from a top-level position with NBC Radio News, says this is only the beginning.

"The theory is (to) have a signal that covers Western Europe in one form or another," Scott said. This could mean FM radio, medium wave, cable radio, long wave or possibly in the future by direct broadcast satellite.

"We're in the process of developing that pattern and we optimistically say that, 'yes, eventually anybody in Western Europe will be able to hear it,' but we can't say exactly when or what the frequency will be."

The Voice of America stopped broadcasting to "friendly" nations in the 1950s when cuts in funds shut down that capability in favor of concentrating on putting a signal behind the Iron Curtain.

"VOA broadcasts in 42 languages plus worldwide in English," Scott said. "But it is primarily on the shortwave band and historically has broadcast to captive nations, not so much the free Western world."

In the 1970s, however, a move began among some U.S. officials toward once again broadcasting to friendly nations. In a 1977 speech marking the 35th anniversary of Voice of America, then-director Kenneth Giddens said, "We must get back to broadcasting to our friends."

Scott, in recounting the genesis of VOA-Europe, said: "There was a growing feeling among government officials that the countries in Western Europe were being bombarded with propaganda and disinformation and we were doing very little to counter it, that we really weren't doing anything to tell them about Amer-



Frank Scott is on the air from Munich.

ica. There was a feeling that the younger generation did not know that we shared a common sense of values and that we were a very similar people."

Congress first approved the idea of starting VOA-Europe in English during the Carter administration but did not fund it until fiscal 1984.

Ester Scott, with nearly 30 years as a journalist, programmer and broadcaster. His task: Get the station on the air.

But the station, actually a network of affiliate stations, needed a format and programming and listeners. That meant research, if it were to be done right.

"In the U.S., if you start a radio station, you need to do

a pretty healthy piece of market research to determine how to get your message across successfully," he said.

"We've taken a similar tack in that we did a major piece of marketing research in Europe to discover how Europeans of various ages and backgrounds think, what their interests are, their knowledge of the United States, and their attitudes toward the U.S. That gives us a handle on programming needs. What about the U.S. should we be telling them?"

Although the results are not all in, the preliminary research data gave VOA-Europe a focal point.

"We hear from Europeans that they know about New York, and a fair amount about Washington and California — and 'Dallas' and 'Dynasty.' But they really don't know much about average Americans, and that's what they said. They said, 'We'd like to know how an average American lives.'"

Another finding was that young Europeans apparently don't realize how much Americans trace their cultural ties to other countries.

"A lot of Europeans think that Americans have no cultural ties at all," Scott said. "They don't know that we're a country of people from other countries. And, even though it might have been 200 years ago, we still know that our ancestors came from Ireland or Vietnam or Germany."

"That's important, and that's part of the VOA job and always has been. What is America? What's it all about? We'll tell them that. And we're going to do it with a lot of entertainment and a lot of things that people here want to hear."

A crucial decision made early in the development of VOA-Europe was to stay away from shortwave broadcasting frequencies.

"We weren't going to be able to broadcast in shortwave and get many Western Europeans listening to us," said Scott.

"Shortwave is almost an elitist game, just as it is in the United States. Not rich people, or socially prominent people, but a relatively small group of people who are fascinated with international broadcasting. So they listen to shortwave."

He estimated that less than 1 percent of the people of a Western country listen to shortwave broadcasts.

VOA-Europe's audience is apparent at once. Its sound is Top 40, its format upbeat and informative, its announcers among the best.

"Our format is what we would call in the States a full-service contemporary hit radio station, although there's nothing quite like it in the States," Scott said.

"Most full-service stations don't play contemporary hit music, they get into the softer sounds. We're playing what is the new term for rock 'n roll, or Top 40. We're playing the charts, but we are also heavy into news and current affairs programming."

Rounding out the programming are specialty shows such as American Top 40 with Casey Kasem, American Country Countdown with Bob Kingsley, Willis Conover's House of Sounds (jazz) and Ray Freeman's Love Songs.

"All that makes us full service, but the backbone of our music is contemporary," he said.

But, as another jingle says, "We're music and more." The "more" is a mixture of news and information, sprinkled with short Americana features, European weather information, listings of cultural and recreation events and interviews with well-known Americans and Europeans.

From the downtown Munich building that once housed the U.S. Consulate, the VOA-Europe staff coordinates correspondent activities and makes assignments for reporting in Europe. Also handled from Munich are negotiations with other governments when necessary to get affiliate stations signed on.

Ross Petzing, who started with VOA 20 years ago before becoming a career Foreign Service officer, handles much of the planning and coordination for the station's rapidly developing plans for expansion.

"We're pioneering new ground in the radio broadcast field," said Petzing, "and spreading like an ink blot." Much of the new ground is with the abundant and growing use of cable radio systems in Western Europe.

In addition to the Paris FM broadcasts, the Munich transmitter and an FM transmitter in Berlin, VOA-Europe already is on five cable radio systems in Germany. Other FM stations are scheduled to go on the air soon near Geneva, Switzerland, and Milan, Italy.

Negotiations are under way for FM transmission from Rome and with cable systems in Belgium, the Netherlands and Norway.

"We're only just beginning to scratch the surface (for expansion)," said Scott, "and we've got the product to do it."

Reliable, objective, comprehensive

MUNICH — Every day that the new VOA-Europe is on the air broadcasting its upbeat message of Top 40 music, it's also sending another more subtle message to its potential audience of millions: truth.

"The big difference in stations such as VOA, the BBC, Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty, and the station Radio Moscow, is that we're charged with dealing in the truth," said VOA-Europe director Frank Scott. "Radio Moscow has no such charge."

VOA-Europe, on the air since October but in planning for nearly five years, follows the same credo adhered to by its big brother, the Voice of America.

"The purpose of VOA is to tell the world about America and to tell it in all of its facets, good and bad, and in all of its many aspects of society, not just one particular aspect," Scott said.

The former NBC Radio vice president discounts as "unfounded" some criticism that the station is just a propaganda tool. He maintains that music is the jelly used to get across the bread-and-butter message of news and information about America.

"On VOA we don't pull any punches; we report evenly on events affecting the United States and the rest of the world," he said. "We're the only news-gathering organization in the United States, and one of the few in the world, that by law must be objective news reporters."

That requirement was formalized by Congress and made a part of VOA's charter in 1976, Scott said. The succinctly worded charter lists three basic and overriding principles:

- VOA will serve as a consistently reliable and authoritative source of news, which will be accurate, objective and comprehensive.

- VOA will represent America, not any single seg-



Nikki Miller writes the daily cultural calendar.

ment of American society, and will present a balanced and comprehensive projection of significant American thought and institutions.

- VOA will present the policies of the United States clearly and effectively and will also present responsible discussion and opinion on these policies.

On VOA-Europe, subject to the same charter, the news is a mix of items generated from its own small staff and that of VOA, one of the largest news-gathering organizations in the world. Sprinkled throughout the news and music on VOA-Europe are short "Americana" items designed to tell listeners in Western Europe what it's like to be an average American.

The programming, like that of VOA but on a smaller scale, also features commentaries, clearly identified as representing the official view of the U.S. government.



March 24, 1986

Dear Larry:

Thank you so much for your very thoughtful letter concerning USIA support for the President's October 31, 1985 interview with Soviet journalists.

It was very nice of you to take the time to extol the VOA and America magazine staffs. I am taking the liberty of sharing your kind letter with all the people involved in the historic undertaking. You are a very classy guy! Your ongoing thoughtfulness is greatly appreciated by us all.

Thanks again for thinking of us. Your letter really made our day.

Best wishes.

Sincerely,

Charles Z. Wick

The Honorable
Larry M. Speakes
Principal Deputy Press Secretary
to the President
The White House



~~LIMITED OFFICIAL USE~~

APR 11 1986

MEMORANDUM FOR: The Honorable
Larry M. Speakes
Assistant to the President and
Principal Deputy Press Secretary
The White House

FROM: Charles Z. Wick
Director *cw*

SUBJECT: West European Public Opinion on Libya and
Terrorism

The attached West European attitude survey results, compiled by the Agency's Research Office, are from a USIA-commissioned telephone survey in Britain, France and West Germany conducted April 4-9 (both before and after the West Berlin bombing).

Results from this survey show that:

- o Libya is the country most frequently named as supporting terrorism in Western Europe.
- o An overwhelming majority of Germans and about half of the British would not approve of U.S. military action against Libya even if there was reasonably good evidence the Libya was behind a terrorist attack. But the U.S. would enjoy plurality support in France for such action.

~~LIMITED OFFICIAL USE~~

SSW 3/1/88

Foreign Opinion Note

United States Information Agency
Washington, D.C. 20547



Office of Research

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

April 11, 1986

BRITISH, FRENCH AND GERMANS SEE LIBYA AS PUBLIC ENEMY NUMBER ONE;
BUT ONLY FRENCH SUPPORT MILITARY RESPONSE TO TERRORISM

Final results from USIA-commissioned general public telephone surveys in Britain, France and West Germany conducted April 4-9 (both before and after the West Berlin bombing) indicate that:

- o Libya is the country most frequently named as supporting terrorism in Western Europe.
- o However, even if there was reasonably good evidence that Libya was behind a terrorist attack, an overwhelming majority of Germans (78%) and about half of the British still would disapprove of U.S. military action against Libya. But the U.S. would enjoy plurality support in France for such action. (See Table 1)
- o At the same time, a majority in all three countries feel the U.S. was justified in imposing economic sanctions against Libya. But only in France did a majority think that European governments should have followed suit.
- o More generally, when Libya is not specifically mentioned, few in all three countries champion the use of preventive or retaliatory military force against any countries that may harbor or support terrorists. In fact even if economic and diplomatic efforts failed, half or more in Britain and Germany would not approve of military action against terrorist targets in unnamed countries. However, in France half would approve of military action if economic and diplomatic efforts failed. (See Table 2)
- o Large majorities believe that terrorist acts are primarily committed by organized international groups.
- o Majorities everywhere are pessimistic that terrorism can be fought successfully.

Prepared by: Steven K. Smith, Analyst

Approved by: Nils H. Wessell, Director
Office of Research, 485-2965

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SSW 3/1/88

TABLE 1. ATTITUDES ON MILITARY ACTION AGAINST LIBYA

If there is reasonably good evidence that Libya was behind a new terrorist attack, would you approve or disapprove of a U.S. military action against Libya?

| | <u>BRITAIN</u> | <u>FRANCE</u> | <u>GERMANY</u> |
|------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| Approve | 37% | 45% | 17% |
| Disapprove | 47 | 36 | 78 |
| Don't know | <u>16</u> 100% | <u>19</u> 100% | <u>5</u> 100% |

TABLE 2. SUPPORT FOR MILITARY ACTION IF ECONOMIC AND DIPLOMATIC MEASURES FAIL

Suppose that diplomatic and economic measures against a foreign country that supports terrorism do not have the desired effect. In that case would you approve or disapprove of the United States or other major powers then taking military action against clearly identified terrorist targets in that country?

| | <u>BRITAIN</u> | <u>FRANCE</u> | <u>GERMANY</u> |
|----------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| Approve of military action | 36% | 51% | 20% |
| Disapprove of action | 50 | 33 | 74 |
| Don't know | <u>14</u> 100% | <u>16</u> 100% | <u>6</u> 100% |

**United States
Information
Agency**

Washington, D C 20547

Director



March 20, 1986

Dear Ed:

Just a note to tell you how excited we all are with the reports we are receiving concerning your briefings at the Washington Foreign Press Center.

These briefings are characterized as "...continued to attract almost 100 foreign correspondents and received ravish praise."

We are proud of you, and proud of this additional resource we are able to provide for the Administration's voice.

Best wishes.

Sincerely,

Charles Z. Wick

Mr. Edward P. Djerejian
Deputy Press Secretary for
Foreign Affairs
The White House

BCC: Mr. Larry Speakes ✓

*Ed. Good!
Show! We're
offering a service
that's never been
done!*

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

Dear Charlie:

Before too much dust has settled on the events surrounding the President's Geneva meeting with Gorbachev, I wanted to be sure to let you know that two offices in USIA provided magnificent support for the President's October 31 interview with Soviet journalists. When we decided to give the Soviets a Russian language version of the President's written and oral responses, VOA and America magazine took on the task with very short notice and under considerable time pressure.

The written questions were initially translated by the State Department, but we needed to edit the State draft and reproduce it in professional fashion. VOA's USSR division head, Mark Pomar, with Nataliya Clarkson and Ivan Hrapunov, helped with the editing. Then we turned to the America magazine staff, which not only provided final editing but reproduced the entire text on their A-Tec system. The final product was professionally printed.

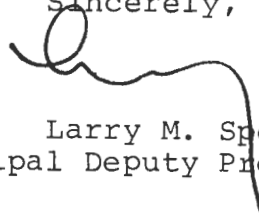
We were not surprised by the quality of the VOA and America work, but when you consider that America did not get the text until 8 p.m., and the final version had to be turned over to the Soviets the following morning, we think their efforts deserve special mention. America editor Bob Poteete, along with Ilya Suslov, Edward Lyakovich, and Michael Mikkalo, worked through the night to complete the task.

Not satisfied with that performance, the two staffs undertook the next evening to translate, edit, and print the President's oral answers to TASS questions. This was another all night operation with an even shorter deadline. The transcript was available at 5 p.m. and had to be in Soviet hands by 9 a.m. The VOA staff, bolstered by Barbara Cummins, prepared the translation and shuttled the answers to America, which edited, typed and printed the final version. The America staff was augmented by Leonard and Elena Cox and Michael Mackenzie, but basically the same crew worked through another night.

Both written and oral responses were prepared in the highest professional manner. Your staff pitched in to help with exceptional good grace and humor, taking on an extremely important task under very tight constraints. They saved the day, and their performance should not go unnoted.

With best wishes.

Sincerely,



Larry M. Speakes
Principal Deputy Press Secretary

The Honorable Charles Z. Wick, Director
United States Information Agency
400 C Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20547

3/18

Connie Romero —

Attached is a new copy of the
Wick letter we discussed on the phone
and a copy of the original package.
I made some minor cosmetic changes
in the letter to reflect the passage of
time. We greatly appreciate your help
in acknowledging the efforts of these
USA staffers. Thanks! J. Pennell X6959

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20501

MEMORANDUM FOR LARRY M. SPEAKES

FROM: WILLIAM F. MARTIN

SUBJECT: Letter of Acknowledgment to Charles Wick

Attached at Tab A is a proposed letter to Charles Wick acknowledging the outstanding work of USIA staff in preparing Russian language versions of the President's written and oral interviews with Soviet journalists. On two successive nights the USIA staffers worked until after 3 a.m. to prepare timely, accurate translations of the President's comments. They have truly earned the attached letter of thanks.

Attachment:

Tab A Proposed letter to Charles Wick



THE WHITE HOUSE:

WASHINGTON.

Dear Charlie:

I wanted to let you know that two offices in USIA provided magnificent support for the President's October 31 interview with Soviet journalists. When we decided to give the Soviets a Russian language version of the President's written and oral responses, VOA and America magazine took on the task with very short notice and under considerable time pressure.

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-2-

Both written and oral responses were prepared in the highest professional manner. Your staff pitched in to help with exceptional good grace and humor, taking on an extremely important task under very tight constraints. They saved the day, and their performance should not go unnoted.

With best wishes.

Sincerely,

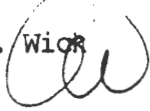
Larry M. Speakes
Principal Deputy Press Secretary

Charles Z. Wick, Director
United States Information Agency
400 C Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20547



February 28, 1986

MEMORANDUM FOR: The Honorable
 Frederick J. Ryan, Jr.
 Director Presidential Appointments
 and Scheduling
 The White House

FROM: Charles Z. Wick
 Director 

SUBJECT: Request for Interview with the President
 For WITG-TV's "Panorama" with Host
 Maury Povich

Attached is a letter from Tony Regusters, senior producer of WITG-TV's "Panorama" program requesting an interview with President Reagan by host Maury Povich.

As indicated in the letter, the interview would focus on the Administration's effort to establish a new relationship with the Soviet Union. In addition, they would like to emphasize the President's vision for the United States and the American people in the areas of the family, economy and technology as we move toward the 21st Century.

I have appeared several times on "Panorama" and have always been treated fairly and believe the proposal is worth your consideration.

cc: Larry Speakes



February 18, 1986

Dear Larry:

I thought you would be interested in seeing the tremendous overseas coverage of this year's State of the Union message that resulted from USIA's international broadcast of the address via the WORLDNET satellite television system.

In addition to our transmission of the address as a special supplement to our two hour daily WORLDNET broadcast to Europe, the USIA staff prepared an edited Spanish language version for satellite transmission to television stations in Latin America. Thanks to our use of modern communication technology, the State of the Union message became a major international news story, reaching at least 60 million viewers throughout Latin America. Enclosed, for your information, is a summary of the media placement of the address in Latin America.

All of us at USIA are proud of our success in bringing this important message to a major international audience.

Sincerely,

Charles Z. Wick
Director

The Honorable
Larry M. Speakes
Assistant to the President and
Principal Deputy Press Secretary
The White House