

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.

United Kingdom: Missile Command

(London, Press Association, in English, Nov. 10) The Ministry of Defence tonight said a report that plans exist to shoot U.S. troops should the American Government unilaterally decide to fire cruise missiles from Britain was "utterly unthinkable."

According to a report in tomorrow's *Sun*, plans exist for British troops of the RAF Regiment guarding cruise missiles to open fire on their U.S. colleagues jointly guarding the missiles with them in a "worst case scenario"—if the Americans decide to use them without securing a joint decision with Britain.

The report claims that the Queen would issue an order in Council to enable the British troops to shoot their American colleagues.

Mr. Denzil Davies, a shadow defence minister, has tabled a Commons question to Defence Secretary Mr. Michael Heseltine asking what would happen if Britain refused to consent to a decision by President Reagan to fire, yet the Americans insisted on going ahead.

A Ministry of Defence spokesman greeted the "plan" with incredulity tonight. "It is such an utterly unthinkable situation that we would not be prepared to speculate," said the spokesman.

NATO took the decision to site cruise missiles in Europe in 1979 on the understanding that they would fit into joint command structures already in existence.

The following year it was announced that 160 would be based in Britain, at Greenham Common, Berkshire, and Molesworth in Cambridgeshire. The Government has always insisted that they would be used only after a joint decision by the Prime Minister and the American President.

Mrs. Thatcher stressed in the Commons on May 15 this year that the British Prime Minister would need to be consulted and to agree to their use in line with the long-standing arrangements between the two countries.

This agreement is the basis for the Prime Minister's case that Britain does not need a "dual key"—a physical control over the use of the weapons.

The cruise missiles will be guarded at Greenham Common by men of the RAF Regiment as well as U.S. troops. Authoritative sources stressed today that a decision to even move a flight of missiles outside a base would require joint decision of both governments.

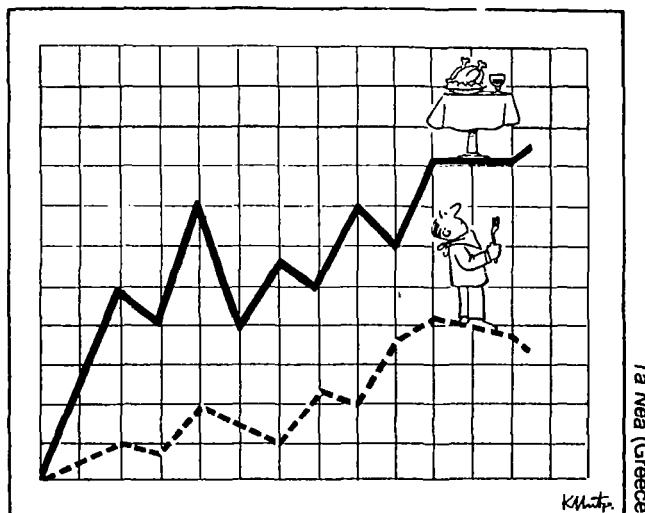
Soviet Union: A Rumor of Microwaves

(Moscow, Pravda, in Russian, Nov. 13) Several years ago the U.S. press raised an uproar about some "microwaves" allegedly beamed at the U.S. Embassy in Moscow. That inspired "case," as was to be expected, was invented artificially for the purpose of introducing complications to Soviet-U.S. relations. The unseemly undertaking was convincingly exposed and, it would seem, the question was finally closed.

However, in recent days the U.S. Embassy again raised a complaint about some "beams." The true motives of another propagandist fuss are indicated already by the fact that embassy spokesmen immediately released to the U.S. press all sorts of speculations on that score. In other words, this is an obvious attempt at stirring up yet another anti-Soviet campaign.

Today the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs made a statement to the U.S. Embassy. The statement points out that a check-up carried out by Soviet competent organizations has established that assertions as to alleged microwaves beamed at the embassy building do not have any grounds.

It is pointed out that, as has been already explained to the U.S. side, the existence of a certain electromagnetic field which is possibly registered in the embassy is the result of the operation of Moscow's industrial enterprises, just as is the case in any city. The level of the field is considerably lower than the safety norms adopted both in the USSR and the United States itself and presents no danger whatsoever to health....



South Korea: Capital Crimes

(Seoul, The Korea Herald, in English, Nov. 17) The Cabinet yesterday approved a legislation calling for the death sentence for people involved in the flight of capital worth 5 billion won [approximately 800 won = \$1] or more out of the country.

The projected bill, due to go into effect Jan. 1 next year after approval by the National Assembly, also includes provisions imposing capital punishment on bank officials suspected of taking bribes of over 20 million won.

Officials at the Ministry of Justice said the proposed bill is necessary in view of rising economic crimes, including a series of recent loan fraud scandals.

The latest banking fraud involved Pak Chong-ki, former vice manager of the Chohung Bank's Chungang branch office, which allegedly issued illegal payment guarantees totaling 175.8 billion won to two private businesses. Twenty people have been arrested on charges stemming from the scandal, but Pak was said to have fled to the United States with an undetermined amount of money....

Argentina: Communists & Coalitions

(*Sofia, Bulgaria, Rabotnichesko Delo, in Bulgarian, Nov. 7*) Anthos Fava, Argentine Communist party (PCA) secretary general, received Sibilia Dimova, *Rabotnichesko Delo* special correspondent, in Buenos Aires only a few days following the elections, at a time when the first analyses and evaluations of Argentina's future were being made.

Dimova: Comrade Fava, many observers did not expect the Radical Civic Union to obtain as many votes in the elections as it did. In your opinion, what are the reasons for these final results?

Fava: The election victory was primarily due to the existing disagreement with the military dictatorship and to the struggle against this regime, a struggle in which the working class played a leading role.

The Radical Civic Union, headed by Raul Alfonsin, skillfully took advantage of the Argentine people's anti-dictatorial feelings, particularly in their use of the mass media.... The campaign was aimed at the so-called "middle class strata," including the lower-middle class, the bourgeoisie, the white-collar worker, and the civil servants. These strata are as large as the working class in Argentina. The Radicals succeeded in presenting a qualitatively new and nicely packaged product: hope for the country's peaceful and stable development and for a final interruption in the vicious cycle of military dictatorships. Peronism was unable to create such an image for itself. Various factions within the Peronist party even gave the impression of intolerance and disrespect for the remaining political parties, an impression of being incapable of securing political stability, which is an absolute necessity for every Argentine. Such shortcomings were cunningly exploited by the mass media, leading to an isolation of the working class versus the middle classes, and even to a confrontation between these two strata. Under these conditions of strong polarization, all the right-wing parties relied on Alfonsin. [*Rabotnichesko Delo* notes editorially that the Communist party supported the Peronist presidential candidate during the elections and presented its own candidates for parliament and for local administrative organs.]...

Dimova: How does the PCA evaluate its participation in the elections?

Fava: In view of the absolute polarization between the Radical Civic Union and the Peronist party, we do not, as a matter of principle, attach great importance to the election results expressed in figures. Rather, we attach importance to the future prospects of our work within the ranks of the working class.... In this respect we have achieved considerable results. The joint struggle together with the Peronist masses in defending the workers' interests is one of these results....

As to the election results themselves, I must immediately add that we had expected to obtain twice as many votes as we actually received....

Dimova: Comrade Fava, which are the specific methods of defending the interests of the workers masses and of guaranteeing the democratic process as a whole?

Fava: The specific method is to develop and assert an agreement for joint efforts in achieving democratic stability in our country.... The workers' class is struggling for higher wages and for employment.... This is why we insist that the Radical Civic Union should implement its election

promises and agree to joint efforts. This, however, by no means implies that the working class should renounce its demands, because a true political stability is impossible without a progressive social policy.

Egypt: Concerning Lebanon & Grenada

(*Cairo, Al-Ahali, in Arabic, Nov. 2*) Reagan has admitted that his invasion of Grenada is linked to the bombing of the U.S. forces headquarters in Beirut. He said: "Events in Lebanon and Grenada, although separated by oceans, are closely linked." He added: "We as a superpower with worldwide responsibilities must protect the countries where we have vital interests." He said that the enemy in both cases was the Soviet Union, which is responsible for the massacres of the Marines and the coup in Grenada and which also resorts to terror as a means to threaten "our vital interests in the Middle East and the Caribbean."

By invading Grenada, Reagan has thrown new light on the U.S. presence in the Middle East under the title "peace-keeping force" or "Rapid Deployment Force (RDF)." As Egyptians this matter concerns us directly because of this permanent presence in Sinai under the treaty with Israel and the intermittent presence at Egyptian bases where facilities are granted to the United States, as well as during Egyptian joint maneuvers with the RDF.

It has been proved beyond doubt that in Reagan's view the concept of peacekeeping encompasses the right to wage "protective war." His excuse to justify the invasion of Grenada is that it has allegedly given him the opportunity to find clear evidence that Cuba was preparing to occupy this small island. Such justification is a blatant violation of international law to such a degree that the closest U.S. allies, headed by Britain, France, West Germany, Spain, Japan, and all the Latin American countries have objected to it....

Reagan adapts local conflicts to the requirements of the cold war he is waging against the Soviet Union and projects them as conflicts created by the Soviets, who use "international terror" to undermine "U.S. vital interests." The fact is that it is Reagan who exploits these conflicts to serve a plan from which he does not deviate—to escalate international tension, abort every attempt to prevent deployment of the cruise and Pershing missiles in Europe, and push the arms race toward a new threshold that threatens a nuclear war.

In the light of all this we should ask: Where does Egypt stand?

President Mubarak was right to warn the United States against any retribution operation in Lebanon, to assert that violence leads to more violence, that the Israeli presence in Lebanon is the reason for the deterioration in the situation, and that it is necessary for Israel to withdraw from Lebanon in accordance with a timetable.

But the Egyptian stand is not consistent. The warning is restricted to the possible reaction to U.S. action in the Lebanese arena alone but does not cover the reaction worldwide. Cairo supported the U.S. intervention in Grenada.... Only Israel, South Korea, and New Zealand supported Egypt in this interpretation of the U.N. Charter. Is the presence of the U.S. peacekeeping force in Sinai the reason behind Cairo's inability to adopt a consistent stand?

—D.H.