MAKING THE WORLD "SAFE"

The INF Treaty promises to accomplish what the "peace" movement failed to do with demonstrations: the removal of the Pershing II missiles from Europe. Many cherish hope that this is a step toward peace in our time. But a look at the arithmetic is far from reassuring.

Number of nuclear warheads to be dismantled: exactly zero (0).

Soviet ballistic missiles to be banned: approximately eight (8)% of the total capable of reaching Free Europe ("approximately" because the exact number of such missiles is unknown).

American ballistic missiles to be banned: one hundred percent (100%) of those based in Europe and capable of reaching the Soviet Union.

Soviet leaders will sleep better at night once the Pershing IIs are gone. The reason is that these missiles are just a few minutes away from the Kremlin, and are accurate enough to find their way down a preselected chimney, or to destroy a Fuehrer bunker by a direct hit with a ground burst. They threaten what the Soviet leaders value most -- themselves.

The Pershing II also threatens vitally important military targets: antiballistic missile sites and hardened command and control centers. And unlike the MX and other American ICBMs, which are deployed in sitting-duck mode, the Pershing II is mobile, i.e. survivable.

It is thought that Soviet compliance (or noncompliance) with the deal can be verified. (According to the CIA, the probability of detecting illegally deployed Soviet SS-20s, by improved satellites not yet in orbit, is as high as 20%.) The penalty for noncompliance is that we might not want to sign another treaty with them. (Past noncompliance, however, hasn't caused us to carry out such a dire threat.)

It is quite possible that this deal might make Europe safe from an actual Soviet strike. European hostages would remain alive, their wealth undamaged, ready to be plundered at will. If deterrence fails (due to absence of the deterrent force), unconditional surrender is the back-up plan for preventing nuclear war.

But there will still be nuclear-armed ballistic missiles on Soviet and American soil and beneath the high seas. So the possibility of nuclear conflict remains.

Nonetheless, the INF Treaty is a necessary step in making the rest of the world safe -- for a Soviet first strike against the US.

One year ago, Robert Jastrow warned that the US had five years in which to construct a defense. March 23, 1988, will be the fifth anniversary of President Reagan's "Star Wars" speech.

As yet, no strategic defenses have been deployed.

But you can help with the first layer of "passive" defense. Have you built your shelter yet? Or stored food for your family and neighbors?

Food Storage Plan

A supply of food that would provide a balanced diet for one person for a year can be purchased for about $100 plus freight, if ordered in 20-person quantities from Preparedness Products, telephone 801-292-3481. One truckload would provide for 73 persons. Arizona residents interested in purchasing a part of a truckload please telephone 325-2689. Make a purchase before April 30, and get a discount on a subscription to the Fighting Chance Newsletter. (If you can get a better price, by all means take advantage of it.)

Petition Your Government

The least costly contribution you can make to the cause of homeland defense is to obtain signatures on the enclosed petition and mail it to the address at the bottom of the page. Even a few signatures would be appreciated -- but be sure to xerox the entire page if you'd like to obtain more.
SMALL MAY BE MORE DEADLY

An analysis of Soviet deployed warheads in Jane's Weapon Systems, 1987-1988, and The Military Balance, 1987-88, shows that there are at least 6400 weapons of less than 550 kiloton yield suitable for targeting against the US. Although counting megalots is a frequent device of the doomsday prophets, in actuality smaller weapons give more bang for the buck. The radius of destruction increases as the cube root of the yield. Also, the stabilized clouds from airbursts of smaller weapons remain in the troposphere. In other words, instead of remaining airborne for many days to months (while radiation levels fall), the fallout can be deposited early, especially in rain or snow, resulting in numerous hot spots. This danger has been seriously underestimated in current attack scenarios, according to Cresson Kearny, author of Nuclear War Survival Skills.

TSAR WARS (or the Red Shield)

Kinetic energy weapons: Soviet space warfare expert Lt. Col. Thomas H. Krebs (USAF, ret.) says that the Soviets could flood low earth orbit with hundreds of "kinetic-kill vehicle" (KKV) satellites. They have had this technology since the 1970s. Deployment could be complete within two years, which could begin anytime within the next six years (Washington Inquirer, 2/19/88).

Existing ABMs: The Galosh interceptors around Moscow are being replaced by the SH-04 exoatmospheric interceptor, and a new silo-based, rapidly reloadable endoatmospheric interceptor, the SH-08 (Van Cleave, WR: Fortress USSR, Hoover Institution Press, Stanford, 1986).

ASATs: The Soviets may have a new "direct-ascent" anti-satellite capability, according to the Pentagon's annual report to the Congress. This would be more effective than the "co-orbital" ASAT, which has been operational since 1971. It is speculated that the new ASAT could carry a nuclear warhead.

Lasers: According to Paul Nitze, the Soviets have over a half dozen major development facilities, including an ABM test center at Sary Shagan. US intelligence sources suspect that Soviet lasers have already damaged some American spy satellites. In 1984, Richard DeLauer testified that it would take the US about ten years to reach parity in laser weapons.

Active Measures (Wet)?: Since July 1986, there have been seven terrorist bombings, three assassinations, five highly suspicious "suicides," and one disappearance among European scientists and officials working on SDI-related projects. (Washington Inquirer, 12/18/87).

Glasnost: Albert Vlasov, first deputy chief of the propaganda department of the Central Committee, stated "the Soviet Union does not have an SDI program or a program analogous to the SDI program," in response to a reporter quoting Gorbachev's admissions about SDI.

Budget: According to President Reagan, the Soviets have already spent $200 billion on strategic defenses.

ANNIVERSARIES

Communism Does Too Work: On Jan. 5, 1930, the Central Committee legalized the policy of "Liquidation of the Kulaks as a Class." On Jan 29, 1935, Molotov announced in Pravda that Kulaks numbered 149,000 (down from a population of 5,618,000 in 1928).

Preservation of Historical Sites: On March 20, 1946, the Soviets reopened Buchenwald and Sachensausen concentration camps to house Social Democrat activists. (The 1988 Calendar of Neglected Anniversaries, available from the Rutgers Contrarian, PO Box 752, New Brunswick, NJ 08903).

DEFINITIONS

Memory Hole: The archives of the Ministry of Justice of the USSR (containing the case records of innocent Soviet citizens who perished in the purges of the 1930s to the 1950s) were "reduced in volume" (burned) in the 1960s and the 1970s. Now the pace has been speeded up: each of the five "archivists" now have a quota of 1000 cases per month to destroy instead of 750. Formerly, they were using the stove in the yard of the Supreme Court, producing a lot of smoke in the middle of the city. Now they take the papers somewhere outside the city (a pollution-abatement measure)? (The Samizdat Bulletin October 1987).

Telling the Truth: a petty bourgeois habit (Lenin).

Maskirovka: a nationwide program of camouflage, concealment and deception.

Deployed (with respect to SS-20s): sitting on a launcher.

Not deployed: sitting somewhere else, waiting for a need to reload the launcher (Wall Street Journal 12/11/87).

Detente: Visualize the heater controls on old cars, called the "de-e-ent." The lever is interrupted or halted at designated locations by a notch or indentation that stops the control lever while the air stream continues to run. That's what day-taunt does. It detains American defenses (as in "to put in a detention camp or prison") while Communism continues its demarche (Curtis Caine, Sr., MD, Jackson, MS).

Skill: "To win one hundred victories in one hundred battles is not the acme of skill. To subdue the enemy without fighting is the acme of skill" (Sun Tzu, The Art of War, c. 500 B.C.)

Freedom of the Press: La Prensa was permitted to open in Managua on October 30. Sandanista Youth Movement mobs regularly attack La Prensa paper boys, beat them up, and steal their money (at the end of the day, after they've collected the money). They then try to intimidate them into selling Barricada, the official government newspaper (Liberation Bulletin 12/30/87).

HEALTH EFFECTS OF LOW LEVEL RADIATION

An excellent pamphlet that puts radiation risks in perspective: order from the American Council on Science and Health ($2.00), 47 Maple St., Summit, NJ 07901.