

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.

The Passing of Brezhnev: Some World Views

(Vienna Domestic Television Service, in German, Nov. 11, 1982) With Brezhnev the Soviets and world politics are losing a man who—to mention positive things first—was linked to the political idea of détente. He was the one, so to speak, who turned Helsinki into reality, and for some time the situation was such that one thought that far-reaching détente would be achieved between the United States and the Soviet Union....

However, on the other hand, his name is not only linked with the policy of détente but with the so-called Brezhnev doctrine, and this Brezhnev doctrine actually means that the Soviet Union claims the right to intervene directly or indirectly whenever there is a political crisis—or what it views as a political crisis—in one of its ally states....

(Taipei International Service, in English, Nov. 17, 1982) Many Free World countries sent representatives to Moscow for Brezhnev's funeral. Speaking in terms of protocol, many of them had good things to say about the Soviet dictator.... So the appearances at Brezhnev's bier were really exercises in hypocrisy. Isn't this a weakness of those who stand on the side of freedom against communism?... Leonid Brezhnev... did everything in his power to weaken and damage the Free World. He was a Communist and a bad man—bad not only for us but for his own people.

Would the freedom fighters of Afghanistan attend his funeral? Would dissidents who fled Russia or who have been banished to lunatic asylums and Siberia?... Who sent the tanks rumbling into Budapest?... Who ended the Prague spring? Who compelled the Polish Communists to terminate Solidarity? How can we even pretend to honor Leonid Brezhnev, a man who was associated with the suppression of freedom all his life?

Some of the people of the Free World seem to regard the contest with communism as a game. If so, it is a deadly one, because the Communists are intent upon our destruction. They know, if the free people do not, that the game is to the death; that the world cannot endure half slave and half free. Communism... is a system of tyranny; Brezhnev was one of the principal tyrants....

Western governments may say that they have to live with the Communists.... But there is a difference between hard-hearted business deals and the acceptance of communism at its face value. Trade with an enemy may be bad, but it can be identified as such and explained.... The phony admiration for Brezhnev is something else....

Are we going to say that Russian leaders are good guys while the Soviet people are the bad guys? It seems to be the other way around. Tributes to Communists have no place in the Free World.... Brezhnev was a brigand. That fact is not changed by his death.

(Sofia, Rabotnichesko Delo, in Bulgarian, Nov. 17, 1982) ... The cause to which Leonid Brezhnev devoted his entire

life since early youth is immortal. The comprehensive activities of the Leninist party during these days were characterized by absolute continuity and by the unshakable will to further proceed along the path mapped out by the decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress. This was pointed out at the extraordinary CPSU Central Committee plenum that elected Comrade Yuri Andropov to the post of general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. This resolve was also stressed in the speeches of the party leaders and it was quite unmistakably pointed out by Comrade Yuri Andropov during his address at the commemorative meeting held on Red Square. "In this sad hour," Yuri Andropov said, "in parting with Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, our entire party and its Central Committee are expressing their resolve firmly and consistently to implement the strategic line in domestic and foreign policy that was worked out under the beneficial influence of Leonid Ilich Brezhnev."...

(Paris, Le Monde, in French, Nov. 14-15, 1982; editorial) The prevailing feeling in the world on the announcement of Mr. Andropov's appointment as CPSU chief seems to be that Leonid Brezhnev has been forgotten or, in any case, favorably replaced before being buried. The future will show whether that feeling is justified or whether it is merely an additional sign of the democracies' incorrigible optimism. Nonetheless, it leaves room for reasonable hope at least as much as for cowardly relief....

(Nicaragua: [Clandestine] Voice of Sandino, in Spanish, Nov. 14, 1982) The Voice of Sandino, a member of the information system of the Sandino Revolutionary Front (FRS), presents its condolences to the Soviet Government and people, especially to that country's labor force. On expressing our condolences over the Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev, we want to state that our struggle for Nicaragua's liberation should be seen by the two world powers as our people's desire for self-determination and for a policy of nonalignment that will permit the development of our nationalism.

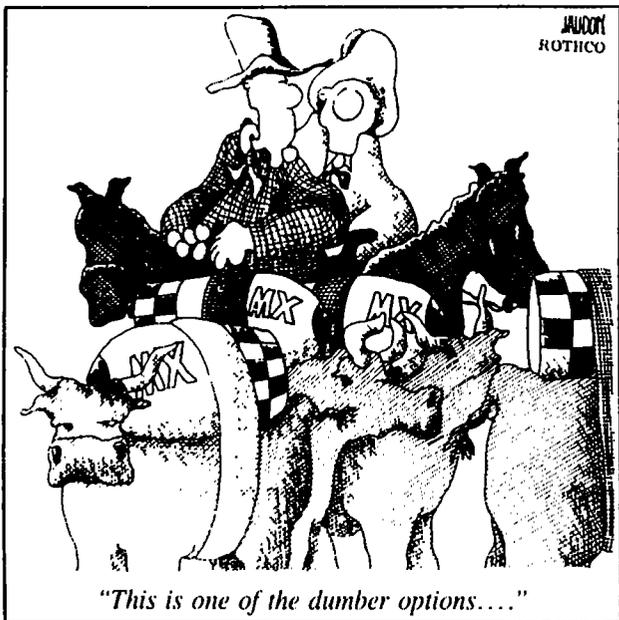
The FRS respects the memories of figures like Lenin and Lincoln, who shaped the nationality of the USSR and the United States. In the same way, it (?promotes) the respect of Augusto Cesar Sandino, our general of free men who shaped our nationalism. When such men die, it is advisable that we remember that Nicaragua also has unquestionable human foundations: Ruben Dario and Sandino.

(London, The Sunday Telegraph, Nov. 14, 1982; editorial) The change of guard at the Kremlin has provoked some remarkably naive assessments in the West, both as concerns the dead leader and his successor. President Brezhnev has been widely hailed, and not simply by left-wing commentators, as the architect of détente.... The Helsinki accords, his main diplomatic achievement, are cited as evidence of this. What Brezhnev in fact achieved at that world summit was the formal acceptance by the Western powers of the vast East European empire which the Red Army occupied and brutally subjugated in the wake of Hitler's war. What Brezhnev promised in return—a freer flow of culture and communications between East and West—the Soviet Union has signally failed to deliver. This is détente, Soviet style.

So is that other major contribution which Brezhnev made to European "stability": the famous Brezhnev doctrine which, in effect, declared that it was always right and proper to maintain by brute force the foreign communist regimes which the Russians had established by brute force....

...An almost equal gullibility has, too often, greeted the elevation of the former head of the KGB, Yuri Andropov. To suggest that, as the withdrawal of the Soviet troops from Austria followed Stalin's death, so now a Red Army withdrawal from Afghanistan may follow that of Brezhnev, is to draw a sorry parallel indeed. After 1953, the Kremlin craved for an end of terror at home and a new image abroad. The impetus was all for change. Now it is all for continuity and consolidation, and is likely to remain so as long as Andropov, the nominee of the Red Army marshals, stays at the top. The militant note of his first utterances, basing Soviet policy on "the invincible might of the Soviet Armed Forces," marks his debt to his sponsors clearly enough.

We do well to remember what, strictly speaking, a change of guard really means: A new sentry takes over; his function is the same.



(Hamburg, DPA, in German, Nov. 11, 1982) Social Democratic Party of Germany (SPD) Chairman Willy Brandt has paid tribute to the late Soviet state and party leader, Leonid Brezhnev, as an important force in efforts both for reconciliation between German and Soviet people and for détente and cooperation in Europe. Over a long period of time, even when the international situation became increasingly difficult, Brezhnev kept Soviet foreign policy on the course of détente and cooperation. On behalf of the Soviet people, his involvement to prevent a fresh world war, in other words a nuclear one today, was significant....

(Cairo Domestic Service, in Arabic, Nov. 14, 1982) In its editorial entitled "What After Brezhnev?" *Al-Akhabar*...says that what is important to us is that Brezhnev's death means nothing to Egypt in terms of its policy or any of its cultural or social conditions. Egypt has been liberated

from that old monopolization. Egypt's link with the Soviet Union stems merely from openness and from good relations based on mutual respect, as with other countries....

Kampuchea: "Yellow Rain" Cont'd.

(*Clandestine*) *Voice of Democratic Kampuchea, in Cambodian to Kampuchea, Nov. 13, 1982*) The Democratic Kampuchean Information Ministry would like to make the following clarification for national and international opinion:

Concerning the investigation of the Vietnamese aggressors' use of chemical weapons against our Kampuchean people..., the Democratic Kampuchean Government [the tri-partite coalition headed by Prince Sihanouk, Khmer Rouge leader Khieu Sampan, and Son Sann, leader of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front] has often called on world public opinion, international organizations and the United Nations to make an on-the-spot inspection for concrete proof....

Concerning the United Nations, on June 15, 1982, Ieng Sary, who was then Democratic Kampuchea's deputy prime minister in charge of foreign affairs, handed over a letter to the U.N. secretary-general requesting that the United Nations send an investigation team to...Kampuchean territory.... Later, Thiounn Prasith, [then] Democratic Kampuchean permanent representative to the United Nations, handed over another letter to the U.N. secretary-general asking for the formation of an investigating committee right in Kampuchean territory in order to inspect the...use of chemical weapons....

Various persons concerned from Democratic Kampuchea's Foreign Ministry and Health Ministry came to meet the U.N. committee...at the Kampuchean-Thai border [on October 30, 1982] and invited this committee to enter Kampuchean territory at a place only 300 meters from the Kampuchean-Thai border where we had arranged everything for them—a field hospital, chemical weapons victims and all kinds of evidence.... But two members of this committee refused to enter Kampuchean territory, claiming that there was no permission from the United Nations. This investigating committee preferred to work...right at the Kampuchean-Thai border, despite the fact that the Democratic Kampuchean personnel had insistently invited them to enter Kampuchean territory.... [M]any competent Democratic Kampuchean officials then came to meet the committee at the...border and held talks with this committee.... They also provided the committee with documents proving the Vietnamese use of chemical weapons. These are the facts that the Democratic Kampuchean Information Ministry would like to give national and international opinion.... The Democratic Kampuchean Government still reserves its invitation for the U.N. committee to investigate Vietnam's use of chemical weapons to massacre the Kampuchean people. It still hopes that this committee will one day come to make an on-site inspection on Kampuchean soil.

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