

LISTENING IN

Below, some international eavesdropping—transcripts of radio broadcasts, news agency handouts, and newspaper and periodical items culled from daily reports of the U.S. Government's Foreign Broadcast Information Service.

China: "Death-Defying Struggle"

(Harbin, Heilongjiang Provincial Service, in Mandarin, July 6) According to our reporters, on the afternoon of July 6 the Heilongjiang Provincial CCP Committee and the provincial people's government sponsored an emergency mobilization broadcasting rally on combating the drought and insect pests to protect young plants.

The rally urged party organizations at all levels and the people throughout the province to go into action immediately to display the revolutionary spirit of making sustained efforts to wage struggles, fearing no toil and launching death-defying struggles. It is necessary to exert all-out efforts to plunge into the struggle against the drought and insect pests to protect young plants. In adhering to the principle that where there are drought and insect pests there are ceaseless struggles, efforts should be made to adopt every means to win victories from these struggles.

In his speech entitled "The Entire Party And People Should Go Into Action Immediately To Plunge Into the Struggle Against the Drought and Insect Pests to Protect Young Plants," Comrade Chen Lei, secretary of the provincial CCP committee and governor of the province, noted: Since the provincial telephone conference held on July 14 and 29 on combating drought and insect pests, the party committees and governments at all levels throughout the province have regarded the struggle against natural disasters as their central task and have scored remarkable achievements....

Argentina: Emergency "Guidelines"

(Buenos Aires Herald, in English, June 30) To the surprise of nobody either inside or outside the country the military authorities tightened their control of the nation's press during the South Atlantic war. They gave editors a list of guidelines that, if interpreted strictly, would have transformed the press into a branch of the state's information services. In fact, however, they were fairly loosely applied, chiefly because the press backed the country's war effort to the hilt and was not at all disposed to help the enemy in any way at all by spreading gloom and despondency among the Argentine population....All in all, it is quite probable that the picture the press gave of the course of events in the South Atlantic would have been much the same had the guidelines never been issued at all.

Nonetheless, the guidelines existed and, what is more, they still exist and could conceivably be applied even though actual fighting appears to have come to a definitive end despite occasional suggestions to the contrary....They are phrased so broadly that, if vigorously applied, they would stifle all free debate about the country's problems. And, what is more, an organization was set up to clarify "doubts" and, it may

be assumed, to enforce the guidelines....

The country has had unhappy experiences with "emergency" regulations or institutions that have been allowed to linger on long after the original emergency that justified them has passed into history. The most notorious, needless to say, is the "state of siege," which has been around for so many years now that it has become for all intents and purposes a permanent part of the Argentine landscape.

It is to be hoped that the same thing does not happen to the wartime guidelines that were issued by the government when the fighting began....

Afghanistan: A United Opposition

(Jidda, Al-Madinah, in Arabic, July 11. Interview with Abd ar-Basul Sayyaf, chairman of the Islamic Union of Afghan Mujahidin.)

Question: [C]an you review the historical development of the jihad (holy war) movement through the formation of the Islamic Union of Afghan Mujahidin?

Answer: Attempts to form this union began 1 and 1/2 years ago but it was formed only 6 months ago. The union officially began work 2 and 1/2 months ago. Before the formation of this union, the Afghan mujahidin were divided into many organizations. In general seven organizations are now members of the union....

Question: Information media recently carried reports on the jihad in Afghanistan. Can you brief us on the latest developments there?

Answer: Thank God, the jihad is progressing every day. As you know, the mujahidin in Afghanistan began their jihad with very primitive means, but with the assistance of God, religion and faith, they were able to continue their jihad and wage a fierce struggle against the Communists. The mujahidin have organized battalions now. Over 26,000 mujahidin are carrying weapons....The Afghan fighters have inflicted great losses on the enemy. Over 80 per cent of Afghan territory is now under their control. The Soviet troops are stationed in Kabul, a number of airports and in counties of a number of provinces. All the [other] Afghan territories are under the control of the mujahidin. However, this does not mean that security, tranquillity and stability prevail in the liberated areas, because these areas are subjected to air raids day and night.

Question: These battles and the struggles you are waging for your country require weapons, of course. From where do you get these weapons?

Answer: Up to now we have not received weapons from any country. The best source of our weapons is the enemy itself, either in war booty or by sales. Many of the Communist government's soldiers sell their ammunition to the mujahidin. We do not need any infantry weapons now because we have over 26,000 fighters armed with machineguns and rifles. We need antiaircraft arms.

Question: Has the Islamic Union of Afghan Mujahidin announced any specific political program?

Answer: Our policy is clear. We want to establish an Islamic state based on the Koran. —M. W.