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FOREIGN MEDIA REACTION

EARLY REPORT USIA

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REACTION

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BOSNIA: 'GLIMMER OF HOPE' FOR PEACE

NATO's extension of its deadline to allow the Bosnian Serbs more time to withdraw heavy weapons from around Sarajevo found the foreign media persuaded that, in the words of regional radio Bayerischer Rundfunk of Munich, "there are justified hopes for a peaceful solution to the conflict," but so many problems remain that the U.S.-brokered peace could easily unravel.

Observers increasingly feared that the Muslims and Croats are using the setbacks inflicted on the Serbs by the Alliance to press their own military advantage. London's BBC TV remarked, "The Bosnian army...is exploiting the disarray of the Bosnian Serbs caused by NATO air strikes to spectacular effect.... At a moment when the diplomats believe there is a chance to talk, the Bosnians are still resolved to fight." Other analysts warned that the U.S., in its haste to settle the Balkan war, could give too much to the Serb side and be seen as endorsing ethnic cleansing and a peace that will ultimately prove unworkable. Croatia's independent Novi list, denouncing the "surrealistic idea that Bosnia-Herzegovina can be preserved by breaking it up," lamented that "the outside world is prescribing medicine that will only change the symptoms of the illness and make every subsequent diagnosis even more complicated." While some European journalists feared that NATO was turning into a belligerent by siding too obviously with the Bosnian government, Muslim writers still fully supported NATO's forceful diplomacy. Commentators continued to point out the many risks a failure of this peace initiative posed for the Clinton administration. Nevertheless, there was praise both for President Clinton and Assistant Secretary Holbrooke. Turin's centrist La Stampa concluded, "It is time to recognize that, even in the much criticized Bill

Clinton, the West and Europe have found again the mark of American leadership, which had been absent for two years."

BRIEFS

- Asia Security Issues
- Beijing Women's Conference

EDITORS: Mildred Sola Neely and Pat McArdle
BOSNIA: 'GLIMMER OF HOPE' FOR PEACE

Serbia- "Tomahawks Will Hit Those Who Don't Follow Rules"

Montenegro

Social affairs editor Slobodan Reljic opined in an editorial Friday for independent weekly NIN, "Unfortunately, the world of the Cold War and the blocs, compared to the NATO 'iron peace,' looks like a golden era of mankind. Only the Muslims, the Croats and the naive ones can nowadays believe that the precedents made over Bosnia will not be applied on those whom the State Department, the Pentagon and the CIA one day announce dangerous for (U.S.) 'national security.' The footsteps of fortune are slippery, so the Tomahawks will hit everybody who does not behave according to the rules."

Croatia "Preserve Bosnia By Breaking It Up"

Rijeka's independent Novi list pointed out Thursday in a piece by columnist Dane Rosko, "The world now feels and see how powerful America is. But will America assure the world that it is wise as well? Those of us who have been here for ages almost instinctively sense that the outside world is prescribing medicine that will only change the symptoms of the illness and make every subsequent diagnosis even more complicated. The recent product of such realpolitik is almost the surrealistic idea that Bosnia-Herzegovina can be preserved by breaking it up."

Britain "Bosnians Still Resolved To Fight"

On BBC TV's Breakfast News, diplomatic correspondent Nicholas Witchell said from central Bosnia, "The Bosnian army is doing what the UN feared it might but hoped it wouldn't: It is exploiting the disarray of the Bosnian Serbs caused by NATO air strikes to spectacular effect.... There is concern that if it does continue very much further, it could undermine the efforts to reach an overall political settlement. But the Bosnians are in no mood to listen.... At a moment when the diplomats believe there is a chance to talk, the Bosnians are still resolved to fight."

"Glimmer Of Balkan Hope"

An editorial in the conservative Daily Telegraph observed under the headline above, "A peace agreement that too easily yields to Serbian demands at the expense of the Bosnian government will not hold....

As in the Middle East, American diplomacy is essential to peace in the Balkans; the resolution last week of the stupid quarrel between Greece and Macedonia, thanks to Mr. Holbrooke's mediation, merely confirms the point.... Mr. Clinton's new resolution over the Balkans is welcome. The fear remains that, in the search for rapid results, he will forsake principle for expediency. The goal of a viable, multiethnic Bosnia must be kept in mind as the president wrestles with pressures from the warring parties, Russia and his own Congress. Anything less will condemn the Balkans to further war and provide a green light to would-be ethnic cleansers in other parts of the world."

"A Peace, But Is It Phoney?"

Eastern Europe correspondent Ian Traynor wrote for the liberal Guardian, "Peace is within grasp. But the conflict is far from over. The U.S. terms try to square the Bosnian circle with a two-states-in-one-country formula that looks unworkable.... The Americans, in their desperation to get it over with, are facilitating the biggest forced demographic changes in Europe since the expulsions of ethnic Germans from Central and Eastern Europe at the end of World War II. So, after a few months of phoney war, the Americans may find that all they have brokered is a phoney peace."

"Caution Remains The Watchword"

According to the centrist Independent, "Thanks to new-found resolve, sound judgement and a dollop of luck, President Bill Clinton may be about to turn his long-criticized Balkans policy into a success unthinkable a month ago, and one which improves his chances of re-election next year.... But caution remains the watchword in Washington.... Assuming all goes well, the United States is committed to providing 15,000 troops to the international forces supervising a Balkan settlement.... They could be taking casualties at the height of the election season, an eventuality for which Mr. Clinton has not prepared the public."

France "Clinton Needs Pax Americana"

Conservative Le Figaro's Washington correspondent Stephane Marchand remarked, "A 'pax Americana' would allow the United States to reaffirm the need for its military and political presence in Europe.... Next year, when he runs for re-election, Bill Clinton will probably not be able to take credit for an Israeli-Syrian peace or a U.S.-Chinese detente. He thus needs peace in Bosnia."

"Zagreb's Game"

Jacques Amalric wrote in influential Liberation, "What kind of a game are the Croats playing? Many diplomats and Western experts have started to raise this question, as they are increasingly worried about the territorial gains accumulated by the Croatian army over the past days in Bosnia.... The most cynical (observers) are convinced that Franjo Tudjman is only acting for himself, that he hasn't given up his dream of a Greater Croatia. In that case...he might try to

simply annex the part of Bosnia under his control, something which would please Slobodan Milosevic, who prefers a tiny Muslim entity by his side. It is clear that in order to impose...peace, the West cannot be forceful only with the Serbs."

"Carrot And Stick"

Jean Levallois remarked in regional La Presse de la Manche, "We'll have to use the carrot and the stick until the end."

Germany "Justified Hopes For Peaceful Solution"

Barbara Richardson commented Friday on regional radio Bayerischer Rundfunk of Munich, "For the time being, there are justified hopes for a peaceful solution to the conflict. If this solution is being accomplished, NATO bombs will have served a good purpose.... In the past few weeks, the military set the tone; in Geneva the decisive moments will now come for the politicians.... If they fail...the ball will again be in the camp of the military. And then the Alliance must quickly make up its mind on how long it is willing to fight from the air."

"Sarajevo Still Cannot Heave A Sigh Of Relief"

Today's centrist Sueddeutsche Zeitung of Munich commented in an editorial by Jens Schneider, "Sarajevo can still not heave a sigh of relief--the residents of Bosnia's capital can--in the long run in particular--by no means feel safe.... It is true that the Bosnian Serbs began with the withdrawal of heavy weapons on Saturday...but they will still have enough weapons in the neighborhood of Sarajevo to continue their terrorism against the city....

"Sarajevo' fate continues to be linked to the fate of the rest of Bosnia.... It would be naive to hope that the Muslims and Croats--for love of the partition plan of U.S. envoy Richard Holbrooke--stop their offensives when they have captured the part of the territory the plan provides for them.... Thus all sides feel encouraged to redraw the map with the use of force. And as long as the fighting continues, Sarajevo will not come to rest."

"PR Success For U.S."

Roman Arens noted in an editorial in left-of-center Frankfurter Rundschau, "The agreement on Bosnia's partition and the withdrawal of heavy weaponry from around Sarajevo are a public relation success of the U.S. government.... But both accomplishments do not offer prospects for a sustainable peace, only pressure for the search for peace."

Italy "U.S.-Italy Impasse"

Centrist, top-circulation Corriere della Sera stressed about the U.S.-Italy row, "Italy's contribution (to end the war in Bosnia) will be proportional to the degree of its involvement in the peace negotiations. But it will not be easy to overcome this 'impasse.'"

During his meeting with Corcione yesterday...Perry did not go beyond expressing the sincere thanks of the U.S. administration for Italy's relevant contribution to the NATO 'campaign' in Bosnia."

"In Bosnia, Clinton Has Become President"

A front-page commentary by Washington correspondent Vittorio Zucconi concluded Saturday in centrist La Stampa, "In Bosnia, Arkansas Governor Bill Clinton has finally become President of the United States Bill Clinton... Electorally, Clinton has little to gain and much to risk in Bosnia.

"But he has moved like the leader of the West, not like a candidate. The time has not yet come to celebrate peace in the former Yugoslavia. But it is time to recognize that, even in the much criticized Bill Clinton, the West and Europe have found again the mark of American leadership, which had been absent for two years.... If the Yugoslavian mess has served a purpose, that was in showing that there is not yet a new model for the solution of local conflicts, or future clashes which certainly await us, between North and South, fundamentalism and democracies. If it does not want to be a New Disorder, the New Order should resemble the Old one."

Hungary "NATO Has Become A Belligerent In Bosnia"

Highest-circulation Nepszabadsag held, "NATO has become a belligerent in the war in former Yugoslavia supporting the Muslims and the Croats.... Let me make something clear: Banja Luka, the most Serbian Bosnian city, seems to be the next target of the Croatian army for the time being. If a real offensive is launched against the city it will result in a bloody drama; much bloodier than anyone would think.

"This is the most important reason why NATO must stop the bombings immediately. NATO's involvement as a warring side in the Bosnian conflict will not make Serbs more flexible at the negotiating tables; on the contrary, it will only encourage its enemies to continue the war with the aim of regaining territories."

Spain "Clinton Wants To Speed Up Balkans Negotiations"

In the opinion of leading, liberal-left El Pais, "Washington is conscious of the fact that the process [lifting of the siege on Sarajevo, negotiation of cease-fire in the area and the extension of this to the rest of Bosnia--might still blow up in Holbrooke's face.... However, everybody appears to agree on the fact that the peace probabilities are today nearer success than ever and that for the first time the United States appears to be in control of the situation."

Turkey "OIC Accepts Turkish Idea Of Two-Pronged Aid"

Ertugrul Ozkok commented in mass-appeal Hurriyet, "The Islamic Conference Organization's Contact Group for Bosnia met in Kuala Lumpur.... It decided to extend economic assistance not only to

Bosnia but to Croatia as well.... By providing assistance to these two countries at the same time, the Islamic countries are trying to stress that the war in Bosnia is not a war of religions.' This was proposed by Turkey.... NATO was praised in the final communique."

Egypt "Serbian Sincerity?"

Pro-government Al Akhbar contended, "Not even the naive believe that Serbian gangs...are sincere about withdrawing their heavy weapons besieging the Islamic city of Sarajevo for over a year....

"Experts confirm that the Serbs have worked on hiding the largest part of their weapons with different means...hoping to deceive NATO.... Since the West and the United States have up to the present refused all Russia's attempts to stop the raids...then all what we hope is that NATO continues this sound position until the Serbs are compelled to accept the settlement."

Indonesia "Elation Over Accord Should Not Reduce Pressure On Serbs"

Independent Media Indonesia's editorial Saturday said, "The NATO air strikes have produced fruit. Holbrooke's shuttle diplomacy...has finally forced an agreement.... Holbrooke's status as a diplomat has risen and NATO attitudes toward intervention have changed....

Elation over the possibility of an accord should not reduce pressure on the Serbs. History shows that the Serbs have violated numerous peace accords and cease-fires."

Malaysia "A Lesser Half For Bosnia"

Yesterday's government-influenced New Straits Times commented: "The powers continue to insist on withholding from the Bosnians the means to defend themselves.... In spite of the huge expense of the NATO exercise, they still hope to secure a peace as cheaply as can be haggled--by buying off the Serbs to accept less of what they have taken, and imposing upon the Bosnians that what they will get is better than nothing."

BRIEFS

ASIA SECURITY ISSUES

Japan "Questions Over New Security Ties"

Liberal Mainichi commented, "The United States and Japan are expected to issue a statement on new, closer U.S.-Japan security ties during President Clinton's visit to Tokyo in November. Both countries will conclude a new accord on Japan's host nation support (HNS) for U.S. bases in Japan during a 'two plus two' in New York set for September 27. Questions remain, however, over the Japanese government's position that the HNS pact is a prerequisite for maintaining closer and stronger security ties. Japan is set to shoulder expenses for relocating night landing practice by U.S. Navy jets from Atsugi NAS to Iwo Jima. We are concerned that Japan will have to pay for other U.S. military training....

"The Cabinet Legislation Bureau took a negative view of Defense Agency chief Eto's proposal that Japan conclude an acquisition and cross-servicing pact next year, and JSDF personnel on future UN peacekeeping missions cooperate with U.S. troops under the pact. The bureau fears such cooperation will lead to the implementation of collective security, an act banned under the Japanese constitution. "The recent rape of a schoolgirl in Okinawa by three U.S. military men prompted the prefectural government to urge that the MOFA review the Status of Forces Agreement, which local people claim, hinders the extradition of U.S. military criminal suspects to Japanese police. The United States and Japan should consider their complaints in revising the treaty."

Australia "U.S. To Sign Nuclear-Free South Pacific Treaty"

The South Pacific correspondent for the national, conservative Australian observed, "The United States is preparing to sign the South Pacific Nuclear Free Zone Treaty in a move that will further isolate France's position in the region.... Winston Lord yesterday informed the forum's 16 countries...of Washington's decision to accede to the treaty. 'Because of recent events including negotiations on the comprehensive test ban treaty, the U.S. government is moving quickly to come to a final decision with respect to the South Pacific Nuclear Free Zone Treaty and adhering to its protocols,' Mr. Lord said at a press conference immediately following his 'dialogue' session with forum officials."

"Japan's Emerging Leader Has A 'U.S. Revulsion'"

The national, business-oriented Australian Financial Review said, "The election of Ryutaro Hashimoto as the leader of Japan's dominant ruling party this week is likely to mark the beginning of a new era in Japan's attitude to its postwar protector and chief ally, the United States. Hashimoto has made a career out of highlighting the difference between the interests of Japan and those of the United States--differences which he has experienced 'to the point of revulsion', according to his memoirs.... But for the world's biggest economy, this could prove an unsettling experience. Because Hashimoto is more cockily critical of the United States and more assertive of Japan's interests and policy independence than any prime minister Japan has had postwar."

Singapore "RSAF To Train On New Helicopters In U.S."

Saturday's pro-government Straits Times carried the following item on its "News Focus" page, "Singapore's air force will carry out training on its new Chinook Helicopters in the United States.... After completing their initial training, the air and ground crewmen will work alongside their U.S. counterparts at the Grand Prairie Army Aviation Support facility.... The two sides said the coordinated training effort will enhance the already strong ties between the two countries."

BEIJING WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

China "Time For Action"

The English-language China Daily carried the following commentary on Saturday:

"We extend our warm congratulations to the success of the conference which is of profound significance in the history of striving for equality between men and women.... A milestone in the history of the global women's movement, this conference is also a starting point in the sense that all the participants have made new commitments to act to improve the status of women. Only when inequality is eliminated completely and relations between the sexes become an equal partnership can the world meet the challenge of the 21st century."

Thailand "UN Meeting Moves Women Closer To Goal Of Equality"

The lead editorial of the independent, English-language Nation stated that while the women's conference is unlikely to yield any immediate dramatic changes, it "produced a final declaration that represents a significant advance in (women's) pursuit of the same rights that men have long enjoyed.... Surprising many participants, delegates from 189 countries were able to reach agreement on several measures that went farther than Cairo.... The conference did achieve a global recognition of the need to give women more power and that this involves not only their ability to control their fertility but also the opportunity to get an education and a job.... The women's movement has a long way to go before it achieves its aims but Beijing has helped them move a little closer."

Egypt "Egypt Complied With All Religious Rules"

According to the editor-in-chief yesterday in pro-government Al Akhbar, "Discussions proved that Egypt totally complied with religious rules and Egyptian laws and constitution.... Can anybody deny the importance of Egypt's honorable and positive presence in such international conferences?... Strangely, the voices that objected to Egypt's participation in the conference did not object to the participation of Iran--which is regarded as an Islamic country--although it generally does not act in accordance with Islamic principles."

Germany "Scarcely Impressive"

A commentator on regional radio Westdeutscher Rundfunk of Cologne said Friday, "The outcome of the conference can scarcely be described as impressive. For 12 days, the women haggled bitterly over the wording, until they finally agreed on a document which is as comprehensive as it is non-binding. It may bear the important-sounding title 'Action Program,' but right from the outset it is clear that it will induce many conference delegates to take only one sort of action: To go home and place it in the nearest drawer--so deep that no one will find it, certainly not a woman. The rights proclaimed by the UN cannot, of course, be demanded from

national governments. The vast majority of women in this world are prevented from exercising their rights by crushing poverty, authoritarian regimes and inhuman traditions. The most splendid of conferences cannot change this."

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===== ATTACHMENT 1 =====

ATT CREATION TIME/DATE:18-SEP-1995 08:24:00.00

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18 Sep 1995 08:25:56 -0400 (EDT)

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18 Sep 1995 08:20:24 -0400

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FOREIGN MEDIA REACTION

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OFFICE OF RESEARCH AND MEDIA

REACTION

U.S. INFORMATION AGENCY, WASHINGTON, DC 20547

Patricia McArdle, Branch Chief Media Reaction, (R/MR), Tele. No. (202)619-6511

dnesday, September 20, 1995

BOSNIA: NEW FLASHPOINTS, ADDITIONAL CONCERNS

The foreign press--alarmed by the possibility that the war in the former Yugoslavia would widen just when peace initiatives seemed to be bearing fruit--practically ignored reports that U.S. pressure had elicited promises by the Bosnian Muslims and their Croatian allies to halt their offensive against Serb strongholds in Bosnia. Fearing an "internationalization" of the war if Serbian President Milosevic has no choice but to intervene by force if Serb fortunes suffer further reversals in Banja Luka and eastern Slavonia, opinion-makers called on the U.S. and its Allies to exert pressure on all combatants to stop the fighting. Some observers were already questioning whether the peace proposal entailing a 51:49 division of Bosnia was applicable any longer, given the territorial losses inflicted on Bosnian Serbs. Other analysts focused on the implications of the UN's call to withdraw its Blue Helmets from Bosnia and their replacement by a NATO-led contingent of peacekeepers.

BRIEFS

- China, The U.S. And Hong Kong
- NATO's CFE Offer To Russia
- Conduct Of U.S. Forces In Okinawa
- Iranian Airline Hijacking To Israel

EDITORS: Mildred Sola Neely and Pat McArdle

BOSNIA: NEW FLASHPOINTS, ADDITIONAL CONCERNS

Serbia- "Bosnian-Croat Offensive Could Undermine Peace
Montenegro Efforts"

Slobodan Pavlovic, quoting a reported New York Times commentary that a "continuing Bosnian army and Croat offensive in northwest Bosnia raised fears that recent tentative moves toward peace could unravel," opined in independent, centrist Nasa Borba yesterday, "The same kind of reactions can be heard on other sides, as well. The Americans are quite satisfied with the Bosnian Serb fulfillment of the NATO ultimatum...but there is a new element in U.S. reactions regarding the current crisis in Bosnia. The Clinton administration shows an increasing frustration about its own impotence to stop the current Muslim and Croat offensive...."

"If Banja Luka were attacked, Milosevic would most probably be forced to intervene, and the current U.S. peace initiative in the Balkans, from which President Clinton expects quite a lot, would be undermined. So, both the de-blocking of Sarajevo and the peace process in general depend on whether the fights around Banja Luka will be stopped or not."

Slovenia "No Decision Yet On Bosnia's Division"

Right-of-center Slovenec said today in a commentary by Davor Gjenero, "It is interesting to observe the (activity) of the U.S. envoy. At the time of the Bosnian-Croatian offensive, Richard Holbrooke is negotiating slowly and step-by-step with Slobodan Milosevic. He does not strive to put the sides participating in the conflict at the negotiation table too quickly, although it is evident that Radovan Karadzic and his regime are in a hurry because they want to end the war...as soon as possible. Therefore, it seems that no decision has been taken by the international community about a division of Bosnia."

Britain "New Anguish In U.S., NATO Over Peace Monitoring"

The conservative Times noted, "Bosnia's end-game is causing new anguish in the Clinton administration and among the NATO Allies over how to monitor peace, if and when it is finally achieved.... Doves in the NSC...are suggesting a smallish U.S. commitment. Hawks at the Pentagon...are saying that as many as 18,000 Americans will be needed, as well as equal numbers from France and Britain and further contingents from other NATO countries and Russia."

"Next Flashpoint: Eastern Slavonia"

Readers of the liberal Guardian saw this, "Croatia is 'reserving the right' to use force to retake Serb-occupied eastern Slavonia, threatening to escalate the Bosnian war, if President Milosevic...refuses to negotiate.... Eastern Slavonia is emerging as the next flashpoint.... Britain is trying to play the EU card, dangling the carrot of warm relations if regional leaders abandon the war option--but so far it has had little success....
"The fear is now that, if Croatia does go for the military option,

President Milosevic may not be able to stand back as he did when Krajina fell.... Then, (British Foreign Secretary) Rifkind warned, the war could be 'internationalized' instead of winding down."

France "Holbrooke Still Has A Lot Of Work To Do"

Jacques Amalric wrote for influential Liberation, "Despite his first successes, Richard Holbrooke has still a lot of work to do. The U.S. tactics, which consisted of strengthening the temporary Croat-Muslim alliance, have perhaps been too successful. The Croat-Muslim forces reportedly already control 60 percent of the Bosnian territory.... This episode shows that the American method risks being derailed; it also reveals its cynicism regarding the civilian populations. It is high time to bring this to an end and avoid more massacres on top of new transfers of populations, something which many now think is inevitable."

"Two Winners And One Loser: The Muslims"

Conservative Le Figaro front-paged this assessment by Charles Lambroschini, "Bosnian Muslims will be swindled once again. Militarily too weak and geographically circumscribed, they may return to their condition as eternal vassals (of Serbia or Croatia).... This war will perhaps end with two winners. But what is certain is that there will only be one loser."

"Pressure Combatants; Avoid Offending Russia"

Thierry de Montbrial opined in Le Figaro, "The West must act very quickly and exert maximum pressure on the Serbs...the Croats...and also on the Muslims.... Also, the West must avoid humiliating Russia, whose capacity to be harmful remains large."

Germany "Partition Plan No Longer Feasible"

Matthias Rueb said in an editorial on the front page of right-of-center Frankfurter Allgemeine, "The plan of the Contact Group is no longer worth the paper it has been printed on.... The peace efforts of the international community must start anew. The 51:49 formula as well as the map of the Contact Group plan tried to show consideration for the ethnic circumstances and the military balance of power as they existed in the summer of 1994. These bases no longer exist."

"Don't Change Partition Plan"

According to Wolfgang Kuballa in an editorial in right-of-center Rheinische Post of Duesseldorf, "A total Serb defeat could not be in the interest of NATO and the UN, because this would harbor the danger of enormous new belligerent tensions.... U.S. envoy Holbrooke must therefore do everything and not allow the Muslims and Croats to change the partition plan with their captures."

"UN Recognizes Its Peacekeeping Limits"

Right-of-center Die Welt of Berlin's Ruediger Moniac wrote editorially on Boutros Ghali's proposal to withdraw UN forces from Bosnia: "The withdrawal of Blue Helmets would make political sense because a new plan is gaining contours in the background: The United States is thinking of safeguarding a possible ceasefire in Bosnia-Herzegovina with peace forces sent by NATO....

"Now that a great reform is in the offing in the 50th year of its existence, the UN is recognizing its limits. In the future, the UN could see itself as a peace agency which passes on a mandate to safeguard peace to regional organizations."

Sweden "Moving Toward A Pure NATO Operation"

Liberal Dagens Nyheter carried an editorial stating: "The UN has become increasingly sidelined. It is now the United States that is taking the initiatives in an effort to create peace. What is now nearing is a NATO-headed (U.S.-controlled) operation of a UN mandate.... The question now is how Sweden will respond to this.... The logical thing to do would be for Sweden to participate in a multinational operation on the condition that the UN Security Council can reach consensus on a mandate. If this happens, then it will be a historic first for Sweden to participate with combat forces."

Nigeria "Global Headmaster"

The government-supported Daily Times remarked, "It is normal to expect Clinton to reap political capital out of the latest developments in the Balkans. Which politician would not? He has managed to make NATO and the UN look resolute and firm.... Even if the man expected to give him a run for his money...decides to run for president, the present Global Headmaster will be ready with his new Bosnia credentials! For while Colin Powell will talk of managing the enormous logistics and technology that made a success of the Gulf War, I predict Bill Clinton will retort that he (Powell) was not the commander-in-chief...and that in post-Cold War international relations, all diplomatic channels should be explored, as he has done in Bosnia, before committing American firepower and ground troops.... Imagine Robert Dole and the Republican camp growing green with envy whilst the smooth talking Global Headmaster does what he seems to know how to do best--campaigning."

BRIEFS

CHINA, THE U.S., AND HONG KONG

China "Nuclear Testing Defense Oriented"

The commentary below was carried, among others, on page one of the English-language China Daily, the official Communist party People's Daily and oriented-to-intellectuals Guangming Daily. "Chairman of the Japan-China Association for Economy and Trade, Premier Li Peng made remarks (to a Japanese delegation) on China's nuclear tests. He said that China adheres to a non-nuclear

proliferation policy, and its development of a limited number of nuclear weapons is for self-defense. Li Peng said that, from the time it developed its first nuclear weapons, China has assured the world that it would not be the first to use nuclear weapons against countries without nuclear weapons, or against any nuclear-free zone. Li Peng said that China is positively involved in negotiations on a comprehensive nuclear test ban treaty, and that if the treaty can be reached in 1996, China will immediately halt its nuclear tests. Japan, under powerful nuclear protection provided by the United States, should not respond excessively to China's nuclear tests."

Australia "A Slow Boat To Democracy"

Melbourne's conservative tabloid the Herald-Sun opined, "China's response to the decision of Hong Kong's voters to reject the politicians it had backed in the weekend elections was disquieting. When it takes over from Britain in 1997 it will annul the elections and sack the Legislative Council. Chillingly, it intends to replace the Assembly with an administrative body of its own choosing."

"U.S. To Stay Or Go In East Asia?"

The liberal Canberra Times carried a lengthy article on the Nye report on its op-ed page which said in part, "Instead of debate over the merits of nuclear deterrence or the SALT treaties, modern day economic strategists disagree over the economics of trade policy.... The (Nye) report clarifies the new links between trade and security policy.... Earlier this month, at the third Australian-American Leadership Dialogue,...doubts were raised (yet again) about the long-term presence and viability of U.S. forces in Asia. What is puzzling is, given the stark conclusion of the Nye report and the resolution of the car dispute with Japan, why the foreign policy establishment in Australia has been so worried about whether the United States will remain committed to the Asian region?... Ignorance about U.S. intentions is one excuse...but a deeper reason exists for this persistent doubt, deriving in part from the changing balance of economic power in Asia."

Hong Kong "U.S. Bottom Line For 4th Sino-U.S. Joint Communiqué"

The independent Sing Tao Daily remarked, "What merits attention is that when news came of China's request that 'a fourth communiqué' be signed, America's first reaction was that if 'a fourth communiqué' was merely a reiteration of what had been written in the past three communiqués, it would just be repetitive and superfluous. Nevertheless, America's attitude has changed: Now the United States says there will be a 'fourth communiqué' so long as the restriction regarding high-level Taiwan officials' visits to the United States is excluded from the communiqué. That is to say, a Sino-U.S. summit may materialize...."

"In the wake of the seesaw between the two nations in the past few months, China should now understand Bill Clinton's bottom line. China's Premier Li Peng announced that there would be a summit meeting between China's President Jiang Zemin and Mr. Clinton even

before the meeting of the two nations' foreign ministers in New York. It seems that Clinton's bottom line may have been understood by high-level Chinese officials."

NATO'S CFE OFFER TO RUSSIA

Germany "Well Contrived, But Will It Sell In Irkutsk?"

Guenther Nonnemacher wrote today in left-of-center Frankfurter Rundschau, "The flexibility with which NATO is reacting to Russia's violation of the CFE treaty...has a number of causes. For one, it is acceptable to adapt an agreement which was concluded under completely different political and strategic conditions to a new situation. There are enough strategists in the West who can see geopolitical advantages in allowing Russia to continue playing the role of supervisory power in the Southern section of the former Soviet Union. The fact that the critics of Moscow's war in Chechnya have fallen silent is connected with this idea. On the other hand, a price will have to be paid for our taking into account Russian security interests: In return, Moscow should tone down its vitriolic campaign against plans to expand NATO eastward. This has been nicely worked out. The only question is whether there is someone in Russia who can sell this deal to the domestic Russian political caste?"

Bulgaria "A Carrot And A Stick"

Center-left Kontinent observed, "NATO's intention to offer Russia some changes in the CFE raises several important issues. It seems that clever heads in Brussels have decided to yield to Moscow's insistence on preserving its armaments...to control the rich oil region of the Caucasus. This is, practically, admission to the right to keep an ethnic group subordinated by force, which contradicts the widely proclaimed principle of self-determination. On the other side, this compromise differs from NATO's declarations that it will not undertake an expansion which may be considered by Russia as a threat to its security. Brussels's offer actually admits, first, that Russia is right to consider an eventual enlargement of NATO a shifting of the zone of hostility closer to its borders, and second, that NATO may begin to accept new members without waiting for Russia's consent. Ultimately, this would mean the establishment of a new bipolar model, with all the resultant negative circumstances."

CONDUCT OF U.S. FORCES IN OKINAWA

Japan "Okinawans' Anger Should Be Accepted"

Liberal Asahi commented today, "A protest movement is growing in Okinawa over the recent rape of a schoolgirl by three U.S. servicemen and the U.S. military's refusal of a request that the suspects be turned over to Japanese police.

"The Status of Forces Agreement (SOFA) blocks the immediate transfer of U.S. military suspects in criminal cases to Japanese authorities. It was only natural that Okinawa Gov. Ota protested the incident and called for a revision of the SOFA during his calls on Ambassador

Mondale and Foreign Minister Kono.

"The Okinawans are enraged by continuing crimes of U.S. military personnel in Okinawa and the SOFA's inequality. In spite of this, the Murayama government appears less than positive about improving the situation. Needless to say, Okinawa is the pivot of the U.S.-Japan Security Treaty. Strengthening U.S.-Japan security ties will be one of the major subjects of discussion during talks between President Clinton and Murayama in Tokyo in November. We wonder whether MOFA officials are indifferent to the growing calls for the SOFA's revision out of fear that it will lead to a comprehensive overhaul of the agreement. The United States took swift action, however. The Marines immediately suspended live-firing practices and Ambassador Mondale apologized to Gov. Ota for the incident. But this was probably because they fear the treaty revisionists in their own country will find encouragement in Okinawa's anti-base sentiment."

IRANIAN AIRLINE HIJACKING TO ISRAEL

Israel "The Hijack"

Top-circulation, independent Yediot today held, "What a wonderful opening chapter for the next Tom Clancey novel!... Who exactly is the steward who has gotten fed up with living in Tehran? Is he our man? Is he their man? But this is all wild speculation.... There probably exists some very simple and prosaic explanation of the affair that would disappoint the lovers of spy novels. But mystery persists. There will always be some people who doubt that explanation and look for a secret."

"A Tough Decision"

Independent Maariv observed, "Our heart goes out to the family of captured air navigator Ron Arad.... On the other hand, innocent Iranian civilians must not be hurt, and detaining the plane in Israel may have destructive consequences. As these lines go to print, the aircraft is still here, although there are signs that the government plans to release it together with its passengers. We don't envy whoever has to take the decision about the plane's fate."

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===== ATTACHMENT 1 =====

ATT CREATION TIME/DATE:20-SEP-1995 09:12:00.00

ATT BODYPART TYPE:D

TEXT:

RFC-822-headers:

Received: from gatekeeper.eop.gov by PMDF.EOP.GOV (PMDF V5.0-4 #6879)

id <01HVHSGOJ5E8006NJ6@PMDf.EOP.GOV> for williams_ma@a1.eop.gov; Wed, 20 Sep 1995 09:13:58 -0400 (EDT)

Received: by gatekeeper.eop.gov (5.65/fma-120691); id AA05187; Wed, 20 Sep 1995 09:08:19 -0400

Received: from Connect2 Message Router by usia.gov via Connect2-SMTP 4.00; Wed,

20 Sep 1995 09:13:35 -0500

Organization: USIA

X-Mailer: Connect2-SMTP 4.00 MHS to SMTP Gateway

===== END ATTACHMENT 1 =====

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (EXTERNAL MAIL)

CREATOR: jamest@usia.gov@INET@EOPMRX

CREATION DATE/TIME:20-SEP-1995 09:19:00.00

SUBJECT: 9_19_U.S._Asia

TO: williams_ma (williams_ma@A1@CD) (WHO)
READ:20-SEP-1995 19:07:43.06

TEXT:

FOREIGN MEDIA REACTION

DAILY DIGEST USIA

OFFICE OF RESEARCH AND MEDIA

REACTION

U.S. INFORMATION AGENCY, WASHINGTON, DC 20547

Patricia McArdle, Branch Chief Media Reaction, (R/MR), Tele. No. (202)619-6511

Tuesday, September 19, 1995

U.S.-ASIA: CHINA STILL SIMMERING ON FRONT BURNER

With the conclusion of the women's conference in Beijing and with Under Secretary of State Peter Tarnoff scheduled to meet his Chinese counterpart Li Zhaoxing in Washington later this week, commentators continued to scrutinize the strained U.S.-China relationship. From Vienna to Buenos Aires, editorialists worried about the impact of the "rock bottom" Sino-U.S. relationship on others. Singapore's pro-government Straits Times urged fellow Asians to "register their disquiet" because of the danger that a breakdown in ties between the two large powers would "destabilize the entire region" and curb its enormous growth prospects. The official Chinese press dutifully repeated Premier Li Peng's assertion that the recent wrinkles in Sino-U.S. relations stem entirely from American actions. For its part, Taipei's pro-establishment China Times fretted that Taiwan could no longer count on Washington's assistance in its efforts to expand its international relationships, and that Taiwan will now be only a "bargaining chip to be used by Washington in its relations with Beijing." That paper also interpreted former President Bush's visit to China as a signal of U.S. "concern."

The Dalai Lama's recent U.S. visit and his official reception in Washington threatened to cloud U.S.-China ties even further. While some dailies, like Seoul's pro-business Joong-Ang Ilbo, worried that President Clinton's meeting with the Dalai Lama could become one more grudge, others, including the independent English-language Hong Kong Standard, defended the U.S. actions, arguing that "what the Clinton administration has done is accord the Dalai Lama a meeting which does not detract from the dignity he deserves but still protects its diplomatic flanks." The paper, and others elsewhere, hoped that Beijing would be understanding enough so that the hoped-for summit between Presidents Jiang Zemin and

Clinton could still take place. On this week's elections in Hong Kong, British observers, the first to weigh in, warned Beijing that the eyes of the West would be watching to see that the territory's duly-elected and "properly established" legislative council is not ignored.

Asian analysts also remarked on other major regional matters. Writers in Tokyo urged careful study as the U.S.-Japanese Host Nation support agreement is revamped this fall. In addition, top-circulation, moderate Yomiuri counseled Tokyo to forego requesting exceptional treatment at the Osaka APEC summit for agricultural products in order to preserve the cause of trade and investment liberalization. Dailies in Bangkok praised U.S. Ambassador to the UN Albright for pressing the Burmese leaders on democratization but also urged ASEAN to "make sure genuine changes in Burma are implemented before it is granted full membership." Jakarta's leading independent Kompas urged that any security "vacuum" left by a U.S. withdrawal be filled by Southeast Asian countries rather than by China or Japan, warning that Southeast Asia should learn from the U.S. and the Middle East that "economic strength alone does not increase a country's standing, and to ignore military development is dangerous."

This report is based on 47 commentaries from 15 countries, Sept. 9-19.

EDITOR: Rose Sue Berstein

EAST ASIA AND PACIFIC

JAPAN: "Questions Over New Security Ties"

Liberal Mainichi commented (9/18), "The United States and Japan are expected to issue a statement on new, closer U.S.-Japan security ties during President Clinton's visit to Tokyo in November. Both countries will conclude a new accord on Japan's host nation support (HNS) for U.S. bases in Japan during a 'two plus two' in New York set for September 27. Questions remain, however, over the Japanese government's position that the HNS pact is a prerequisite for maintaining closer and stronger security ties. Japan is set to shoulder expenses for relocating night landing practice by U.S. Navy jets from Atsugi NAS to Iwo Jima. We are concerned that Japan will have to pay for other U.S. military training....

"The Cabinet Legislation Bureau took a negative view of Defense Agency chief Eto's proposal that Japan conclude an acquisition and cross-servicing pact next year, and JSDF personnel on future UN peacekeeping missions cooperate with U.S. troops under the pact. The bureau fears such cooperation will lead to the implementation of collective security, an act banned under the Japanese constitution.

"The recent rape of a schoolgirl in Okinawa by three U.S. military men prompted the prefectural government to urge that the MOFA review the Status of Forces Agreement, which, local people claim, hinders the extradition of U.S. military criminal suspects to Japanese police. The United States and Japan should consider their complaints in revising the treaty."

"Strong GOJ Resolve Needed At APEC Summit"

Top-circulation, moderate Yomiuri (9/12) held, "The APEC Osaka summit is only a little more than two months away, with a two-day meeting of top working-level APEC officials getting under way in Hong Kong. There are major tasks to be addressed at the summit: Adopting an APEC action agenda for free trade and investment, economic and technological cooperation, and working out 'initial measures' to give impetus to trade liberalization.

"Cooperation among the APEC members in tackling these tasks is indispensable to ensure the sustained, well-balanced growth of the economies of the Asia and Pacific region and to reinvigorate the global economy. Should Japan, which is responsible for adoption of the action agenda, stick to a position calling for exceptional treatment of certain farm products, other APEC countries are certain to seek trade protection for their own farm produce. Such moves work against the cause of trade and investment liberalization, the most important purpose of the APEC Osaka summit."

AUSTRALIA: "U.S. To Sign Nuclear-Free South Pacific Treaty"

The South Pacific correspondent for the national, conservative Australian observed (9/18), "The United States is preparing to sign the South Pacific Nuclear Free Zone Treaty in a move that will further isolate France's position in the region.... Winston Lord yesterday informed the forum's 16 countries...of Washington's decision to accede to the treaty.

'Because of recent events including negotiations on the comprehensive test ban treaty, the U.S. government is moving quickly to come to a final decision with respect to the South Pacific Nuclear Free Zone Treaty and adhering to its protocols,' Mr. Lord said at a press conference immediately following his 'dialogue' session with forum officials."

"Japan's Emerging Leader Has A 'U.S. Revulsion'"

The national, business-oriented Australian Financial Review said (9/18), "The election of Ryutaro Hashimoto as the leader of Japan's dominant ruling party this week is likely to mark the beginning of a new era in Japan's attitude to its postwar protector and chief ally, the United States. Hashimoto has made a career out of highlighting the difference between the interests of Japan and those of the United States--differences which he has experienced 'to the point of revulsion,' according to his memoirs.... But for the world's biggest economy, this could prove an unsettling experience. Because Hashimoto is more cockily critical of the United States and more assertive of Japan's interests and policy independence than any prime minister Japan has had postwar."

"APEC Split Forces Rescue Mission"

The Australian's foreign affairs writer held (9/15), "In a blow to

the fledgling (APEC) trade body, senior officials from four of the richest APEC nations--Japan, South Korea, Taiwan and China--called for politically sensitive sectors, such as agriculture, to be excluded from APEC's free trade agenda during this week's APEC officials' meeting in Hong Kong. The proposal was strongly opposed by Australia, the United States and 10 other APEC nations, which argued that all economic sectors had to be included as part of a comprehensive move toward free trade in the region by early next century.... This key issue poses the most serious threat yet to the consensus-based APEC and to the success of the APEC leaders's summit.... Australia fears that if APEC nations are allowed to exempt sensitive sectors from free trade, it would render almost meaningless the historic pledge...to achieve free trade in APEC by 2020."

"Russia's Outrage Sparked By Latest APEC Rejection"

The Australian Financial Review (9/15) reported, "Russia has reignited the debate over APEC membership, launching a sustained attack on Australia's reluctance to allow the former Soviet superpower to join the Asia-Pacific bloc. The Russian ambassador to Australia, Alexander Losyukov, yesterday described his country's inability to join the APEC forum as 'a major political setback for us. Unfortunately the leading role in blocking our access to APEC belongs to the Government of Australia' Mr. Losyukov (said).... While the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Senator Evans, has described Russia's accession into APEC as inevitable, its entry has been prevented by a moratorium on new membership which Australia has strongly supported."

"U.S. Ruffles China's View Of Taiwan"

The editorial in the national, conservative Australian (9/12) opined, "The tension between China and Taiwan is one of the most serious security flashpoints in Asia. Its proximate cause was the visit...to the United States by Taiwan's President Lee Teng-hui.... "There was a great deal of clumsiness and mismanagement on everyone's part in this sorry episode.... But not all the miscalculation was American. It may be that Taiwan overplayed its hand.... And of course, there has been great overreaction by Beijing. Its Taiwan policies have lurched rather unpredictably over recent years. The escalation of its reaction to the Lee visit seems to have been driven partly by internal leadership struggles and possibly reflects intervention by the People's Liberation Army.... The ruckus of the last three months has caused the U.S. administration to embark on serious fence-mending, including inviting China's President Jiang Xemin for a summit. There may be times when China's actions and ambitions need to be resisted, but dialogue is a prerequisite of stability--and all the players need to pursue consistent, sophisticated and non-provocative policies."

"China Rift Angers Bush"

The Beijing correspondent for the liberal Sydney Morning Herald

(9/12) reported, "George Bush has blamed the Clinton administration for putting what he said were 'acute' strains on relations with China. Addressing an international agricultural conference here, Mr. Bush said that to get Sino-U.S. relations back on an even keel his successor should be engaged in 'more consultation and less confrontation.'... He also implicitly criticized the First Lady Hillary Clinton who last week lashed out at China's human rights record, population policy and its 'indefensible' treatment of women attending the UN Women's Conference here."

"The Coming China Crisis"

The foreign editor for the national, conservative Weekend Australian (9/9) opined, "The situation between Taiwan and mainland China is developing as Asia's most serious military flashpoint, outside of the Korean peninsula.... In the past month, the Clinton administration has worked hard to secure a rapprochement of its own with China. They sent Hillary Clinton to Beijing. More importantly they have invited Jiang for a summit meeting with Clinton in the United States in October, something Jiang has long wanted.... No one should underestimate the chances of military conflict in Northeast Asia. Such a conflict is most likely to come about through the interaction of arrogance and miscalculation. And with a factionally riven, inherently unstable, interim leadership in Beijing, an American administration that seems to find it impossible to pay attention for five minutes in a row, and a newly democratic Taiwan, the potential for miscalculation is considerable."

CHINA: "Premier Li: U.S. Caused Setback In Relations"

Official Legal Daily, China Youth Daily, Guagming Daily, Beijing Daily and Shanghai's official Liberation Daily and Wenhui Daily (9/19) all ran this account of Premier Li Peng's meeting with Agence France Presse's President Lionel Flenry in Beijing: "With regard to the Sino-U.S. relations, Premier Li Peng said that China has always attached great importance to Sino-U.S. relations. In recent months, difficulties occurred in Sino-U.S. relations, Li Peng said. Such a situation was entirely caused by the United States allowing Lee Teng-hui's visit to the United States, he said, adding that this means the United States violated the principles of the three joint communiques of the two countries.

"Li Peng pointed out that maintaining normal contact and meetings between leaders of the two major countries would benefit both and help increase mutual understanding and keep normal bilateral ties."

"Protest U.S. Leaders' Meeting With The Dalai Lama"

The English-language China Daily, official Communist party People's Daily and other official organs ran this statement (9/15): "Foreign Ministry Spokesman Chen Jian said Vice-Foreign Minister Li Zhaoxing yesterday afternoon summoned the U.S. Charge d'Affaires to protest Vice-President Gore's meeting with the Dalai Lama and the so-called drop-by meeting by President Clinton.... He demanded that the United

States 'observe principles of international relations and stop intervening in China's internal affairs on the Tibetan issue.'

"With regard to the U.S. Congress's attempt to pass a resolution to support Taiwan's application to the UN, Chen said it is a brutal trampling on the UN Charter and a serious encroachment on China's sovereignty, and the Chinese government and people are firmly opposed to it. Chen urged the U.S. government to try to prevent the adoption of this resolution and not produce any more trouble in Sino-U.S. relations."

"Safeguard Sino-U.S. Relations"

Shanghai's official Communist Party Liberation Daily (9/14) opined, "An academic forum on Sino-U.S. relations in Shanghai yesterday drew more than 30 scholars. Some pointed out that the United States, in last February's report on East Asia Strategy, puts China on the list of neither enemy nor friend. Here is the dual nature of the Clinton administration's China policy: It stresses developing extensive contacts and cooperation with China, while wanting to maintain pressure on China and restrict China's development. Some persons in the American Congress and society even openly advocate containing China. Viewed from this standpoint, the forum participants held that at present, Sino-U.S. relations are at a crossroads.

"In what direction will Sino-U.S. relations develop? This question will not only involve regional security but also international strategy and, most of all, the basic interests of the two countries.... Participants suggested that the U.S. government should...no longer create new obstacles in order to create a propitious atmosphere for improving relations between the two countries."

"Perspective On Present U.S. China Policy"

Official, intellectual Guangming Daily said (9/14), "After the Cold War ended, Sino-U.S. relations entered a period of unsteadiness. After Clinton entered the White House, relations became all the more tortuous. Allowing Lee Teng-hui to visit the United States was the product of the evolution of U.S. China policy after the Cold War, is also connected to domestic political struggles and reflects certain changes in the thinking guiding U.S. China policy. Sino-U.S. relations are extremely important not only for the two countries and their peoples but also to safeguard world peace and stability. Peace benefits both countries. Confrontation benefits neither side. The United States will get nothing (from confrontation) except pay a heavy price. On this issue, the United States can absorb sufficient lessons from the history of the evolution of Sino-U.S. relations."
HONG KONG: "Dalai Lama's U.S. Trip Shouldn't Anger China"

The independent English-language Hong Kong Standard (9/15) opined, "What the Clinton administration has done is accord the Dalai Lama a meeting which does not detract from the dignity he deserves but still protects its diplomatic flanks. But will this appease a Beijing

which only recently launched a bitter attack on pro-independence Tibetans and views any attempts to pry the region away from China as political sacrilege? If it does, then a summit meeting between Chinese President Jiang Zemin and President Clinton either in the United States in a few weeks' time, or at the Osaka APEC conference in November might still be possible."

"Tibetan Tremors"

The leading, independent, English-language South China Morning Post noted (9/14), "The best way to pacify Tibet would be to recognize the legitimacy of the Dalai Lama and meet his demand for Tibetan autonomy over domestic affairs under Chinese sovereignty. That autonomy was conceded under the 17-point Agreement of 1951, but was repudiated by both sides after Tibetans rose at China's flouting of its provisions. Reviving the agreement, reinstating the Dalai Lama, and offering guarantees of freedom of religion and assembly and other rights given to Hong Kong would help China's international reputation."

"UN Membership Not For Taiwan"

The independent English-language Eastern Express (9/12) remarked, "Beijing is still smarting over the U.S. decision to allow a private visit from Taiwan President Lee Teng-hui and will not countenance anything which might appear as even the slightest support for Taiwan as a separate nation.... The United States and most other powers have stressed that they support the one-China policy, and at this tense and difficult time, the latest Taiwan moves are unlikely to amount to anything other than wishful thinking. Taiwan is doubtless aware of that, and the trip [to the United States by the Taiwan government information office director Jason Hu] is a ploy to keep its profile high on the international stage.

"A better course would be for Taiwan to seek membership in international organizations which are non-political, where its influence and presence can be felt, without jeopardizing diplomatic relationships."

INDONESIA: "Southeast Asia Arms Markets Now Highlighted"

Leading independent Kompas (9/19) commented, "In this time of uncertainty, the U.S. presence is perceived to be diminishing, while China becomes increasingly powerful. The vacuum left by a U.S. withdrawal would stimulate increased arms purchases in the region. Any vacuum left should be filled by Southeast Asian countries rather than by China or Japan.... The Reagan administration spent a lot of money strengthening U.S. defense capabilities. The United States seemed stronger, but it was only an illusion.... After eight years, the U.S. economy had been weakened.... Southeast Asian countries should learn from the United States, as well as from the Middle East. Economic strength alone does not increase a country's standing, and to ignore military development is dangerous."

SINGAPORE: "RSAF To Train On New Helicopters In U.S."

Pro-government Straits Times (9/16) carried the following item on its "News Focus" page: "Singapore's air force will carry out training on its new Chinook helicopters in the United States.... After completing their initial training, the air and ground crewmen will work alongside their U.S. counterparts at the Grand Prairie Army Aviation Support facility.... The two sides said the coordinated training effort will enhance the already strong ties between the two countries."

"Getting Serious Over China"

The pro-government Straits Times (9/9) remarked, "One of the unfortunate realities of international politics is that while worsening relations between great powers affect other countries which are not responsible for the downturn, these countries cannot force the powers to conduct their relations for the benefit of the wider international system. So it is with the differences between the United States and China, which several weeks ago appeared to have gone into a dangerous downspin. The issue obviously affects Asian countries because a breakdown in ties between the two would destabilize the entire region and set back its excellent prospects of growth. Sadly, there is not much that Asians can do to prevent that degeneration. However, they should register their disquiet clearly so that both Washington and Beijing are reminded of the high stakes involved...."

"They are for Beijing too. Disrupted ties with the United States will set back its ambitious economic program. As for its neighbors, its tough positions on some issues are fueling concerns that an industrialized and strong China may not be as benign as the United States. This is one reason why these countries want America to remain engaged in the region. That apart, the prospects of a crisis between the two giants is deeply disturbing. No one would gain from it, while everyone would have to bear a part of the losses that can be prevented. That is why the hope of a genuine and lasting improvement in Sino-U.S. relations is one that concerns Southeast Asians so critically."

SOUTH KOREA: "Tibet A Problem in Thawing U.S.-China Relations"

Pro-business Joong-Ang Ilbo (9/15) commented, "From China's standpoint, President Clinton's meeting with the Dalai Lama can easily be viewed as being intentionally designed to agitate the situation. China, which already has grudges against the United States over Mrs. Clinton's remarks, takes the Tibet issue as one more American tactic to corner China. U.S.-China relations are back on shaky ground."

TAIWAN: "Bush's Beijing Trip Shows U.S. Concern Over Beijing Ties"

Yu Yu-lin opined in pro-establishment China Times (9/12), "The U.S. administration's Taiwan policy has become very explicit--in the future, it would be more and more difficult for Taiwan to receive Washington's assistance in its efforts to expand its international

relationships. Taiwan, at best, will only be a bargaining chip to be used by Washington in its relations with Beijing, and Taiwan will only play a role for Washington to check Beijing's movements in the international community.

"Thus, Taiwan's role will grow more subtle in future interactions between Beijing and Washington.... The U.S. administration needs Taiwan to continue playing a role to check Beijing.... The U.S. public, which supports Taiwan, will restrain their government from any possibility of 'betraying' Taiwan.... Where does the bottom line of each side lie in this non-equilateral triangular relationship? Lee Teng-hui's trip to the United States is evidently the latest test.... For Communist China's part, its position is that it admits no compromise regarding any major breakthroughs by Taiwan on the international diplomatic front and it will use every resource it can get to shut out Taiwan's position in the international community. As for the United States, facing Beijing's strong backlash (against Lee's trip), Washington also clarified its bottom line on Taiwan policy--that it still regards Beijing as an important subject for strategic dialogue and that it has no intention to run the risk again of injuring Washington-Beijing ties just for the sake of improving its relations with Taiwan. Bush's speech delivered in Beijing has clearly revealed this intent of the U.S. administration."

THAILAND: "Beijing Must Show It Can Control Its Generals"

The top-circulation, English-language Bangkok Post (9/19) held that, "China has shown massive arrogance in its recent nuclear weapons testing. It has not tried in any manner to justify them, except with the questionable claim they are an 'internal affair' of the country. Beijing rulers undoubtedly face the same pressures from the military as other nuclear powers. This is why it is important China show it can control its generals, work with the rest of the world, and halt the tests."

"Burmese Unity Hinges On Suu Kyi Dialogue"

The Bangkok Post (9/14) remarked, "Whether imprisoned or free, and even when officially snubbed, Mrs. Suu Kyi is Burma's most vital political figure. Until the military leaders come to terms with this stark fact, the Burmese cannot enjoy international respect nor political stability.... Mrs. Albright spoke for many nations and potential investors and visitors to Burma last week, when she told Khin Nyunt of the regime that his policies 'fall far short of what is needed' for improved relations and international acceptance. Rangoon can gain respect only by following through on its release of Mrs. Suu Kyi. If the regime fails to negotiate the country's future with her and other democrats, it will face continued sanctions, criticism and lack of foreign investment. The possibility of another violent uprising by democratic supporters always looms throughout Burma as well. The political future of Burma can only be decided by the citizens of that nation."

"SLORC Must Be Pressured Into Dialogue With Suu Kyi"

The independent English language Nation (9/13) commented, "It seems the United States intends to maintain pressure on SLORC through the United Nations.... This stand by the Clinton administration is indeed laudable. But for SLORC to get the message, it is also necessary for ASEAN to turn the screws.... With Burma showing its eagerness to join ASEAN, it is important for the regional grouping to make sure genuine changes in Burma are implemented before it is granted full membership.

"ASEAN leaders should remind SLORC that constructive engagement is a give and take situation. The diplomatic recognition that the junta is desperately seeking from ASEAN must come with conditions. The prerequisite is that the Burmese generals must be seen as working toward a more open democratic society."

EUROPE

BRITAIN: "Hong Kong Has Gained Credible Representation"

An editorial in the conservative Times remarked (9/19), "Because of China's vehement opposition to the Patten reforms, the governor's conservative critics assert that this has been a pointless exercise, a mere gesture toward democracy. But that is far from self-evident. Since Beijing had never promised that legislators elected in 1995 would keep their seats after 1997 however they were chosen, Hong Kong had nothing to lose by reform. What it has gained is credible representation--far more credible than the bodies of 'advisers' Beijing has recruited in Hong Kong. Some Chinese understand. Li Ruihuan, a member of the politburo, bluntly told this year's national people's congress that running Hong Kong properly matters 'for the image of the Chinese.'... Hong Kong's democrats have 21 months to drive that message home."

"Patten's Defense Of Democracy, And West's Fair-Weather Friends"

The conservative tabloid London Evening Standard (9/18) observed, "It is deeply depressing that Mr. Patten is not getting the strong public support in Britain that he deserves. Politicians and businessmen, terrified of losing influence and trade in the Far East, are not speaking up....

"When the Chinese take over Hong Kong, the eyes of the West will be on them to see how they treat this modest, but nevertheless properly established democratic assembly. China claims to be the People's Republic. Very well then. The Legislative Council gives the people of Hong Kong a voice. And it is not as if voices sympathetic to Beijing are excluded from this council. So we should applaud Chris Patten for his tough, consistent defense of democracy. And those fair-weather friends of democracy in the West--erstwhile starry-eyed triumphalists who abandon democracy when it is inconvenient--ought to be ashamed of themselves."

"Clinton Sets Out To Woo East Asia"

The liberal Guardian (9/18) reported, "The Clinton administration launched a bid for dominance in East Asia yesterday, as it moved to outmaneuver China and France on nuclear testing and to step up its ties with its old enemy, Vietnam.

"Officials signalled that the United States would soon sign the South Pacific nuclear free zone treaty, banning it from stationing nuclear weapons in the region and using or threatening to use them. Winston Lord...said the decision was urgently being reviewed in Washington. Speaking yesterday at a conference of the South Pacific forum in Papua New Guinea, Mr. Lord said: 'Because of the recent events, including negotiations for a comprehensive test ban treaty, the U.S. government is moving quickly to come to a final decision with respect to the SPNFZ.' Mr. Lord has frequently been used to test the water for U.S. policy changes in sensitive areas.

"The move represents a shrewd attempt by the United States to take advantage of hostility to China and France in the South Pacific, after Beijing's underground detonation of a device in August and the French test at Mururoa atoll earlier this month. Mr. Lord was at pains to tell the Port Moresby gathering that Washington 'regretted' both actions and had lobbied against them....

"The benefit for Washington (if it signed the SPNFZ) would be an enormous public relations boost in a region the United States regards as increasingly important.... With anti-French hostility running high in the South Pacific, the Clinton administration has spotted a chance to play the good guys at little cost."

AUSTRIA: "'Good Cop-Bad Cop' On China"

Foreign affairs writer Monica Riedler commented in independent Die Presse (9/14), "After 'bad cop' Hillary Clinton called a spade a spade at the UN Women's Conference as far as the human rights violations committed by the Communist regime in Beijing are concerned, President and husband Bill Clinton immediately played the part of the 'good cop:' There is no official date for the Dalai Lama, currently on a visit to Washington.... Clinton was accused of showing weakness.

"It used to be the Democratic majority in Congress who blamed the Republican president for being too indulgent. Now the Republicans reproach the Democrat Clinton for the same thing.... Clinton, who in Bosnia finally put into action the United States' verbal claim to leadership in the new world order, now has the opportunity to present himself in clear profile in the Sino-American relations as well. A possible meeting with the Chinese President and party leader Jiang Zemin in New York in October would be a first step--provided that Clinton makes it clear what Washington expects from Beijing. There is no doubt that a frictionless integration of China in the international community is of global interest. But Beijing must know that there are certain rules which apply to all."

POLAND: "At the Bottom: China-U.S. Relations"

Krystyna Szelestowska opined in leftist Trybuna (9/15), "America's First Lady, after a long hesitation, went to Beijing. Instead of improving the bad relations between Washington and Beijing, she poured oil on the flames, criticizing the Chinese with 'violation of human rights by forced sterilization and abortion.'..."

"It wasn't an accidental lapse of language by Hillary Clinton. Three days later, Madeleine Albright repeated the same, in a sharper tone.... The Chinese have decided to pay Americans back.... Beijing has cancelled many official visits by U.S. economic and military delegations. China has turned to other countries, offering them contracts formerly reserved for American firms.... Considering the speeches of Hillary Clinton and Madeleine Albright, Washington doesn't plan to revise its policy toward China....

"There are many reasons for the arguments and tensions (between the United States and China). But it is possible that the iceberg between them will melt in the future. Many decisions are forced by domestic considerations.

"The fight for succession after Deng Xiaoping is continuing in China, and President Clinton is concerned with the upcoming presidential election.... In the meantime, however, the state of Beijing-Washington relations is at rock bottom. Many U.S. politicians are concerned, because they are aware that U.S.-China relations influence not only trade balance and economic issues, but also America's position in Southeast Asia."

SPAIN: "A Notorious Big Power"

Liberal-left El Pais (9/11) opined, "China has been a notoriously leading power this summer. It has carried out a nuclear test, launched missiles and naval maneuvers around Taiwan. However, it continues not admitting any kind of advice or comment on the Tibet issue and pursues its revindication of the Spratly Islands. Because of all of this, some defense strategists in the United States are of the opinion that China might take over the role of the defunct Soviet Union in a kind of new cold war....

"The problem lies in how to establish relations with a country with which one does not share elemental principles. This would not be so serious if this were not a country of over a billion inhabitants, with incredible natural resources, a big nuclear arsenal and on its way to becoming an economic superpower."

LATIN AMERICA AND CARIBBEAN

ARGENTINA: "China: The Growing Influence Of Militarism"

Political columnist Enrique A. Antonini wrote in conservative La Prensa (9/12), "Chinese relations with the United States are in what some call a 'danger zone,' that is, going through a particularly difficult moment. Many analysts feel that it is the tensest (moment) since the two countries 'normalized' their relations in 1979....

Especially since the unusual visit of Taiwan's president...last June,
which was--for him and his cause--a complete success. China is now
requesting that the United States not grant any more visas to
Taiwanese politicians. It seems incredible, but true."

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===== ATTACHMENT 1 =====

ATT CREATION TIME/DATE:20-SEP-1995 09:18:00.00

ATT BODYPART TYPE:D

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id <01HVHSNN2340007N1N@PMDf.EOP.GOV> for williams_ma@a1.eop.gov; Wed,
20 Sep 1995 09:19:34 -0400 (EDT)

Received: by gatekeeper.eop.gov (5.65/fma-120691); id AA05466; Wed,
20 Sep 1995 09:14:21 -0400

Received: from Connect2 Message Router by usia.gov via Connect2-SMTP 4.00; Wed,
20 Sep 1995 09:19:44 -0500

Organization: USIA

X-Mailer: Connect2-SMTP 4.00 MHS to SMTP Gateway

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RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (EXTERNAL MAIL)

CREATOR: jamest@usia.gov@INET@EOPMRX

CREATION DATE/TIME:22-SEP-1995 09:56:00.00

SUBJECT: 9_22_NATO_Russia_Asia

TO: matsui_d (matsui_d@A1@CD) (WHO)

READ:22-SEP-1995 09:55:30.65

TEXT:

FOREIGN MEDIA REACTION

EARLY REPORT USIA

OFFICE OF RESEARCH AND MEDIA

REACTION

U.S. INFORMATION AGENCY, WASHINGTON, DC 20547

Patricia McArdle, Branch Chief Media Reaction, (R/MR), Tele. No. (202)619-6511

iday, September 22, 1995

NATO-RUSSIA: ABOVE ALL, CAUTION

European commentators reviewing NATO's latest thoughts on enlargement and its proposal to Moscow on amending the Conventional Forces in Europe (CFE) treaty emphasized how cautiously the Alliance is moving so as not to further antagonize Russia. They stressed that the Allies had carefully delineated the "how and why" of membership, but refused to be pinned down on what the Polish and Czech analysts said were the most important questions: "Who" and "when." It was left to right-of-center Die Welt of Berlin to point out that this exercise came about precisely because Russia remains the great imponderable. It cited Deputy Secretary Talbott's views that "expanding NATO should be regarded as an insurance policy against uncertainties in Russia." In Brussels, a writer noted how quickly the Russians protested any attempt to link CFE concessions to NATO enlargement, while in Moscow, reformist Izvestia lamented the lack of understanding Washington exhibits toward the current Kremlin's inadequacies as a government. The most optimistic note was sounded by Slovenia's left-of-center Delo, which confidently predicted that the question of NATO expansion would be settled after the Russian presidential election, scheduled for 1996.

ASIAN SECURITY ISSUES: CHINA, HONG KONG, JAPAN

How the U.S. will fit into the evolving Asian security equation was a topic of discussion among analysts in the region this morning. Government-owned Seoul Shinmun--predicting that "one day China may well be as influential a power as, or even stronger than, the United States"--suggested that although South Korea should not put its relationship with Washington "on the line over China," it will need

Beijing's backing for unification. The outcome of the elections in Hong Kong sparked concern among some commentators that Beijing would now be "more likely than ever to install its own henchmen in the territory." Melbourne's liberal Age feared that the election has ended the hope that there will be some continuity in government and "in the liberal tradition that has allowed Hong Kong to prosper over the past 150 years." London's independent Economist, noting that the residents of both Hong Kong and Taiwan want democracy "to help protect their freedom to make money," suggested that "there lies China's dilemma" since the more aggressive China is toward it, the more popular such a stance will become. Writers in Hong Kong, focusing on the tensions in the U.S.-China-Taiwan relationship, urged all parties to "avoid new disturbances." Japanese pundits welcomed Defense Secretary Perry's reaffirmation that the U.S. military presence in the Asia-Pacific region is "necessary to cope with security situations including that of the Korean Peninsula."

BRIEFS

- Former Yugoslavia: 'Thank You, America'
- Middle East Peace Process

EDITORS: Mildred Sola Neely and Pat McArdle
NATO-RUSSIA: ABOVE ALL, CAUTION

Germany "Caution, Because We Don't Know About Russia"

Herbert Kremp today observed in right-of-center Die Welt of Berlin, "The length and comprehensiveness of the NATO study on expanding the Alliance (31 pages) is an indication of the caution with which the 16 NATO nations are approaching the subject in consensus. (The document) addresses only the 'why and how' of accepting Central and Eastern European, not the 'who and when.'... Moscow is denied a veto on admitting new members to NATO.... The 'process' of expansion will be conducted gradually, prudently and transparently. It will be accompanied by comprehensive talks with all 'interested parties.' A 'strengthened' OSCE, an 'expanded' NATO, an 'active' consultation conference and Partnership for Peace are viewed as complementary parts of a European security architecture. NATO does not intend to dominate. Cooperation 'above and beyond partnership' emphasizes Moscow's special role....

"What comes closer to the truth is the statement made by Deputy Secretary of State Talbott when he had just returned from Moscow. (He said that) expanding NATO should be regarded as an insurance policy against uncertainties in Russia. It is a fact that without these uncertainties, nobody would have even considered expanding NATO or joining it."

"Perry Drives Lesson Home To Czechs"

Michael Frank penned this piece on Perry's recent visit to Prague for centrist Sueddeutsche Zeitung of Munich, "It is Washington--the real addressee of Prague's solitary advances--which has now made plain to Prague that everything that is good for Poland also benefits the

Czechs. Secretary Perry masterfully flattered the Czech government and assured it that of course it was first on the list of candidates and fulfilled all the criteria for membership of NATO. But: He made it painfully clear...that nobody was interested in a single country. Large sections of the Central European region had to think and act in unison. The painful upshot for Prague: No NATO solo any longer, the door will at best be opened for a duet with the unloved Poland. It is a bitter realization for the Czechs that all roads to Western political and military structures lead via Warsaw. One indication of how violent Perry's dig in the ribs was is the almost disturbing haste with which Prague is now seeking common Central European ground. Concepts for a joint air defense system with Poland have already been pulled out of the hat, and a commission has been given the task of examining whether it might be better to buy American F-16 fighters instead of expanding Prague's own, highly effective fleet of MIGs....

"So only losses? The gain in political realism regarding the West and the rediscovery of its neighbors as an inescapable Central European home is of invaluable benefit."

France "Is U.S. Being Too Lenient With Moscow?"

Conservative Le Figaro's Washington correspondent Stephane Marchand said, "If this compromise is confirmed (NATO-Russian deal on CFE), Clinton will be able to consider meeting with Yeltsin for a summit in October.... Some analysts think that the U.S. administration has been overly lenient. In these analysts' view, it is dangerous to allow Russia to remain outside international law for six months."

Russia "Why Can't Americans Understand?"

Washington correspondent Vladimir Nadein offered these thoughts in reformist Izvestia, "We are living in the same world as the Americans are, and it is an honorary duty for our diplomacy to make it clear to them that we are under the pressure of the same barometer. But do the Americans see it? Generally speaking, yes. However, in particular, they are concerned with an all-out reinforcement of their negotiating positions. They have always worked on the principle: I am defending my interests, and you, yours. When it comes to a real tally, they forget that the present Russian government, (with its) provincial amateurishness, emerged center stage at a moment when history--the doorkeeper--was looking the other way.

"To beat such a government is simply sinful. Unfair to compete as if with equals, when the forces are unequal. Until the people in Washington realize the enormity of the gap between the Russian society and the Russian rulers, between the nations' talent and their leaders' narrowmindedness, between the objective, and therefore long-term national interests and the flimsy vain ambitions of a few favorites of fortune, til then the White House and the State Department will keep sharpshooting false targets."

Belgium "Moscow Raises Its Voice Against CFE-NATO Link"

Pierre Lefevre wrote for independent Le Soir, "Probably fearing that discussions on the adaptation of the CFE treaty may appear a tacit acceptance of the Atlantic projects, Moscow raised its voice Thursday, denouncing any kind of link between the CFE treaty problems and enlargement.... Talbott himself had to recognize the failure of a visit which he had just made to Moscow in order to alleviate the Russian government's fear of enlargement."

Czech Republic "Two Most Important Questions Unanswered"

U.S. affairs analyst Viliam Buchert concluded in right-of-center Mlada fronta DNES, "The NATO enlargement study has not conveyed any new message to post-Communist countries. NATO is only a quarter way through to enlargement. Although the Alliance provides the 'how' and 'why,' two much more important questions of 'who' and 'when' remain unanswered. And yet, these two answers are of major importance to this (Central European) region because we do know 'why:' Through NATO enlargement eastward, a zone of stability in Europe and the world at large will be expanded....

"The study anticipates EU membership as an indirect condition for (Central European countries') membership in NATO. But joining the EU seems to be a much more complex issue at least in the next few years.... And citizens of the Czech Republic don't seem to be much interested in this problem.... The latest NATO study has not made things clear either. Uncertainty may prevail unless crystal-clear positions are taken."

Poland "Avoid Frustration"

Maria Wagrowska commented in centrist Rzeczpospolita, widely read in government circles, "The group of 16 hasn't answered the questions 'who' and 'when' will they join NATO.... Nobody has any illusion as to the long time that will pass until we get the OK for membership in the Atlantic Club.... Nevertheless, we should avoid frustration.... It is much better for the Western countries first to solve all doubts and reservations connected with the future membership of Central European countries, and not to make unconsidered decisions....

"The unanimity of the 16 concerning the nuclear umbrella over our countries...is one of the conditions for the Alliance to be strong.... A politically and militarily strong NATO will guarantee our security.... Frustration should be avoided for other reasons, as well. Disappointment may lead to a search for alternatives. There is no alternative to membership in NATO and in the Euro-Atlantic structures in general.... It would be a great mistake to create the impression that Poland doesn't care much for (membership)."

Slovenia "NATO's Enlargement To Be Settled After Russian Elections"

Left-of-center Delo's Moscow correspondent Darijan Kosir filed, "The NATO Council...has complied with Russia's demands for a revision of the 1990 agreement on conventional weapons reductions, concerning the quantity of Russian weapons in the Leningrad and northern Caucasus

military regions.... This concession yielding is very important because otherwise Russia would unilaterally freeze implementation of the agreement, which might result in a severe confrontation. Of course, NATO will profit from this as well because Russia will most probably be more compliant about NATO's eastward expansion....

"After the presidential elections in Russia in 1996, the question (of NATO expansion) will definitely be settled regardless of who wins--the reformers or the reactionaries. But the basic question--whom does the accumulation of weapons on the Polish-Belarus border serve...remains unanswered. As long as such an outcome is in the interest of Russia and the West, however, these questions are just rhetorical."

ASIAN SECURITY ISSUES: CHINA, HONG KONG, JAPAN

Japan "Strengthening U.S.-Japan Alliance After Okinawa Incident"

Top-circulation, moderate Yomiuri remarked today, "Nearly four years have passed since the Cold War ended, but security difficulties remain in the Asia-Pacific region. We welcome Defense Secretary Perry's reaffirmation that the U.S. military presence in the Asia-Pacific region is necessary to cope with security situations including that of the Korean Peninsula. The alleged rape of a girl by three U.S. soldiers in Okinawa gave rise to a call for revision of the U.S.-Japan Status of Force Agreement (SOFA).... The two governments decided to set up a joint group of expert to explore ways to improve the implementation of the SOFA. It will be realistic to improve the method of implementation of the SOFA in dealing with the rape case. We hope that the U.S. side, as it promised, will continue to be flexible and make utmost effort to prevent recurrence of such an incident.

"The understanding of local residents is essential for the United States to use its bases without troubles.... However, the both governments need to deal with the case calmly from the standpoint of strengthening bilateral security ties. When it comes to the peace and stability of the Asia-Pacific region, practically nothing can take the place of the U.S.-Japan security arrangement. There is no alternative but to strengthen the alliance between the two countries."

Australia "A Vote For Democracy"

Melbourne's liberal Age held, "Had a respectable proportion of pro-Beijing candidates been elected, there had been hopes that the Chinese might have appointed most or all of the elected members to their new council. This might have made more likely some continuity in government and of the liberal tradition that has allowed Hong Kong to prosper over the past 150 years. The election result has ended such hopes; Beijing is now more likely than ever to install its own henchmen on the territory."

Hong "Remove Obstacles To Relations"

Kong

Center-right Sing Tao Daily observed, "It is reported that China and the United States are discussing the signing of a fourth communique.... The main tenet of the fourth communique proposed by the Chinese side is that the United States would not give a green light to further visits to America by Lee Teng-hui or [other] Taiwan senior officials. This demand has been unequivocally rejected by the U.S. State Department spokesperson. However, [the two sides] may still discuss other conditions.... If China and the United States sign a fourth joint communique, the two nations' relations will improve, and the tense relations between China, the United States and Taiwan will relax as well. At the moment, the most important thing is [to avoid] creating new disturbances and to carefully remove obstacles from this 'trilateral relationship.'"

South "U.S., China And Korea"

Korea

Government-owned Seoul Shinmun maintained, "For the moment, the mutual economic interests of United States and China are too great for them to let their relationship drift toward an explosion. However, what's just as obvious is that their honeymoon is over. The restoration of those good old days seems impossible, at least for now. Korea's best bet is to avoid being swept into the quarrel. The truth is that one day China may well be as influential a power as, or even stronger than, the United States. We do not want to put our relationship with Washington on the line over China, but ROK-China relations are just as important to us. We need China for unification, and cannot afford to let anyone get in the way."

Malaysia "Democracy Or Hypocrisy"

The government-influenced New Straits Times contended, "One can understand the resentment and outrage felt by China at having its throat rammed with what a departing ruler deems is the best form of government for the last outpost of its imperialism. If only Britain had been more sincere and eased democracy into the colony in a more dignified manner, it would not only have been more readily accepted there but elsewhere too, perhaps even in China."

Britain "Hong Kong's Stormy Prospects"

The independent, weekly Economist opined, "People do not value democracy for its own sake: It is a means, not an end. They value it when they think they need it, as the least-bad protection for the freedoms they value more. So the 'realists' are right that the Chinese want money, and the choices it brings, but they do not see that that is precisely why the Chinese will want democracy. Hong Kong's people want it to help protect their freedom to make money. So do the Taiwanese. who will vote in parliamentary elections in December and presidential ones next March.

"And there lie China's dilemmas. Hong Kong has already helped infect and enrich southern China with its capitalism. The more its new Chinese rulers provoke it, the greater the danger that it will next begin to infect it with its democratic instincts. Taiwan could be

tolerated as long as it was ruled by Kuomintang autocrats. Once it is democratic this will be harder, for there is always the risk that it might declare independence; the more aggressive China is toward it, the more popular such a stance seems to become. The People's Republic against the people: In such a confrontation a storm will lie."

BRIEFS

FORMER YUGOSLAVIA: 'THANK YOU, AMERICA'

Croatia "Thank You, America, But Beware A Peace Built On Ethnic Cleansing"

Rijeka's independent Novi list said today in a commentary by columnist Dane Rosko, "Today American President Bill Clinton, who resumed the leading role in the process of resolving the Balkan crisis, is facing a tough challenge. He has to demonstrate to his fellow Americans and to the world that he is a leader with 'stamina and vision,' who is prepared anytime, anywhere to defend their (American and international) interests, rights and values based on (what should have been) the principles of the international order. But it seems that even America, 'the beacon of democracy,' faced with the complexity of the problem, cannot harmonize its interests with democratic principles, which give way to its currents interests.

"It should, by all means, be thanked for the decision to use force to implement peace and stop the horrors and sufferings of war in Bosnia-Herzegovina.... But, should American accept peace even at the cost of ethnic cleansing and ethnic divisions, this would represent a negation of its identity as the most successful multiethnic society. This would represent a horrible precedent."

France "U.S. Pushes Forward"

Marc Semo wrote in influential Liberation, "The Americans are pushing forward, because they view the (Muslim-Croat) federation as the 'best chance' for peace, as Secretary Christopher said. The federation will moreover likely receive the largest part of the U.S. aid for reconstruction."

Germany "Holbrooke: Clinton's Pit Bull"

Washington correspondent Cornel Faltin remarked in centrist Leipziger Volkszeitung, "After a disappointing foreign policy debut, the Democrat Clinton rediscovered the successful U.S. concept of pursuing 'diplomacy with the support of arms.'... It is not so that the Americans have done their utmost to resolve the Bosnia crisis all by themselves. Clinton deferred an active intervention again and again, hoping that the Europeans would create order in their own backyard. But if the president had waited much longer, his chances of being reelected would have considerably dropped. But with the sending of Holbrooke, whom the French press called in an admiring way 'the

Kissinger of the Balkans,' Clinton had a deft hand. The 'pit bull' from Washington made quickly clear to his interlocutors in ex-Yugoslavia that he is not a pleasant customer to deal with."

Belgium "Victory For Clinton, NATO"

Independent La Nouvelle Gazette's Jean-Luc Leonard stressed, "This is a victory for NATO and for President Clinton, whose firmness forced the Serbs to bow, while reversing the balance of forces. The Allies were able to announce the indefinite suspension of their military actions against the Serbs, yesterday. And, as if by magic, arms have become silent in the whole of Bosnia."

China "U.S. Acted With Prudence"

According to Zhou Yiping in Chinese Communist Youth League China Youth Daily, "At present, factors threatening the peace process still exist. First, it will be observed how Muslims react after the Serbs withdrew their heavy weapons from Sarajevo. Second, Banja Luka is a key directly affecting the future situation in Bosnia. In view of these factors, the United States, a country which has always advocated merciless attacks against the Bosnian Serbs, has acted with prudence so as to avoid having the peace plan it has peddled being destroyed in a day."

MIDDLE EAST PEACE PROCESS

Tunisia "Deadlock"

Radio journalist and contributing editor Mohamed Lahmar noted in today's independent, French-language Le Temps, "To get the talks out of deadlock, Yasser Arafat has once again urged the world community, including the United States and the European Union, to pressure Israel's leaders.... The situation probably won't improve until and unless Israel manages to involve Syria in the negotiating process. This is Secretary of State Christopher's top priority during his upcoming trip to the area.... There is still hope for progress between Palestinians and Israelis. The marathon discussions between Arafat and Peres should lead to some solid results."

Israel "Peace Seen As Electoral Liability"

Diplomatic correspondent Aluf Ben commented in liberal Haaretz, "The peace season is apparently over, at least until after the Israeli and American elections. The Syrian track is stuck, the negotiations with the Palestinians will produce just a hollow ceremony, and talks of regional cooperation are dragging along without results.... The U.S. peace team is still hoping that Assad will make a gesture that would bring about a breakthrough. As of now, Rabin is enjoying an unprecedented situation: Syria is responsible for the deadlock in the talks, and he can thumb his nose at the Likud for raising as much hue and cry as if the Golan were already in Assad's pocket.... In the next few weeks the Americans will make another attempt to revive the Syrian track.... But Assad says he is not in a hurry, Rabin is adamant on the issue of warning stations, and time is running out."

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===== ATTACHMENT 1 =====

ATT CREATION TIME/DATE:22-SEP-1995 09:54:00.00

ATT BODYPART TYPE:D

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22 Sep 1995 09:55:55 -0400 (EDT)

Received: by gatekeeper.eop.gov (5.65/fma-120691); id AA07090; Fri,
22 Sep 1995 09:51:30 -0400

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22 Sep 1995 09:47:47 -0500

Organization: USIA

X-Mailer: Connect2-SMTP 4.00 MHS to SMTP Gateway

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RECORD TYPE: FEDERAL (XCHANGE MAIL)

CREATOR: Sue Walitsky (CN=Sue Walitsky/O=USIA [UNKNOWN])

CREATION DATE/TIME:28-SEP-1995 17:21:30.00

SUBJECT: USIA Weekly Report

TO: Stephen B. Silverman (CN=Stephen B. Silverman/OU=WHO/O=GOV @ WHO [WHO])
READ:UNKNOWN

CC: Kris Balderston (CN=Kris Balderston/OU=WHO/O=GOV @ WHO [WHO])
READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

September 28, 1995

MEMORANDUM FOR: The Honorable Leon Panetta
Chief of Staff, The White House

FROM: Joseph Duffey
Director, United States Information Agency

SUBJECT: Weekly Report - Week of October 2

I. KEY USIA NEWS/UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

INTERNATIONAL VISITOR PROGRAM CELEBRATES 55 YEARS: Over 300 attended USIA's Courtyard Reception marking the 55th Anniversary of the International Visitor Program. Among the dignitaries present was 1986 IV alumnus and keynote speaker, Egyptian Ambassador Ahmed Maher El Sayed. Those participating in the festivities included International Visitors beginning their programs in Washington that week, representatives from national program agencies, the National Council for International Visitors, Language Services, and escort-interpreters. Media covering the program included: VOA ARABIC, which interviewed Egyptian Ambassador El-Sayed; WORLDNET; GLOBAL NEWS; and three Egyptian newspapers, AL WAFD, EL MUSSAWAR, and AL AHRAM. DIARIO LAS AMERICAS and NOTICIAS, both of Miami, carried stories about the anniversary, pegged to Miami artist Juan Urquiola's contribution of art to the anniversary brochure.

FREEDOM SUPPORT ACT: More than 1,600 high school students from throughout the NIS who are in the US for the 1995-96 academic year under the NIS Secondary School Initiative have completed the regional orientations conducted in their local communities by staff of their placement organizations. Seventeen US NGOs have USIA grants to place these students with American host families and in US high schools for the academic year.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY: The Washington Foreign Press Center tour on intellectual property rights, scheduled for October 12-20, has received a very strong response from both USIS posts and domestic-based foreign journalists. More than 50 foreign journalists have expressed an interest

in joining the tour, though we can accommodate only 25 for the program which begins in Washington, DC, and moves on to California and Washington State. The tour, targeted to media from countries on the USTR watch and priority watch lists, will focus on the IPR interests of American software, publishing, manufacturing, entertainment, pharmaceutical and biotech companies.

II. PRESIDENTIAL INITIATIVES

PEACE SIGNING: USIA/NEA has worked with the White House Office of Press Advance and Agency elements to coordinate Agency support for the Israeli-Palestinian Oslo II signing at the White House this Thursday. The Wireless File, VOA and WORLDNET gave the event extensive coverage, including live coverage in English, Arabic and French on WORLDNET, and delayed coverage in Russian. VOA News Division and Arabic Branch also aired the event live. WORLDNET and the Foreign Press Center provided support for the foreign media, including credentialing.

OKINAWA RAPE COVERAGE: The alleged rape of a twelve-year-old Japanese girl by US servicemen prompted negative Japanese media commentary on the Status of Forces Agreement. The USIS Tokyo Press Office worked diligently with major Japanese and international news organizations to correct a widespread misinterpretation of President Clinton's statement -- regarding US willingness to review the Status of Forces Agreement -- which he made on a radio town meeting in Los Angeles. Thanks to USIS efforts, Reuters, the Associated Press, and Kyodo printed clarifications of or corrections to their stories.

PRESIDENT CLINTON LIVE ON LARRY KING AND VOA: VOA Europe, VOA's Worldwide English Division, and the News Division program "VOA Today" all carried live Larry King's town meeting with President Clinton. VOA Europe was the exclusive pan-European broadcaster for the Westwood One Network sponsored event, which invited listeners around the world to call and speak to the President live. By allowing VOA to carry the event, the special reached not only the 6,000 stations of the Westwood One network, but reached millions of additional listeners to VOA English as well.

DRUG CONTROL: USIS Mexico arranged a press conference for Attorney General Janet Reno, who visited Mexico City at the invitation of the Mexican Government for talks with senior officials and to attend Independence Day celebrations. The Attorney General praised US-Mexican cooperation in suppressing drug trafficking and American efforts to counter the scourge of illicit drugs at home. The Attorney General's remarks appeared prominently in Mexico City dailies and on television.

FREE TRADE: The idea that all countries benefit from an open and liberal international trading system is still not widely understood by all APEC members. In a September 21 WORLDNET for USIS audiences in Tokyo, Seoul, and Manila, W. Bowman Cutter, Deputy Assistant to the President for Economic Policy, deftly explained the benefits of trade liberalization and APEC's important role in achieving this goal. Japan's premier TV network aired segments of the program on its afternoon news reaching approximately 4 million households, and a leading Korean daily used the program for a front-page story.

III. CONGRESS

JOHNSTON: VOA's Amharic Service interviewed Congressman Harry Johnston (D-FL) September 28 on his recent trip to the Horn of Africa.

MORAN: Congressman James Moran (D-VA) was the in-studio guest September 28 of the VOA Current Affairs program "Press Conference, USA."

IRANIAN SINGER: VOA Farsi covered a Congressional reception for Iranian vocalist Marizeh, who left Iran to protest the restrictive cultural atmosphere under the Islamic Republic. Reports included introductory remarks by Congressman Dan Burton (D-OH), and an interview with Congressman Bob Ney (R-OH), who has lived in Iran and speaks Farsi.

UKRAINE: VOA's Ukrainian Service covered a House reception marking Ukraine's independence. A report on the reception, co-sponsored by a number of Senators and Congressmen, including Lee Hamilton (D-IN), Claiborne Pell (D-RI), Mitch McConnell (R-KY), and Frank Lautenberg (D-NJ), was aired on the Service's broadcasts.

V. PRESS INQUIRIES/ACTIVITY

VIETNAM BUSINESS FELLOWSHIPS: The following outlets are among those that have carried stories on USIA's Vietnam Business Fellowship Program and its participants who are currently in Washington: THE WASHINGTON POST, CHICAGO TRIBUNE, ASSOCIATED PRESS, REUTERS, US NEWSWIRE, and DEUTSCHE PRESSE-AGENTUR.

BUDGET SUPPORT: An editorial supportive of USIA and the other foreign affairs agencies in the federal budget struggle ran in the LOUISVILLE COURIER-JOURNAL September 15. USIA/PL had arranged for Doug Wilson, Director of Congressional and Intergovernmental Affairs, to meet with the Courier-Journal editorial board September 13 when he was in Louisville.

HAITI: Anticipating US media interest in the first anniversary of the US-led military intervention in Haiti, USIS Port au Prince PAO Stan Schrager developed a media strategy, talking points and background briefers, and set up private sessions with the half-dozen US reporters who came to cover the event. The result was positive US coverage of the strides made since the intervention. Haiti Coordinator Ambassador James Dobbins sent the Chargé a message praising the Embassy's efforts to encourage positive media coverage.

LITHUANIA: USIS Vilnius reports that Lithuanian electronic and print media gave extensive coverage to the recent opening of the Baltic-American Enterprise Funds Vilnius office, an event attended by the Prime Minister. The four major national dailies covered the event, as did the most-watched television program in Lithuania, the evening news on Lithuanian State Television (3 minutes of material). In addition, two commercial stations also provided coverage. Besides helping arrange coverage, USIS Vilnius also organized a press conference attended by the Funds entire visiting Board of Directors.

VI. FOIA REQUESTS

USIA's Office of the General Counsel has received 573 FOIA requests, to date, in 1995.

There is one pending request regarding Au Pairs and one pending request regarding Radio Marti, TV Marti and the National Endowment for Democracy.

VII. WEEK IN REVIEW

UNITED NATIONS REFORM: US Ambassador to the UN Madeleine Albright briefed more than 70 foreign journalists September 22 at the New York FPC. Ambassador Albright outlined a ten-point plan for positive change at the UN.

HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH: Alfred Ramirez, Executive Director, White House Initiatives for Hispanic Education, US Department of Education, delivered the keynote address for USIA's Office of Civil Rights' successful Hispanic Heritage Month Commemorative Program, which was held September 27.

DLC'S MCCURDY: USIS Spain arranged a full program on the US electoral scene for former Congressman and Chairman of the Democratic Leadership Council Dave McCurdy. In separate events he met with a number of party leaders, as well as with journalists from some of Spain's most influential media.

PERRY IN CENTRAL EUROPE: USIS played a key role in planning and coordinating all media activities for the Secretary's visit to Prague, which included arranging an exclusive interview for the Secretary with the leading daily Pravo. There were over 60 press placements resulting from the visit. In Budapest, USIS arranged an exclusive interview for the Secretary with Hungarian Television's weekly television news magazine (3 million viewers). VOA's News Division and Czech, Slovak and Hungarian Services all carried comprehensive coverage of the trip.

CHRISTOPHER-BEN YAHIA: USIS Tunis placed WORLDNET Newsfile coverage of the meeting between Secretary of State Christopher and Tunisian Foreign Minister Ben Yahia on both primetime Arabic and primetime French news programs; the combined audience was an estimated 4.5 million.

ISRAELI/PALESTINIAN TEACHERS: English teachers, who participated in a USIS-sponsored program at Ohio University this summer with Palestinian colleagues, had strong praise for the program and for the relationships they formed with their Palestinian counterparts. They have asked USIS Tel Aviv to help the entire group -- Israelis and Palestinians -- to meet locally in the future for group projects and seminars.

WOMEN IN THE MEDIA: USIS Oman reports that the WORLDNET Dialogue with Newsweek's Eleanor Clift won praise from its skeptical participants. Radio Sultanate of Oman edited the tape into a 23-minute program. The post has been told a newspaper article on the dialogue will appear soon.

CHILE PROMOTES STUDY ABROAD: The Government of Chile has approved a loan program for graduate studies abroad. The fund (US\$5 million in FY'96)

reflects the Chilean government's commitment to supporting/co-financing various in-country scholarship programs, with special emphasis on the Fulbright program.

INFORMATION SUPERHIGHWAY: Development of USIS post homepages on the Internet is well underway. About 25 pioneering posts are reviewing and testing a standard menu structure that will permit them to place materials on their own homepages automatically by using e-mail.

APEC: Senior Coordinator for APEC Affairs Sandra Kristoff and Assistant USTR for APEC Affairs Nancy Adams conducted a FPC briefing September 26 for journalists from APEC-member economies. They discussed the recent Hong Kong Special Senior Officials' Meeting.

PUBLIC RESPONSE TO EUROPEAN SECURITY: How do Europeans, Russians and Americans feel about the Clinton Administration's vision for a new European security architecture? A recent Agency report, The New European Security Architecture, based on USIA-commissioned surveys, found that:

- * West Europeans see the post-cold war world as full of new types of security threats that require a different response than NATO has been structured to provide in the past.
- * Among East Europeans, contrary to conventional wisdom, support for full NATO membership is soft and willingness to send ones troops to defend another NATO country is weak. Moreover, opposition to Russia's eventually becoming a member of NATO is not widespread.
- * Russian attitudes about NATO are ambiguous, largely due to the fact that the public is poorly informed about the alliance.

VIII.DIRECTOR'S SCHEDULE

SEPTEMBER: Director Duffey will address the Public Relations Society of America International Section Annual Conference at The American University. (September 29)

OCTOBER: Director Duffey is scheduled to participate in a conference on the future of American foreign policy hosted by Freedom House. Held in Washington, the conference is entitled, "US Foreign Policy: Rebuilding a Bipartisan Consensus." (October 6)

Director Duffey will address the Washington Institute for Near East Policy. (October 11)

Director Duffey will address the Jacksonville Chamber of Commerce in Jacksonville, FL. (October 16)

NOVEMBER: Director Duffey will participate in a US Foreign Policy Town Meeting sponsored by the Department of State and the Coalition for American Leadership Abroad. (November 1)

Director Duffey will address the International Association of Political Consultants 28th Annual Conference in Dublin, Ireland. (November 14)

SENIOR STAFF TRAVEL

Chief of Staff Iris Burnett, who served as a member of the official US delegation to the UN Fourth World Conference on Women, is in Milwaukee, WI , to participate in a University of Milwaukee program entitled: "Women Thinking Globally, Acting Locally: After Beijing." Ms. Burnett also will meet with women presidents of major Milwaukee Jewish organizations. (September 28)

IX. PRESIDENTIAL TRAVEL - HOT ISSUES

NEW JERSEY: None.

APEC: USIA's Bureau of Information is establishing web and gopher sites in anticipation of President Clinton's upcoming trip to Asia to attend November's Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) summit. New documents will be added as the US prepares its APEC public affairs documents. The WWW Homepage will consist of a broad range of material explaining US APEC policy and links to other useful sites (e.g., Department of State, USTR, Japan Ministry of Foreign Affairs).

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (ALL-IN-1 MAIL)

CREATOR: Michael B. Froman (FROMAN_M) (OPD)

CREATION DATE/TIME:28-SEP-1995 18:43:40.40

SUBJECT: Japan meeting

TO: David J. Lane (LANE_D) (OPD)

READ:28-SEP-1995 18:50:03.34

CC: Thomas O'Donnell (O'DONNELL_T) (OPD)

READ:28-SEP-1995 19:07:44.10

TEXT:

There will be a Japan state visit message meeting Friday at 5:00 in Don Baer's office. The purpose is to confirm the message for the visit before the advance team returns to Japan to make final decisions on events, etc.

I have asked Stanley/Bob to speak with Sandy about whether the recent rape/protests in Okinawa change the assumption that this visit should focus on the security event. I hope to have feedback before the meeting. Additional views on message/events are welcome.

Thanks.

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (EXTERNAL MAIL)

CREATOR: jamest@usia.gov@INET@EOPMRX

CREATION DATE/TIME:29-SEP-1995 15:18:00.00

SUBJECT: 95092901.rmr

TO: schwartz_l (schwartz_l@A1@CD) (WHO)
READ:30-SEP-1995 07:43:41.55

TEXT:

FOREIGN MEDIA REACTION

DAILY DIGEST USIA

OFFICE OF RESEARCH AND MEDIA

REACTION

U.S. INFORMATION AGENCY, WASHINGTON, DC 20547

Patricia McArdle, Branch Chief Media Reaction, (R/MR), Tele. No. (202)619-6511

Friday, September 29, 1995

ASIAN SECURITY ISSUES: JAPAN, CHINA, HONG KONG

Japanese and Chinese writers welcomed the positive outcomes of the meetings of their leaders with Secretary Christopher and other U.S. officials on the margins of the UN General Assembly in New York. At the same time, commentators in Japan, Australia and the Philippines conveyed the "outrage" felt in Okinawa over an alleged rape by U.S. servicemen and the calls for a revision of the Status of Forces Agreement, considered by many as unjust toward Japan. However, Tokyo's business-oriented Nihon Keizai stressed that while it was "only natural" to be enraged by the rape case, a dispassionate appraisal of the bilateral security treaty reveals an "unfairness" to the U.S. in that the pact obliges the U.S. to protect Japan, while Japan has no obligation to protect the U.S. Most commentators also concluded that the U.S.-Japan relationship is strategically sound and destined to endure.

In contrast, analysts continued to agonize over the condition of Sino-U.S. ties, the most recent wrinkle being the reception in Washington of the Dalai Lama. Indian writers repeated that "containment" won't work while an Indonesian daily fretted that the relationship needed stabilizing ballast. Singapore's pro-government Lianhe Zaobao likened China's U.S. policy to the "peaceful coexistence" approach of the former Soviet Union. Several observers hailed China's "surprising" cancellation of its nuclear accord with Iran. Editorialists in Hong Kong and Belgium called the move an example of "creative" diplomacy, whereby Beijing transformed a deal that no longer will pay into a political favor for Washington. The independent Hongkong Standard cautioned that "an accommodation on the Iran nuclear deal is one thing, but Taiwan is non-negotiable." From as far afield as Cochabamba, Bolivia, writers stressed that China's economic,

military and diplomatic growth posed a serious challenge to the U.S. and even raised the specter of a renewed cold war. Government-owned Seoul Shinmun argued that South Korea should not put its relationship with Washington "on the line over China," but noted that it would need Beijing's backing for eventual unification. A few writers focused on improved Sino-Russian ties; Lianhe Zaobao predicted that China would not ally militarily or politically with Russia, but might now reconsider the Asian collective security system once proposed by the former Soviet Union.

The outcome of the elections in Hong Kong sparked concerns that Beijing would now be "more likely than ever to install its own henchmen in the territory." Melbourne's liberal Age feared that China's response to the election results would end hopes for continuity in government and for the "liberal tradition that has allowed Hong Kong to prosper over the past 150 years." The liberal Toronto Star warned Beijing that a smooth transition depended on its officials' approaching Hong Kong as "suits" rather than "abductors." Malaysian and Filipino commentators criticized Western, especially British, "hypocrisy" over the elections; the independent Manila Chronicle blasted the Democratic Party victors as pro-colonial and pro-British rather than anti-Communist or anti-China.

This report is based on 86 commentaries from 17 countries, Sept. 14-29.

EDITORS: Rose Sue Bernstein and Pat McArdle
EAST ASIA AND PACIFIC

JAPAN: "Reassuring '2+2' Meeting"

According to top-circulation, moderate Yomiuri (9/29), "There are fears in Japan that the growing calls for a review of the SOFA, which was triggered by the rape of a schoolgirl in Okinawa allegedly by three U.S. servicemen, could fuel the contention that the security treaty should be abolished. It is significant that at such a delicate time, the U.S. and Japanese foreign and defense ministers reaffirmed at their '2+2' meeting that the bilateral security alliance is indispensable for maintaining peace and stability in the Asia Pacific region. In November, President Clinton and Prime Minister Murayama will issue a joint statement in Tokyo reconfirming bilateral security arrangements. On that occasion, the government should explain to the nation the significance of maintaining and strengthening the security treaty, the government's treatment of the rape case and the need to increase its host nation support for U.S. military bases in a way that the Japanese people will better understand."

"How Unfair Is SOFA?"

Business-oriented Nihon Keizai remarked (9/29), "It is only natural that the Japanese people in both Okinawa and mainland Japan should be enraged by the rape case. But cool-headed discussions are needed to judge whether it is proper to turn the public anger readily into demands for a revision of the Status of Forces Agreement (SOFA). It is true that SOFA accords U.S. servicemen various privileges. If the Japanese formally conclude the pact as unfair to themselves, Americans will probably counter the Japanese position by saying the bilateral security treaty itself is unfair because, under the pact, the United States has the obligation to protect Japan,

while Japan has no obligation to protect the United States."

"Why Does GOJ Avoid Calls To Revise Status Of Forces Agreement?"

Liberal Mainichi (9/28) editorialized, "Japanese and U.S. foreign and defense ministers discussed stronger defense ties during their "2+2" meeting in New York. But it was very odd that neither Foreign Minister Kono nor JDA chief Eto mentioned the Status of Forces Agreement (SOFA), particularly at a time when protests of the alleged recent rape of a Okinawan schoolgirl by three U.S. servicemen are growing into demands for a revision of the SOFA. Instead, a new pact was signed, as scheduled, to boost the GOJ's host nation support for U.S. military bases in Japan.

"The existing SOFA, which accords U.S. military personnel in Japan various privileges, has drawn criticism from the Japanese people as outdated, unfair, and incompatible with the present Japanese legal system. Calls for the SOFA's revision are growing not only in Okinawa but also in mainland Japan where U.S. military bases are located. Japan should shoulder more of its host nation support for the U.S. forces in Japan if their presence is necessary for the defense of Japan. We cannot understand why GOJ officials continue to turn a blind eye to the absurdities of the SOFA. The United States is the most important ally for Japan, and the Japanese consider the bilateral security treaty very important for their nation. However, now is the time for both countries to discuss in a serious manner whether U.S. military bases in Japan are really needed in the post-Cold War era."

"What Does The Agreement Say?"

Conservative Sankei observed (9/27), "The Murayama cabinet on Tuesday approved a new pact to increase Japan's share of the cost of maintaining the U.S. military in Japan by more than 3 billion yen per year over the next five years. The latest increase in the amount is the smallest to date, however, indicating there will be a limit to Japan's future host nation support. Now more than ever, the government needs to explain more fully and clearly to the nation the meaning of Japan's financial support for U.S. bases.

"Japan's host nation support for the U.S. military stationed in Japan has exceeded 600 billion yen, or an expense of 13 million yen for each individual U.S. soldier. The amount is by far the largest among the financial contributions of other host nations, and the United States should appreciate Japan's generous financial support. Also, it is only natural that the government should secure public understanding of and support for the reason why it must continue giving such massive financial support to U.S. military bases."

AUSTRALIA: "Clinton Considers Okinawa Rape Compensation"

The Tokyo correspondent for the national, conservative Australian (9/29) reported, "In a delicate public relations maneuver, U.S. officials bent over backwards again yesterday to appease Japanese anger over the rape of a 12-year-old Okinawa schoolgirl...just as the ink dried on the multi-billion-dollar agreement for Japan to foot much of the bill for

hosting U.S. troops.... The extraordinary display of contrition...reflects nervousness over resentment of the U.S. military presence in Japan, particularly in Okinawa.... Local anger makes it a particularly difficult time for the renegotiation of the U.S.-Japan Security Treaty.... However, yesterday the two sides released a joint communique emphasizing the importance of the accord and their alliance for Asian stability. They pledged efforts to minimize the impact of the U.S. presence on Japanese communities."

"Grabbed In East Timor"

The Southeast Asia correspondent of Melbourne's conservative tabloid The Herald-Sun commented (9/29), "It seems Indonesia's brutal and heavy-handed disregard for normal, decent human behavior in East Timor has only served to inflame the situation, creating instability in a province a little more than 300km from Australia's northern coast.... Australia should be using its supposedly close relations with Jakarta to suggest that a different approach might be more effective, an approach based on dialogue, conciliation and self-determination rather than crude terror."

"Substance Needed From Osaka APEC"

The Australian (9/28) held, "The challenge in Osaka is to agree on procedures that will get APEC functioning not just at the group level, but at the level of policy making within each of its member nations. One component will be to galvanize business involvement in APEC's structures beyond existing levels, perhaps through an APEC business council with branches in each member nation. This could be useful--provided its activities were contained within strategic parameters and with sufficient safeguards to prevent it evolving into an effectively protectionist club of its own within APEC."

"Japan Feels Pull Of Asia"

Asia Desk editor Norm Aisbett commented in the regional West Australian (9/28), "Like an odd couple, Washington and Tokyo often put their close post-war relationship to the test. And when they have argued, it has been invariably about trade, such as the recent U.S. gripe over lack of access for its cars and car parts to the Japanese market, a barney that seemed to take both countries to the brink. While compromise took time, neither side allowed the commercial frictions to undermine the essential bargain forged during the Cold War--that the United States would help guarantee Japan's security in exchange for the right to keep troops on its soil. But now there is a new strain.... The epicenter is Okinawa...where 29,000 U.S. servicemen are stationed.... There...a 12 year-old-girl was allegedly abducted, raped and beaten unconscious.... Under the defense agreement between the two countries, the United States does not have to hand over the men until they are indicted.... Many Japanese are fuming.... The rape controversy has emerged at a time of national introspection. There is widespread debate about the framing of a new constitution that would set Japan's future military posture and about the U.S.-Japan security arrangement."

"APEC And Trade Policy"

The national, business-oriented Australian Financial Review (9/26) commented, "After less than a year of existence, it should come as no real surprise that APEC still has problems--and major ones at that. Tensions are emerging between the region's developed and developing economies over the very nature of what was created at Bogor. Some countries see it merely as a forum, while other want it to be a major institution for domestic reforms. Despite these tensions, now is not the time to go cold on APEC. The stakes are far too high. Years of work will be needed before a realistic assessment can be made about whether the regional economies will be able to meet the Bogor goal of free trade and investment by the year 2020."

"Australia, U.S. To Target East Asia Trade Barriers"

The Australian Financial Review's Washington correspondent remarked (9/25), "In a move that poses risks to APEC, Australia and the United States have agreed to cooperate on targeting trade barriers in East Asia. The joint approach was agreed to--but not publicly announced--at the Australia-U.S. Trade and Investment Agreement talks between the Minister for Trade, Senator McMullan, and the U.S. Trade Representative, Mickey Kantor, in Washington in July.... Canberra officials recognize that any suggestion of a joint Australia-U.S. attack on East Asian trade barriers could create 'sensitivities' among other APEC countries. But they say that Canberra would try to push Washington toward a 'cooperative dialogue' with East Asian countries, rather than relying on the 'big stick' of unilateral U.S. trade sanctions."

"Seeking Our Place In Asia"

The Southeast Asia correspondent for Melbourne's liberal Age (9/25) commented, "The new impetus being given to relations between Southeast Asia and Europe coincides with a reaffirmation of the role of ASEAN--which does not include Australia--as the primary regional alliance. It also coincides with renewed doubts about the ambitious agenda of APEC, the broader-based grouping on which Australia pins much of its hopes for integration with Southeast Asia."

"A Vote For Democracy"

The Age held (9/22), "Had a respectable proportion of pro-Beijing candidates been elected, there had been hopes that the Chinese might have appointed most or all of the elected members to their new council. This might have made more likely some continuity in government and of the liberal tradition that has allowed Hong Kong to prosper over the past 150 years. The election result has ended such hopes; Beijing is now more likely than ever to install its own henchmen on the territory."

"A Slow Boat To Democracy"

The Herald-Sun opined (9/20), "China's response to the decision of Hong Kong's voters to reject the politicians it had backed in the weekend elections was disquieting.... Chillingly, it intends to replace the assembly with an administrative body of its own choosing."

"U.S. To Stay Or Go In East Asia?"

The liberal Canberra Times (9/20) carried a lengthy article on the recent U.S. defense review (the Nye report) on its op-ed page which said in part, "Instead of debate over the merits of nuclear deterrence or the SALT treaties, modern day economic strategists disagree over the economics of trade policy.... The (Nye) report clarifies the new links between trade and security policy.... Earlier this month, at the third Australian-American Leadership Dialogue...doubts were raised (yet again) about the long-term presence and viability of U.S. forces in Asia. What is puzzling is, given the stark conclusion of the Nye report and the resolution of the car dispute with Japan, why the foreign policy establishment in Australia has been so worried about whether the United States will remain committed to the Asian region?... Ignorance about U.S. intentions is one excuse...but a deeper reason exists for this persistent doubt, deriving in part from the changing balance of economic power in Asia."

CHINA: "Christopher-Qian Talks Expand Understanding"

Xu Yang filed for the front page of the official, English-language China Daily (9/29) regarding a Foreign Ministry spokesman's official assessment of the meeting between Secretary Christopher and Foreign Minister Qian Qichen yesterday, "Chen said the meeting, held at a 'critical moment for the Sino-U.S. relationship,' had expanded understanding. Chen also said Vice-Minister Li Zhaoxing and U.S. Deputy Secretary of State Peter Tarnoff will continue diplomatic consultations regarding a summit between Presidents Jiang Zemin and Bill Clinton."

"U.S. Shouldn't Meddle In Hong Kong Affairs"

The China Daily, official Communist Party People's Daily and other official papers said (9/25), "When asked to comment on a remark by a State Department spokesman that the United States hopes China will allow the newly-elected Hong Kong Legislative Council members to complete their terms in office, Foreign Ministry Spokesman Chen Jian said the China government has solemnly stated on many occasions that the three-tiered political structure of Hong Kong, which was established prior to the agreement between China and Britain, based on Governor Chris Patten's constitutional package, will end along with British rule over Hong Kong on June 30, 1997. The Hong Kong issue is between China and Britain and should be handled on the basis of the joint declaration of the two governments, Chen said. After July 1, 1997, it is purely a Chinese internal affair. Thus, it is not at all proper for anyone else to make indiscreet remarks on the issue, he noted." "Americans Should Learn A Bit Of Eastern Culture"

Lu Shi wrote in official, oriented-to-intellectuals Guangming Daily (9/25), "In the United States, some persons always make imprudent remarks and try to find fault with Asia, and especially China, in a petty manner. In their view, all others but the United States and its Western allies are uncivilized, ignorant people whom it is necessary for them to enlighten. I would like to frankly tell those gentlemen who consider themselves

always in the right: 'You are in fact very ignorant. You neither understand Eastern history nor Asian people. It is better that you drop your airs and allow yourselves to be molded a bit by Eastern culture.'

"Americans repeatedly say that their government's China policy is to engage China and let China adapt to the world. The 'world' obviously refers to the Western world. However, the world is not only composed of the Western countries. We hold that engagement is exchange of persons and ideas but not the exertion of pressure. As a matter of fact, the East understands the West far more than the reverse. We would like to kindly tell the Americans: be quick to learn a bit of Eastern culture!"

"U.S. Should Not Repeatedly Create Obstacles"

Guangming Daily commented (9/21), "What is important is the fact that the president of the United States, leader of a country that has official diplomatic relations with China, met with the Dalai Lama, a person who has for decades been engaging in activities aimed at splitting China. This is nothing but interference in China's internal affairs.

"The United States feels very uncomfortable about China's rapid economic development and its implementation of an independent foreign policy. Therefore, it plays the 'GATT card' one moment, and plays the 'human rights card' the next. And now it plays the 'sovereignty card' in an attempt to use Taiwan and Tibet as countries. This is very dangerous.

"It is known to all that Sino-U.S. relations are now in a difficult period. If the United States really thinks that Sino-U.S. relations are important, it should take practical actions and should not repeatedly create obstacles. In particular, it should not play the so-called 'sovereignty card.'"

HONG KONG: "Welcome Move On Iran Nuclear Sales"

The leading independent, English-language South China Morning Post (9/29) commented regarding China's announcement that it has cancelled the sale of two nuclear reactors to Iran: "Cancellation is a welcome move. Yet the United States did not react with the kind of counter offer for which [China's Foreign Minister] Mr. Qian [Qichen] might have hoped. It is widely felt the deal was cancelled because Iran could not pay, not because of any Chinese change of heart, and the United States wants more than empty gestures as tokens of China's readiness to improve relations. For as long as [China's President] Mr. Jiang White House triumph is in the balance, the climate is right to ask for more concrete action. The signs are that Mr. Qian may still have some more to offer."

"Iran Is One Thing, Taiwan Is Nonnegotiable"

The independent, English-language Hongkong Standard's (9/29) lead editorial warned, "Washington must understand that China will never compromise on the Taiwan question, which it sees as a vital issue of sovereignty. An accommodation on the Iran nuclear deal is one thing, but Taiwan is non-negotiable."

"Relations Between China, U.S. Expected To Improve"

Independent Ming Pao Daily News (9/24) remarked, "Several days ago, Chinese Premier Li Peng also announced that under certain conditions [China's President] Jiang Zemin will meet with Bill Clinton in October. All this shows that 'Sino-U.S. relations' are gradually relaxing. If the [Sino-U.S. foreign ministers'] meeting in Brunei could be described as a starting point, then the resumption of full ambassador-level relations is a turning point, and [Presidents] Jiang Zemin and Bill Clinton's Sino-U.S. summit to be held in October will be a breakthrough."

"China, U.S. Back On Diplomatic Road"

The South China Morning Post (9/24) editorialized, "Some of these tricky issues may be brought up at the Washington summit, although it would be best if they were not allowed to dominate proceedings; at such a meeting, presidents should establish the tone rather than battle over specifics. But they should certainly be set out clearly when Mr. Christopher meets Qian Qichen at the UN.... The world will welcome a carefully managed improvement in Sino-U.S. relations, but this should not be achieved by ignoring legitimate international concerns."

"Intense Public Campaign Toward A Sino-U.S. Summit"

Pro-PRC Hong Kong Commercial Daily (9/23) remarked, "In a word, if the United States does not take some concrete action--be it in the form of a communique or in that of an understanding or agreement--but only utters a few words to declare where it stands, it still seems impossible for Sino-U.S. relations to completely return to normal."

"Remove Obstacles To Relations"

Center-right Sing Tao Daily observed (9/22), "It is reported that China and the United States are discussing the signing of a fourth communique.... The main tenet of the fourth communique proposed by the Chinese side is that the United States would not give a green light to further visits to America by Lee Teng-hui or [other] Taiwan senior officials. This demand has been unequivocally rejected by the U.S. State Department spokesperson. However, [the two sides] may still discuss other conditions.... If China and the United States sign a fourth joint communique, the two nations' relations will improve, and the tense relations between China, the United States and Taiwan will relax as well. At the moment, the most important thing is [to avoid] creating new disturbances and to carefully remove obstacles from this 'trilateral relationship.'"

"U.S. Support Of Hong Kong's Democratic Party Does It Harm"

Sing Tao Daily (9/21) opined, "We believe the U.S. warning [that China should not dismantle the newly elected Hong Kong legislature in 1997] will arouse the Chinese authorities' indignation. And China will answer the warning with a vigorous counterblow.... The more importance the West--especially the United States--attaches to the victory scored by [Hong Kong's] Democratic Party in the [recent] election, the more the Chinese government will subscribe to a 'conspiracy theory' that a massive

foreign political force is behind the [Democratic] Party.... The Chinese government will adopt a more hostile attitude.... Thus, it will be even more difficult for the party to communicate with the Chinese side."

"U.S. Has No Right to Interfere in Hong Kong's Politics"

PRC-owned Wen Wei Po (9/21) opined, "Hong Kong is not a U.S. state. Why does America act as if it is a super-sovereign? Not only has it sent some people to supervise [the election], but it is also making indiscreet remarks about the term of office of the elected. This can only serve to lay bare the U.S. political ambition to interfere in Hong Kong's affairs and to reveal its unreasonable attitude in attempting to disrupt China's resumption of exercising sovereignty over Hong Kong in 1997.... China will never allow the Basic Law [of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region] to be violated. And China will not give a green light for America's interference in the affairs of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region. The United States has stretched its hand too far [into Hong Kong]. This hand must be withdrawn."

INDONESIA: "Bilateral Ties Between China, U.S."

The pro-government, English-language Indonesia Times (9/21) held, "Senior U.S. and Chinese officials will open talks this week that could lead to a summit of their presidents next month if there is 'good progress' on bilateral issues.... (Whether or not they meet), there must be progress across the board on economic, human rights, regional and non-proliferation issues, including Chinese plans to sell nuclear technology to Iran, which Washington opposes. A stable relationship should emerge, a relationship in which they do not have to debate issues endlessly in public but can discuss them fruitfully in private, and a relationship in which the U.S. unofficial and private relationship with Taiwan is understood to be what it is on its own merits."

MALAYSIA: "Democracy Or Hypocrisy"

The government-influenced New Straits Times contended (9/22), "One can understand the resentment and outrage felt by China at having its throat rammed with what a departing ruler deems is the best form of government for the last outpost of its imperialism. If only Britain had been more sincere and eased democracy into the colony in a more dignified manner, it would not only have been more readily accepted there but elsewhere too, perhaps even in China."

PHILIPPINES: "Hong Kong Politicians Love Colonial Power: UK"

J.V. Cruz of the independent Manila Chronicle (9/29) wrote from London regarding the Hong Kong elections, "Patten's ill-starred initiative succeeded in exposing, however, the colonial innards of the Hong Kong Chinese politicians who ran in the recent elections as 'democrats' and 'defiers' of Beijing. They finally bared themselves as little, yellow Britishers...disgusting. these types have no loyalty to, or affection for, the island territory they claim they're fighting for. It's the colonial power, Great Britain, they're in love with."

"U.S. Servicemen Getting Away With Murder In Japan"

J.V. Cruz asserted in the Manila Chronicle (9/27), "(The Japanese) want the three American servicemen-rapists to be turned over to the custody of the Okinawan police so they could be charged, prosecuted and judged by a Japanese court operating in Japanese territory. They want this done as a full recognition of Japanese sovereignty. The Americans have responded to this demand by hemming and hawing....

"Sounds familiar to us pinoy? Christ, disgustingly so.... There are no more American servicemen strutting around our country with the license to kill, rape, maim and rob the native without any risk of facing Philippine justice. But there are still tens of thousands of them in Japan, and apparently they are getting away with murder there, the same way they had done in the Philippines. How much longer will the Japanese put up with it?"

SINGAPORE: "To Woo Or To Wound Myanmar?"

The pro-government Business Times (9/28) opined, "A moralistic United States has of late been targeting Myanmar for what it considers to be repression of dissent and of its minorities. There appears to be a national consensus in the United States that the junta in Yangon must be forced to respect human rights as defined by its libertarian traditions. But Washington's weakness is that it is unable to put this position across without contradictions and without hurting its own friends. For instance, the Clinton administration seldom agrees with the powerful U.S. Congress on how to bring Myanmar to heel. The two branches of decision-makers, controlled by different parties, at times send out conflicting signals to the Myanmar regime....

"Was Ms. Aung San Suu Kyi's release secured by the threat of U.S. Congress sanctions?... What is more likely, however, is that the countries that have preferred 'constructive engagement'...have been effective in pressing the Myanmar regime to change. The members of ASEAN have been at the forefront of this policy.... It would be a pity indeed if unilateral U.S. sanctions set back the process of political normalization currently underway in Myanmar, slow though the pace may be."

"How Will China-Russia Warming Affect Asia-Pacific?"

Pro-government, Chinese-language Lianhe Zaobao opined (9/27), "After meeting with the visiting Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen in Moscow, Russian Foreign Minister Andrei Kozyrev announced to the media that President Yeltsin would sign more than 10 bilateral agreements during his visit to China, including 'an important accord on political cooperation.' Both sides have not disclosed what the 'accord on political cooperation' is. However, China has ruled out the possibility of forming any military or political alliance with Russia..... During the Cold War era, Russia has proposed the setting up of an 'Asian collective security system' in Asia. The proposal was rejected by Asian countries at that time. However, a fundamental change has taken place in the international climate. At any rate, Russia is still a global military power and occupies large areas in Asia. Sooner or later, Russia will participate in

Asian affairs. We believe Asian nations will reconsider the Russian proposal as long as it aims to maintain stability and ensure continual economic development and mutual security in Asia."

"China's Message To U.S."

Lianhe Zaobao also commented (9/27), "The bottom line of China's U.S. policy is actually similar to that of the former Soviet Union's policy toward the United States, that is, 'no conflict but peaceful coexistence.' Or to put it in Deng Xiaoping's words: 'Don't seek confrontation.' This is the strong message China sent to the United States in the wake of President Lee Teng-Hui's U.S. trip. Whether this message has any effect on the United States will be known after the meeting between President Jiang Zemin and President Clinton at the end of October. Due to its softening stance, China may get less than the expected results from the October summit. In that case, it will be inevitably regarded as a 'paper tiger' by the international community." "Admiral Owens: Joint Schemes Show U.S. Dedication To Region"

Government-linked Television Corporation of Singapore Channel 5 ran this report on Admiral Owens's recent visit on its eight prime-time evening news bulletin (9/20): "Admiral Owens's visit here, say officials, comes at a time when defense relations between both countries are strengthening. This is the area of training and joint exercises. The SAFs (Singapore Armed Forces) at present are training with the U.S. Marine Corps in Guam while RSAF (Republic of Singapore Air Force) pilots will receive Chinook helicopter training soon."

SOUTH KOREA: "U.S., China And Korea"

Government-owned Seoul Shinmun maintained (9/22), "For the moment, the mutual economic interests of the United States and China are too great for them to let their relationship drift toward an explosion. However, what's just as obvious is that their honeymoon is over. The restoration of those good old days seems impossible, at least for now. Korea's best bet is to avoid being swept into the quarrel. The truth is that one day China may well be as influential a power as, or even stronger than, the United States. We do not want to put our relationship with Washington on the line over China, but ROK-China relations are just as important to us. We need China for unification, and cannot afford to let anyone get in the way."

EUROPE

BRITAIN: "Hong Kong's Stormy Prospects"

The independent, weekly Economist opined (9/22), "People do not value democracy for its own sake: It is a means, not an end. They value it when they think they need it, as the least-bad protection for the freedoms they value more. So the 'realists' are right that the Chinese want money, and the choices it brings, but they do not see that that is precisely why the Chinese will want democracy. Hong Kong's people want it to help protect their freedom to make money. So do the Taiwanese, who will vote in parliamentary elections in December and presidential ones next March.

"And there lie China's dilemmas. Hong Kong has already helped infect and enrich southern China with its capitalism. The more its new Chinese rulers provoke it, the greater the danger that it will next begin to infect it with its democratic instincts. Taiwan could be tolerated as long as it was ruled by Kuomintang autocrats. Once it is democratic this will be harder, for there is always the risk that it might declare independence; the more aggressive China is toward it, the more popular such a stance seems to become. The People's Republic against the people: In such a confrontation a storm will lie."

"On Collision Course"

The conservative Daily Telegraph (9/20) editorialized, "The voters of Hong Kong have given China a resounding slap in the face just 21 months before the colony reverts to Chinese sovereignty.... They have defied Chinese bullying and expressed a desire for a greater say in their own affairs. Chris Patten's electoral reforms have now run their full course, providing the people of Hong Kong with a greater measure of political representation than ever before. That achievement must be gratifying to the governor, even if the voters' admirable refusal to kowtow to the mainland will not make his job any easier....

"It is difficult...to see that the 'through-train' envisaged by the 1984 Sino-British joint declaration is set on anything but a collision course. The Chinese have said they will dismantle the political institutions that have emerged from the Patten reforms, and nothing so far suggests that they do not mean what they say. The coincidence of the transfer of power with fin de regime nervousness in Beijing is unfortunate. But neither Mr. Patten nor the British government, which has supported him to the hilt, should have been in any doubt about the risks to which the reforms exposed the people of Hong Kong.... Over the next 21 months the governor will have to perform a delicate balancing act between the demands of the legislature he has helped to create and his responsibility to secure as prosperous and stable a future as possible for the people of Hong Kong after 1997."

RUSSIA: "Russia, Proudly Alone In Nuclear Deal?"

Vladimir Skosyrev wrote for reformist Izvestia (9/29), "Russia may remain proudly alone on the international scene if she sticks to her agreement with Iran on the construction of two nuclear reactors and on know-how transfers....

"U.S. officials admit that Qian Qichen's announcement (that Beijing would not honor its agreement with Tehran) came as an absolute surprise.... Clearly, Beijing has decided that the nation's reputation as a responsible and sensible party to international relations should not be sacrificed for profit. In view of this turnaround in China's policy, the question of Russia's course of action arises. Anyway, Washington has got a strong trump in its dispute with Moscow about the risks of nuclear cooperation with Tehran."

BELGIUM: "Creative Accounting"

Philippe Paquet commented in conservative Catholic La Libre Belgique (9/29), "The reasons for (China's decision on nuclear reactors) are commonplace: Iran...does not have the means to pay.... The creativity of Chinese diplomacy, is to present this financial calculation as a political concession in favor of Washington.... It is a diplomatic advantage, for internal use, which Beijing hopes to gain from a rapid detente with Washington: A summit meeting between the U.S. and Chinese presidents, and not in New York...but in Washington, in a strictly official bilateral context."

"Reborn Japan Is Striving For Full Sovereignty"

Foreign affairs writer Rene De Bok remarked in independent Catholic De Standaard (9/28), "Japan's growing self-confidence is tangible on Okinawa in the mid-'90s. Japan is very active at the periphery of its islands: near the Kuril islands in the North and near Okinawa in the South.

"The cause of the most recent emotion on Okinawa was the abduction and rape of a 12-year-old Japanese school girl by U.S. Navy personnel. The perpetrators were arrested but not handed over to Japanese authorities immediately. This triggered upheaval among Okinawa's Japanese population which immediately demanded the departure of the 24,000 U.S. troops there.... Japan's sovereign ambitions are supported today by the voice of the people. In the year of the commemoration of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, the nationalist-inspired self-confidence is beginning to suppress the trauma of the war."

CANADA: "Hong Kong Voters Send China A Signal"

The liberal Toronto Star (9/20) held, "China's blustery, threatening attitude toward Hong Kong has backfired. In elections this week, the voters flocked to the populist Democratic party.... Chinese authorities promptly declared the vote 'unfair, unreasonable' and reminded the world that they intend to disband the assembly. This is shortsighted.... The election signals that Hong Kong residents want to choose their own feisty representatives, not be ruled by Beijing's appointees.... If China hopes for a smooth transition...the old men in Beijing had better learn to behave more like suitors and less like abductors.... Time is running short. Beijing needs to stifle its harsh rhetoric and reassure Hong Kong that it can flourish as a semi-autonomous 'special administrative region' of China for at least 50 years."

SOUTH ASIA

IRAN: "No Change In Iran-China Nuclear Cooperation"

Tehran's official news agency, IRNA, announced (9/28), "No change has been made in Iran-China peaceful nuclear cooperation, Iran's Foreign Ministry spokesman...announced at UN headquarters."

"China Using Ties With Russia To 'Threaten' U.S."

Tehran Radio said (9/24), "Paving the ground for President Yeltsin's official visit to China and finding ways to implement the two countries'

earlier agreements are some of the most important objectives during the Chinese foreign minister's visit to Russia.... According to political experts, the signing of those agreements ended the long-standing land disputes between Russia and China and turned the closed borders of the two countries to a channel for the exchange of goods, passengers and the idea of peaceful coexistence....

"Relations between China and Russia are expanding at a time when Moscow is trying, under present circumstances, to benefit from China's capability for trade and technical cooperation and reduce its economic reliance on the West. On the other hand, China, beside benefitting from Russia's vast market and that country's technical capabilities and advanced military technology, uses the closeness to Moscow as a lever to pressure and threaten the West, especially America. That is why America is always trying to create serious obstacles in the way of the expansion of relations between China and Russia and to prevent a secure and stable community to take form in the vast continent of Asia."

INDIA: "Blowing Hot And Cold"

The right-of-center Statesman (9/26) opined, "The Americans are still looking for a policy that effectively resolves the contradictions between their human rights concerns and their business interests. Their political establishment seems to be divided on China. The U.S. Congress has no problem in adopting a broad liberal view of things and periodically passes politically correct strictures on Taiwan, Tibet, supply of nuclear reactors to Iran and M-11 missiles to Pakistan, violations of intellectual property rights and human rights. The White House, on the other hand, seems to be perennially torn between conflicting pressures....

"An American policy of containment vis-a-vis China is not going to work for two reasons.... First, the United States does not have adequate support in the region.... Secondly, even though the Americans have an unfavorable trade balance with China, any serious damage to American business interests in that country would result in a massive dislocation of the American economy. The Chinese example shows that the best way to tame the United States is not by blind opposition to its corporate activities, but by tying down substantial American investment in the country."

"Chopped Sticks"

The left-of-center Telegraph (9/19) remarked under the headline above, "In normal circumstances an unofficial meeting between...Bill Clinton and the Dalai Lama would be of minimal interest.... But after the dragon fire that followed the U.S. stopover of the Taiwanese president...East Asia held its collective breath.... Few things are as great a source of concern in international relations than China's belligerent nationalism.... China needs to be taught to confine its actions within the framework of international politics.... The United States, alone able to rein in Beijing, seems to be ironing out its China policy.... Warren Christopher has held out olive leaves and the White House has repeated its support for a one China policy....

"Meeting the Dalai Lama was balanced with a rejection of Tibetan independence--a respect for sovereignty but a warning Washington would keep human rights on its China agenda.... By chatting up the Dalai Lama, Clinton sends a message that U.S. policy will not be one of appeasement.... The main source of Chinese belligerence are the machinations inside the forbidden city of the Communist Party.... Until the brewing succession struggle in Beijing is over, the world needs to draw a diplomatic line in the sand. And, whether one likes it or not, to be credible the line must be drawn with a U.S. finger."

"China's Aggressive Posturing Based On Knowledge Acting Tough Pays"

Former editor Sunanda K. Datta-Ray remarked in the Telegraph (9/16), "The Americans...have three reasons for drawing back from the brink in their war of words with China. The nuclear argument is one. The huge market of China's 1.2 billion consumers, invaluable to a country some of whose industries are running out of steam, is another. The third is Japan...."

"Many Americans believe that the alliance with Japan cannot be taken for granted. Even if Japan does not assert itself militarily, the long dispute over the import of U.S. cars and car parts warned that Japan's dominant economic interests threaten further conflict. Japan is also China's historic enemy.... Hence, China is the U.S. potential partner for what is euphemistically described as the search for stability in the Asia-Pacific.... For their different reasons, and far down the scale, China and the United States are also wary of a North Korea that might still harbor nuclear ambitions.... Because of this underlying rationale for entente, the sequence of belligerent rhetoric suggested a certain staginess.... This is not to say that there will be no further hiccups.... This posturing will continue in spite of jeremiads.... That formal charge will justify Beijing's public efforts to neutralize Washington.... Above all, Mr. Jiang is angling for an invitation to Washington. If his hope is realized, the alarms and excursions will not have been in vain."

NEPAL: "Doubts On China's Respect For Tibetan Rights?"

Left-leaning, English-language weekly People's Review (9/14) observed, "According to wire service dispatches...Gare Smith, a deputy assistant secretary of state designate, recently informed the Senate...that China is suppressing open veneration of the Dalai Lama and faulted her for her dispute with the Tibetan pontiff over the latter's recognition of a six-year old boy as the new Panchen Lama. That, Smith argued, 'raised additional serious doubts about the Beijing government's commitment to respect' Tibetan religious practices. Despite such utterances by State Department officials, which cannot but be viewed as provocative by Beijing, the White House has apparently no plans for a meeting between President Clinton and the Dalai Lama."

LATIN AMERICA AND CARIBBEAN

BOLIVIA: "The Cold War Again"

Regionalist Opinion of Cochabamba remarked (9/25), "The colossus of the

north now observes with concern the gigantic China which in a short time will also be a colossus as large as the United States. China is growing economically, militarily and diplomatically. And it remains Communist, at least in theory. It is said that the great danger for the United States is the growing trade deficit (with China), which could exceed Japan's in a short time. All these facts could revive the Cold War for the United States, which today, more than ever, is determined to exercise its role as a superpower unable to accept rivals."

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===== ATTACHMENT 1 =====

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29 Sep 1995 15:18:10 -0400 (EDT)

Received: by gatekeeper.eop.gov (5.65/fma-120691); id AA07279; Fri,
29 Sep 1995 15:14:19 -0400

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TO: li_g (li_g@A1@CD) (WHO)
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FOREIGN MEDIA REACTION

EARLY REPORT USIA

OFFICE OF RESEARCH AND MEDIA

REACTION

U.S. INFORMATION AGENCY, WASHINGTON, DC 20547

Patricia McArdle, Branch Chief Media Reaction, (R/MR), Tele. No. (202)619-6511

Friday, September 29, 1995

OSLO II: THE PEACE PROCESS 'COMES OF AGE'

Despite the fact that the U.S. media remained mesmerized by the final days of the O.J. Simpson trial, the foreign press gave extensive radio, television and print coverage to yesterday's "historic" signing at the White House of the Oslo II accord on Palestinian self-rule. Although commentators praised the spirit of the accords, some criticized the fact that they had been drawn up "too quickly" and predicted future difficulties because the negotiators had "left far too many potentially explosive issues untouched." The absence of Syrian and Lebanese representatives was noted by several commentators. But, Tel Aviv's top-circulation, independent Yediot was pleased that the White House ceremonies were "boring," adding that this is "the best thing that can be wished on Israel-Palestinian relations." In Tunis, independent, French-language Le Temps declared that "the Palestinian people have paid dearly for inter-Arab contradictions and conflicts, and today they ask that Arab leaders and Arab peoples support Palestinian efforts, and contribute to Palestinian unity."

Analysts continued to emphasize the role played by the United States. A French commentator lamented the minor role played by the European Union in the peace negotiations, since it is "the biggest provider of economic aid to the new authorities in Gaza and the West Bank."

CLINTON ADMINISTRATION: 'ON A FOREIGN POLICY ROLL'

The press overseas judged that the New York agreement on Bosnia and yesterday's official signing of the Oslo II accord at the White House were

the outstanding examples of the Clinton administration's "comeback in the diplomatic arena" and the reassertion of the U.S. role as "the Bundesbank for security." President Clinton, said Milan's top-circulation centrist Corriere della Sera, has regained "international leadership" by "beginning to resolve the most serious international crises of this decade through diplomacy and force."

U.S. TIES WITH JAPAN, CHINA

Japanese and Chinese writers welcomed the positive outcomes of their officials' meetings with Secretary Christopher and other U.S. officials. Analysts from other countries, however, did not fail to note that China's "surprising" cancellation of its nuclear accord with Iran was an example of Beijing's "creative" diplomacy--transforming a deal that no longer will pay into a political favor for Washington.

EDITORS: Mildred Sola Neely and Pat McArdle
OSLO II: THE PEACE PROCESS 'COMES OF AGE'

Israel "Boring Is Best"

According to top-circulation, independent Yediot today, "It was boring at the White House yesterday, and that's the best thing that can be wished on Israel-Palestinian relations. Let them always be boring.... The White House ceremony was mounted first and foremost to show Arafat and the Palestinians that he has global support.... The second beneficiary was Clinton.... Foreign policy achievements help little at the ballot box, but it's good for a president's image."

"Peace Process Comes of Age"

Independent Maariv observed, "The method of lowering expectations worked well for the Oslo II ceremony. Although Rabin had taken pains to make it abundantly clear that peace ceremonies are beginning to repeat themselves in a tiresome way, yesterday's event was beautiful and different. Rabin's and Arafat's speeches represent two landmarks in the history of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. If the Oslo I ceremony two years ago marked the birth of the peace process, the Oslo II ceremony represents its coming of age."

Syria "Decisive Diplomacy"

Government-supported Tishreen commented on page one yesterday, "Former U.S. Secretary of State James Baker urged the American administration to take a strong...position to push peace negotiations in the Middle East and affirmed that the Syrian track will be in sharp crisis without a serious and strong American intervention.... He was always struck by Israeli obstacles before and after the Madrid conference, and used to repeatedly announce that Israel welcomed him by building more settlements.... Syria cooperated with American peace efforts...and still hopes that the United States increases its

diplomatic effectiveness to salvage the peace process, and to bring it out of its sleep which Israel is responsible for."

Tunisia "Unifying, Not Dividing, Palestinians"

Independent, French-language Le Temps said today, "These are historic days for the Palestinians.... It is no longer admissible for Arab countries, directly or indirectly, to divide the Palestinian ranks, to pit one group against another, to sow discord and extremism.... The Palestinian people have paid dearly for inter-Arab contradictions and conflicts, and today they ask that Arab leaders and Arab peoples support Palestinian efforts, and contribute to Palestinian unity."

Britain "Eureka, A Deal"

The independent weekly Economist said, "Two years ago Yasser Arafat and Yitzhak Rabin made history at the White House with a handshake. "This week, in the same setting but without glitz or glory, they signed a complex second-stage deal that was way behind schedule, already has as many enemies as friends, and needs good will and good luck--neither of which is much in evidence--if it is to work.

"Nevertheless, the process of separating Israelis from Palestinians has honorably survived, keeping alive the hope that a final settlement will make peace between them true and lasting.... But there is no way, given the intensity of feeling, and the gulf that still divides what the Palestinians want from what the Israelis want to give, that the road to peace can be terror-free. Mr. Rabin and Mr. Arafat cannot guarantee the protection of every individual; they are, however, on a road that leads to greater security for both their nations."

France "Without Europe"

Influential Le Monde commented, "Although it played a minor political role in the Israeli-Palestinian accord, the European Union is the biggest provider of economic aid to the new authorities in Gaza and the West Bank.... There would be no reason...to complain about the fact that the United States has greater influence than Europe if it had a coherent, cooperative attitude toward its allies. But such is not the case. Bill Clinton's diplomatic successes don't make us forget past U.S. uncertainties and its refusal to take risks in Bosnia.

"The lesson is bitter for the Europeans: Without the Americans, they are powerless. But they are not certain to be able to rely on them. The conclusion is obvious: Europe must unite to exist and play a role in the world. together with the United States if possible, alone if need be."

Germany "Moment Of Confidence"

Washington correspondent Peter Rzeznitzeck made these comments in right-of-center Rheinische Post of Duesseldorf: "At this moment of

confidence and smiling, Bill Clinton represents a power which has made intensive efforts to bring peace to the Middle East for decades. But so far, Clinton has not been able to live up to the role of 'honest broker' which he assumed one year ago. Assad, to whom he was intending to devote his personal attention, is still not at the negotiating table. But without the Syrian president, there can be no lasting peace in the Middle East. On the other hand, the Israelis must be willing to withdraw from the Golan Heights and negotiate with the fundamentalists if any further progress is to be made. All this makes it clear how far the Middle East still is from genuine normalization. Nevertheless, the second great moment in Washington is cause for confidence. Only a short time ago, such a thing would have been inconceivable."

Italy "It Is Palestine's Birth Certificate"

Financial Il Sole-24 Ore carried the following commentary, "The agreement signed yesterday at the White House is not the most historic Israeli-Palestinian agreement, but it is the most important. Palestine was born yesterday.... True, two million Palestinians still live in exile in dreadful refugee camps and without a visible future. But if there is a single chance for them to return from a forced exodus, comparable to that of the Jews, that is the road of negotiations taken by Arafat. Palestine was born yesterday in Washington. But Syrian President Assad has not realized it, and neither have American TV stations, which yesterday broadcast the closing pleas of O.J. Simpson's lawyer and ignored the happy face of Arafat."

Russia "Agreement In Washington"

Reformist Segodnya remarked, "A conflict that seemed absolutely inscrutable in the past and that was fraught with the outbreak of another regional war is being settled today to the mutual benefit of both the Palestinians and the Israelis, seeking an end to it, and it is inspiring the hope for a future of peace for all people in the region. The accord will provide the basis for new relations. The test of that accord will mark a serious stage in the life of both peoples. The experience of the past few years indicates that mutual trust between the Israelis and the Palestinians can advance us toward a better future."

Indonesia "They Smile. But Where Is Palestine?"

Muslim-intellectual Republika opined, "U.S. Middle East coordinator Dennis Ross called the ceremony 'a special event to show support for what has been accomplished in the peace process and to acknowledge its significance.' Yet, what does yesterday's ceremony signify--this ceremony so similar to the one two years ago, with smiles, handshakes, photo-ops and television cameras? Does this really pave the way to a lasting and just peace?... As Christian Palestinian Edward Said...wrote about the ceremony two years ago, 'That historical breakthrough...has subordinated Palestine while Israel remains in East Jerusalem, the Gaza Strip and the West Bank.' What

Said wrote two years ago is still true today. Initial optimism was replaced with disappointment. The accord has, to a certain extent, deepened wounds within the PLO....It is natural that they are less optimistic."

CLINTON ADMINISTRATION: 'ON A FOREIGN POLICY ROLL'

Great Britain "Clinton Administration On Foreign Policy Roll"

London's independent Financial Times noted today, "The Clinton administration is on something of a foreign policy roll. This was highlighted yesterday by the signing of a Middle East peace deal in Washington. It certainly has rarely, if ever, had a week like this one.... There are plenty of rocks ahead in the Middle East and the Balkans, as well as in Russia, where December's elections are not a prospect looked at with optimism by senior U.S. officials. "But for the moment at least, the administration's foreign policy appears in better shape than for some time."

"Two Foreign Policy Successes"

Glasgow's independent Herald observed in an editorial, "It seems extraordinary that, without a ceasefire and with fighting raging, the combatants in Bosnia have managed to reach some sort of agreement on a document which seeks to define the future constitutional arrangements for the country. The talks in New York, brokered and driven by the United States, are a triumph of hope and determination. Their arrangements may be full of problems and without guarantees that anything agreed will actually take place but, as Warren Christopher said wisely, they represent an important point psychologically....

"Mr. Clinton is pleased. With Mr. Perot muddying political waters and confusing the right, a foreign policy success is that much more important to his re-election hopes. Now he has two, though of the two the Middle East is likely to prove more durable."

Germany "U.S.: Bundesbank For Security"

Torsten Krauel held in an editorial on the front page of right-of-center Catholic weekly Rheinischer Merkur of Bonn, "Currently, all wars end in the White House. This U.S. island power...is, to put it globally, the Bundesbank for security."

France "No Credibility Without U.S."

According to an editorial in influential Liberation, "There is no credibility without the United States. The Bosnians, Croats, Serbs, Palestinians and Israelis share this belief, although they are reluctant to recognize it openly. All rule out...negotiating seriously without U.S. guarantees.... The Taba accord...does not raise enthusiasm on the part of the two populations involved. However, one has to recognize that the reason why none of the parties rejected it is because of the U.S. involvement."

"Clinton's Comeback"

An editorial in economic Les Echos held, "The signing of the Taba accord...reflects the U.S. president's comeback in the diplomatic arena. This proves that power gives global responsibilities, and that one cannot dominate the world thanks to one's economic power while neglecting the global political evolution."

Italy "Irony"

Washington correspondent Ennio Caretto wrote for the front page of centrist, top-circulation Corriere della Sera, "Ironically...domestic protest against President Clinton is rising during the days of his foreign policy triumphs--Bosnia and the West Bank.

"Rather than rewarding him for regaining international leadership and beginning to resolve the most serious international crises of this decade through diplomacy and force, America is penalizing him for not resolving its domestic problems and calming down its anxiety....

That is evidence that, in Italy as well as in America, not even appropriate management--not miraculous--of the country can curb popular uneasiness."

Hungary "Good Week For U.S. Diplomacy"

An op-ed piece in conservative Magyar Nemzet said, "According to Secretary Christopher, the last week was an exceptionally good week for U.S. foreign diplomacy: The Bosnian peace accord was signed in New York followed by the signing of the agreement on Palestinian self-rule in the West Bank. Both ceremonies offered an excellent chance for President Clinton to improve his vehemently criticized foreign policy. In Bosnia the U.S. efforts to take tougher action against the Serbs has been objected to by the country's NATO Allies for a long time. The same countries now however state that Washington's active diplomatic involvement has greatly contributed to the process of finding a solution for the Bosnian conflict. The diplomatic success in the Balkans however does contain a number of dangers."

Indonesia "Credibility"

In the opinion of the leading independent, English-language Jakarta Post, U.S. involvement in Bosnia "is based on President Clinton's domestic needs.... We are optimistic that the West will force the Serbs to accept a just and lasting peace because both the United States and NATO, which earlier stood by and permitted aggression, ethnic cleansing and mass rape, need to regain their credibility. For Clinton, that means credibility in the eyes of both the international community and his own people."

U.S. TIES WITH JAPAN, CHINA

Japan "Reassuring '2+2' Meeting"

According to top-circulation, moderate Yomiuri today, "There are fears in Japan that the growing calls for a review of the SOFA, which was triggered by the rape of a schoolgirl in Okinawa allegedly by three U.S. servicemen, could fuel the contention that the security treaty should be abolished. It is significant that at such a delicate time, the U.S. and Japanese foreign and defense ministers reaffirmed at their '2+2' meeting that the bilateral security alliance is indispensable for maintaining peace and stability in the Asia Pacific region. In November, President Clinton and Prime Minister Murayama will issue a joint statement in Tokyo reconfirming bilateral security arrangements. On that occasion, the government should explain to the nation the significance of maintaining and strengthening the security treaty, the government's treatment of the rape case and the need to increase its host nation support for U.S. military bases in a way that the Japanese people will better understand."

"How Unfair Is SOFA?"

Business-oriented Nihon Keizai remarked, "It is only natural that the Japanese people in both Okinawa and mainland Japan should be enraged by the rape case. But cool-headed discussions are needed to judge whether it is proper to turn the public anger readily into demands for a revision of the Status of Forces Agreement (SOFA). It is true that SOFA accords U.S. servicemen various privileges. If the Japanese formally conclude the pact as unfair to themselves, Americans will probably counter the Japanese position by saying the bilateral security treaty itself is unfair because, under the pact, the United States has the obligation to protect Japan, while Japan has no obligation to protect the United States."

China "Christopher-Qian Talks Expand Understanding"

Xu Yang filed for the front page of the official, English-language China Daily regarding a Foreign Ministry spokesman's official assessment of the meeting between Secretary Christopher and Foreign Minister Qian Qichen yesterday, "Chen said the meeting, held at a 'critical moment for the Sino-U.S. relationship,' had expanded understanding. Chen also said Vice-Minister Li Zhaoxing and U.S. Deputy Secretary of State Peter Tarnoff will continue diplomatic consultations regarding a summit between Presidents Jiang Zemin and Bill Clinton."

Hong Kong "Welcome Move On Iran Nuclear Sales"

The leading independent, English-language South China Morning Post commented editorially regarding China's announcement that it has cancelled the sale of two nuclear reactors to Iran: "Cancellation is a welcome move. Yet the United States did not react with the kind of counter offer for which [China's Foreign Minister] Mr. Qian [Qichen] might have hoped. It is widely felt the deal was cancelled because Iran could not pay, not because of any Chinese change of heart, and the United States wants more than empty gestures as tokens of China's readiness to improve relations. For as long as [China's President] Mr. Jiang White House triumph is in the balance, the climate is right

to ask for more concrete action. The signs are that Mr. Qian may still have some more to offer."

"Iran Is One Thing, Taiwan Is Nonnegotiable"

The independent, English-language Hongkong Standard's lead editorial warned, "Washington must understand that China will never compromise on the Taiwan question, which it sees as a vital issue of sovereignty. An accommodation on the Iran nuclear deal is one thing, but Taiwan is non-negotiable."

Russia "Russia, Proudly Alone In Nuclear Deal?"

Vladimir Skosyrev wrote for reformist Izvestia, "Russia may remain proudly alone on the international scene if she sticks to her agreement with Iran on the construction of two nuclear reactors and on know-how transfers....

"U.S. officials admit that Qian Qichen's announcement (that Beijing would not honor its agreement with Tehran) came as an absolute surprise.... Clearly, Beijing has decided that the nation's reputation as a responsible and sensible party to international relations should not be sacrificed for profit. In view of this turnaround in China's policy, the question of Russia's course of action arises. Anyway, Washington has got a strong trump in its dispute with Moscow about the risks of nuclear cooperation with Tehran."

Belgium "Creative Accounting"

Philippe Paquet commented in conservative Catholic La Libre Belgique, "The reasons for (China's decision on nuclear reactors) are commonplace: Iran...does not have the means to pay.... The creativity of Chinese diplomacy, is to present this financial calculation as a political concession in favor of Washington.... It is a diplomatic advantage, for internal use, which Beijing hopes to gain from a rapid detente with Washington: A summit meeting between the U.S. and Chinese presidents, and not in New York...but in Washington, in a strictly official bilateral context."

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===== ATTACHMENT 1 =====
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29 Sep 1995 09:33:18 -0400 (EDT)

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RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (EXTERNAL MAIL)

CREATOR: jamest@usia.gov@INET@EOPMRX

CREATION DATE/TIME: 4-OCT-1995 08:35:00.00

SUBJECT: 10_4_O.J._Simpson_U.S._Asia

TO: lewis_m (lewis_m@A1@CD) (WHO)
READ: 4-OCT-1995 10:55:37.77

TEXT:

FOREIGN MEDIA REACTION
EARLY REPORT USIA

OFFICE OF RESEARCH AND
MEDIA REACTION

U.S. INFORMATION AGENCY, WASHINGTON, DC 20547

Patricia McArdle, Branch Chief Media Reaction, (R/MR), Tele. No.
(202)619-6511

Wednesday, October 4, 1995

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'O.J. SIMPSON WON; THE SYSTEM LOST'

Judging from the initial outpouring, the media overseas devoted as many acres of coverage as did their American counterparts to the results of the O.J. Simpson trial. The principal themes overseas, however, were the flaws in the U.S. judicial system, the persistence of the American racial divide and the power of money and the press. Concluding as did most analysts that the biggest loser in the trial was a criminal justice system that failed to redress two murders, Paris's public TV France 3 stressed, "Many Americans don't trust their justice (system), their police and in particular that of Los Angeles, which has a reputation of being racist." London's independent Financial Times lamented, "What is sadly clear is that neither blacks nor whites at present feel confidence in the ability of jurors of the opposite color to reach an honest verdict, based purely on the evidence before them." Several commentators pointed out that Mr. Simpson was acquitted because he could afford to spend millions, unlike many poor blacks brought to trial. Centrist Stuttgarter Zeitung singled out the omnipresent American media: "Has TV, which broadcast the trial not to do its duty to inform the people, but to make a profit, not promoted the hunger for sensationalism, thus contributing to polarizing the races?"

U.S.-ASIA: ISSUES OF SECURITY AND TRUST

The upcoming meeting between President Clinton and Chinese President Jiang Zemin, the current state of relations between the U.S. and Japan and New Zealand's nuclear policy were the focus of many analysts abroad this morning. The official Chinese press highlighted remarks by China's foreign minister, noting his emphasis on "maintaining and developing a steady, long-term and healthy relationship with the U.S." and his statement that his recent meeting with Secretary Christopher was "conducive to pushing Sino-U.S. relations one step forward." In Singapore, pro-government Chinese-language Lianhe Zaobao concluded the "failure by President Clinton to revamp his China policy at this delicate stage may cause China to adopt an uncooperative attitude toward the U.S." Economic Les Echos in Paris predicted that President Clinton in an election year would be unable to "give to the Chinese leader assurances on the future of the U.S.-Taiwan relationship."

In Tokyo, conservative Sankei attempted to calm the waters by drawing a distinction between the U.S.-Japan status of forces agreement and the Okinawa "rape case," and by urging the Japanese government to refrain from "hastily" seeking a revision of the basing agreement with the U.S.

BRIEF

-- French Nuclear Testing

EDITORS: Mildred Sola Neely and Pat McArdle

'O.J. SIMPSON WON; THE SYSTEM LOST'

Germany "The Very Old Conflict: Between Black And White"

Hannover's right-of-center Neue Presse said today, "In this trial, the problem was not so much good and evil, but very soon the problem focused on the very old U.S. conflict between black and white."

"A Disaster For U.S. Legal System"

Centrist Mannheimer Morgen argued, "The defense openly and successfully pinned its hopes on the solidarity of the overwhelmingly black jury with the black accused.... All others can only hope that Simpson is really innocent. But from whatever angle you look at it, the trial was a disaster for the U.S. legal system. The confidence of the Americans in the functioning of their judiciary has reached an all-time low. If Simpson were not rich and well-known, the trial would have ended at the latest half a year ago, probably with the verdict: Guilty."

"TV's Profit, And Racial Polarization"

Washington correspondent Juergen Koar concluded in centrist Stuttgarter Zeitung, "Has justice won? A double murder remains unatoned, and the accused is a free man.... Would an accused person without the reputation of a star, without a million-dollar account, have had a chance of freeing himself from the suspicion of being a double murderer? Has TV, which broadcast the trial not to do its duty to inform the people, but to make a profit, not promoted the hunger for sensationalism, thus contributing to polarizing the races?"

Britain "Another Victim: American Legal System"

The conservative Daily Telegraph's editorial stressed today, "Mr. Cochran was widely reported to have told a friend at the beginning of the trial that if he had just one black on the jury, his client would walk free. He was proved right, and he served his client well. But as well as Nicole Simpson and Ron Goldman, the American legal system must be seen as another victim in this tragic and sordid spectacle."

"The Whole World Watched, And It Will Not Be Impressed"

In an editorial, the liberal Guardian held, "Last night's decision will only further undermine the current system of justice in America.... The whole world has been watching. It will not be impressed. Television helped expose the system's faults, but generated its own: playing to the camera. The Founding Fathers would be dismayed."

"Racial Divide"

The independent Financial Times commented editorially, "Nine of the 12 jurors were black. That would have been a necessary, but perhaps not sufficient, condition for a 'guilty' verdict to be accepted as fair by the black community. "As it is, many if not most American whites will believe the jury was swayed either by racial solidarity or by fear of having to answer for a 'guilty' verdict to unsympathetic neighbors.... But what is sadly clear is that neither blacks nor whites at present feel confidence in the ability of jurors of the opposite color to reach an honest verdict, based purely on the evidence before them."

"The Pain Of America's Racial Divide"

Writing in the conservative tabloid Daily Express, former Washington correspondent Peter Hitchens observed, "In America, the pain of the racial divide is so deep that it is rarely spoken of.... There is no escape from this. Read Colin Powell's autobiography and you will find, time and again, how he could never, ever forget that he was black--even in the U.S. Army, which is one of the very few genuinely integrated organizations in the country.... One evil has bred another, and seems likely to go on doing so, in a country which is even now importing new racial minorities into an already volatile mix.... Once again, in America, they are trampling out the

vintage
where the grapes of wrath are stored."

France "Trauma"

Public TV France 3 last night aired Christian Malar's remarks that
"there is a trauma.... Many Americans don't trust their justice,
their police and in particular that of Los Angeles, which has a
reputation of being racist."

"Money"

Special correspondent Pierre Briancon filed for influential Liberation, "It is not certain that Simpson would have been condemned
if he had been white. But there is no doubt that he would have been
condemned, and rapidly, if he had been poor and if he had committed
one of the crimes which others perpetrate... in crack neighborhoods.
The millions of dollars which Simpson spent for his defense probably
ruined him, but they got him out of it."

"Is This A Step Forward For U.S. Justice?"

Mass-appeal Parisien's Christian de Villeneuve stressed,
"How can one
not think that the 12 jurors--nine blacks, two whites, one Hispanic--chose...to acquit a black in order to avoid racial troubles
in a city which remains scarred by the 1992 riots? This verdict
shows that America is disoriented, that it is an association of
nationalities and races, each locked in its own ghetto.
O.J.
Simpson's acquittal will be called a great victory by the black
community. It is not certain that it represents a step forward for
U.S. justice."

Ireland "A Salutary Reminder"

The respected, liberal Irish Times held, "The task facing American
society in the wake of this divisive trial is to forge real bridges
between its black and white citizens.

"For the O.J. Simpson trial is a salutary reminder that the land of the free is still riven by deep-seated racial tensions."

Poland "Simpson Won; The System Lost"

Centrist Zycie Warszawy pointed out in an editorial by Washington correspondent Tomasz Wroblewski, "Together with O.J. Simpson, the American justice system found itself on trial. Simpson won; the system lost. The majority of experts and TV pundits, who predicted the 'guilty' verdict, have lost as well, because they didn't evaluate sufficiently the power of the dollar.... The success of Simpson's defense was due to his millions.... A real media circus...warned of riots by the blacks if Simpson was convicted.... Discrimination was the major theme during the entire legal proceeding. Simpson, however, was far from racial conflicts--his wife was white--and he himself was trying to forget the color of his skin."

Hong Kong "The Media"

Center-right Sing Tao Daily opined, "Now that the O.J. Simpson case has come to a close, the American public should make a self-examination as to whether the media's handling of the case--which had an impact on judicial justice--went beyond the need [of the people] regarding [their] freedom of speech and access to information. As for the fact that the Simpson case unexpectedly developed into a typical case of white persecution of blacks, [we believe that] it demonstrates how racial discrimination still [is prevalent] enough to have adverse effects on reason."

U.S.-ASIA: ISSUES OF SECURITY AND TRUST

China "Sino-U.S. Relations"

An article on Chinese Vice Premier and Foreign Minister Qian Qichen's address at the Foreign Policy Association in New York last week was

carried earlier this week in the official Communist Party People's Daily, intellectually-oriented Guangming Daily and other papers, "According to the minister, Sino-U.S. relations have met with difficulties recently, something which China does not want to see.

Qian remarked that the Taiwan issue involves China's sovereignty, territorial integrity and unification and affects the national feelings of the Chinese people.... On this issue, which involves China's basic interests, the position of the Chinese government is unwavering.

"Qian said maintaining and developing a steady, long-term and healthy relationship with the United States will not only satisfy the basic interests of the peoples of both countries but also further stability and peace in the Asia-Pacific region and even across the globe....

Qian pointed out that some advocate a 'contain China' policy and want to provoke a confrontation. This is counter to the historical trend.

Making policy in such a fashion would inevitably harm oneself as well as others."

"Sino-U.S. Talks Useful"

The following piece was carried on the front page of yesterday's

English-language China Daily and others, "In response to a question

about a perceived deterioration in Sino-U.S. relations because the

United States, in a reversal of previous government policy, allowed

Lee Teng-hui to visit the United States, Chinese Vice Premier Qian

Qichen said his meeting with Secretary of State Christopher was

'useful.' He said his meeting with Christopher was 'conducive to

pushing Sino-U.S. relations one step forward.'... Qian had remarked

just prior to meeting with Christopher that 'the U.S. side had once

again confirmed its commitment to the principles of the

three

Sino-U.S. joint communiqués and reiterated its recognition of only

one China, that the government of the People's Republic of China is

the sole legal government of China, and that Taiwan is a part of

China.' At the same time, the United States also expressed its

opposition to the calls for 'two Chinas,' 'one China, one Taiwan,' an

independent Taiwan and Taiwan's bid for admission into the United Nations, as well as (reaffirmed) its promise to maintain

only unofficial economic and cultural relations with Taiwan, Qian said."

Japan "Emotionalism Could Ruin U.S.-Japan Relations"

Conservative Sankei observed today, "Local protests over the

rape of an Okinawa schoolgirl by three U.S. servicemen have grown into calls

for revision of the U.S.-Japan Mutual Security Treaty (MST) and

Status of Forces Agreement (SOFA). Okinawa Governor Ota has expressed his refusal to cooperate with the government of

Japan over land expropriation for U.S. forces, while moves are afoot to

call for the closing of U.S. military bases because protesters say as

long as bases exist, there will be more crimes committed by GIs

against Okinawans.

"The recent rape incident is unpardonable. However, the MST and SOFA

issue and the rape case are two different things. If they are

discussed together at the same time, the tone or outcome of talks

will probably go off course. Both the United States and Japan should

deal with the issues in a more cool-headed manner. Japan's emotional

reaction could ruin strong and close U.S.-Japan relations.

Japan, therefore, should not hastily seek revision of the MST and

SOFA. To be taken into consideration, however, is a growing sense of

frustration among the Okinawan people over the concentration of U.S.

bases in their island prefecture. During their summit in Tokyo in November, President Clinton and Prime Minister Murayama are expected to issue a joint statement on security arrangements, including the consolidation and reduction of U.S. bases in Okinawa. But there is little likelihood that the U.S. military facilities will be reduced drastically."

Australia "How New Zealand Sacrificed Dignity And Independence"

The foreign editor for the national, conservative Australian commented, "The United States no longer has nuclear weapons on its ships, and in 1993, New Zealand conducted an inquiry to determine whether there would be any conceivable environmental danger in having nuclear-propelled ships visits. The inquiry answered in the negative, so convincingly, that the Pentagon sends out this document by the truckload. Yet there is no prospect of the New Zealand parliament sensibly reconsidering its ban on even nuclear-propelled ships. Even if it did, there is no guarantee the United States would revive the alliance."

Hong Kong "U.S. Should Brush Up On Sensitivity"

The independent English-language Hongkong Standard said, "Part of the cause of America's plummeting popularity in Japan is America's collective self-centeredness, which keeps it from identifying with the problems of others. America has a hard time putting itself in another country's shoes. There are times when Washington sadly lacks the ability to calculate the effect of its foreign policy initiatives.... The time has come when America must be more sensitive to the feelings of people on Okinawa--and elsewhere in the world."

Singapore "China-U.S. Summit--Unpredictable Relations"

Pro-government, Chinese-language Lianhe Zaobao opined, "The

substitution of 'working visit' for 'state visit' shows clearly that new disputes can flare up between China and the United States any time, even though bilateral ties have returned to normalcy and are slightly better off now than in the period following the Tiananmen massacre. The United States stopped using the Taiwanese issue to keep China in check after facing unexpectedly strong opposition from that country. It was even forced to reaffirm its one-China policy and opposition to Taiwan's application for UN membership. From the diplomatic and political perspective, this is a diplomatic victory for China. In addition, Beijing has applied direct military pressure on Taiwan, and reaffirmed its determination to use military means to avert Taiwanese independence. The absence of a direct response from the United States and Japan implies their recognition that Taiwan is a domestic issue of China. This is an unexpected gain for China.

"Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen pointed out that due to election pressure, President Clinton had difficulties in inviting

Chinese President Jiang Zemin for a state visit to Washington.

However, this is also proof that President Clinton lacks the political will to improve China-U.S. relations. The failure by

President Clinton to revamp his China policy at this delicate stage

may cause China to adopt an uncooperative attitude toward the United

States in the political, economic and diplomatic areas later on.

Such a situation, of course, will not be good for global harmony and

cooperation, and may not help President Clinton's re-election

efforts. China's sales of nuclear plants to Iran will become

bargaining chips for both sides on the negotiation table."

France "Normalization"

Economic Les Echos held, "By announcing the New York

(Clinton-Zemin)

summit--not a real summit since it won't take place in the U.S. capital city--the United States and China show their desire to normalize their relations. In fact, it will be a dialogue on a backdrop of disagreement. One hardly sees which guarantees President Clinton could get from Mr. Zemin on the question of human rights. Likewise, one does not imagine how the U.S. president, in a campaign year, could give to the Chinese leader assurances on the future of the U.S.-Taiwan relationship."

BRIEF

FRENCH NUCLEAR TESTING

Britain "Alliance Francaise"

The conservative Times commented today, "With each nuclear test in the South Pacific, the opposition to France grows ever more clamorous.... The tests are a matter for the French, and Britain, with an acute understanding of sovereign rights and their exercise, has done well to emphasize that fact. The French, for their part, have justified their nuclear tests sufficiently well to satisfy the reasonable inquirer.... The 'environmentalist' objections to French practice, however, have escaped the net of common sense. Attitudes and postures are being struck by politicians, particularly in Australia and New Zealand, which are as simplistic as they are opportunistic....

"The truth, of course, is that the vociferous opposition to the French tests is fed by an opposition to nuclear deterrence itself.

That is why Britain is right not to criticize France: In fact, how could it? Little has occurred since the end of the Cold War to suggest that nuclear deterrence is no longer a legitimate part of

Britain's strategic equation. Paris wants to ensure that its weapons work before it ceases testing altogether."

Germany "France's Nuclear Power Has Never Made Sense"

According to a commentary on national radio Deutschlandfunk of

Cologne, "From a military point of view, France's nuclear power--like

that of Britain, has never made sense. It is helpless against

Russia, it is superfluous because of the U.S. capability, and it is

disastrous from a German point of view, since the majority of French

nuclear weapons would fall on German territory. All three reasons

make France's offer to make its nuclear power available to the EU

appear as diplomatic whitewash.... Of course, we do not leave a

friend in the lurch when he makes a mistake, but France's partners in

the EU must wonder how they want to bypass the French violation of

common interests, since France is also profiting from those interests. Without the EU it would only be a medium-sized

national

state on a rather weak economic foundation. It is not nice to recall

this, but it may be helpful in the attempt to bring back France's

nuclear policy to the ground of European common policies."
"Inferiority Fears"

Right-of-center Rhein-Neckar Zeitung of Heidelberg observed, "While

the Germans celebrated the fifth anniversary of their unity in a

rather subdued manner, France is balancing its inferiority fears,

which are the result of German unity, by modernizing its nuclear arms."

India "French Callousness"

According to an editorial in the independent Indian Express: "The

nuclear test...France conducted...on Monday underlined its disdain

for world public opinion.... France...seems to be determined to

conduct all its planned six to eight explosions before the international treaty on nuclear tests is signed next year.... It is not difficult to see in the adventurous course (President Jacques Chirac) has chosen his desire to stake a claim for the leadership of Europe. Having had to yield the first place to Germany in terms of economic clout, (Chirac) thinks the only way he can fill the vacuum created by the collapse of the Soviet Union is through the flexing of military muscles....

"If there is one thing, however, which the tests have achieved it is to strengthen the basis of India's consistent policy that there is no alternative to universal nuclear disarmament.... It is indeed doubtful whether countries like the United States have applied enough pressure on France to desist from carrying out the tests despite their protestation. All this is a reflection of Western duplicity in preaching non-proliferation to a country like India, while holding tests of their own."

Chile "Chirac: Full Speed Ahead"

Yesterday, conservative, mass-appeal Las Ultimas Noticias said in an editorial, "Chirac has shown the world that he is not inclined to change his goal in spite of the categorical rejection of the Pacific Rim countries and the overwhelming majority of the nations of the world, in addition to the protests of environmental groups and residents of Polynesia.... And each test increases the risk that the fallout created, many times more toxic than the worst poisons of nature, threatens not only mankind but also all the the life in the planet."

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ATT BODYPART TYPE:D

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04 Oct 1995 08:35:42 -0400 (EDT)

Received: by gatekeeper.eop.gov (5.65/fma-120691); id AA04067; Wed,
04 Oct 1995 08:31:40 -0400

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CREATION DATE/TIME:13-OCT-1995 09:33:00.00

SUBJECT: 10_13_Former_Yugo_U.S._Asia

TO: li_g (li_g@A1@CD) (WHO)
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TEXT:

FOREIGN MEDIA REACTION

EARLY REPORT USIA

OFFICE OF RESEARCH AND MEDIA

REACTION

U.S. INFORMATION AGENCY, WASHINGTON, DC 20547

Patricia McArdle, Branch Chief Media Reaction, (R/MR), Tele. No. (202)619-6511

riday, October 13, 1995

FORMER YUGOSLAVIA: CEASEFIRE 'WAS THE EASY PART'

Satisfaction with the ceasefire in Bosnia and the successful role played by the Clinton administration in securing the truce melded with widespread concern that, in the words of Munich's centrist Sueddeutsche Zeitung, "this truce was an easy task" compared with the efforts that will be required from the U.S. in the coming months. Commentators saw difficulties looming not only in obtaining a final settlement for Bosnia--one most feared would be based on ethnically "clean" regions--but also in the unresolved peacekeeping questions, particularly integration of NATO and Russian troops. Observers warned that, should the U.S. ultimately opt for not sending troops, such a decision would risk wrecking not only the peace, but the Western Alliance itself.

Analyses of the American input into the war concluded that it made all the difference, and were full of praise for Mr. Clinton. The conservative London Evening Standard said, "It is time to salute President Bill Clinton.... He has learned--we have all learned--that the world's most powerful nation cannot simply force peace but, when used intelligently, its great power can be effective."

U.S.-ASIA: ISSUES OF TRADE AND SECURITY

The balance of power in Asia, the influence of the U.S. in the region, and the upcoming APEC meeting were themes addressed by Asian commentators this morning. With the announcement in today's Chinese press of the upcoming meeting in New York between President Clinton and Chinese President Jiang Zemin, papers in Beijing highlighted official expressions of hope that the meeting will have a positive impact on the relationship between the two

nations and that the Taiwan issue will be on the agenda. In Tokyo, the media remained focused on the future of the status of forces agreement (SOFA) and the U.S.-Japan Security Treaty. A call-in poll taken by an Okinawan TV station showed 93.3 percent of the incoming calls in favor of changing the SOFA and 90.4 percent supporting Okinawan Governor Ota's refusal to sign papers granting land-use for U.S. military bases. While Australia's conservative Financial Review fretted over Japan's "insistence" on allowing special treatment for its agriculture sector, a commentator in Singapore's pro-government Straits Times pondered the implications of an Asian arms race, America's role as the balancer power in the Western Pacific and the likelihood of a struggle between China and Japan to fill the power vacuum "if the U.S. were to retrench."

BRIEFS

- Iraq
- Clinton Foreign Policy

EDITORS: Mildred Sola Neely and Pat McArdle

FORMER YUGOSLAVIA: CEASEFIRE 'WAS THE EASY PART'

Serbia "What Next?"
Montenegro

Political analyst Tomislav Kresovic commented in yesterday's pro-government, nationalistic Politika Ekspres, "In actual fact, Bosnia is now experiencing a new Yalta, but the peaceful occupation of the former Yugoslav republic and the initial installation of NATO both as the peacekeeper and the peace imposer, is an attempt to divide interests between the Western military force and Russia, not only in that region but also in the southeast of Europe. In other words, the recent dialogues between the U.S. and Russian defense ministers represent a gesture of mutual respect, in order to prevent any kind of a new Cold War between them....

"A realistic peace means not only signing the ceasefire agreement, but also demilitarization of Bosnia-Herzegovina on the largest scale. The Pentagon and Secretary of Defense Perry's attitude that the 'United States would like the Bosnian Serbs to reduce their military arsenal' indicated that the primary goal is neutralization of the [Serbian] army, so that the peace might be 'controlled' more easily and a balance of force established. Insisting on demobilization of only one party in the conflict and not on total reduction of the warring parties' military contingent indicated that the intention is to label the [Serbian] army as the only instability factor for the peace in Bosnia."

Britain "U.S. Refusal To Send Troops Would Undermine Its Leadership In NATO"

Today's independent weekly Economist warned in its editorial, "Without American troops, the Bosnian peacekeeping force would lack backbone and credibility.... American leadership over the past two months has moved Bosnia toward peace. An America that turns away

from the formidable task that remains would undermine both the Alliance and its right to lead it.... If, having brokered a peace, America shirks the military burden of implementing it, its efforts will have been in vain."

"Time To Salute Clinton"

Last night's conservative London Evening Standard commented editorially, "Only an optimist would break out the champagne.... But even if this ceasefire does not hold, perhaps it is time to salute President Bill Clinton. He is routinely disparaged, even by former supporters. But Mr. Clinton has shown patience and understanding over Bosnia. His foreign policy learning curve has been steep but effective. He has learned--we have all learned--that the world's most powerful nation cannot simply force peace but, when used intelligently, its great power can be effective."

France "Field Exercise For NATO Reform"

Jacques Amalric wrote today for influential Liberation, "The threats of resorting to force (if there are truce violations) will remain necessary in order to instill 'wisdom' in the minds of the parties. This demonstrates the importance of the mission of the NATO peace implementation force.... The Bosnian crisis is likely to become the first real field exercise for European security forces since the end of the Cold War. This fuels European and U.S. experts' thinking about NATO reform, and not only about NATO's eastward expansion.... Plans for NATO reform...are mostly based on the 'European pillar,' which is having such a hard time trying to emerge. The significant role to be played in ex-Yugoslavia, not only by the British and the French but also the Germans--and this is a first--will provide the first concrete opportunity for its NATO reform."

"U.S. Package Pleases Three Parties"

Influential Le Monde's Remy Ourdan remarked from Sarajevo, "The U.S. 'package' for a peaceful settlement pleases Belgrade, Zagreb and Sarajevo.... Bosnians, Serbs and Croats have the feeling that they hold a historic opportunity. Although no side is willing to give up what they think is essential, all are getting ready to make concessions, perhaps historic ones, too."

Germany "First Truce We Must Take Seriously"

Regional radio station Westdeutscher Rundfunk of Bonn aired this commentary yesterday, "A feeling of uncertainty remains even today when we hear the news of a ceasefire in the Balkans. Nevertheless, this ceasefire is likely to be the first truce we must take seriously. To put it differently: The chance for peace has never been as great as today.... But it will also become clear whether the Europeans, who were always convinced that conflicts could be resolved at the negotiating table, have learned their lesson.... Their total failure made them co-responsible. This is why the Europeans are now obliged to show a special commitment in this peace process. To say

it clearly: the Europeans including us Germans, too."

"The Truce Was The Easy Part"

Centrist Sueddeutsche Zeitung of Munich said in an editorial today by Wolfgang Koydl, "Nobody should underestimate the efforts of the U.S. envoys who negotiated the latest ceasefire, but measured against the task with which the United States wants to burden itself in the coming months, this truce was an easy task.... Time is the worst enemy of negotiations. For all sides involved in the war, the temptation will be too great to cancel the ceasefire any time and to create new facts on the battlefield once the talks get bogged down....

"This is why the Americans must quickly ram a cornerstone of an agreement firmly into the ground. But they should not harbor any illusions:

"The war in Bosnia will be over only if Serbs, Croats and Muslims can live all by themselves in ethnically clean states. In order to realize what this really means, it would be appropriate not to hide any longer behind the term 'ethnically' but to call the spade a spade: racially clean states."

"Rush In, NATO"

Right-of-center Augsburger Allgemeine held, "Everything depends on how fast the Alliance will implement its plans for the future peace force, since every day that is lost because of diplomatic bickering will give the warmongers a new push."

Russia "U.S. Can Sway All Sides"

Gennady Sysoyev filed from Belgrade in reformist weekly Moskovskiye Novosti yesterday, "The Americans have succeeded where both the Western Europeans and Russians have failed. Moscow, for one, had some influence with the Serbs, even though its opinion carried little weight with the Croats and Muslims. The United States has proved that it can effectively sway all sides."

Italy "20,000 Russians?"

Leading strategic analyst Enrico Jacchia opined today in centrist, top-circulation Corriere della Sera, "Perry and Grachev found themselves in agreement in Geneva over the need to deploy peacekeeping troops in Bosnia within 72 hours of the signing of the peace accord.... But there is still total disagreement regarding the size of the Russian contingent. The question is of vital importance not only for peace in Bosnia, but also for the future configuration of the Balkans.... America would have provided the largest share--25,000 troops. But the Russians were far more generous than the Americans requested. A 'strengthened division,' said Grachev, using an expression which, in the terminology and the structure of Soviet armed forces, could mean between 15,000 and 25,000 men. In that case, 20,000 Americans and 20,000 Russians? And what about

command of the operation? NATO officials say that it cannot be left only to the military....

"The Americans, in fact, believe that the ultimate goal is not that of making Sarajevo a city-state, as it has seemed over the last few months. Bosnia as a unified state is a pillar of the peace proposal which Holbrooke has made the belligerents swallow. If the Croats and the Serbs intend to divide it up between them, NATO will have to prevent that militarily. Here is where political control of the operation is involved. If it is in the hands of NATO, the Americans can relax, and the Europeans will follow. But what about the Russians, especially if they participate with a strong military contingent not subject to the political control of the Atlantic Council?"

Belgium "Next Weeks: Turning Point"

Edouard Van Velthem observed in independent Le Soir, "It is in the weeks to come...that the pax Americana will be at a turning point, facing the most difficult gate to open: the one which may finally lead to the definitive pacification of the country and of the region."

Latvia "U.S. Achieved In A Month What UN Couldn't In 3 Years"

Centrist Neatkariga Rita Avize remarked in a piece by Oskars Kastens, "In the past month the United States has achieved what the UN couldn't do in the past three years.... The Americans' have progressed successfully by aiming for the leaders' weak spots.... Hopefully, the meeting in the United States at the end of this month between...the presidents will strengthen the seeds of peace in Europe's restless and multiethnic region in the Balkans."

Japan "Welcome Strong U.S. Leadership"

An editorial in conservative Sankei stressed, "The international community welcomes the U.S. administration's strong leadership in brokering the ceasefire. The United Nations will scale down its UNPROFOR troops in Bosnia. This is a good opportunity for the financially-strapped UN to reconsider its 'over-stretched' peacekeeping operations.... Japan should take part in Balkan reconstruction projects in a positive manner in order to avoid the repeat of 'checkbook diplomacy' problems that happened during the Gulf War."

U.S.-ASIA: ISSUES OF TRADE AND SECURITY

China "Summit May Bolster Sino-U.S. Relationship"

Official Communist Party People's Daily and several other official publications today carried the following: "China hopes that the forthcoming Sino-U.S. summit in New York will have a positive impact on the improvement and development of bilateral relations, according to Foreign Ministry spokesman Chen Jian. He said an official meeting

will be held in New York on October 24 between Chinese President Jiang Zemin and U.S. President Bill Clinton. The two presidents will exchange views on Sino-U.S. relations and international issues of common concern. Taiwan has been a key issue in Sino-U.S. relations, Chen stressed. It was discussed in the two previous bilateral summits, and it will be discussed at the upcoming summit."

Japan "U.S. Military Bases Should Be Scaled Down"

The liberal Mainichi observed, "President Clinton and Prime Minister Murayama will issue a joint statement in Tokyo in November, reaffirming the importance of the U.S.-Japan Security Treaty in maintaining peace and security in the Asia and Pacific region in the post-Cold War period. However, the recent rape of an Okinawa schoolgirl allegedly by three U.S. servicemen has led to growing calls in Japan for revision of the Status of Forces Agreement (SOFA), shaking the very foundation of bilateral security arrangements....

"We think both the United States and Japan need to work out short and mid-term measures to settle the base issue after carefully hearing opinions from the local people. As a short-term measure, concrete plans for the consolidation and cutback of 13 U.S. military facilities, in addition to the three places, including Naha Port, should be presented to the people. Plans for the improved SOFA criminal jurisdiction process should also be submitted. As mid and long-term measures, the SOFA's framework and the deployment of a 30,000-strong U.S. force on Okinawa should also be reviewed."

"Change Status Of Forces Agreement"

News 23, the popular late-evening TBS news program, yesterday carried a report on a call-in poll conducted by TBS-sister channel in Okinawa, Ryukyu Broadcasting Co. The results of this unscientific call-in poll of Okinawa viewers showed 93.3 percent of the incoming calls were tallied in favor of changing the Status of Forces Agreement; 90.4 of the calls supported Governor Ota's refusal to sign papers granting land-use for U.S. military bases; and 73.3 percent of the calls on the Mutual Security Treaty were against the arrangement as "no longer necessary."

Australia "Food For Thought From Talks"

The Tokyo correspondent for the national, conservative Australian Financial Review said, "Japan's representative on the APEC Eminent Persons Group yesterday predicted Japan will make a last-minute concession on its hardline protection of farmers immediately before next month's APEC summit. Professor Ippei Yamazawa (said) that although Japanese negotiators would continue to refuse resolutely to yield to the demands of the majority of APEC members, 'a concession will come just before the leaders' meeting.' Negotiators from 14 of the 18 APEC nations have said at talks this week in Tokyo that Japan's insistence on allowing special treatment for its agriculture sector would destroy the group's ambitious efforts to open markets."

Singapore "Chase Security, Not Arms"

Following are excerpts from a pro-government Straits Times editorial:

"It is reassuring to be told, by an authority no less than the International Institute of Strategic Studies, that while leading Asian countries are boosting defense spending, the reason for this is the region's growing economic power. There is no arms race driven by mistrust and threatening regional stability, its annual report, The Military Balance, says.... Arms do not guarantee security. True, they are necessary in a dangerous world; indeed, they are the only means left for countries to preserve themselves if the peace breaks down. Yet, they are not the peace. Here, it would be idle to pretend that Asia does not face possible threats to peace in the coming years.

"The implosion of the Soviet Union reiterates America's role as the balancer power in the Western Pacific; should it retrench, a power vacuum would follow. That would threaten the balance between China and Japan, with far-reaching implications for other countries in the region. Even if that is farfetched, the Taiwan Strait, the Spratly islands and the Korean peninsula are potential flash points for conflict that will have widespread consequences for East Asia. This is why there is a need to strengthen confidence-building measures, from greater interaction between armed forces, through greater transparency in accounts of national arsenals, to the ultimate aim--the creation of an over-arching security architecture for the region which will enable countries to discuss problems and negotiate solutions in an atmosphere of trust and goodwill. Preventive diplomacy is the informing spirit of that architecture, whose foundations have been laid with the formation of the ASEAN Regional Forum. How it will evolve depends on how the major powers of Asia view their role in an age in which trade and markets, and not only borders and territories, define security. The challenge will be to create a structure which reflects and sustains the legitimate interests of powers both large and small. Those are the gates within which lies security."

BRIEFS

IRAQ

Britain "Abject Times In Baghdad Blamed On West"

Today's BBC TV Breakfast News carried this report from Baghdad by reporter Sue Lloyd Roberts: "Along the River Tigris, former teachers and doctors pan the river for gold. At \$10 a week, they say that they can earn more here than in their real professions, in today's Iraq. But no one blames Saddam Hussein for the country's economic problems: It is the West, says this man, and everyone you ask here. The news that there will be no early lifting of sanctions will come as no surprise to people here in Iraq, who are used to blaming the West for all their problems, and not their president. He can expect, of course, a resounding victory in his referendum vote on Sunday."

"Thanks To Ekeus Report, Sanctions Sure To Stay"

The conservative Daily Telegraph opined, "Mr. Ekeus's report will ensure that UN sanctions on Baghdad will remain in place. That will please the American and British governments, which, against the wishes of Russia and France, have rightly refused to give Iraq the benefit of the doubt when the matter of easing the embargo has been raised. But against that satisfaction must be set the signal which Saddam's evasions have given of the formidable challenge ahead. Having been driven out of Kuwait, Iraq has been subjected to a weapons inspections regime unprecedented in its intrusiveness. "If the special commission has had such difficulty in verifying the extent of Saddam's ambitions in that field, what hope has the UN of discovering what is happening in other rogue states where such inspection regimes are not available?"

"Who Will Dare Say 'No?'"

Daniel McGrory reported from Baghdad in the conservative tabloid Daily Express, "Loyal officials feign excitement at this crude, one-man show, festooning Baghdad with heroic posters and plastering his slogan--Yes, Yes To Saddam--on every building. Even they have to concede that Sunday's count for the 'mother of all elections' is hardly going to be a nail-biter. The only intrigue will be to see if anybody is reckless enough to say no, realizing that, because they have to show their ration card before they vote, such dissent could cost them their next month's food, if not more dire reprisals.... For all we may wish him away, Iraqis are resigned that this election is proof that he will survive for a while longer."

CLINTON FOREIGN POLICY

Britain "The World At His Feet"

According to the independent weekly Economist, "Mexico's President Ernesto Zedillo spoke warmly of the 'leadership, vision and courage' Bill Clinton had shown early this year in arranging a \$50 billion rescue of Mexico.... Mr. Clinton, chin up and lip bitten, basked in the sunlight and in the glow of a foreign policy success. He has been doing a lot of basking lately. From Bosnia to the Middle East, to Haiti to Northern Ireland, Mr. Clinton boasts that his efforts are bringing results. Trade liberalizing agreements signed under his administration, he claims, have created more than two million well paid American jobs through expanded exports. Indeed, a metamorphosis as miraculous as any seen in nature is taking place. Mr. Clinton is attempting to shed his old image of the bungler in foreign affairs; and it may be working. A new Clinton is emerging, a foreign policy president."

===== ATTACHMENT 1 =====
ATT CREATION TIME/DATE:13-OCT-1995 09:32:00.00

ATT BODYPART TYPE:D

TEXT:

RFC-822-headers:

Received: from gatekeeper.eop.gov by PMDF.EOP.GOV (PMDF V5.0-4 #6879)

id <01HWDXU7XKDC0014GJ@PMD.F.EOP.GOV> for li_g@a1.eop.gov; Fri,
13 Oct 1995 09:33:48 -0400 (EDT)

Received: by gatekeeper.eop.gov (5.65/fma-120691); id AA06923; Fri,
13 Oct 1995 09:29:07 -0400

Received: from Connect2 Message Router by usia.gov via Connect2-SMTP 4.00; Fri,
13 Oct 1995 09:32:55 -0500

Organization: USIA

X-Mailer: Connect2-SMTP 4.00 MHS to SMTP Gateway

===== END ATTACHMENT 1 =====

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (EXTERNAL MAIL)

CREATOR: jamest@usia.gov@INET@EOPMRX

CREATION DATE/TIME:16-OCT-1995 11:38:00.00

SUBJECT: 10_16_ASIA

TO: williams_ma (williams_ma@A1@CD) (WHO)
READ:NOT READ

IND_TO: Evan M. Ryan (RYAN_E) (WHO)
READ:16-OCT-1995 11:51:40.75

TEXT:

FOREIGN MEDIA REACTION

DAILY DIGEST

USIA

OFFICE OF RESEARCH AND MEDIA

REACTION

U.S. INFORMATION AGENCY, WASHINGTON, DC 20547

Patricia McArdle, Branch Chief Media Reaction, (R/MR), Tele. No. (202)619-6511

Monday, October 16, 1995

U.S.-ASIA: CHINA, JAPAN, APEC

In recent commentary, Asia watchers abroad focused on Sino-U.S. and U.S.-Japanese ties, the U.S. role in Asian security and next month's APEC meeting.

U.S.-CHINA--Following the announcement that President Clinton would meet Chinese President Jiang Zemin in New York next week, Beijing's press stressed official hopefulness that the meeting would prove salutary for Sino-U.S. relations and that the Taiwan issue would be discussed. But economic Les Echos in Paris predicted that President Clinton would be unable to give the Chinese leader "assurances on the future of the U.S.-Taiwan relationship" so close to the U.S. elections. Singapore's pro-government Chinese-language Lianhe Zaobao worried that the "failure by President Clinton to revamp his China policy at this delicate stage may cause China to adopt an uncooperative attitude toward the U.S."

U.S.-JAPAN--The rape of an Okinawa schoolgirl, allegedly by three U.S. servicemen, continued to spark profuse comment in the Japanese media on the future of the Status of Forces Agreement (SOFA) and the U.S.-Japan Mutual Security Treaty (MST.) In a call-in poll taken by an Okinawan TV station, 93.3 percent of the incoming calls favored changing the SOFA and 90.4 percent supported Okinawan Governor Ota's refusal to sign papers granting land-use for U.S. military bases. Many commentators worried that the concentrated presence of U.S. troops places too heavy a burden on the Okinawa region and asked for revisions to take local sensitivities into account. Dailies in Jakarta and Hong Kong seconded that call. However,

both liberal Tokyo Shimbun and conservative Sankei counseled calm, and urged that the SOFA and MST issues be considered separately from the Okinawa rape case so as not to impair the critical U.S.-Japan security relationship. London's independent weekly Economist fretted about the shakiness of the Washington-Tokyo security alliance, and suggested that rather than new agreements, better cooperation would help to assure regional stability. Singapore's pro-government Straits Times fretted over the implications of increased defense spending by Asian nations and pondered America's role as the balancer power in the Western Pacific and the likelihood of a struggle between China and Japan to fill the power vacuum "if the U.S. were to retrench." Thailand's top circulation, English-language Bangkok Post endorsed continued U.S. security assistance to the region but added that a new security policy should also consider "the newly emerging pride of nations which now stand on their own."

APEC--Looking toward next month's APEC summit, Japanese papers urged their government to "show strong leadership" in adopting a more progressive position on farm trade liberalization to make Tokyo's agriculture more internationally competitive. The Australian Financial Review decried Japan's "insistence" on "quarantining" agriculture, fearing that if Japan "succeeds in excising agriculture at Osaka, it will provide a green light for a sector-by-sector demolition of APEC by vested interests around this region, quickly reducing APEC to just another regional talk shop."

This report is based on 70 commentaries from 11 countries, Sept 30-Oct 16.

EDITORS: Rose Sue Bernstein and Patricia McArdle EAST ASIA AND PACIFIC

JAPAN: "We Insist On Excluding Agriculture From Liberalization But..."

Conservative Sankei (10/16) observed, "Because of its position [on agriculture], Japan has been isolated from the rest of APEC member countries.

"As chair of the APEC Osaka summit, Japan must demonstrate strong leadership in promoting comprehensive trade liberalization. If Japan neglects to do so, other member countries will not support it in making the summit a success. What if the United States insists on the exclusion of textiles from trade liberalization? PM Murayama must show strong political leadership in settling the agriculture issue. Japan's intransigence will only hurt its position and prestige in the international community."

"Japan Should Not Miss Major APEC Goal"

Business-oriented Nihon Keizai (10/15) opined, "Japan's insistence at recent pre-summit meetings that agriculture be excluded from comprehensive trade liberalization is frustrating efforts to make the Osaka summit a success. Now is the time for Japan to take a wide view of what APEC means to Japan and the rest of the world. As summit chair, Japan must support the Bogor declaration that calls for free trade and investment by 2010 (among advanced member nations) and by 2020 (among developing countries.)

"Japan must be fully aware that it can boost its leadership and diplomatic

prestige as an Asian leader and economic power by hosting the summit successfully...[and] fully recognize the importance of making APEC an open organization to promote trade liberalization. It should also take the initiative in promoting deregulation and opening the Asian market to the outside world."

"U.S. Military Bases Should Be Scaled Down"

Liberal Mainichi observed (10/13), "President Clinton and Prime Minister Murayama will issue a joint statement in Tokyo in November, reaffirming the importance of the U.S.-Japan Security Treaty in maintaining peace and security in the Asia and Pacific region in the post-Cold War period. However, the recent rape of an Okinawa schoolgirl allegedly by three U.S. servicemen has led to growing calls in Japan for revision of the Status of Forces Agreement (SOFA), shaking the very foundation of bilateral security arrangements....

"We think both the United States and Japan need to work out short and mid-term measures to settle the military base issue after carefully hearing opinions from the local people. As a short-term measure, concrete plans for the consolidation and cutback of 13 U.S. military facilities, in addition to the three places, including Naha Port, should be presented to the people. Plans for the improved SOFA criminal jurisdiction process should also be submitted. As mid and long-term measures, the SOFA's framework and the deployment of a 30,000-strong U.S. force on Okinawa should also be reviewed."

"Poll Shows Okinawan Unease Over Status Of Forces Agreement"

News 23, the popular late-evening TBS news program, (10/12) carried a report on a call-in poll conducted by TBS sister channel in Okinawa, Ryukyu Broadcasting Co. The results of this unscientific call-in poll of Okinawa viewers showed 93.3 percent of the incoming calls were tallied in favor of changing the Status of Forces Agreement; 90.4 of the calls supported Governor Ota's refusal to sign papers granting land-use for U.S. military bases; and 73.3 percent of the calls on the Mutual Security Treaty were against the arrangement as "no longer necessary."

"Japan Should Not Insist On Excluding Farm Trade"

Liberal Asahi opined (10/8), "One of the focal points at the coming Osaka summit will be to map out concrete guidelines for promoting trade and investment liberalization in the Asia and Pacific region by the year 2010 (among advanced countries) and by 2020 (among developing countries) following the accord reached in Bogor, Indonesia, last November.

"Although the Japanese position is supported by South Korea, China and Taiwan, the United States and other Asian and Pacific nations insist that trade liberalization be promoted without exceptions. In view of the actual situation faced by Japanese farmers, Japan's position can be understood but the government should now adopt a more forward-looking position toward farm trade liberalization from the viewpoint of making Japanese agriculture more internationally competitive."

"GOJ Must Settle the Base Issue, While Considering Pain Of Okinawans"

The liberal Tokyo Shimbun (10/6) said, "Under the existing Mutual Security Treaty, about 75 percent of U.S. military facilities in Japan are concentrated on Okinawa. This is too heavy a 'security burden' for the Okinawan people, many of whom have, therefore, become more distrustful of the government's indifference to their plight." "The central government must settle the base issue in the island prefecture, while taking the 'pain of the Okinawan people' into consideration. A mere verbal promise of base consolidation or reduction is no good. The government must negotiate base reduction with the U.S. in a serious and tenacious manner."

"Japan Must Be Bold, Positive On Scale-Down Of U.S. Bases On Okinawa"

Asahi (10/5) held, "The Okinawans are very skeptical about whether the Japanese government is tackling the base issue in a serious manner.... The government should realize its attempt to 'calm waters' or 'paper over the cracks of the security setup' will impair U.S.-Japan mutual trust in the long run. It will also adversely affect security cooperation between the two countries."

"Demand For Revision Of SOFA"

Commercially-run TV Asahi/News Station 10 (10/5) carried a poll, conducted September 30 and October 1, showing that 24 percent of Japanese want full withdrawal of U.S. forces from Japan, while 87 percent want to see revision of the SOFA or MST. A Fuji-TV survey, conducted on September 21 and aired September 24, also showed that 66 percent of respondents called for the SOFA's revision.

"Emotionalism Could Ruin U.S.-Japan Relations"

Sankei observed (10/4), "The recent rape incident is unpardonable. However, the Mutual Security Treaty (MST) and the Status of Forces Agreement (SOFA) issue and the rape case are two different things. If they are discussed together at the same time, the tone or outcome of talks will probably go off course. "Both the United States and Japan should deal with the issues in a more cool-headed manner. Japan's emotional reaction could ruin strong and close U.S.-Japan relations. Japan, therefore, should not hastily seek revision of the MST and SOFA. To be taken into consideration, however, is a growing sense of frustration among the Okinawan people over the concentration of U.S. bases in their island prefecture. During their summit in Tokyo in November, President Clinton and Prime Minister Murayama are expected to issue a joint statement on security arrangements, including the consolidation and reduction of U.S. bases in Okinawa. But there is little likelihood that the U.S. military facilities will be reduced drastically."

"Should Rape Be Linked To Security Pact?"

Tokyo Shimbun (10/1), "We wonder...whether public anger over the rape and questions about the U.S. military presence in Japan should be linked directly with debate on the pros and cons of the U.S.-Japan Security Treaty.... Both sides should correct and even instill new life into the

pact, while continuing to pursue the noble cause of maintaining a close and cooperative U.S.-Japan relationship."

CHINA: "Summit May Bolster Sino-U.S. Relationship"

Official Communist Party People's Daily and several other official publications (10/13) carried the following: "China hopes that the forthcoming Sino-U.S. summit in New York will have a positive impact on the improvement and development of bilateral relations, according to Foreign Ministry spokesman Chen Jian. He said an official meeting will be held in New York on October 24 between Chinese President Jiang Zemin and U.S. President Bill Clinton. The two presidents will exchange views on Sino-U.S. relations and international issues of common concern. Taiwan has been a key issue in Sino-U.S. relations, Chen stressed. It was discussed in the two previous bilateral summits, and it will be discussed at the upcoming summit."

"Relations Have Stopped Sliding, But Not Yet Rising"

Shanghai's official, Communist Party Liberation Daily (10/9) held, "The trend of deterioration and downward slide in Sino-U.S. relations was halted due to joint efforts by both sides.... At present, U.S. China policy exhibits two faces. The U.S. tries to restrain China while carrying out a comprehensive engagement with China through multiple channels such as politics and trade. Whether Sino-U.S. relations emerge from the low point and proceed onto an ascending path depends, to a great extent, on whether both sides can grasp their common interests, overcome points of contention, establish a new type of strategic relationship and avoid confrontation, while widening spheres of cooperation and strengthening effectiveness of that cooperation. In addition, strengthening the understanding of China by the United States will help to reduce the troubles in bilateral relations."

"Hopes For APEC Summit"

The English-language China Daily (10/6) said, "While briefing reporters on prospects of the upcoming Osaka summit, Li Enheng, Vice-Director General of International Trade and Economic Affairs at the Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Cooperation said that any type of statement adopted by the leaders in attendance must reflect the concerns, interests and requirements of all member economies.

"China's position regarding the outcome of the upcoming summit will be pursuant to the principles laid down by President Jiang Zemin at the Bogor summit. Like other APEC member economies, China is opposed to transforming APEC into an insular trading bloc but expects it to remain a forum for informal consultation among ministers and leaders. Also, the APEC forum should be able to produce tangible results in promoting trust among member economies, Li said. The bottom line is that certain collective agreements could be adopted through informal consultation, but the APEC mechanism should be kept from becoming legally binding, he stressed."

"Sino-U.S. Relations"

People's Daily, intellectually-oriented Guangming Daily and other papers (10/4) carried this piece on Qian Qichen's address at the Foreign Policy Association in New York: "According to the minister, Sino-U.S. relations have met with difficulties recently, something which China does not want to see. Qian remarked that the Taiwan issue involves China's sovereignty, territorial integrity and unification and affects the national feelings of the Chinese people.... On this issue, which involves China's basic interests, the position of the Chinese government is unwavering. Qian said maintaining and developing a steady, long-term and healthy relationship with the United States will not only satisfy the basic interests of the peoples of both countries but also further stability and peace in the Asia-Pacific region and even across the globe.... Qian pointed out that some advocate a 'contain China' policy and want to provoke a confrontation. This is counter to the historical trend. Making policy in such a fashion would inevitably harm oneself as well as others."

AUSTRALIA: "Against The Grain"

The national, conservative Australian's Tokyo correspondent commented in an op-ed piece (10/16): "APEC has one important difference from other trade groupings.... In legal terms, APEC agreements have no binding force.... This year the political consequences of (the Bogor declaration) are coming home to roost.... Ryutaro Hashimoto...embodies the dilemma facing Japan. His goal is to re-establish the LDP to its former dominance in Japanese politics, and the farm lobby traditionally has been the lifeblood of the LDP.... But Hashimoto...is an internationalist. He understands the importance of a successful APEC meeting. He knows it will be important not just for Japan's prestige as the meeting's host but also for its standing in regional affairs.... A delegation of...LDP Diet members...on a mission to the United States and Australia...may also play a role. If the delegation returns with the message that Australia and the United States are serious about the trade deadlines, despite their own politically sensitive sectors, Hashimoto may provide the Japanese government with one of its traditional arguments for change--the need to respond to...foreign pressure."

"Food For Thought From Talks"

The Tokyo correspondent for the national, business-oriented Australian Financial Review said (10/13), "Japan's representative on the APEC Eminent Persons Group yesterday predicted Japan will make a last-minute concession on its hardline protection of farmers immediately before next month's APEC summit.... Negotiators from 14 of the 18 APEC nations have said at talks this week in Tokyo that Japan's insistence on allowing special treatment for its agriculture sector would destroy the group's ambitious efforts to open markets."

"Why Japan Turned Against APEC's Vision"

The Australian Financial Review's Tokyo correspondent (10/9) reported, "Japan's farm sector is not just the most heavily protected within Japan. It is most cosseted among all the sectors of all the industrialized countries in APEC. Competitively, it is the daddy of duds, protected by

barriers the equivalent of an import tax of 98 percent on average. This flabby unfit industry is already destined to take one heavy hit under the Uruguay Round of the World Trade negotiations. And the Agriculture Ministry has decided that it should not have to take any more hits. In the face of an immovable Agriculture Ministry, the mighty Ministry of International Trade and Industry is powerless.... So ultimately, political inaction was all that was required to frustrate the efficient heart of Japan's economy and the aspirations of the bulk of the nations of APEC. The only remaining hope is that a heavyweight intervention will come from a determined majority of APEC leaders insisting that Asia's dominant economy has a greater duty to vision than to vested interest."

"China Hits Back Over U.S. Trade Deficit Claim"

The Hong Kong correspondent for the Australian (10/10) reported, "The United States is preparing to shift the big guns of its trade policy away from its traditional economic rival in Asia, Japan, to train them on a new target, China--and already China is returning the fire. Beijing's state-controlled media has criticized a speech in which a senior U.S. government official predicted that America's trade deficit with China would rapidly overtake its contentious imbalance with Japan. U.S. trade representative, Lee Sand, said in Hong Kong at the weekend that China's surplus would 'create some serious political questions in the United States if it continued to grow as a result of Beijing's 'protectionist' policies.... Despite President Clinton's agreement to meet his Chinese counterpart in New York later this month, the renewed spat over the size of the trade deficit is a clear sign that the relationship remains fundamentally tense."

"Long Haul Ahead For APEC"

The Australian Financial Review (10/6) commented, "It has been a tough week for Australia's farmers. First there was the U.S. threat to use subsidies to boost grain sales to Asia. Then came a similar threat with dairy products. Now there is Japan's push for agriculture to be excluded from any APEC free trade agreement.... When the Japanese Prime Minister Mr. Murayama made this call when addressing the Diet he was not only restating existing policy, he was also firing just one more shot in what is likely to be an extremely long negotiating process before the APEC concept is translated into reality.... When officials of the APEC countries meet on Monday in the last meeting before the Osaka summit, there is little doubt Australia's representatives will, once again, argue that excluding agriculture is not acceptable. So, fortunately, will their U.S. counterparts."

"The Farm Before The Storm"

The Australian Financial Review (10/6) ran an op-ed piece saying, "Agricultural liberalization is set to dominate the meeting, with Japanese officials next week expected to again state Japan's desire to quarantine agriculture.... If Japan, as host nation, succeeds in excising agriculture at Osaka, it will provide a green light for a sector-by-sector demolition of APEC by vested interests around this region, quickly reducing APEC to just another regional talk shop."

"Libs Vow To Boost U.S. Defense Ties"

Melbourne's liberal Age (10/6) said, "In a speech that foreshadowed a security policy interweaving defense, foreign affairs and economics, opposition leader Mr. Howard, last night committed the coalition to forging closer ties with the United States. He said the government had neglected the bilateral defense relationship."

"How New Zealand Sacrificed Dignity And Independence"

The Australian's foreign editor commented (10/4), "The United States no longer has nuclear weapons on its ships, and in 1993, New Zealand conducted an inquiry to determine whether there would be any conceivable environmental danger in having nuclear-propelled ships visits. The inquiry answered in the negative, so convincingly, that the Pentagon sends out this document by the truckload. Yet there is no prospect of the New Zealand parliament sensibly reconsidering its ban on even nuclear-propelled ships. Even if it did, there is no guarantee the United States would revive the alliance."

HONG KONG: "A Faded Sino-U.S. Summit Meeting"

Center-right Sing Tao Daily (10/8) held, "As far as China is concerned, this will be a lackluster Sino-U.S. summit meeting. And in the wake of the hustle and bustle for such a long time, China has actually failed to have the Clinton administration make any clear-cut commitment in terms of its Taiwan policy."

"Disagreement Rules In Dialogue Of The Deaf"

Simon Beck wrote in the leading, independent, English-language South China Morning Post (10/6), "It is indeed difficult for the United States, privately or publicly, to claim any progress on the Iran deal (for example) when it is arguing in its media briefings on the semantic difference between 'terminated' and 'suspended.'..."

"So there's much for the two leaders to talk about on October 24. Even if the result is all sound and fury signifying nothing, it would at least be something if both sets of spokesmen give the world the same readout afterward. Call it progress, even."

"Chinese Demands Invite U.S. Snub, Hamstring Britain"

The independent Hong Kong Economic Journal (10/5) said, "China has to look to the United States for help on both the political and economic fronts. And it has to swallow its pride and to meekly submit to America's arrogance and rudeness. While China need not look to Britain for help on both the political and economic fronts, Britain, however, has to look to China for help. For this reason, China adopts an uncompromising attitude and shows no mercy in speech and countenance [toward Britain].... China's tendency to flatter the winner and snub the loser prevents it from winning trust and respect from allies in the international community."

"U.S. Should Brush Up On Sensitivity"

The independent, English-language Hongkong Standard said (10/4), "Part of the cause of America's plummeting popularity in Japan is America's collective self-centeredness, which keeps it from identifying with the problems of others. America has a hard time putting itself in another country's shoes. "There are times when Washington sadly lacks the ability to calculate the effect of its foreign policy initiatives.... The time has come when America must be more sensitive to the feelings of people on Okinawa--and elsewhere in the world."

"Clinton Avoids Being Hugged By Jiang Zemin"

The independent Hong Kong Economic Times (10/2) held, "It is believed that until the [U.S.] election season passes next year, Mr. Clinton will adopt neither a friendly nor an aloof attitude toward China [but instead] maintain a lukewarm relationship with China. He does not expect to win votes on the China issue but only hopes that he will not suffer any loss in this regard."

"If U.S. Stands by Its Commitments, Sino-U.S. Relations Will Develop"

PRC-owned Wen Wei Po (10/2) said, "The crux of Sino-U.S. relations lies in whether the American side will observe the three [Sino-U.S. joint] communiques and stand by its commitments. If the United States is always true in word and resolute in deed, the development of Sino-U.S. relations will have broad prospects."

INDONESIA: "APEC Follow-Ups Incomplete"

Ruling Golkar Party's Suara Karya (10/16) commented, "Japan finds itself in a very difficult position. As host of the third APEC meetings, surely it strives to make those meetings a success...including discussions on agricultural issues.... We believe that it is not logical for Japan to exclude the agricultural sector from the action agenda. To do so would mean that Japan has posed a stumbling block to a successful APEC. Japan expects that APEC's typical flexibility will offer understanding on the gradual stages of domestic market openings for imports of agricultural products. Yet, (if not resolved) this issue will...continue to trouble the APEC leaders in coming years."

"At The Center--East Asia Under U.S. Hegemony?"

Nationalistic Merdeka (10/10) ran this op-ed by Tribuana: "In the wake of terrific political and economic developments, nationalistic views are growing for East Asia to become the 'New World Center.' The question remains whether Asians themselves are prepared to develop fully such strategic geo-political and geo-economic roles.... In the economic sphere, U.S. aid continues to decline.... Even U.S. diplomacy in the region has received a cynical response from American investors to the point that the U.S. government could not but agree to resume diplomatic relations with Vietnam. In APEC, the United States accepts the consensus system, which is different from the Security Council veto system.... Feeling that the power-sharing regime is not adequate, ASEAN countries continue to insist (despite U.S. opposition) on establishing an East Asia

Economic Caucus (EAEC) within APEC."

"U.S. Presence In Asia"

Leading, independent Kompas (10/2) remarked, "It is worrisome that the Japanese may believe that the U.S. presence could be dangerous.... Other Asian countries are closely following the developments between U.S.-Japan relations. Many still see the U.S.-Japan security agreement as a buttress for Asia-Pacific stability. It is logical to think that the Japanese, without U.S. control, might arm themselves both to strengthen national security and to serve as a regional counter-balancing power against China.

"However, the rationale put forward in Japan--that the U.S. presence in Asia is no longer required now that the Cold War is over--is directly contrary to the aspirations of countries in this region."

"Ceasing Talks On Reactor Sales To Iran Relieves U.S."

Kompas (9/30) editorialized, "The United States hailed the statement by Chinese foreign minister Qian Qichen (9/27) that China decided to cease negotiations on nuclear reactors with Iran.... That the decision is reportedly not meant to satisfy Washington could be true, though it is still difficult to deny the premise that the steps taken by the Chinese, to some extent, were for that reason. Indeed, the United States demanded that China stop not only the sale of nuclear reactors to Iran but also sales of missiles to Iran and Pakistan.... Aside from non-proliferation efforts, China's step can be viewed as reinvigorating recently-worsening U.S.-China relations.... Russia could possibly replace China as a nuclear supplier, but the United States would rather face one instead of two 'adversaries.' It is necessary to hail every step to improve U.S.-China relations since Asia-Pacific stability substantially depends on the two giants' bilateral relationship."

SINGAPORE: "Chase Security, Not Arms"

The pro-government Straits Times (10/13) said, "It is reassuring to be told, by...the International Institute of Strategic Studies, that while leading Asian countries are boosting defense spending, the reason for this is the region's growing economic power.... Arms do not guarantee security. True, they are necessary in a dangerous world; indeed, they are the only means left for countries to preserve themselves if the peace breaks down.... It would be idle to pretend that Asia does not face possible threats to peace in the coming years.

"The implosion of the Soviet Union reiterates America's role as the balancer power in the Western Pacific; should it retrench, a power vacuum would follow. That would threaten the balance between China and Japan, with far-reaching implications.... Even if that is farfetched, the Taiwan Strait, the Spratly islands and the Korean peninsula are potential flash points for conflict that will have widespread consequences for East Asia. This is why there is a need to strengthen confidence-building measures, from greater interaction between armed forces, through greater transparency in accounts of national arsenals, to the ultimate aim--the creation of an overarching security architecture for the region....

"Preventive diplomacy is the informing spirit of that architecture, whose foundations have been laid with the formation of the ASEAN Regional Forum. How it will evolve depends on how the major powers of Asia view their role in an age in which trade and markets, and not only borders and territories, define security. The challenge will be to create a structure which reflects and sustains the legitimate interests of powers both large and small. Those are the gates within which lies security."

"Political Will Needed In APEC"

The Straits Times (10/11) opined, "When the ministers meet in Osaka on Nov 16 before the summit, they must make a special effort to ensure that the movement's momentum is not lost, and that the 18 APEC members remain committed to the goal of free trade and investments by 2010 for industrialized countries, and 2020 for the rest. The need is for patience, statesmanship and a sense of perspective and pragmatism....

"Though the spotlight is on Japan's stand on agriculture, its chairmanship of APEC this year has won praise from the rest of the community for its push to finalize a 15-point action agenda in time for next month's summit. Nor is Japan the only stumbling block. A previous officials' meeting in Hong Kong last month, described as a major step backward, confirmed that China, South Korea and Taiwan were just as intransigent about excluding agricultural products from the agenda.... Not that the United States is blameless, either. Though adamantly opposed to any exception that might create a pernicious precedent, the Americans themselves are dragging their feet on the adoption and implementation of a framework and time-table for joint liberalization on issues that include industrial standards and intellectual property rights. For reasons that have not been explained, but may not be unrelated to domestic politics, they would prefer to put this off till next year's summit in Manila. The United States also argues that it would be unfair to allow China to benefit from APEC's non-discriminatory access without having to make any of the concessions required by membership of the World Trade Organization. A reasonable demand, perhaps, if it had not been for the fact that American stipulations regarding joining the WTO are responsible for holding up China's application."

"China-U.S. Summit--Unpredictable Relations"

Pro-government, Chinese-language Lianhe Zaobao opined (10/4), "The substitution of 'working visit' for 'state visit' shows clearly that new disputes can flare up between China and the United States any time, even though bilateral ties have returned to normal and are slightly better now than...following the Tiananmen massacre. The United States stopped using the Taiwan issue to keep China in check after facing unexpectedly strong opposition from that country. It was even forced to reaffirm its one China policy and opposition to Taiwan's application for UN membership. From the diplomatic and political perspective, this is a diplomatic victory for China. In addition, Beijing has applied direct military pressure on Taiwan, and reaffirmed its determination to use military means to avert Taiwanese independence. The absence of a direct response from the United States and Japan implies their recognition that Taiwan is a Chinese domestic issue. This is an unexpected gain for China....

"Qian Qichen pointed out that due to election pressure, President Clinton had difficulties in inviting Chinese President Jiang Zemin for a state visit to Washington. However, this is also proof that President Clinton lacks the political will to improve China-U.S. relations. The failure by President Clinton to revamp his China policy at this delicate stage may cause China to adopt an uncooperative attitude toward the United States in the political, economic and diplomatic areas later on. Such a situation, of course, will not be good for global harmony and cooperation, and may not help President Clinton's re-election efforts. China's sales of nuclear plants to Iran will become bargaining chips for both sides on the negotiation table."

"U.S. Should Transcend Petty"

The Straits Times (10/3) held, "The two countries just cannot afford to cock a snook at each other over peripheral details of protocol. Their leaders have to meet to discuss the whole range of economic, political and security issues on which depends the future health of the Asia-Pacific region.... Since a visit to China is not feasible for now, Mr. Clinton should seize on the Chinese president's presence in America to clear the air of some of the misgivings and suspicions that surround his foreign policy. Far from doing so, the Americans seem to be doing their best to vitiate the atmosphere in advance. It is difficult to understand the reason for their ham-handedness. "Possibly, Mr. Clinton fears that his chances of re-election might be affected if he is seen to fraternize too much with the Chinese leaders. If so, it would be in the American national interest to rise above such narrow inhibitions and find some means of reconciling the country's foreign and domestic requirements. But, of course, the business pressures that were brought to bear on the White House when it tried to make an issue of human rights to deny China MFN status showed clearly that informed American opinion is all too keenly aware of the gains to be expected from the relationship....

"Ambivalence can only breed further misunderstanding.... Some might wonder if the Clinton administration, being often seen to be basically uninterested in foreign policy, has thought through the consequences of its actions. It might not have occurred to it, for instance, that speculation regarding a two-Chinas syndrome, lingering in spite of formal denials, might be encouraged if Taiwan's President Lee Teng-hui and President Jiang are both seen as visiting the United States as private citizens. The obvious and significant differences in the two situations might be lost on many lay observers for whom it can be but a short step to the further suspicion of some kind of containment policy.

"Washington has only itself to blame for being saddled unfairly with such suspicions. Ties between the two countries have been improving slowly ever since...Warren Christopher's meeting with Mr. Qian during the ASEAN Regional Forum conference in Brunei.... Only last week, Mr. Christopher told Asia-Pacific delegates in New York that Mr. Clinton was committed to 'deepening' the U.S. engagement in Asia. What he may not appreciate is that he cannot do so by appearing to cold-shoulder China."

THAILAND: "Thailand's Struggle For Democracy Far From Over"

The independent, English-language Nation (10/14) commented, on the anniversary of Thailand's democratic uprising which overthrew the Thanom-Prapas military regime, "Twenty-two years later, there are still lessons to be learned from that period. For one, political institutions need to be developed to accommodate socio-political changes in the country. And these political institutions must allow the full participation of the people. While the May events in 1992 have also been a turning point in the country's struggle for democracy, they have not been matched with significant political development. The same old-styled politicians are still in power and continue to adhere to their own brand of nepotism and patronage politics. Sadly, Thailand still seems to be groping for the appropriate political model where the people can really have their voice heard. We are still striving for genuine democracy and the struggle is far from over."

"Tariff Restructure Package To Show Commitment To Free Trade"

The Nation's business section (10/6) said, "Thailand may offer the Financial System Master Plan and some items in the tariff restructuring package as a 'downpayment' at the upcoming APEC meeting to show commitment to moving trade liberalization forward."

"The report cited a government economic adviser that Thailand might use the financial liberalization package as a bargaining tool to urge the United States to take the lead in persuading other APEC members to include agricultural products in the upcoming APEC liberalization agreement."

"Cambodian Democracy Threatened By Intolerance"

The Nation (10/6) commented on the grenade attack against supporters of the Son Sann faction, calling it the latest example of "the use of violence in Cambodia's struggle for political power...and the inability of Cambodians to create a system of government that can accommodate a political opposition or even public criticism...."

"As gloomy as the political landscape is in Cambodia, there is also reason to be optimistic. The basic framework for democracy remains in place, and despite everything ordinary Cambodians have been through they maintain a yearning for democracy. In spite of the attacks, more than 1,000 people turned out amid the heavy security presence to attend the Son Sann meeting and...indicated their right to assemble and express a political opinion. But first of all Cambodian rulers will have to get used to the idea that while the presence of opposition figures may be irritating they are what distinguishes a democracy from a dictatorship."

"U.S. Still Key To Our Security"

The top-circulation, English-language Bangkok Post noted (10/2), "Our country and our region have good reason to continue (their) long-standing relations with the United States. Its victory over Japan in the Pacific war undeniably saved this part of the world from a brutal colonization. Its efforts in Vietnam, which were rightly supported by the Thai governments of the day, provided breathing space for much of Southeast

Asia to emerge from colonization into the strong and confident states we have today.

"The United States remains an important key to a new security strategy for this part of the world. This strategy...must be designed to protect all regional countries and their citizens equally from predator nations which may appear, however unexpectedly. A new security policy must also take into account fully the newly emerging pride of nations which now stand on their own. There is no longer a need--or an argument--for unquestioning subservience to America. Neither is there a reason to abandon the protection it is able to provide."

EUROPE

BRITAIN: "Getting Together Again"

The independent weekly Economist (10/6) held, "Next month, when the president of the United States and the prime minister of Japan meet to reaffirm their security alliance, they will be treading on disturbingly shaky ground. Shaky, because the end of the Cold War in Asia produced tectonic shifts whose full effects are only belatedly showing through. As a result, like other cold war alliances, the Japanese-American one is in need of some rebuilding.. All the more so, since close ties between the world's most powerful country and its economically most successful one have long underpinned stability around Asia.... A glance around the region shows that there is plenty of difficult security work to be done....

"By pooling their resources better, Japan and America can do much to bring stability to an increasingly unstable region. For that they do not need a new treaty, or solemn reaffirmations of friendship (though these do no harm). They do need a clear-eyed assessment of the likely problems ahead--and a determination to do something about them, together."

FRANCE: "Normalization"

Economic Les Echos held (10/4), "By announcing the New York (Clinton-Zemin) summit--not a real summit since it won't take place in the U.S. capital city--the United States and China show their desire to normalize their relations. In fact, it will be a dialogue on a backdrop of disagreement. One hardly sees which guarantees President Clinton could get from Mr. Zemin on the question of human rights. Likewise, one does not imagine how the U.S. president, in a campaign year, could give the Chinese leader assurances on the future of the U.S.-Taiwan relationship."

BELGIUM: "Rediscovery Of U.S.-Chinese Relations"

Philippe Paquet commented in conservative Catholic La Libre Belgique (10/4): "On the one hand, Bill Clinton is confronting the most anti-Communist Congress since the McCarthy era. A Republican Congress who, while quick to remind the Democratic president that he opposed George Bush in his campaign promising more rigidity toward Beijing's 'criminal regime', is prepared for all excesses, including the re-establishment of diplomatic relations with Taiwan.... On the other

hand, the [president] is under pressure from business circles, for which not one political compromise with China is too expensive when compared to the formidable attraction of the Chinese market....

"Goodbye to the state visit which Jiang was dreaming of in order to restore the fortune of his house and to relaunch a partnership as indispensable to the Chinese modernization as to the relaunch of the American economy. Although this last reality should convince the two heads of state that...their meeting (in New York) will have the huge advantage of relaxing relations which have recently taken a dangerously explosive turn."

LATIN AMERICA AND CARIBBEAN

ARGENTINA: "Power"

International columnist Guillermo Ortiz wrote in business-financial El Cronista (10/13), "The center of gravity of the world economy has shifted from the shores of the Atlantic to the Pacific Basin...where there is also a progressive increase in military expenditures. In this framework, the People's Republic of China will play a key role as a regional power in the next century....

"The economic boom enabled China to consolidate its military-strategic presence through the modernization of its armed forces and its deterrent system, which will lead to accelerated change in the regional balance of power.... The 'problem' of the political system--that is, if capitalism is possible without democracy--is irrelevant in this case. The United States understood this, from Nixon-Kissinger onwards. In spite of Tiananmen, China has made no concessions on any of its friction points with Washington: human rights, Tibet and nuclear technology."

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===== ATTACHMENT 1 =====
ATT CREATION TIME/DATE:16-OCT-1995 11:37:00.00

ATT BODYPART TYPE:D

TEXT:

RFC-822-headers:

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id <01HWI92ZBL5S001AJ7@PMDF.EOP.GOV> for williams_ma@a1.eop.gov; Mon,
16 Oct 1995 11:38:36 -0400 (EDT)

Received: by gatekeeper.eop.gov (5.65/fma-120691); id AA14118; Mon,
16 Oct 1995 11:35:12 -0400

Received: from Connect2 Message Router by usia.gov via Connect2-SMTP 4.00; Mon,
16 Oct 1995 11:39:08 -0500

Organization: USIA

X-Mailer: Connect2-SMTP 4.00 MHS to SMTP Gateway

===== END ATTACHMENT 1 =====

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (EXTERNAL MAIL)

CREATOR: jamest@usia.gov@INET@EOPMRX

CREATION DATE/TIME:19-OCT-1995 09:13:00.00

SUBJECT: 10_19_Former_Yugo_Alergia_France

TO: matsui_d (matsui_d@A1@CD) (WHO)

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TEXT:

FOREIGN MEDIA REACTION

EARLY REPORT USIA

OFFICE OF RESEARCH AND MEDIA

REACTION

U.S. INFORMATION AGENCY, WASHINGTON, DC 20547

Patricia McArdle, Branch Chief Media Reaction, (R/MR), Tele. No. (202)619-6511

Thursday, October 19, 1995

FORMER YUGOSLAVIA: MORE CONCERNS

Faced with few new developments to chew on, the European and Indian press recycled concerns regarding the many problems still facing the Clinton administration and NATO on the road to peace in the former Yugoslavia. Uppermost in analysts' minds were the U.S. Congress' reluctance to support U.S. involvement on the ground in the Balkans and Russia's objections to a NATO-led peace contingent. London's centrist Independent offered a tongue-in-cheek endorsement of the merits of using Ohio's Wright-Patterson Air Force Base as the site for the Bosnian peace talks. It pointed out that "the ability to keep the press at bay is among Wright-Patterson's greatest charms."

ALGERIA AND FRANCE

Fears that repercussions of the Algerian conflict could spill across more borders in Europe and around the Mediterranean were voiced by analysts in France, Britain and Germany. The "love-hate" relationship between France and Algeria was viewed as making it difficult if not impossible for Paris to mediate in the Algerian conflict, since it was seen as "too deeply entrenched with Algeria's French-speaking middle class." Centrist Der Tagesspiegel of Berlin accused Paris of an "unconditional siding with Algiers' generals" and predicted that the planned meeting between French President Jacques Chirac and Algeria's Premier Zeroual would be more likely to "escalate the crisis rather than defuse the situation."

BRIEFS

- Claes And NATO
- The CIA And Japan

EDITORS: Mildred Sola Neely and Pat McArdle

FORMER YUGOSLAVIA: MORE CONCERNS

Britain "The Discreet Charm Of Wright-Patterson"

The centrist Independent remarked today, "It does not quite have the class of Camp David. But as a site for the Bosnian peace talks, the Wright-Patterson air force base, in western Ohio, is perhaps even more suitable--bristling with the instruments of U.S. air power which, operating under NATO guise, did as much as anything to bring the reluctant participants to the bargaining table in the first place....

"In most respects it fits the bill perfectly.... It is easily accessible for important visitors like Mr. Christopher, but too far away for an instant dash by a disgruntled negotiator to the network television studios. The ability to keep the press at bay is among Wright-Patterson's greatest charms.... If there is a 'Dayton agreement' it will be initialled there and signed formally in Paris a few days later. But, as U.S. officials acknowledge, there is no guarantee the talks will succeed--one reason they will not be held at Camp David."

France "Clinton Administration Faces Resistance"

Although the focus in France on the Bosnia story understandably was the "contradictory" information circulating about the fate of the two missing French pilots, influential Liberation's Washington correspondent Pierre Briancon noted, "The Clinton administration faces Congressional resistance to sending troops to Bosnia to enforce a peace treaty.... Also, Moscow still refuses to send troops under NATO command."

"U.S. Credibility Dependent On Troops On The Ground"

Mass-appeal InfoMatin said, "In order to prove the credibility of its commitment, Washington must now send troops on the ground--something which, for the United States, is not an easy matter."

"First Sign Of Thaw"

InfoMatin judged, "The diplomatic marathon started by the U.S., Russian and EU envoys scored a first success yesterday when Bosnian President Izetbegovic and his Serb counterpart Milosevic agreed to opening 'liaison offices' in their respective capital cities. This is the first sign of a thaw."

Germany "Why Bring Russia In?"

Josef Joffe warned in an editorial in centrist Sueddeutsche Zeitung of Munich, "The Alliance should not accept the conditions Russia has linked to the establishment of a NATO peace force for Bosnia.... NATO wants the sole supreme command, and that is the way it should be. For the Russians would not come as a peaceful power that would have no interests (in Bosnia), but as a silent protector of the Serbs....

"If Moscow had not always opposed military activities in the Security Council, the current configuration would have developed much earlier.... Moscow as a (co-)commander of the peace force would simply duplicate the blockade situation which already paralyzed the Security Council. NATO did the dirty work and set things in motion with its bombs. Why offer Moscow a place at the top when it was NATO that made the necessary investments?

"Moreover, those who give Russia a say are seeing to it that the Americans will say good-bye. The U.S. participation must be wrought from a hesitating Congress. It would certainly veto the subordination of U.S. units under Russian command. The most elegant solution would be a Russian dismissal of the offer to take part in the peace force.... If not, President Clinton must come up with a solution that will save face and which he can make palatable to Yeltsin in New York on Monday."

Russia "Moscow Meeting Does Not Help Solve Problem"

Vladimir Abarinov stated on the front page of reformist Segodnya yesterday, "The Contact Group meeting in Moscow yesterday failed to introduce the sought-after clarity into problems facing its participants."

"Peacekeeping Operation In Bosnia: A Historical Precedent"

Vladimir Abarinov said in another front-pager in Segodnya yesterday, "We are inclined to agree with Richard Holbrooke--the proposed (peacekeeping) operation in Bosnia is without historical precedent.... The problem the military and diplomats are confronted with goes beyond the framework of the Yugoslav settlement, important as it is. It is about a new model of global interaction. This task has nothing to do with time-serving political considerations and petty benefits.... It might signify a turning point in the world's destiny. A new system of European security will be born not of academic discussions and the will of particularly discerning politicians but of an acute necessity, as you cannot meet new challenges by using old methods."

India "Apprehension And Concern"

Washington correspondent Sridhar Krishnaswami's view ran in the independent Hindu, "Bill Clinton is under strong pressure not to commit the United States to anything definitive in Bosnia until he has the full concurrence of the Congress.... The mood in Congress is one of apprehension and concern...the fear being that Washington

could be sucked into a quagmire difficult to extricate itself from.... The American experience in Southeast Asia is raising the larger question whether the country is doing the right thing.... With leading Republican presidential hopefuls highly critical of the Bosnia peace plan and what it entails for the United States, the last thing...Clinton would want on his hands is the prospect of American soldiers getting killed in hostile terrain in the Balkans."

ALGERIA AND FRANCE

France "Special Relationship"

Alain Duhamel commented on Europe One Radio yesterday, "It is very difficult to contemplate normal relations between France and Algeria because between the two countries there is a relationship of love-hatred, fascination, attraction-rejection. France remains Algeria's number-one partner. And the Algerian community is the biggest foreign community in France."

"Algeria's Destiny Is Made In France"

Claire Trean wrote in influential Le Monde yesterday, "The new terrorist attack in Paris shows that more than 30 years after its independence, part of Algeria's destiny is being made in France, and not in Algeria. Algerians...campaign with bombs, leaflets or TV programs in France, not in Algeria."

Britain "West Fears March Of Fundamentalist Muslim Creed Across North Africa"

According to the conservative Times today, "Western policymakers are preparing for Algeria's descent into outright civil war in the light of the military backed government's failure to hold talks with Islamic militants. That raises worries that other states in the region may be unable to contain Islamic militancy. The United States and France view the Algerian crisis as a threat to the entire Mediterranean region and one over which their influence is extremely limited. Beyond the far-reaching consequences for Algeria itself, gains by the most radical Islamists could embolden extremists in neighboring North African states such as Tunisia or Morocco, key American allies in the region,' David Welch, U.S. principal deputy assistant secretary for Near Eastern affairs, told the congressional African affairs subcommittee last week....

"Increasing tensions within Algeria's military backed government, between those determined to destroy the hardliners and conciliators seeking negotiations, have isolated foreign governments from the center of power. In the meantime, foreign influence over the armed militants inside the country is non-existent. The United States has avoided the trap of being portrayed as the Islamists' enemy by promoting dialogue between the Muslim groups and the government, but to no avail.... There is agreement in the West that Algiers' confrontational strategy is not the solution to the crisis, but France is unable to mediate because it is too deeply entrenched with Algeria's French-speaking middle class.... That middle class is the

hardliners' main enemy."

"France's Colonial Reckoning"

The independent Financial Times remarked, "More than 30 years after granting Algeria independence, France is still embroiled in the affairs of its former colony....

"France is becoming aware that it has a problem not only with Algeria but with a substantial indigenous minority on its own soil. Rather like blacks in America, these 'beurs' are largely assimilated into French culture, but feel marginalized by French society. Some young males express their resentment through crime. Some turn to religion, more or less politicized. Generally these are alternatives but, to a handful of individuals, terrorism offers the chance to combine the two....

"In Algeria's case the violence has taken the lives of 50,000 people since it began in 1992. It can be ended only by negotiation, in which the Islamic Salvation front, the party that won the election of December 1991, is an indispensable partner. An escalation of violence between now and November 16 may be unavoidable. What must be hoped is that once the presidential election is over, General Zeroual will have a freer hand vis-a-vis the hardliners in the armed forces, and that Mr. Chirac will indeed urge on him the vital importance of dialogue. French support for such regimes, like British opposition to sanctions on South Africa in the 1980s, can be justified only if the influence thereby gained is put to good use."

Germany "False Diagnosis, False Therapy"

Centrist Der Tagesspiegel of Berlin carried the following editorial yesterday, "Eight attacks in three months and six of them in Paris alone: France is unable to get the new terrorist threat under control.... For weeks, the French capital has resembled a fortress, but, as the Paris police officers' trade union said, there is no lack of security forces, but a lack of political solutions. But the fatal development is that the problem is not called by its name: It is France's involvement in the Algerian civil war, the unconditional siding with Algiers' generals.

"Foreign Minister de Charette and President Chirac pretend that France is totally neutral. If the diagnosis is wrong, the therapy cannot help either. The planned meeting between Chirac and Algeria's Premier Zeroual seems to escalate the crisis rather than defuse the situation. Chirac is sending the wrong signal.... He is thus risking a continuation of the wave of terror, but he is also isolating the country even more in foreign policy--as if the nuclear tests did not do enough to damage France's reputation."

BRIEFS

CLAES AND NATO

Britain "Couldn't Happen At A Worse Time"

On BBC TV's Breakfast News this morning, Europe correspondent David Shukman said from Brussels, "Willy Claes may hold the most important job in the entire Western Alliance, but suspicions about his past are catching up with him.... It could not happen at a worse time.

"NATO is on the brink of its biggest ever operation: No longer just launching war planes over Bosnia, but also getting ready to dispatch thousands of troops there as well, if there is a peace deal. A change at the top of the Alliance now would only add to the complications."

"Nunn For NATO"

Under the headline above, the conservative Times suggested, "Whichever way the Belgian parliament votes today, Willy Claes must either resign as NATO secretary general or be pushed through the exit and back to the morass of Belgian politics whence he came. His staying can only damage NATO further.... Only one obstacle stands between NATO and an outstanding new secretary general: the old taboo against an American. Ministers say that merit should come before nationality; now is the time to show that they mean it.

"There is at least one possible American who would do more to strengthen NATO's strategic vision and its Atlanticist bedrock than all the available Europeans put together. The most obvious is Senator Sam Nunn.... In Bill Clinton, America has the least Atlanticist president since the war. Without a firm U.S. commitment to European security, NATO has no future. Sam Nunn could bridge the widening Atlantic. Britain should set out to persuade NATO to beat a path to the senator's door."

THE CIA AND JAPAN

Japan "Alleged CIA Espionage Looms Over U.S.-Japan Relations"

Liberal Asahi opined today, "Although the State Department has promised Japan an investigation into alleged CIA tapping of telephone conversations between MITI and auto officials during sensitive auto trade talks, USTR Kantor and other U.S. trade negotiators remain silent on the allegation except to say 'no comment on intelligence-related matters.' With such a background, the Tokyo government has become increasingly distrustful of Washington. A growing sense of awkwardness and oppressiveness appears to be prevailing among U.S. and Japanese officials, with the APEC Osaka summit and Clinton-Murayama talks just about a month away."

"Be Prepared For Espionage"

Conservative Sankei opined, "As long as Japan continues to label foreign intelligence-gathering activities as evil without taking any effective countermeasures, it cannot protect the country from growing acts of espionage. If the government and business remain less than fully conscious about foreign intelligence activities, the security of a nation will be put in jeopardy."

Singapore "New Spies And New Risks"

Following are excerpts from today's pro-government Straits Times on the alleged Okinawa rape and claims of CIA spying,

"Taken together, the two incidents are a disturbing gauge of how fragile trust between the two allies has become on account of the postwar transformation of geo-strategic priorities having to share equal billing with economic competition.... If the CIA-Japan flap plays out to an anti-climatic end, it would be a relief. The world's two strongest economies do need to back off from the stance of open combat. It is troubling enough that these are early days of a whole new genre of spying--and the motivation thereon--now that the economic struggle among nations is becoming as grim as the old contest over ideology and the military edge was deadly. Governments and business interests cannot minimize the great potential for harm to international relations that spying--even of industrial secrets and the intricate ways of winning business orders--can cause."

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===== ATTACHMENT 1 =====

ATT CREATION TIME/DATE:19-OCT-1995 09:13:00.00

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id <01HWMAVG4WO0002VSC@PMDF.EOP.GOV> for matsui_d@a1.eop.gov; Thu, 19 Oct 1995 09:12:57 -0400 (EDT)

Received: from XGATE.USIA.GOV by gatekeeper.eop.gov;

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Organization: USIA

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===== END ATTACHMENT 1 =====

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (EXTERNAL MAIL)

CREATOR: jamest@usia.gov@INET@EOPMRX

CREATION DATE/TIME:27-OCT-1995 10:20:00.00

SUBJECT: 10_27_Yeltsin_U.S._Asia

TO: matsui_d (matsui_d@A1@CD) (WHO)

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TEXT:

FOREIGN MEDIA REACTION

EARLY REPORT USIA

OFFICE OF RESEARCH AND MEDIA

REACTION

U.S. INFORMATION AGENCY, WASHINGTON, DC 20547

Patricia McArdle, Branch Chief Media Reaction, (R/MR), Tele. No. (202)619-6511

Friday, October 27, 1995

YELTSIN'S ILLNESS:
'BETTER HE RECOVER, FOR THE GOOD OF ALL'

The news of Russian President Boris Yeltsin's illness yesterday received prominent coverage abroad, renewing concerns about his ability to stay in power and guide a highly unstable Russia toward a hoped-for democratic era. Analysts underlined U.S. anxieties over what the future holds for a Russia with no clear successor in sight, given the need for Moscow's cooperation in many international developments--above all, in the Balkans. Observers seemed certain of only one development--that, because of his health problems, Mr. Yeltsin will not be able to run for a second term. Available commentary from Moscow did not touch upon the Kremlin leader's precarious health.

U.S.-ASIA

Asian observers focused their attention on U.S. relations with the region's two most powerful nations--China and Japan. In Shanghai, municipal Wenhui Daily interpreted the smile of President Clinton during his meeting with Chinese President Jiang as "a positive sign that in Sino-U.S. relations, brightness comes after gloom." It said the meeting laid a "good foundation for the U.S. and China to resume and expand their dialogue and cooperation." Papers in Taiwan reacted cautiously to the meeting. The pro-establishment China Times acknowledged that "Taiwan and Beijing do not weigh equally on Washington's political scale" and stressed, "It is in Taiwan's greatest interest that Taipei, Washington and Beijing maintain a non-zero sum and win-win relationship."

The other issue of concern to the regions commentators was the future of

the U.S.-Japan Status of Forces Agreement (SOFA). Tokyo's liberal Asahi noted that an accord to improve implementation of the SOFA "came rather quickly for an agreement that had been untouched for a quarter of a century because both governments recognized the urgent need to calm Japanese public opinion and prevent the security issue from affecting other bilateral areas." Sydney's conservative Australian pointed out that, although U.S. officials had been anxious not to make any changes to the agreement "for fear this would give a pretext for changes in other agreements such as ones in South Korea and Germany," Japanese and American officials wanted to "smooth over the controversy" in preparation for a state visit by Mr. Clinton in November.

BRIEFS

- Bosnia
- Brown Amendment
- Northern Ireland Peace Process

EDITORS: Mildred Sola Neely and Pat McArdle

YELTSIN'S ILLNESS: 'BETTER HE RECOVER, FOR THE GOOD OF ALL'

Germany "Yeltsin's Condition Gnawing Away At Russia's Credibility"

Centrist Der Tagesspiegel of Berlin's editorial held, "Democracy in Russia is too young and fragile for there to be established institutions which could effectively monitor constitutional rules and set natural limits to arbitrary power games. Just back from a strenuous trip to France and America, the president of the largest country in the world once again requires medical attention. At the same time...the foreign minister accuses his chief of not having done enough to defend Russian interests while he was in America.... It is becoming increasingly clear how shaky the democratically legitimized authority in Russia is. Yeltsin's worrying condition is gnawing away at Russia's credibility."

"Why It's All Quiet On The Western Front"

Manfred Quiring offered these view in left-of-center Berliner Zeitung, "If this had happened two or three years ago, hectic activity would have broken out in Bonn, Paris and Washington. These days, the West is staying relatively calm. The reason is Prime Minister Chernomyrdin. The man who would have to take over the leadership in Yeltsin's absence exudes confidence and stability. Russia's reforms no longer depend on one single person.... One thing seems certain: This second heart attack has drastically reduced Yeltsin's chances of serving a second term as president."

"This Is More Than Saber Rattling"

Karl Ludwig Guensche said in an editorial in right-of-center Die Welt of Berlin (referring to plans in high Russian circles threatening a

military response in the Baltics and elsewhere in Central and Eastern Europe if NATO expands), "This is more than saber rattling.... Such a paper could easily be interpreted as insignificant if the indecent game President Yeltsin has been playing with his foreign minister since last week, did not signal that forces are behind it that must be taken seriously....

"These fears are the more alarming because Boris Yeltsin, the hero of the two failed coup attempts, the guarantor of Russian democracy, is struggling with increasing health problems--but also seems to be politically in trouble. If he sacrifices Kozyrev or if the foreign minister, in a desperate mood, throws in the towel himself, this would be another indication that Russia's path to democracy is not irreversible at all."

Britain "Who Will Replace Boris?"

An editorial in the liberal Guardian observed, "Old-fashioned Kremlinology is being taken out of the moth balls. Where health matters are concerned, we are back to the unreconstructed Communist past:

"Just as the Kremlin claimed that President Andropov had a cold when he was in reality dying.... So far the West has been prepared to play this game on Russia's terms, humoring Yeltsin and banking on his ability to stay the course even though the evidence of their own eyes and ears leaves little doubt that Yeltsin, in or out of hospital, is a sick man....

"Even if Yeltsin is soon able to return to his desk, Washington and its allies must now firmly fix their eyes on Russia beyond Boris.... Political instability ahead is a certainty; at issue is only how severe it will be and whether a leader can emerge capable of holding the Russian Federation together. Among those vying for the succession, Prime Minister Chernomyrdin has the highest international profile. But at home he is a controversial figure with powerful opponents in the security apparatus. Few outsiders have met the popular General Alexander Lebed whose 'clean' credentials appear to have such wide appeal in Russia. If Americans can look to General Colin Powell as presidential material, why should Russians not turn to General Lebed? Who knows: Perhaps the two superpowers will end up with elected military men at their helms."

"Russian Diplomacy Run By A Lame Duck?"

The Guardian pointed out, "The United States is concerned because Mr. Yeltsin's threat to sack his foreign minister, Andrei Kozyrev...leaves Russian diplomacy run by a lame duck."

"West Doesn't Need Not-So-Cuddly Russian Communists"

Academic historian Mark Almond commented in the conservative tabloid Daily Mail, "It is the prospect of a Communist comeback in Russia that alarms the West.... Russian Communists are not a cuddly, reform-minded lot. They still talk about restoring the Soviet Union

and the victory of Lenin's ideas in the 21st century. These are all powerful reasons why Yeltsin's coterie of advisers and security men will press him to cling to power as long as there is life in him."

France "Russia Tied To Yeltsin's Fate"

Yeltsin's health problems prompted these headlines in Paris: "The Whole World Holds Its Breath: Is Yeltsin In Worse State Of Health?" (mass-appeal France Soir), "Russia Tied To Yeltsin's Fate" (economic Les Echos), "Markets Concerned About Yeltsin's Health. Russian President's Illness Raised The Dollar" (economic La Tribune).

Italy "Better He Recover, For The Good Of All"

Under the headline above, Alberto Pasolini Zanelli's commentary in rightist Il Giornale remarked, "We never know what to expect from Yeltsin, but we know very well what we don't have to fear from him.... "Even observers who are the most allergic to that type of person realize that the only guarantee that Russia will continue to make progress and become one day a 'normal country' is that this man, who is hardly normal and hardly 'modern,' remain its leader, or at least its guardian, for a long time."

"Yeltsin Era Over"

An editorial in financial Il Sole-24 Ore concluded, "As of yesterday the world knows that Yeltsin's era is over."

Belgium "Yeltsin's Challenges"

Catholic Vers l'Avenir concluded, "The evolution of Russia over the last few years has accustomed us to the most surprising developments.... In many respects, the Russian president is a man like any other.... But the challenges he confronts in his country, the predicament of its economy, the corruption, the administration's decay, the ravages of the mafia and the nationalist threats would require more coherence and another strength, physical as well as moral. With a sick president at the head of a moribund republic, the whole population could suffer--even perhaps the world's equilibrium."

Sweden "Can Yeltsin Shoulder His Load?"

In the opinion of liberal Dagens Nyheter, "The world has properly been reminded that the man in the Kremlin is a sick person.... Now when the 64-year-old president...once again is suddenly taken to hospital...it is quite reasonable if one begins to doubt Yeltsin's ability to shoulder the power he holds.... The time is gone when many regarded Yeltsin as the democratic hope of Russia. Among skeptical experts it is felt that we never should have set any hopes on him in the first place."

U.S.-ASIA

China "Highlights Of Sino-U.S. Summit"

Shanghai's municipal Wenhui Daily today observed, "Reporters clearly observed that both Presidents Jiang and Clinton were smiling while together at the photo session, which is a bit different than the last two summits.... This time, Clinton acted out of character and faced the reporters smiling along with President Jiang, thus giving a positive sign that in Sino-U.S. relations, brightness comes after gloom. Because of the importance of this summit to both sides, and given the candid and positive atmosphere of the meeting, the two leaders met for longer than originally planned. This, too, did not happen in the last two meetings. U.S. Assistant Secretary Lord described the meeting at a press conference today as the best of the three formal meetings held by the two presidents. It laid a good foundation for the United States and China to resume and expand their dialogue and cooperation."

Taiwan "To Cautiously Cope With Follow-up Impact Caused by Clinton-Jiang Summit"

The pro-establishment China Times held, "In the current situation when both Beijing and Washington are interested in improving bilateral ties, we are most concerned about where Taiwan will be placed and what kind of pressure Taiwan will experience in the international community. In the climate of an improved Washington-Beijing relationship, we can tell very clearly that it is impossible for the United States to declare war on Beijing just out of support for Taiwan independence. Taiwan and Beijing do not weigh equally on Washington's political scale. This is a fact that every political party should face seriously. Nonetheless, this does not mean that Washington is happy to see any damage done to the peace across the Taiwan Strait.... It is in Taiwan's greatest interest that Taipei, Washington and Beijing maintain a non-zero sum and win-win relationship."

"Communist China's New Offensive Against U.S."

Official Central Daily News said yesterday, "During the Clinton-Jiang summit, Taiwan's interests were not further damaged, nor have Washington and Beijing reached any major agreements. However, to view it from another angle, the United States is actually the biggest winner in this meeting because it has created a friendly atmosphere for communication with Beijing and it did not sacrifice Taiwan's interests. In fact, it avoided offending either side of the Taiwan Straits."

Japan "Is This A Milestone?"

Liberal Asahi said, "The U.S.-Japan agreement to improve implementation of the status of forces agreement (SOFA) came rather quickly for an agreement that had been untouched for a quarter of a century because both governments recognized the urgent need to calm Japanese public opinion and prevent the security issue from affecting other bilateral areas. For the Foreign Ministry, which had pledged not to revise the SOFA itself, this procedural agreement is a step forward, but we believe it is not 'the most important issue,' as Foreign Minister Kono once said, because the situation has already

changed too much.

"Japan is increasing host-nation support step-by-step through the repeated renewal of the special agreement which far exceeds the framework originally envisioned in the SOFA. It is time for both governments, with public support, to review whether such cooperation is necessary. The problem which was ignited by the rape in Okinawa has already grown to such an extent that we must think of steps that the United States and Japan must take to make the entire bilateral security alliance healthy and sound. It is natural for the United States to try to resolve the issue in a way that maintains stable forces. Strangely, Japanese senior officials only reiterate 'U.S. troops will not be reduced,' but do not give us the government's view on the entire bilateral security alliance."

"Don't Rock Security Alliance"

Top-circulation, moderate Yomiuri said, "We believe the improved application of the SOFA is practical and appropriate. Some argue that the SOFA itself should be revised instead of merely improving its implementation. However, revision of the SOFA could directly affect the U.S.-Japan security treaty. Therefore, it is necessary to spend a certain amount of time discussing the issue as a longer medium-range project."

"What we should not forget in the series of talks is that nothing should be allowed to shake the bilateral security arrangement. The U.S.-Japan security treaty contributes not only to Japan's security but also to stability, peace and prosperity of the Asia-Pacific region. Especially since the end of the Cold War, the treaty has played an important role in securing the U.S. military's presence in the region, an indispensable factor in the region's stability."

Malaysia "Jiang Zemin-Clinton Talks"

Government-influenced, Chinese-language Nanyang Siang Pau remarked, "China's growth in strength will not pose a threat to other nations but provides greater opportunity for cooperation with them..... With the 1996 elections in mind and presently facing pressure from Congress, Clinton is unlikely to take big strides to improve relations with China.... Nonetheless, we hope at the turn of this century the leaders of both nations will 'make efforts to expand common ground' to strengthen cooperation in economics and trade. This will not only be beneficial to the development of their bilateral relations but will also contribute to the stability and prosperity in the Asia-Pacific region."

Australia "U.S. Moves To Resolve Okinawa Bases Feud"

The national, conservative Australian said, "The U.S. Assistant Secretary of Defense, Joseph Nye, said in Washington yesterday the United States was prepared to reduce troop numbers in Okinawa if alternative relocation sites within Japan were offered. Overall troop numbers in Japan would have to stay unchanged, he said.... U.S. officials have been anxious not to make any changes to the agreement

for fear this would give a pretext for changes in other agreements such as ones in South Korea and Germany. Japanese and American officials have been trying to smooth over the controversy in preparation for a state visit by Mr. Clinton on November 20, immediately after he attends the APEC summit in Osaka."

BRIEFS

BOSNIA

Serbia- "What About Croat Crimes?"

Montenegro

Pro-government, nationalistic Vecernje Novosti of Belgrade said today in a commentary by Borislav Komad, "Two days ago, the UNHCR filed 'countercharges' against the prosecutor of The Hague tribunal, who has been absorbed only in charging the Serbs of the crimes committed in Bosnia.... The UNHCR has reported that the 'biggest demographic change in Europe since World War II occurred in the region of the former Yugoslavia' between May 1995 until to date. According to the exact statistics, this classical genocide--termed as a 'demographic change'--comprises 410,000 Serbs, forcibly banished from their homes in an ethnic cleansing operation performed by Tudjman's Croatia.

"The UNHCR concludes that the Zagreb regime has been refusing to accept any system of refugees protection, 'not even thinking of letting them return to their homes.' A precise diagnosis has been established, but according to our experiences so far, it is not very likely that a remedy would be offered. Instead of imposing sanctions on Croatia for this massive ethnic cleansing, the State Department high official, John Shattuck, at his recent press conference in Zagreb, gravely accused the Serbian side of 'horrid violations of human rights and potential war crimes on the territory of Bosnia under Serbian control.'"

France "A Symbolic Contingent For The Russians"

Baudoin Bollaert maintained in conservative Le Figaro, "There is a long way from Kansas to Bosnia. The problem of the Russian participation in a multinational force 'is very difficult to solve,' admitted Secretary Perry. If there is a consensus between the Allies on the need for such participation--Helmut Kohl and Jacques Chirac reasserted that the Russians must not be isolated--the modalities still remain to be found. The equation is well known: Washington wants to keep the leadership of the operation in NATO. Otherwise, Bill Clinton would not get the approval from Congress to send 20,000 GIs to Bosnia."

Italy "No Progress"

According to a Washington dispatch in left-leaning, influential La Repubblica, "No progress, or almost no progress, has been made between the United States and Russia on the modalities for the latter's participation in the NATO peace force in Bosnia. After a three-hour

meeting at the Pentagon with his Russian counterpart...Perry said that many differences remain between the two sides, even if some progress has been achieved toward filling the gap between the respective positions."

BROWN AMENDMENT

India "Boost To Pakistan"

The independent Indian Express ran the only editorial on the Brown Amendment yesterday, strongly urging New Delhi to "buttress the country's defenses by stepping up production and deployment of the Agni and Prithvi missiles." The editorial continued, "The faint hope in India after the earlier passage of the Hank Brown amendment by the U.S. Senate that a more detailed consideration of the issue will induce rethinking in Washington has been belied by Wednesday's unfortunate development....

"Clearly, this event marks a serious setback for Indian diplomacy....

"Although the Brown amendment supposedly represents a one-time waiver of the Pressler directive, Pakistan will be delighted by this tacit acceptance by the United States of its nuclear status. Moreover, its return to the earlier position of being Washington's front-line state in this region means that, as before, the American policymakers will not hesitate to turn a blind eye to Pakistan's nuclear program as long as it promises to serve Washington's geostrategic objectives in West and Central Asia.... The arms supply also denotes a remarkable turnaround in U.S. policy from the period not long ago when Pakistan was about to be called a terrorist state.... American insensitivity to South Asian security has paved the way for another arms race."

Pakistan "Valuable Victory"

According to an editorial yesterday in Islamabad's centrist News, "The (Brown) amendment's passage has helped the two countries break the barrier of hostility that the Pressler law had erected. Since it came into effect five years ago, the law had been correctly perceived in Pakistan to be a rude manifestation of American discrimination. Being Pakistan-specific and oriented to defeat Pakistan's alleged nuclear ambitions, it made the American policy in South Asia exceedingly lopsided in favor of India."

"Implications Of Brown Amendment"

An editorial in yesterday's center-right Nation held, "The implications of the Brown amendment on the general Pakistan-U.S. relations are far more than it would seem at first glance. It is not about Pakistan getting a few items of military hardware that no one else wants. It is primarily about Pakistan's right to develop its own nuclear program. Henceforth, it will not be possible for the United States to raise the nuclear bogey to pressure Pakistan."

NORTHERN IRELAND PEACE PROCESS

Britain "A Modest Christmas Present"

The liberal Guardian opined today about "rushing" The Northern Ireland (Remission of Sentences) Bill, "It is...a very modest measure both in conception and effect. So why the hurry? The reason can be given in two words--Bill Clinton. The (British) government is making this change because it wants something positive to show the American president on his visit to Britain and Ireland at the end of November. London calculates that the longer the peace process is stalled during the run-up to the visit, the greater the pressure will be on the president to try to break the deadlock in ways which London fears.... Britain's minimalist approach is designed to draw the sting of the Clinton visit rather than seriously to advance the peace process."

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===== ATTACHMENT 1 =====

ATT CREATION TIME/DATE:27-OCT-1995 10:19:00.00

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27 Oct 1995 10:20:06 -0400 (EDT)

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RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (EXTERNAL MAIL)

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SUBJECT: 10_31_Russia_-_Bosnia

TO: williams_ma (williams_ma@A1@CD) (WHO)
READ:NOT READ

IND_TO: Evan M. Ryan (RYAN_E) (WHO)
READ:31-OCT-1995 09:42:21.67

TEXT:

FOREIGN MEDIA REACTION

EARLY REPORT USIA

OFFICE OF RESEARCH AND MEDIA

REACTION

U.S. INFORMATION AGENCY, WASHINGTON, DC 20547

Patricia McArdle, Branch Chief Media Reaction, (R/MR), Tele. No. (202)619-6511
day, October 31, 1995

U.S.-RUSSIA AND BOSNIA

The aftershocks of Russian President Yeltsin's illness and the announcement by the Russian electoral commission that it had decided to bar a leading reformist party from the December elections prompted a new round of speculation in Europe on how political instability in Russia would affect East-West ties, particularly with the U.S., and on reaching peace in Bosnia. Some writers--including one in Belgrade--stressed that the Balkans would serve as a laboratory for Russia's post-Cold War relationship with the West. In Moscow, both reformist dailies and centrist, army Krasnaya Zvezda reiterated hopes that cooperation, not confrontation, would mark Russia's links with the U.S. Analysts in Russia and elsewhere, however, feared that the "inept" move against the Yabloko Party signalled the desperation of an elite anxious to hold on to power even at the expense of the former superpower's democratic experiment.

Accusations leveled yesterday that leading powers had allowed Srebrenica and Zepa to fall met with outrage and censure in Egyptian and German media. German commentators were the first to debate the results of yesterday's elections in Croatia.

MIDDLE EAST--THE BUSINESS OF PEACE

As the economic summit concluded in Amman, a number of Arab commentators continued to harp on the unresolved aspects of the Middle East peace

process--primarily the city of Jerusalem and Syria's involvement--even while their countries' businessmen, according to Tel Aviv's independent Maariv, surprised their Israeli counterparts "by expressing their willingness for joint ventures." Papers in Syria, which did not send a delegation to the summit, highlighted Secretary Christopher's visit to Damascus and fretted that the meeting in Jordan would "contribute to eliminating the psychological barrier between Israel and the Arabs" before a "just and comprehensive peace" could be achieved. Saudi Arabia's influential Ar-Riyadh characterized the summit as "a journey into the unknown" by countries that "are afraid of the combination of haste to form a regional bank and the headlong rush to peace." An observer in Dhaka concluded that, although some have turned their backs on the peace process, "the international situation is such that no one can stay away from the process of peace and economic cooperation in the Middle East."

BRIEFS

- Canada: Still One Nation
- U.S.-Japan

EDITORS: Mildred Sola Neely and Pat McArdle

U.S.-RUSSIA AND BOSNIA

Russia "Cooperation Was Planned For Centuries"

Vissarion Sisnyov stated today from Washington for centrist, trade union Trud on the Perry-Grachev meeting, "Only time will show how right Yeltsin was when, after meeting with Clinton at Hyde Park, he said that cooperation between Russia and the United States was planned for centuries. Hopes that it will indeed grow stronger, providing the military leaders of the two countries stay in contact as they did last week."

"...And We Have No Democracy"

Reformist Izvestia front-paged this comment by Otto Latsis, "If the central electoral authorities can dictate what choice to offer to the electorate, they can do anything, which means that what is called an election is no election at all, and we have no democracy."

"U.S. Regains Initiative On Bosnia Through Yeltsin's Illness"

Vladimir Abarinov filed from Washington for reformist Segodnya Saturday, "U.S. diplomats, tied up with Bosnian settlement, do not seem to worry too much at this moment over reports that the Russian president may have to stay in hospital until the end of November. With the quadripartite Moscow summit cancelled, the Americans have fully regained the initiative. But it is anybody's guess how Milosevic will act now that he has lost Yeltsin's unqualified support."

"Bosnia Would Help Eliminate Confrontation"

Alexander Golz held in centrist, army Krasnaya Zvezda Saturday, "Let us face it--there are still forces both in Russia and the United States that are banking on such confrontation.... Scenarios of new cooperation can only be developed through a joint project which is exactly what the Bosnian peacekeeping operation is today."

Serbia- "A Temporary Final Settlement Will Be Reached In
Montenegro Dayton"

Stojan Cerovic wrote in independent weekly Vreme (10/30), "The issue here is establishment of a new world structure and balance, since many things must be changed after the collapse of the USSR and the world Communism.... So the world powers are now absorbed in defining their mutual relations, endeavoring at the same time to improve their own position, while all of them want to avoid a big war. That is why there is such a great fuss about who will be the most deserving for the peace in Bosnia, where the belligerents would be negotiating, who would be monitoring peace and under whose command the peace implementation forces would be. This bargaining is a symbolic substitution for a war and should show not who will be the most influential in Bosnia, but what Russia is now capable of, and whether Europe still needs the United States.

"Judging by everything, a temporary final settlement will be reached in Dayton.... The united state of Bosnia will be functioning much better on paper than in real life, but at least shooting will stop.... Hopefully, things will somehow start developing after that, and the most interesting thing will be whether the Serbs and Croats would compete for the Muslim favor, or plot against them. All in all, the most questionable is the behavior of the Croats, and...the future of Bosnia depends on them."

Britain "A New Time Of Troubles?"

According to Moscow correspondent Chrystia Freeland in today's independent Financial Times, Yeltsin's illness and the central electoral commission's barring a leading reformist party from the December elections makes "many Russians...concerned that a new Time of Troubles is upon them.... Most political observers believe that (Yeltsin's) weakening grasp on the reins of power has triggered a frantic attempt by his dependents to preserve the status quo. They argue that the most public--and inept--expression of this effort so far has been the decision to ban the Yabloko Party. Russian and Western analysts are concerned that, as the post-Yeltsin era dawns, the elite Mr. Yeltsin leaves behind may decide self-preservation is more valuable than setting a democratic precedent."

Germany "The Victims Of Srebrenica"

Rolf Paasch commented in left-of-center Frankfurter Rundschau, "The officers of the Dutch Blue Helmets have made themselves guilty of camaraderie with the Bosnian Serb aggressors in...Srebrenica. If it was impossible to defend the place, was it then absolutely necessary

to congratulate war crimes General Mladic on his 'outstandingly planned military operation?' And then later refuse to give evidence of the mass murder committed by his marauding soldiers?

"But the defense--or timely evacuation--of the civilian population of Srebrenica was not foiled by the helpless forces of 'Dutchbat' but by the United Nations. With coldblooded calculation, the responsible officials of the UN accepted that, by not keeping to its promise to rescue the population, the result would be a mass murder of the civilian population.... Everybody knew about the sacrifice which had to be made to imperial peace in Bosnia: the United States, Great Britain, France, Russia, and probably everybody in the Contact Group who wanted to know it. But not the 8,000 inhabitants of Srebrenica, who paid with their lives for the disgraceful surrender of the city on July 11."

"Blue Helmets Were Not Cowards; They Obeyed Orders"

Centrist Neue Ruhr/Neue Rhein Zeitung of Essen held, "They had no chance, the 400 Dutch Blue Helmets in Srebrenica. To resist with their weapons would have meant certain death against a vast superiority.

"We should finally stop presenting the young men from the Netherlands as cowardly and insidious.... They acted on orders, namely on the orders of the UN.... But responsible UN officials in the Balkans were wrong with their assumption that they could muzzle the Dutch by spreading the cloak of silence over the massacre of innocent people. The world learned about the atrocities and the UN is now in the pillory."

"Distribution Of Power"

Carl Gustaf Stroehm commented in right-of-center Die Welt of Berlin, "Tudjman is going to continue governing Croatia with his party, but the Croatian voters have strengthened the opposition to such an extent that a certain balance is perceptible.... Tudjman is still an element of stability and a guarantor of calm, predictable development. If one day he is no longer available, many people abroad who currently criticize him may well find themselves longing for his return. In this respect, the Croatian voters have demonstrated political instinct."

"Tudjman Makes Losses"

Erich Rathfelder commented in left-of-center Die Tageszeitung of Berlin, "The election result gives cause for hope. The ruling party and Tudjman himself will not find it easy to continue their policy of division in Bosnia and their intolerant, anti-democratic course at home.... Croatia's supporters up to now--Germany and the United States--are beginning to distance themselves from Tudjman. If he carries on in Bosnia as before, sanctions against Croatia cannot be ruled out.... Now it is up to the opposition to develop alternatives for Croatia to enter a democratic and European future."

"An Unwanted But Salutary Shock"

Moscow correspondent Thomas Urban opined in centrist Sueddeutsche Zeitung of Munich, "Russia's economic reformer Grigorij Yavlinski described the refusal to grant the Yablonko Party the right to take part in the elections as 'scandalous.'... Indeed, the event is scandalous and undemocratic, but this does not necessarily mean a further weakening of the reformers...who have almost lost their influence. It could rather create a salutary shock even for Yavlinski and his supporters. It was he who rejected the offer of the other reformers, (led by) Yegor Gaidar, to form an election alliance....

"For the majority of Russians, the name of Gaidar is related to the shocking freeing of prices and the resulting pauperization of whole classes of society. Yavlinski did not want to burden himself with it... Now the hour has come when the democrats should unite. Gaidar has already extended his hand. Yavlinski now only has to grab it."

Egypt "Is Muslim Blood So Cheap?"

An editorial in pro-government Al Akhbar wondered, "Is Muslim blood so cheap...that massacres are conducted in alleged protected areas?... If the UN, the United States and other countries...do not think that Bosnian Muslims have human rights...what does the Islamic nation think?... Bosnian Muslim leaders should adamantly refuse to sit with the racist bastards for so-called peace talks."

MIDDLE EAST--THE BUSINESS OF PEACE

Jordan "Lader To Summit"

The independent, English-language Jordan Times remarked today, "The proliferation of institutions to be created by the series of MENA summits causes us to stop and think whether there is actually a need for so many bodies with seemingly overlapping functions and mandates.... Furthermore, we cannot help but ask how the economies of North Africa can be fully integrated or coordinated with those of the Middle East.... Another major concern is about the unfinished business in the peace process."

Egypt "Deterioration In Joint Arab Action"

Pro-government Al Ahram contended, "At the time when the Israeli government welcomed the congressional decision...which is an American recognition of Jerusalem as Israel's unified capital.... The Amman summit came to reveal the deterioration in joint Arab action and inability to take a joint position in the most vital Arab issues.... Undoubtedly, continuing to march...toward normalization and eliminating all forms of enmity and entering into joint projects, without linking all this with Israel's full withdrawal from Arab land, will only lead to more Arab deterioration."

Israel "Egyptians Surprise Israelis With Interest in Joint Ventures"

According to independent Maariv, "Egyptian economic ministers and top businessmen surprised Trade Minister Micha Harish and Israeli businessmen by expressing their willingness for joint ventures. The Egyptians also promised to remove existing barriers on the road to economic cooperation.... After months of chilly bilateral economic relations, leading Israeli and Egyptian businessmen got together for a serious discussion. The Israelis noted that the Egyptians were no longer evasive about doing business with Israel.

"The Egyptians have realized they are losing their lead in economic cooperation with Israel to other countries such as Jordan and the Gulf emirates, and they apparently find this development worrisome."

"Assad's Brakes"

A commentator in liberal Davar asked, "How come the busy Christopher suddenly decided to pop over to Damascus? In their talks in Washington last week, Rabin and U.S. leaders fully agreed that Syria, a radical country that maintains good ties with Iraq, should not be pushed into isolation. On the contrary, every effort should be made to bring Damascus closer to the international community.... In the last few months Damascus virtually boycotted peace team chief Dennis Ross....

"One thing is clear: Christopher's visit is the last chance of reviving the Syrian track before the Israeli elections. Jerusalem sources think that should the Washington negotiations not be intensively renewed by the end of the year, they will resume only after the next Knesset elections--and even Assad doesn't have a clue about the makeup of Israel's next parliament."

West Bank "Jerusalem And The Peace Process"

Moderate, pro-PLO Al-Quds said, "It was no surprise that the issue of Jerusalem and firm Arab rights in it were the predominant matters in the minds of Palestinian and Arab participants in the Amman Economic Summit.... There is a direct link between economy and just peace.... Peace will not be achieved without resolving the issue of Jerusalem according to Palestinian, Arab and Islamic rights in the Holy City...which Israel declared as its eternal united city without any regard for Jerusalem's stature for the other parties--Muslims and Christians, nor for demographic facts in the city....

"It is also the center and focus of Palestinian aspirations in the past and the future.... The decision of the U.S. Congress not only casts doubt on U.S. credibility as a sponsor and a partner in the peace process, but also on the capability of the peace process to reach its goals.... Developing the economies of the region is essential to achieving peace on a solid basis.... However, creating a clear picture about fulfilling Palestinian rights, particularly in Jerusalem, is the only guarantee for building Arab trust in Israel's intentions."

Syria "Syria's Seriousness Above Suspicions"

Government-supported Tishreen commented yesterday, "As soon as Secretary Christopher's visit was announced, Israeli officials started to wage a wide campaign to throw suspicions on Syria's stand, claiming beforehand that the upcoming visit will be a failure as Syria will not change its positions. They went to an extreme effort in their campaign of allegations so as to say that Syria is responsible for the blockade in the peace process, while all facts prove that Israel is the reason for the blockade. President Assad clarified to the European troika delegation that Syria is serious about the peace process, while Israel is not committed to the peace process' basis as it is still apparently unready for peace.

"The whole world knows that Syria was the one to open the gate of peace, and has often salvaged the peace process from continued Israeli sabotage attempts.... Everybody knows that there would be no peace in the region without Syria and that unilateral deals with Israel do not achieve peace. President Clinton and Secretary Christopher have often praised Syria's sincere efforts and dedication to the peace efforts."

"The Danger Of The Amman Summit"

According to government-supporteed Al-Baath, "It is true that the Amman Summit is held under an economic banner, but the truth is different. Israel has its private reasons.... Israel seeks to erase not only Arabism but Arab feelings and identity; Israel wants the Arabs to accelerate the normalization process before achieving a just and comprehensive peace; so as to commence implementation of its scheme to establish a 'mideastern' order that would replace the current Arab system."

Saudi Arabia "Journey Into The Unknown"

Influential Arabic Ar-Riyadh held today, "The Amman summit is a journey to the unknown, and we are afraid of the combination of haste to form the bank and the headlong rush to peace."

"Development Bank Stillborn"

Conservative An-Nadwa observed, "The boycott of the bank by the Kingdom (of Saudi Arabia), Britain, France and Germany will not only deprive the bank of major financing but also will raise serious doubts about its goals."

Bangladesh "Important Step"

Opposition Awami League Banglar Bani opined, "The Amman summit is the most important step in the field of the political, economic, and social development of the Middle East.... More countries have concluded peace and friendship treaties with Israel or are on the way to do so. Some have of course turned their back on the peace process. But the international situation is such that no one can stay away from the process of peace and economic cooperation in the Middle East."

BRIEFS

CANADA--STILL ONE NATION

France "Fear Of The Unknown, U.S. Pressure"

Michel Garibal said on France Inter Radio, "The fear of leaping into the unknown probably motivated undecided voters to say no, all the more so since the United States put pressure in that direction."

"Now Federal Authorities Will Have To Show Good Will"

RTL Radio aired Mar Ullmann's view that "now the federal authorities will have to show good will.

"They cannot ignore the claims for a Quebecois identity.... If they succeed, this will set an example for the world, where too many countries are torn by ethnic or linguistic conflicts."

"This Solves Nothing"

RTL Radio's audience heard from Jerome Godefroi that "this referendum will solve nothing. But Quebecers do love politics and elections. They will probably organize a new referendum very soon."

Belgium "A New Country?"

Conservative Catholic La Libre Belgique's special correspondent Philippe Paquet filed on the "modest proposition" made by the Boston Globe, i.e., for the United States to annex the rest of Canada. "A joke? Certainly, but it reflects the impact which Quebec's referendum has on the Americans. They thought that their borders had been drawn by God and they are suddenly confronted with the possible emergence of a new country."

"Another Project To Withstand U.S. Giant"

Robert Falony commented in socialist La Wallonie, "The real question is whether Quebec, becoming 'free' in the 'Gaullist' sense of the word, has the ability and the determination to promote another project of society compared to the liberal Anglo-Saxon model, opposite the American giant. That would be the only justification of the 'yes.'... Rhetoric with social-democratic overtones does not guarantee the ability to contain the consequences of the U.S. cultural and economic imperialism and of its detestable monetarist liberal model. Only part of the answer is to be found in the ballot box."

U.S.-JAPAN

Japan "Why Perry Comes Calling"

Conservative Sankei's senior writer Ushiba observed today, "While aides close to Prime Minister Murayama have become more hopeful that Secretary Perry's visit to Japan October 31-November 2 will pave the way for a large-scale cutback of U.S. military bases on Okinawa, some

sources concerned with the U.S.-Japan security issue believe the defense secretary may use his visit to emphasize the strategic importance of U.S. bases in the island prefecture. Many national security experts share the view that the strategic significance of Okinawa, as viewed from Washington's global strategy, has increased further in the post-Cold war period.

"These experts say the island prefecture has become strategically more important in view of Asian economic growth, China's moves and the situation on the Korean peninsula. Some of them point out that even though the United States has expressed its maximum regret over the rape of a schoolgirl...it has no intention of linking the incident and base reduction which would lead to reduction in Okinawa's strategic importance....

"Japan, if pressed further, cannot but 'reaffirm' Okinawa's strategic importance after all."

"Will Clinton Cancel His Visit?"

Washington correspondent Komori filed for Sankei, "Rumor is rife...that President Clinton may cancel his attendance at the APEC Osaka summit and the state visit to Japan next month. The rumor is attributable to the fact that the Clinton administration is having a showdown with the Republican Party over an interim federal budget and also to the pessimism that nothing substantial could be expected from the negative position of Japan, as chair of the APEC summit."

Australia "Sublimated Hostility Erupts Into Open Rejection"

The Tokyo correspondent for the national, business-oriented Australian Financial Review said yesterday, "The truth is that the public's commitment to the security treaty--and the relationship of subservience it implies--has been hollow for some time, preserved in form but not in substance.... The rape in Okinawa was not the cause. It was a symbol, an excuse, a catalyst to turn sublimated hostility into open rejection."

"Large Gap Regarding U.S.-Japan Alliance"

An article by the Tokyo correspondent for the national, conservative Weekend Australian (10/28) stressed, "(A) large gap remains between the Japanese and U.S. views of the importance of the alliance. While Japanese realpolitik means the traditional pro-alliance views will probably win out in the end, the erosion of popular support poses its most serious threat in many years."

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===== ATTACHMENT 1 =====
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id <01HX326BM540001HYG@PMDf.EOP.GOV> for williams_ma@a1.eop.gov; Tue,
31 Oct 1995 09:07:06 -0400 (EDT)

Received: from XGATE.USIA.GOV by gatekeeper.eop.gov;
(5.65v3.2/1.1.8.2/17Oct95-0424PM) id AA31119; Tue, 31 Oct 1995 09:13:06 -0500

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31 Oct 1995 09:05:57 -0500

Organization: USIA

X-Mailer: Connect2-SMTP 4.00 MHS to SMTP Gateway

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CREATION DATE/TIME: 1-NOV-1995 10:08:00.00

SUBJECT: <none>

TO: schwartz_l (schwartz_l@A1@CD) (WHO)
READ: 1-NOV-1995 10:14:01.57

TEXT:

FOREIGN MEDIA REACTION

EARLY REPORT USIA

OFFICE OF RESEARCH AND MEDIA

REACTION

U.S. INFORMATION AGENCY, WASHINGTON, DC 20547
Patricia McArdle, Branch Chief Media Reaction, (R/MR), Tele. No. (202)619-6511
ednesday, November 1, 1995

DAYTON TALKS ON BOSNIA: HOPES AND FEARS

Foreign commentators cherished hopes that the talks beginning today at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base would produce a workable peace in the Balkans and a Bosnian state that would remain a viable unit. Observers--including a Russian one--highlighted the major problems facing negotiators: territorial division and how NATO troops will supervise the peace agreement, if one is reached. In London, concerns centered on the strong opposition in Congress to the use of American troops in Bosnia.

CANADA: THE MAPLE LEAF STILL INTACT

The first assessments of the fateful vote in Quebec Monday agreed that the divisions which came so close to producing a vote for secession have not abated, and will have to be confronted by Canada as a whole. Analysts fervently hoped that a peaceful way could be found to satisfy separatist sentiments, so that Canada could become a model for what Moscow's reformist, youth Komsomolskaya Pravda termed "the epidemic of nationalism" infecting the world.

BRIEFS

- Middle East Peace: Amman Summit, Jerusalem
- U.S.-Asian Relations
- Brown Amendment

NOTE: Owing to the celebration of All Saints' Day, there were no reports from Paris, Bonn, Rome and several other posts.

EDITORS: Mildred Sola Neely and Pat McArdle

DAYTON TALKS ON BOSNIA: HOPES AND FEARS

Serbia- "Srebrenica Horror Film"

Montenegro

Washington correspondent Slobodan Pavlovic filed yesterday for Belgrade's independent, centrist Nasa Borba regarding recent stories in the U.S. press about the Serb-visited horrors in Srebrenica, "This developing of the Srebrenica horror film has lately influenced the U.S. administration officials to start talking publicly about the 'war crime of vast proportions' committed during the July elimination of the biggest Muslim enclave in east Bosnia. Upon his departure from Washington, Nicholas Burns disclosed that in spite of its great interest in achieving a peace agreement...in Dayton, the United States would continue to cooperate with The Hague Tribunal to the utmost. According to Burns, that is why the administration decided not to grant entry visas to Karadzic and Mladic."

Britain "Trying To Pin Down An Elusive Success"

BBC TV's Breakfast News this morning ran this report from veteran foreign affairs reporter Brian Hanrahan at Wright-Patterson: "The plan is for the delegates to stay sequestered here until they can either agree or fail to do so, and given the amount of detail involved, it is likely to take weeks rather than days. As for success, that remains an elusive concept."

"The Last Chance"

On the same program, defense correspondent Mark Laity, in Sarajevo, when asked whether the people of Bosnia shared President Clinton's view that the talks were the last chance for peace for a long time, said, "Very much so: they are weary of war here.... They are jaded and they are cynical about whether their top brass, their leadership, really understand just how much they want peace."

"How To Keep Bosnia As A State, And Hold On To Peace"

The conservative Times looked ahead to the start of the Dayton talks: "We must still insist that the whole of Bosnia remain an internationally recognized unit. This matters for the future of international relations, since otherwise war and 'ethnic cleansing' will be seen to pay. It matters for the future of Bosnia, since otherwise the Bosnian Serbs and Bosnian Croats will see no reason to work with the Bosnian authorities, and a rump Bosniak (Muslim) Bosnia will be left between a Greater Serbia and the real victor of this war, Franjo Tudjman's Croatia....

"Secondly, though, we must try to ensure that the part of Bosnia under

Bosnian government control is itself a viable unit.... Only the Bosnian government can decide whether trading territory--accompanied by the peaceful transfer of populations--to make an integral and less vulnerable territory is a lesser evil.... Thirdly, we have to recognize that even if the Dayton talks produce a 'peace' leading to the deployment of the implementation force, a commitment of a year or 18 months will not be enough.

"That may be the most that the American congress will commit troops for, but if local politicians and soldiers think the external forces will be out in a year, they will use the time to prepare for another round.

"At the moment, everyone in Bosnia looks to America.... But neither they nor we can realistically expect America to be so committed for long. A year hence, if we are very lucky, a lower level of military force may be required to keep in place the international framework.... But without a continued international presence there will be scant chance of domestic co-existence and reconstruction."

"Stunning Rejection of U.S. Involvement"

The Times pointed out in a separate piece, "Monday night's vote in the House of Representatives amounted to a stunning rejection of the very idea of risking American lives in the Balkans."

Russia "Two Unsettled Issues"

Centrist Nezavisimaya Gazeta front-paged this comment by Yulia Petrovskaya and Dmitry Gornostayev, "The Americans already pose as Bosnia's sole saviors.... Earlier the proposed meeting of the three presidents in Moscow was viewed as being of symbolic importance only. Now a similar characteristic might be applied to the Dayton talks.... Much depends on how things start. But now, at the last minute, the setting for the beginning does not seem to be well prepared, there being a bit too much emotion of late over the two unsettled issues: territorial division and the presence of U.S., that is, NATO troops."

Bulgaria "Russia: NATO's Third-Rate Partner?"

On Monday, ruling Socialist Party Duma remarked, "If Moscow wants to be a major player in the Balkans, it has to be able to pay for it.... Perry and Grachev reached an agreement on symbolic participation of Russian troops in the peacekeeping operation in Bosnia. It seems that the problem of maintaining Russian troops turned out to be crucial for the outcome of the talks. In this way Russia, which already lost the diplomatic game around the war in Bosnia, is now accepting the role of NATO's third-rate partner in its peacekeeping operations in the Balkans."

Japan "Great Expectations"

An editorial in conservative Sankei concluded today, "If negotiations fail, fighting will not only start again but this time (it could) shake the very foundation of NATO. Assistant Secretary Holbrooke, who

was instrumental in organizing the Bosnia peace talks, apparently holds the key to the success or failure of the talks. There is not much time left for Mr. Holbrooke to mediate peace, however. The ceasefire, which went into effect on October 12, will run out on December 12. Only 40 days remain. When winter comes, the stationing of multinational peacekeepers in Bosnia will be extremely harsh and difficult.

"We place great expectations on Mr. Holbrooke's peace initiative and the reasonableness and wisdom of negotiators working to restore peace to Bosnia."

Nigeria "Wishing U.S. Best Of Luck"

The partly government-owned Daily Times commented, "As the convener of the meeting, Richard Holbrooke, has said, there will be no peace if the Serbs insist on seceding out of Bosnia and on having control over a part of Sarajevo. In addition, the Croats have insisted on having a part of east Slovenia occupied by Serbs and are having a referendum to reduce the representation of Serb-populated areas in their parliament. Such demands and actions are poor auguries for a peaceful resolution of the Bosnian crisis and one can only wish the United States the best of luck."

CANADA: THE MAPLE LEAF STILL INTACT

Britain "Exceptional Example Of Democracy"

The conservative Times observed today, "Canada's politicians...must now devise a better political geometry, one that accommodates reasonable Quebec concerns and also defuses the still-live pressure to secede.... The referendum was an exceptional example of democracy in practice--Mr. Bouchard, let us not forget, would have been imprisoned for his views in nine out of 10 of the world's countries, let alone being allowed to lead a campaign to within an inch of secession. Canada has demonstrated how even the most emotive of questions, that of federal and territorial integrity, can be addressed by civilized methods. Let those methods now work overtime for the country's unity and stability."

"A Split Can Be Avoided, If..."

According to the liberal Guardian, "Quebec's narrowly decided 'non' is far from decisive.... With the right arrangements, a split can still be avoided. Indeed, the near-success of the separatists was only achieved after the Bloc Quebecois leader Lucien Bouchard took control of their campaign, arguing that an independent Quebec could still maintain close links with Canada and remain as part of NAFTA.... Canada can still fashion a half-way deal but it depends as much on the rest of the country as on Quebec."

Russia "Canada: A Model For Epidemic Of Nationalism?"

Sergei Maslov said in reformist, youth Komsomolskaya Pravda, "Reason has prevailed over nationalism in Quebec.... But the country is still

on the brink of a breakup. Last Monday made it clear that something needs to be changed in the Canadian federation....

"Canada's example may be a reason for the rest of the world as it is being torn apart by ethnic conflict. Should this country--comfortable in every respect--succeed in resolving its ethnic problem in a relatively painless way, it would set a promising precedent for all others.

"But if the Canadian model should collapse, the prospects of fighting the epidemic of nationalism would look worse than bleak."

Australia "NAFTA And A Free Quebec"

An editorial in the national, business-oriented Australian Financial Review held, "A White House spokesman observed that it would be a mistake to assume that NAFTA...would automatically be extended to an independent Quebec. While the United States would have been unlikely to carry out this thinly veiled threat, the fact the comment was made highlights the way in which the White House was understandably anxious to do what it could to encourage a 'no' vote at yesterday's referendum. In fact, far from dealing an independent Quebec out of NAFTA, it would have been vital to include it.... (P)rovided the right relations were established with its two neighbors, Canada and the United States, it would have been a force which could have prospered. However, without the right relations--including membership of NAFTA--its prospects would have been much less promising."

Singapore "Millions Still Want Out"

An editorial in the pro-government Straits Times said, "Such has been the depth of Francophone feeling exposed over Quebec's sovereignty referendum on Monday that the result, which confirms that Quebec stays within Canada, could turn out to be the less crucial benchmark established by the voting. The more enduring one would be this: Half of French-speaking Quebec's seven million people want out and be their own masters....

"The choice before Canada is a stark one: The great majority of the country must swallow its pride and work out an accommodation with a troublesome 'foreign' element in its midst, much as it may find that hard.... If English Canada estimates that historical inequity has been overplayed and does not call for a contemporary solution, even if this risks shrinking the country, let it be honest and say so in a national referendum. Then allow Quebec its yearning to be free. The attraction is that such a separation will be free of violence and the two independent entities will coexist--out of necessity--more harmoniously than they ever have in the 128 years they have been one country so far."

BRIEFS

MIDDLE EAST PEACE: AMMAN SUMMIT, JERUSALEM

Jordan "Jordan's Strategy At The Amman Summit"

Pro-government, influential Al-Ray remarked today, "At his final press conference last night, the crown prince said that economic solutions will not be at the expense of political solutions to the problems of development and cooperation in the region....

"The process of regional peace should be expanded and consolidated, since comprehensive peace is vital and indispensable for providing a practical environment for regional cooperation.... Obviously, the expansion of the peace process clashes with the continuation of occupation of Arab land.... It is also clear that the liberalization of economies clashes with the ongoing imposition of restrictions on the free transport of people and goods.... As the crown prince said, economic solutions will not be at the expense of political solutions."

"Success Over Troubled Water"

The independent, English-language Jordan Times contended, "Of all the important issues dealt with at the MENA II summit, water appeared to be the most pressing.... We find the World Bank proposal to convene a Middle East and North Africa summit on water next year a very valuable and timely contribution.... Where we take exception to the World Bank ideas is over some of its recommendations for easing the burden, especially when it suggests that less water should be diverted for agricultural use.... We can think of other ways to deal with the water crisis head-on. Regional understandings and cooperation can lend very important support to the efforts to solve the water aspect of regional development."

Egypt "The Embassy Decision"

Magdi Shawki, a contributor to opposition Al-Ahrar, opined, "While the Arabs were hastening the normalization procession, with full confidence in the 'peace broker' and honest partner, the congressional decision was issued.... It reconfirmed that the United States is more eager for Jewish interests than the Jews themselves.... Are the Arabs expected to take the opportunity of the AES to obstruct its resolutions until the decision of embassy transfer is canceled?"

"Arab Countries Have Relinquished Jerusalem"

According to pro-government Al-Akhbar, "The Arab countries, which are 'rushing' toward Israel to make up for the past, are becoming 'racers.' They have to pause to reconsider.... They have relinquished Jerusalem.... Will you leave Jerusalem to the poor Palestinians...waiting for charity from Israel and its agents in the United States?!... Jerusalem is not a Palestinian responsibility alone. What will be this peace with which we will lose all of Jerusalem?... I suspect that the Americans laugh at us [in their congressional sessions].... The current American administration is the most biased to Israel [and therefore, it refuses to determine its policy toward Jerusalem openly]."

U.S.-ASIAN RELATIONS

China "Americans Should Learn A Bit Of Asian Culture"

Intellectually-oriented Guangming Daily opined today, "In recent years, the differences that have arisen between the United States and China, Singapore, Malaysia and Indonesia over human rights and democracy are, in fact, a product of the attempt by some people in the U.S. government to indiscriminately impose a Western-type social system and set of values on Asian countries....

"'Americans should learn a bit of Eastern culture,' which is indeed the desire of Eastern nations, since we can sense in our daily lives that Asians are shocked by the ignorance of Americans about Asian culture. America needs to learn about Asian culture for two reasons. First, Asian culture can invigorate Western culture. Secondly, Western countries, particularly the United States, will have to adjust their approach to the values and systems of non-European and non-Western Asian countries which are rapidly growing and becoming dynamic (economically)."

Australia "Okinawa Takes On The Giants"

The regional West Australian held, "No one can accuse Okinawa Governor Masahide Ota of playing to the electorate in his hardline reaction to the rape of a 12-year-old schoolgirl.... In each of the past four years, Mr. Ota has trekked to Washington to plead for a reduced U.S. military presence on the island prefecture.... Mr. Ota was digging in deeper as...Secretary William Perry was due in Tokyo yesterday for vital talks on the security treaty.... Mr. Perry...has suggested there could be some concessions to appease Japanese public opinion. He said the Clinton administration was determined to find ways to overcome the anti-military backlash triggered by the rape, for which the three accused go on trial next week.... But...Assistant Secretary Joseph Nye said it would be difficult in the short run to reduce troop numbers on Okinawa because of the way the bases were structured."

Indonesia "During the Post-Cold War, We Need No U.S. 'Security Umbrella'"

Leading independent Kompas contended, "What Dr. Sheldon Simon of Arizona State University pointed out at a seminar in Jakarta (10/30) is absolutely true, that is, U.S. security policy in Asia Pacific is neither clear nor consistent. There is the impression that the United States has no security policy....[and] the downsizing [of U.S. military bases] has been misinterpreted by a number of Asia-Pacific countries which feel abandoned by the United States as the guarantor of stability, peace and economic growth. This is made more complicated by fears of China's military projections and Japan's new international role.... We need not think that the United States has left the Asia-Pacific, nor make a prejudgment that China and Japan will re-establish imperialism. We have seen that the ASEAN Regional Forum dialogues and the APEC meetings are powerful means to achieve peace and welfare in Asia-Pacific without the necessity of a U.S. security umbrella."

BROWN AMENDMENT

Pakistan "Way Beyond Slingshots--U-Turn In Pak-U.S. Relations"

Ghani Eirabie wrote this op-ed today for the center-right Nation:
"The furor in the Indian press over the Brown Amendment releasing to Pakistan \$368 million worth of paid for but held up military equipment can be understood only in the context of what even a pro-Indian congressman, Stephen Solarz, said years back. Told by a witness at a House Subcommittee hearing chaired by him during the Afghan war of Indian objections to the supply of some specific equipment to Pakistan, an irate Solarz said: 'India objects even to the supply of slingshots to Pakistan!' True, the released package contains more than slingshots, but to contend--as Indian Prime Minister Narasimha Rao did in an interview to the Hindustan Times--that it would trigger an arms race in the subcontinent exceeds the limits of legitimate exaggeration. What the Indian press forgets is that India's defense experts took due cognizance of the projected purchase, repair and renovation of the weapons at the time the order was first placed by Pakistan some five to eight years back, and took all the required countermeasures. Surely, the Indian press is not now testifying to the inexcusably tardy reaction of India's defense planners."

India "Not A Catastrophe--A Mixed Blessing"

Pundit K. Subrahmanyam wrote yesterday in the independent Economic Times, "Just as the Chinese attack...in 1962 taught India a lesson on the realities of international relations and compelled it to acquire some modest defense capabilities, the present U.S. move throwing away its own legislative commitments may prove a blessing in disguise. The mindless downward trend in defense expenditure and neglect of the modernization program will have to be halted.... In that sense, the...Brown Amendment is not a total catastrophe but a mixed blessing.... The crux of the matter is the United States does not abide by its own commitments. The United States cannot be trusted on the declarations it makes and any country that assumes that these commitments are final, does not understand the U.S. policy-making process nor even elementary principles of international politics.... The Bush administration invoked the Pressler Amendment and the Clinton administration throws it to the winds.... Those who amend the Pressler Amendment today may revoke the Glenn and Symington legislations and permit Pakistan to make its nuclear weapon acquisition overt. Therefore, India cannot subscribe to the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty or fissile materials production cut off till we are able to get an understanding of U.S. policies in this part of the world.... There is a total absence of transparency (by) the United States.... India has to act firmly to safeguard its national interests and not talk about an arms race in this region."

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===== ATTACHMENT 1 =====

ATT CREATION TIME/DATE: 1-NOV-1995 10:10:00.00

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01 Nov 1995 10:08:31 -0400 (EDT)

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(5.65v3.2/1.1.8.2/17Oct95-0424PM) id AA05297; Wed, 01 Nov 1995 10:14:37 -0500

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01 Nov 1995 10:07:27 -0500

Organization: USIA

X-Mailer: Connect2-SMTP 4.00 MHS to SMTP Gateway

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READ:NOT READ

IND_TO: Evan M. Ryan (RYAN_E) (WHO)
READ: 3-NOV-1995 09:25:07.19

TEXT:

FOREIGN MEDIA REACTION

EARLY REPORT USIA

OFFICE OF RESEARCH AND MEDIA

REACTION

U.S. INFORMATION AGENCY, WASHINGTON, DC 20547

Patricia McArdle, Branch Chief Media Reaction, (R/MR), Tele. No. (202)619-6511
Thursday, November 2, 1995

DAYTON TALKS: CRUCIAL NOT JUST FOR BOSNIA

Despite fears that only a "miracle" could produce a peace plan in Dayton, editorialists overseas emphasized the need for success, not only to end the butchery in the Balkans, but because peacekeeping in Bosnia could be the laboratory for a new European security structure that provides NATO with a new post-Cold War mission that includes cooperation with Russia. Almost every analyst also emphasized the importance and uniqueness of the U.S. role, both in bringing the combatants to the peace table and, hopefully, in helping to safeguard any peace accord they might reach. In London, the independent Financial Times held, "The talks will stand or fall by the ability of the American hosts to restrain their Croat and Muslim proteges while continuing to overawe the Serbs." Writers also stressed that Europe--including Russia--must support the U.S. peace initiative to the utmost. Others focused on the need not to forget punishment for war criminals. Paris's influential Le Monde was the most forceful in advancing this case: "The sponsors of peace in Dayton--Americans and Europeans--should commit themselves to excluding Karadzic, Mladic and the perpetrators of the Srebrenica massacres from any position in the future constitutional arrangements. This should be the implicit starting point of the Dayton talks."

MIDDLE EAST PEACE AND THE AMMAN ECONOMIC SUMMIT

Key themes surfacing in comment by regional analysts this morning were Arab

unhappiness at the "disunity" of their leaders at the Amman Economic Summit and their perception of American bias in favor of Israel, most notably arising from the congressional resolution calling for the U.S. Embassy in Israel to be moved to Jerusalem. Writers in Egypt and Kuwait characterized the embassy relocation bill as very harmful to the peace process. Some Arab commentators were disappointed in the outcome of the Amman summit, which Rabat's opposition, leftist Al-Ittihad Al-Chitraki described as "nothing more than an Israeli reception hosted in the Jordanian capital and attended by a huge number of Arab and international guests." Others, reiterated, however that the "mere fact that the summit was convened" marks a radical change in the international community's perspective of the region.

BRIEFS

- U.S.-Japan Security Relations
- Nigeria

EDITORS: Mildred Sola Neely and Pat McArdle

DAYTON TALKS: CRUCIAL NOT JUST FOR BOSNIA

Bosnia- "Criminals Must Be Punished; Refugees Must Return Home"
Herzegovina

Gojko Beric commented today in independent Oslobođenje, "There is a close connection between the punishment of war criminals and returning of displaced persons and refugees to their homes. These two elements are the keys to establishing a real peace settlement in the Balkans. Since Milosevic is the main culprit, the least the West can do is to force him to provide victims of his adventures with some moral satisfaction.... The first step is the punishment of all war criminals. Otherwise, discussing the returning of refugees is useless.... Two months ago Milosevic took the responsibility for the behavior of the Bosnian Serb leader Karadzic and General Mladic. This turned out to be more risky than the responsibility for his own actions. Not surprising, since they represent two faces of the same soul. Milosevic will try to hide this while in Dayton. It is possible that he will finally deal with Karadzic, who had to stay home because of the Hague charges. When it comes to the return of Muslims and Croats to their homes, while answering this question, Milosevic will probably talk about things that have nothing to do with it."

Britain "Support Holbrooke Initiative"

An editorial in the independent Financial Times commented, "No one should underestimate the consequences of failure. Not only would the war continue, but the humanitarian disaster would be rendered unmanageable.... Only one country has the muscle to restrain the Croats and Bosnian Muslims from renewed war, whether against the Serbs or against each other, and that is the United States....

"The European Union and Russia...have some role in driving home the

consequences of fighting on, and the advantages of compromise. But the talks will stand or fall by the ability of the American hosts to restrain their Croat and Muslim proteges while continuing to overawe the Serbs.

"Rightly or wrongly, some Europeans remain nervous about American intentions. They fear the United States could lose interest in the Balkan crisis as rapidly as it became engaged; or that it will be influenced more by domestic politics than by the real needs of the region.

"The lukewarm reaction of the U.S. Congress to the proposed deployment of American troops in a peace implementation force in Bosnia has weakened the administration's bargaining strength in the eyes of all parties. In this situation, the most helpful thing Washington's allies can do is throw their weight unequivocally behind Mr. Holbrooke's initiative, so as to convince Congress that implementing peace in Bosnia is an enterprise in which all Western nations can and will play their part."

France "Fair And Unfair: U.S. Taking Lion's Share Of Credit"

Europe One Radio aired political analyst Alain Duhamel's views that "It is logical that the United States take the lion's share of the credit: because it is the predominant power, both militarily and diplomatically, because U.S. influence brought about the breakthrough, because its pressure on the warring parties created the opportunity for peace. At the same time, it is also unfair (that Washington get the lion's share of the credit): because at the beginning, the United States had a different position and it changed its mind under pressure from France and Chirac in particular, also because the Europeans have paid a heavy price, in terms of human lives and money, in this conflict.... Now if they want the United States to stop having a predominant influence in global affairs, the Europeans have to unite."

"Wind Of Pax Americana Blowing Over Balkans"

Remy Ourdan filed from Sarajevo for influential Le Monde, "The wind of Pax Americana is blowing in the Balkans. For the first time since the war broke out, the warring parties are sitting at the negotiating table with the feeling that they are bound to succeed.... People in Sarajevo, Belgrade and Zagreb feel that they cannot oppose U.S. plans (for peace), refuse the arrival of NATO troops or risk new fighting in Bosnia-Herzegovina this winter."

"Massacre Perpetrators Should Be Excluded"

In the editorial opinion of Le Monde, "Ratko Mladic and Radovan Karadzic...have no role to play in the future Bosnia. The sponsors of peace in Dayton--Americans and Europeans--should commit themselves to excluding Karadzic, Mladic and the perpetrators of the Srebrenica massacres from any position in the future constitutional arrangements. This should be the implicit starting point of the Dayton talks."

Germany "Peace Talks' Chances Of Success Are Not Bad"

Stefan Bergmann remarked on national ARD-TV last night, "Irrespective of all the stubbornness of the three presidents, the chances for a successful conclusion of the peace talks are not bad. With a view to reconstruction and the economic future, at least Izetbegovic and Tudjman cannot afford to snub the West in the long run. And the strong words will soon get stuck in the throats of the Bosnian Serbs...."

"But we should not forget the barbarities of the Bosnian Serbs in particular, and the war criminals must be brought to account. Shocked by the events in Srebrenica, the United States is currently making this very clear, and it is thus exerting pressure on the summit in Dayton. For the three opponents, it is necessary to realize first of all that war and inhumanity do not pay in the end."

"Peace Prospects Are Not Good, But Failure Is Worse"

Yesterday's right-of-center Rheinische Post of Duesseldorf stressed in a piece by Wolfgang Kuballa, "More will be at stake during the summit meeting in Dayton than war or peace in the Balkans. At issue are the security structures in Europe after the Cold War. This is why not only NATO's role in the preservation of peace is important but also cooperation between the Western Alliance and Russia. The inclusion of Russian forces would pave the way not only for future common missions but would also show possibilities for general cooperation. This is why it is regrettable that the first stage in this complicated search for peace in Bosnia and cooperation in Europe had to be cancelled because of Yeltsin's illness...."

"The prospects for peace are not very good. But in view of the enormous significance of a peaceful solution to the Bosnia conflict, not only for the affected people but for Europe as a whole, a failure would be a tragedy with unforeseeable repercussions."

"An Even Greater Miracle Than Camp David"

Josef Joffe wrote today in centrist Sueddeutsche Zeitung of Munich, "Peace in the Balkans? The American host must perform an even greater miracle now than in Camp David in 1978.... The bitter reality in Bosnia is as follows: Bosnia is ex-Yugoslavia on a small scale. The idea of a multinational state, which was killed in Yugoslavia, cannot be resurrected in Bosnia either."

Czech Republic "U.S. Has Taken Tremendous Responsibility"

An editorial in right-of-center Mlada fronta DNES said, "If the Dayton summit fails to produce a peace agreement, war will go on in the Balkans, this time, however, without the assistance of UN human shields.... There is a real chance to introduce peace in former Yugoslavia now when it is backed by the power and authority of the United States which, after lengthy reluctance, decided to play the role of the 'world watchdog' again, this time a positive one, though."

The United States has taken on tremendous responsibility for not only setting conditions of a peace agreement...but also safeguarding their implementation and introducing fundamental principles of democracy to the region."

Spain "U.S. Energy Has Been Decisive"

An editorial in conservative ABC held, "The U.S. energy has been decisive in the first steps toward peace and now the only thing needed is that the international community and, especially Europe, be able to defend Bosnians against Serb imperialism, stained by ignominy.... In order to guarantee peace, the world should protect Bosnia, by force, if necessary."

Turkey "On The Positive Side, And On The Negative Side"

Sami Kohen opined in mass-appeal Milliyet, "The fact that Izetbegovic, Tudjman and Milosevic agreed to get together for serious talks, which was unthinkable two or three months ago, by itself is a positive development.... U.S. determination and pressure are expected to prevent this process from ending in a fiasco.... Institutions like NATO must get involved in order to enforce and protect the peace. But these institutions are not yet in the position to give the necessary guarantees to achieve this. So the chaos and the lack of a solution may yet continue for many more years."

MIDDLE EAST PEACE AND THE AMMAN ECONOMIC SUMMIT

West "Jerusalem And Prospects For The Peace Process"
Bank

Moderate, pro-PLO Al-Quds opined Tuesday, "There is a direct link between economy and just peace.... Peace will not be achieved without resolving the issue of Jerusalem according to Palestinian, Arab and Islamic rights in the Holy City.... The decision of the Congress not only casts doubt on U.S. credibility as a sponsor and a partner in the peace process, but also on the capability of the peace process to reach its goals.... Developing the economies of the region is essential to achieving a solid peace.... However, creating a clear picture about fulfilling Palestinian rights, particularly in Jerusalem, is the only guarantee for building Arab trust in Israel's intentions."

Jordan "Did The Amman Summit Succeed?"

Independent, business-oriented Al-Aswaq asked today, "Did the summit succeed in attaining its goals...? The mere fact that the summit was convened and was attended by this unprecedented number of international guests marks a radical change in the international community's perspective of the region."

Egypt "U.S. Objectives"

According to pro-government Al-Ahram, "A State Department document revealed the U.S. objectives in hastening to end the Arab-Israeli

dispute. Washington seeks to redraw the region's political map to secure its interests in oil, eliminating fundamentalism and increasing American investment...which is the main reason for sponsoring the Amman Economic Summit. The new map seeks to maintain Israel's military and economic supremacy.... Noteworthy is that the maker of the 'double containment' policy aimed at Iraq and Iran...is Martin Indyk...the first Jewish American Ambassador to Israel.... In an article in Haaretz, Indyk claims that Israel is in a significant position on advanced technology...and the most important spot of civilization.... He clearly indicates that the Middle Eastern project seeks to consecrate Israel's hegemony over the region. Where is Egypt's position then?"

"Obstacle On The Road To Peace"

Nobel Laureate Naguib Mahfouz said in Al-Ahram, "The United States was playing the role of mediator in the settlement process. However, Congress stepped in...and supported the Israeli side in Jerusalem against Arabs.... The Arabs, Muslims...and Christians should resort to the UN.... The decision reveals the strength of the Jewish lobby in elections in the United States. Therefore, where are Arab and Muslim voices?... I want to congratulate President Clinton on his position rejecting the decision which puts an obstacle on the road to peace."

Israel "A Last Minute Reminder"

Conservative Hatzofe declared, "As the Israeli Defense Force prepares to withdraw from West Bank towns, we received another reminder of what is in store for us: A Jewish settler was shot at and seriously wounded near Ramallah and an Israeli car was stoned outside Bethlehem. Terrorism continues to rage. The government used the brief lull in terrorist attacks to create the illusion that the Palestinian Authority is keeping a leash on the terrorists, but this is not true.... What is so striking about recent terrorist attacks is that the perpetrators are being sheltered by the population. West Bank towns are sure to become an asylum for terrorists the minute the IDF pulls out.... We should be mindful of these ominous developments before we do the irreversible."

Tunisia "The Message Is Clear"

Independent, French-language Le Temps opined, "The message is clear: a comprehensive peace and UN legitimacy before Arab-Israeli normalization. Even though a unified Arab position was noticeable by its absence during the peace negotiations...the Amman summit showed that Arab countries are determined not to let themselves be pushed around, drawing a line in the sand which they won't cross as long as Israel occupies Palestinian, Lebanese and Syrian territories.... Washington is backing Israel by calling for an end to the Arab boycott.... While encouraging Israeli intransigence, such attitudes harm the peace process which the U.S. government supports.... The Amman summit cannot make Arab countries embrace Israel's colonialist aims and adhere to an economic program which is designed to offer to Israel a peace dividend which it has never paid for."

Morocco "Israel Building New Middle East While Arab Countries Joust"

In a page-one commentary, opposition, leftist Al-Ittihad Al-Chitraki said yesterday, "The conference was nothing more than an Israeli reception hosted in the Jordanian capital and attended by a huge number of Arab and international guests. While Israel presented projects worth \$27 billion that were precise and well-reasoned.... The Arabs who agreed to participate in Amman arrived divided and aimless.... We recognize, in conclusion, that Israel is building a new Middle East where there is no place for stupid and ignorant people like us."

Kuwait "Jerusalem--A Political Step"

In the opinion of Monday's leading, independent Al-Watan, "The Congressional resolution to shift the American Embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem is a political step which is aimed at appeasing American Jews and winning their votes for Republican Party candidates in the 1996 elections. But this early electoral propaganda is extremely harmful to the peace process led by the U.S. government. Shifting the U.S. Embassy to Jerusalem is an explicit American recognition of the legitimacy of the Israeli aggression. Such a position does not befit the reputation and prestige of the United States... If the U.S. Congress is content by the lax Arab and Islamic reaction on a governmental level, then the reactions of the peoples will be contrary to the expectations of the American lawmakers. No doubt, the extremists and enemies of peace (the American way) will be top beneficiaries. The reaction of the Arab and Muslim popular masses and peace will be the victim."

BRIEFS

U.S.-JAPAN SECURITY RELATIONS

Japan "Many Difficulties Lie Ahead Over Okinawa Base Issue"

Conservative Sankei held today, "A clue to the settlement of the Okinawa base issue appears to have emerged from Secretary Perry's talks with Foreign Minister Kono and JDA chief Eto. The United States and Japan agreed on base consolidation and realignment on Okinawa as well as on establishing a Special Action Committee to tackle other base-related issues. The U.S.-Japan accord, however, is only a first step forward toward a comprehensive settlement of the Okinawa problem. The question is whether or not the central government will be able to persuade Okinawans into compliance with the present state of affairs in the island prefecture.

"As a yardstick to measure the progress of base consolidation and reduction, the Okinawa prefectural government calls for the early return of the Futenma USMC air station. Namely, the United States, mainland Japan and Okinawa have different interpretations and views over U.S. bases on Okinawa. Many difficulties lie ahead to solve the base issue. At this time, the government should be prudent enough not to give Okinawans the illusion that a full-scale settlement of the

base issue is close at hand. The government should map out a new aid plan for Okinawa, while at the same time convincing the local people of the need for U.S. bases on Okinawa."

"Talks Should Mark Start of Serious Negotiations on Base Reduction"

Liberal Tokyo Shimbun observed, "Greater efforts are needed to produce a substantial scale-down of U.S. bases on Okinawa.... Secretary Perry's remarks indicated the U.S. government will try to consolidate and realign its bases in Japan, while keeping its troop strength intact.

"Under these circumstances, it will be more difficult to find a point of compromise between U.S.-Japan security arrangements and the 'safety and security' of Japanese residents living near U.S. bases. With talks between Prime Minister Murayama and Okinawa Gov. Ota over land-lease for the U.S. military, scheduled for later in the week, the central government should make steady efforts which could lead to not just base consolidation but a noticeable cutback of U.S. bases in the island prefecture. The U.S. military bases cannot function fully without public support and understanding."

Australia "Okinawa bases stay: Perry"

According to the regional West Australian, "The United States and Japan failed yesterday to assure angry Okinawan residents that American forces would be scaled back on the island. Instead of decisive action...Perry and Japanese Foreign Minister Yohei Kono agreed to form a committee. The snail's-pace diplomatic moves are certain to infuriate citizens of Okinawa."

India "U.S., Japan Defuse Tension Over Okinawa"

An editorial in the independent Hindu observed, "The United States and Japan have agreed to create a Special Action Committee to address the grievances of Okinawa.... On the occasion of...Clinton's (November) visit, the two sides were to issue a ringing declaration expanding the scope of the alliance in operational terms. The whole issue is now in a limbo because of the extremely strong anti-U.S. bases sentiment in Okinawa that has surfaced and only sparked off by the rape incident.... The situation is so fluid at the moment that the theme of the upcoming Clinton-Murayama declaration 'harmony with security' is under challenge in both countries."

NIGERIA

Britain "Kick Them Out Of The Commonwealth"

Responding to the death sentence handed down to writer Ken Saro-Wiwa by the Nigerian military regime, the conservative, tabloid London Evening Standard yesterday held, "Hanging writers who oppose oil exploration projects isn't on.... Is there any good reason why we should not tell Nigeria at the Commonwealth Conference that she risks being expelled if this execution goes ahead?"

"Time To Pressure Nigeria"

The centrist Independent opined today, "It is time to get tough with the Nigerian government... The Commonwealth heads of government meeting in New Zealand next week should not fall for any tricks this time.... Every diplomatic pressure should be exerted on the regime to introduce democracy.... The Commonwealth Conference should agree to introduce an embargo within the next few months unless the Nigerian government undertakes firm arrangements for an election next year under international supervision. It is the only language the military government understands."

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===== ATTACHMENT 1 =====

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ATT BODYPART TYPE:D

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id <01HX754IHYP50030AD@PMDF.EOP.GOV> for williams_ma@a1.eop.gov; Fri,
03 Nov 1995 07:15:06 -0400 (EDT)

Received: from XGATE.USIA.GOV by gatekeeper.eop.gov;
(5.65v3.2/1.1.8.2/17Oct95-0424PM) id AA23995; Fri, 03 Nov 1995 07:21:28 -0500

Received: from Connect2 Message Router by usia.gov via Connect2-SMTP 4.00; Fri,
03 Nov 1995 07:14:36 -0500

Organization: USIA

X-Mailer: Connect2-SMTP 4.00 MHS to SMTP Gateway

===== END ATTACHMENT 1 =====

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (EXTERNAL MAIL)

CREATOR: jamest@usia.gov@INET@EOPMRX

CREATION DATE/TIME: 9-NOV-1995 16:50:00.00

SUBJECT: 11_9_U.S._Asia

TO: williams_ma (williams_ma@A1@CD) (WHO)
READ:NOT READ

IND_TO: Evan M. Ryan (RYAN_E) (WHO)
READ: 9-NOV-1995 17:09:48.11

TEXT:

FOREIGN MEDIA REACTION

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Patricia McArdle, Branch Chief Media Reaction, (R/MR), Tele. No. (202)619-6511 Ann Pincus, Director

Thursday, November 9, 1995

U.S.-ASIA: APEC, JAPAN, CHINA

With the APEC summit in Osaka and a U.S.-Japan summit approaching next week, commentators worried about APEC's prospects and the wounded state of U.S.-Japan ties, following the September rape of an Okinawa schoolgirl and the charge that the U.S. "spied" on Japan during trade talks. Tokyo's liberal Asahi lamented, "The Tokyo government has become increasingly distrustful of Washington. A growing sense of awkwardness and oppressiveness appears to be prevailing among U.S. and Japanese officials." Despite the marred relationship, a number of observers--both inside and outside Japan--stressed that the U.S. military presence in Asia is as necessary as ever and worried that the current friction would incite others to weigh in against the presence of U.S. troops in Asia. "Whether the Japanese appreciate it or not," a Filipino pundit stressed, "the American presence in Japan deters any ambitious get-rich-quick plans...by the North Koreans and Chinese" and also allays Asian fears of a militarized Japan.

APEC: With Japan enjoying a "spotlight" role as host of next week's summit, Tokyo's dailies--both conservative and liberal--assailed their government for "confusion" and "doing nothing" either to promote the free-trade and investment goals of APEC or to solve such thorny problems as Taiwan's desire to attend the summit. Singapore's pro-government Lianhe Zaobao urged Tokyo to "exercise its leadership at the summit" to push for freer markets. Others elsewhere focused on the issue of agricultural liberalization, which threatens to divide APEC since Japan, South Korea, China and Taiwan all favor an agricultural exception to the free trade plan

agreed at last year's summit. The conservative Australian argued that opponents were really "undermining their own food security." At the same time, the liberal Canberra Times cautioned that APEC's agricultural liberalization provision could impoverish Asia's farmers and create tougher competition for manufacturing exporters. If unemployed rural workers flocked to cities and lowered the price of industrial labor, the paper said, it could backfire both politically and economically. Australian commentators were particularly indignant in their opposition to such an exception, and also lashed out harshly at the U.S., which it urged to eliminate "damaging subsidy" programs like the Export Enhancement Program before urging others to liberalize. The Australian Financial Review huffed, "If the United States continues to insist that countries such as Japan, South Korea or Taiwan deregulate and open their agriculture sector, perhaps it should be helping itself more by making a start at home."

CHINA: Commentary continued to assess the state of U.S.-China relations more than a month after the Clinton-Ziang summit in New York. China's own official press rejected charges of human rights abuses and insisted that Beijing poses "no threat to others." Elsewhere, editorialists noted China's growing military and economic might with suspicion. In Manila, liberal Today, arguing that "the only thing that has reined in China is fear of U.S. reaction," suggested that to avoid the "humiliation" of having the Spratlys taken away by China "without a shot fired in return," it may be necessary to allow American forces more deeply into Asia.

This report is based on 74 commentaries from 13 countries, Oct. 17-Nov. 9.

EDITOR: Rose Sue Berstein

EAST ASIA AND PACIFIC

JAPAN: "Why Should Japan Deny Entry Visa To Taiwan Deputy PM?"

Conservative Sankei (11/7) editorialized, "With the APEC Osaka summit only a little more than a week away, the issue of Taiwan's attendance remains unsettled between Tokyo, chair of the summit, and Taipei. It is wrong to conclude that the issue remains unresolved because Taiwan President Lee insists on attending the Osaka summit.

"The government of Japan is to blame for the confusion. During recent talks with Chinese President Jiang, Prime Minister Murayama dismissed the possibility of Lee's attendance at the summit. Among the APEC countries, Japan has become the most indifferent to Taiwan, which historically has been very close and sympathetic to Japan. At least, Deputy Prime Minister Xu Lide should be invited to attend the summit. Mr. Xu is Taiwan's leading economic official, who attended the Asian Games in Hiroshima last year. The Japanese government cannot make its own decision freely because of objections from China."

"Japan--The Do-Nothing Chair Of The APEC Summit"

Liberal Asahi opined (11/7), "The man-on-the-street says (the APEC meeting) is an economic meeting of presidents and prime ministers, but knows little about details of the meeting. Why? This is because Japan,

as chair of the APEC summit, remains do-nothing. As things stand, the summit will end up a mere ceremony.

"Free-trade and investment is the key issue of discussion at the Osaka summit. The Japanese government, which is trying to take exception to the liberalization of agriculture, has drawn criticism from other member countries, including the United States. Japanese officials are feeling a growing sense of isolation even before the opening of the summit. APEC is the major venue where Japan can discuss further development of the Asia and Pacific region with other Asian countries, while maintaining close and strong ties with the United States. To do so, Japan should be more generous in opening its markets."

"Many Difficulties Lie Ahead Over Okinawa Base Issue"

Conservative Sankei held (11/2), "A clue to the settlement of the Okinawa base issue appears to have emerged from Secretary Perry's talks with Foreign Minister Kono and Japanese Defense Agency chief Eto. The United States and Japan agreed on base consolidation and realignment on Okinawa as well as on establishing a Special Action Committee to tackle other base-related issues. The U.S.-Japan accord, however, is only a first step forward toward a comprehensive settlement of the Okinawa problem. The question is whether or not the central government will be able to persuade Okinawans into compliance given the present state of affairs....

"As a yardstick to measure the progress of base consolidation and reduction, the Okinawa prefectural government calls for the early return of the Futenma USMC air station. Namely, the United States, mainland Japan and Okinawa have different interpretations and views over U.S. bases on Okinawa. Many difficulties lie ahead to solve the base issue. At this time, the government should be prudent enough not to give Okinawans the illusion that a full-scale settlement of the base issue is close at hand. The government should map out a new aid plan for Okinawa, while at the same time convincing the local people of the need for U.S. bases on Okinawa."

"Alleged CIA Espionage Looms Over U.S.-Japan Relations"

Liberal Asahi opined (10/19), "The Tokyo government has become increasingly distrustful of Washington. A growing sense of awkwardness and oppressiveness appears to be prevailing among U.S. and Japanese officials, with the APEC Osaka summit and Clinton-Murayama talks just about a month away."

"Be Prepared For Espionage"

Conservative Sankei opined (10/19), "As long as Japan continues to label foreign intelligence-gathering activities as evil without taking any effective countermeasures, it cannot protect the country from growing acts of espionage. If the government and business remain less than fully conscious about foreign intelligence activities, the security of a nation will be put in jeopardy."

"CIA Cannot 'Abuse' Japan For Its Own Survival"

Liberal Mainichi held (10/17), "The United States should deal with the matter in a very cautious manner and fully disclose details of the reported espionage. The CIA cannot 'abuse' Japan for its own survival in the post-Cold War period."

CHINA: "China Poses No Threat To Others"

The official, English-language China Daily (11/7) remarked, "China's Liberation Army Daily carried an article...refuting the so-called 'China Threat Theory' created by a few Western countries. Some Western powers persistently spread this theory on the grounds that once China achieves a developed economy and becomes strong, it will pose a threat to other countries and that its (increased) defense spending in recent years constitutes a military threat.

"According to the article, a U.S. military delegation, led by former Defense Minister McNamara, visited China in May, 1994 and (concluded) that most of the increase in the People's Liberation Army's budget was designed to maintain the army and that an overall modernization of China's armed forces and its acquisition of the capability to send troops far beyond its borders were prospects for the distant future.

"The article said proponents of the 'China Threat Theory' are preparing public opinion to secure a bigger slice of the enormous Asian arms purchasing pie for the U.S. and...trying to sow discord between China and its Asian neighbors and solicit a leading role for Washington in the region. These anti-Chinese forces in the United States, fearing that the growth of socialist China might pose a serious threat to the West, are calling for China's containment, said the article."

"Americans Should Learn A Bit Of Asian Culture"

Official, intellectually-oriented Guangming Daily opined (11/1), "In recent years, the differences that have arisen between the United States and China, Singapore, Malaysia and Indonesia over human rights and democracy are, in fact, a product of the attempt by some people in the U.S. government to indiscriminately impose a Western-type social system and set of values on Asian countries....

"'Americans should learn a bit of Eastern culture,' which is indeed the desire of Eastern nations, since we can sense in our daily lives that Asians are shocked by the ignorance of Americans about Asian culture. America needs to learn about Asian culture for two reasons. First, Asian culture can invigorate Western culture. Secondly, Western countries, particularly the United States, will have to adjust their approach to the values and systems of non-European and non-Western Asian countries which are rapidly growing and becoming dynamic (economically)."

"Official: Wu's Claims 'Sheer Fabrication'"

China Daily (11/02) said, "An official of the Ministry of Finance said...that claims by (Harry Wu) that China used prisoners in implementing a World Bank-funded project in northwestern China's Tarim

Basin and that loans from the bank were used to support construction of military facilities were sheer fabrications.... 'It is the local farmers covered by the project who implemented it and who were its beneficiaries. The implementation and management of the project has had no administrative, financial or any connection at all with (laogai) reform-through-labor departments. Neither has there been any use of prisoners,' the official added. '(Wu's) attempt this time to slander the Chinese government and undermine the good cooperative relations between China and the World Bank will get nowhere,' the official concluded."

AUSTRALIA: "U.S. Must Learn Trade Reform Begins At Home"

The Asia Business editor for the national, conservative Australian (11/8) commented, "U.S. trade officials are in the habit of saying that it was the openness of their domestic market that helped the rapid transformation of the economies of East Asia to be what they are today. This is not an idle claim. If it hadn't been for the U.S. market and its passion for consumption, countries in the region, in particular the northern Asian countries, would not be where they are. But it still must be questioned whether the United States is truly a free and open market? The answer must be in the negative. Certainly, not in its dealings with Australia.... If the United States continues to insist that countries such as Japan, South Korea or Taiwan deregulate and open their agriculture sector, perhaps it should be helping itself more by making a start at home."

"U.S. Wants Keating To Play Central Role At APEC"

The Washington correspondent for the Australian (11/8) reported, "U.S. officials believe the Prime Minister, Mr. Keating, may have to play a critical role if next week's meeting of the APEC forum is to be a success. They have told their Australian counterparts that Mr. Keating will need to live up to his 'spark plug' reputation during talks in Osaka on implementing last year's historic Bogor declaration on free trade. Australian officials remain confident that the meeting will advance the Bogor declaration, despite the skepticism of U.S. critics who say APEC should start producing tangible results or risk losing member states."

"Rejecting Eminent Persons' Recommendations"

According to the national, business-oriented Australian Financial Review (11/7), "Asia Pacific leaders meeting in Osaka at the end of next week look set to reject the key recommendations of the APEC Eminent Persons Group (EPG), raising serious questions about the future of the advisory body. APEC leaders are expected to reject the EPG's recommendations for the creation of a new trade dispute resolution body for the region and are unlikely to endorse their call for a 50 percent acceleration of Uruguay Round commitments.... "The key advisory role for APEC in the future (is) expected to be given to a new high-profile business forum which will be approved at Osaka."

"Minister Lashes U.S. Trade Practices"

The Australian (11/6) said, "On the eve of the Osaka APEC forum where

all 18 members are under pressure to remove import restriction policies, the Minister for Trade, Senator McMullan, stepped up Australia's campaign against U.S. trade barriers. The move came on the release of a new (Australian) Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade survey detailing U.S. trade barriers affecting Australian exports.... Senator McMullan said yesterday the government was continuing its push for the United States to halt its damaging subsidy programs such as EEP and DEIP."

"Countdown To APEC"

ABC Radio noted (11/3), "It's countdown time to the APEC leaders summit and with Japan, South Korea, China and Taiwan all pushing for an agriculture exception, the pressure is right on all APEC members. (Prime Minister) Keating has made clear his view that agriculture should not be exempt and that the targets accepted at last year's Bogor summit...should be adhered to. In the last few days the U.S. ambassador to APEC Sandra Kristoff has stated that members may be forced to reassess the direction of APEC if the Japanese move is successful."

"APEC Future In Balance"

According to Melbourne's liberal Age (11/3), "Australia's ambitious international trade plans face disarray after the U.S. chief APEC negotiator, Sandra Kristoff, conceded that divisions in APEC were so deep there was a strong chance this month's crucial APEC summit could fail."

"Snail's Pace Progress On Okinawa Issues"

The regional West Australian (11/2) said, "The United States and Japan failed yesterday to assure angry Okinawan residents that American forces would be scaled back on the island. Instead of decisive action...Perry and...Kono agreed to form a committee. The snail's-pace diplomatic moves are certain to infuriate citizens of Okinawa."

"Okinawa Takes On The Giants"

The West Australian held (11/1), "No one can accuse Okinawa Governor Masahide Ota of playing to the electorate in his hardline reaction to the rape of a 12-year-old schoolgirl.... In each of the past four years, Mr. Ota has trekked to Washington to plead for a reduced U.S. military presence on the island prefecture.... Mr. Ota was digging in deeper as...Secretary William Perry was due in Tokyo yesterday for vital talks on the security treaty.... Mr. Perry...has suggested there could be some concessions to appease Japanese public opinion. He said the Clinton administration was determined to find ways to overcome the anti-military backlash triggered by the rape.... But...Assistant Secretary Joseph Nye said it would be difficult in the short run to reduce troop numbers on Okinawa because of the way the bases were structured."

"APEC Future Must Confront Legal Issue"

The business-oriented Australian Financial Review reported, (10/31), "The issue of 'institutionalization' has been one of the key causes of tension within APEC, with the United States arguing that the forum should

eventually be transformed into a rigid and discriminatory trade bloc.
"Washington's stance is opposed by many Asian countries, who would prefer to see APEC continue to develop its trade liberalization plans in a loose and consensual way."

"Malaysia's Prime Minister Hedges On APEC"

The Australian (10/31) reported, "With the APEC summit [approaching], the Prime Minister of Malaysia, Dr. Mahathir, remains uncertain about whether he will attend.... Dr. Mahathir said APEC members had hastily agreed to a binding trade liberalization declaration in Bogor, Indonesia, last year although they were not ready to implement it."

"Is APEC A Threat To Asia's Farmers?"

The liberal Canberra Times (10/31) ran this op-ed view: "APEC's agricultural liberalization provision may engender economic tragedy for Asia's farmers, rural rebellion on our international borders and tougher competition for our manufacturing exporters if unemployed rural workers flock to Asia's cities and lower the price of industrial labor.... Liberalization may affect not only Asia's desperate rural poor, as more efficient agricultural producers such as Australia and the United States gain access to their markets, but also backfire on us economically and politically.... However, there is another more serious problem which may also vitiate the liberalization policy--the U.S...Export Enhancement Program that provides cheap, subsidized wheat and dairy products to Asian nations such as Indonesia and the Philippines. Even if huge markets are opened up for agricultural products, if the United States remains committed to its agricultural subsidies, then the advantages for Australia's farmers are problematic if their products can be undercut with cheaper U.S. goods.... Statements from Washington...indicate that while the United States believes 'it would be unacceptable...to have specific sectoral exclusions', subsidies to U.S. farmers through the EEP are apparently excluded from this free-market rhetoric."

"Sublimated Hostility Erupts Into Open Rejection"

The Tokyo correspondent for the Australian Financial Review said (10/30), "The truth is that the public's commitment to the security treaty--and the relationship of subservience it implies--has been hollow for some time, preserved in form but not in substance.... The rape in Okinawa was not the cause. It was a symbol, an excuse, a catalyst to turn sublimated hostility into open rejection."

"Large Gap Regarding U.S.-Japan Alliance"

The Tokyo correspondent for the Weekend Australian (10/28) stressed, "A large gap remains between the Japanese and U.S. views of the importance of the alliance. While Japanese realpolitik means the traditional pro-alliance views will probably win out in the end, the erosion of popular support poses its most serious threat in many years."

"APEC: Japan Proposes Food Forum"

The Australian Financial Review (10/23) reported, "Japan is close to breaking the deadlock over agriculture in APEC with a compromise deal that would see the creation of a new regional forum on food security as well as provide members with more flexibility over the timing of sensitive trade reforms after the year 2000.... Australia has cautiously welcomed the thrust of the Japanese plan, although officials are concerned the new food security forum could be used as a platform by agricultural protectionists within the APEC group."

"Tokyo MP Hints At Trade Talks Deal"

The Australian's Tokyo correspondent (10/18) said, "The leader of a delegation sent to Australia to explain Japan's view in the deadlocked APEC regional trade talks has given the clearest sign yet of Japan's view of a possible compromise--but has insisted that farm trade must still receive special treatment. Mr. Kabun Muto, a former Japanese agriculture and foreign minister...said the controversial wording of the agreement to be signed at the Osaka summit...should be made 'fuzzy' or ambiguous...to mollify Japanese farmers' concerns while meeting Japan's international obligations. His comments fall well short of Australian proposals for a compromise...but suggest there may be room for resolution."

"Free Trade The Way To Feed The World"

The Australian (10/18) held, "There is a supreme irony in the reluctance of Japan, Korea, China and other countries to liberalize trade in farm products under the umbrella of the APEC forum; they are undermining their own food security.... The one way Japan and Korea can guarantee they never run short of food is to open their borders to imports and become regular customers of the most efficient producers, including Australia, New Zealand, Thailand, Vietnam, Chile and the United States.... The message is simple: free trade in food eliminates risk. It yields food that is cheaper, safer, cleaner and environmentally more sustainable."

INDONESIA: "Domestic Nuances Of Clinton-Jiang Meeting"

Leading independent Kompas opined (11/9), "As predicted, the [Clinton-Jiang] 'working meeting' yielded nothing.... In domestic terms, Clinton actually had been 'reluctant' to meet with Jiang on the grounds that it would destroy his image in preparing for the presidential elections. The Congress would have lashed out at him had Clinton received Jiang as a state guest...Clinton...would have been trapped by his own tactics. [For] in an attempt to win the 1992 election, Clinton used the China issue. Clinton had accused Bush of overtly 'giving comfort' to Beijing 'dictators,' an accusation that could have become a boomerang if he had taken a soft stance against China."

"Nothing Wrong With Listening To Malaysian Prime Minister "

Kompas observed (11/3), "It is still doubtful that an action agenda will be formulated due to frictions on agricultural issues.... We are not sure yet whether Japan...supported by [South Korea, China and Taiwan] would ultimately give in. We are anxious about whether the Osaka meeting will yield the blueprint for an Action Agenda.... (Therefore), all members had better provide a chance for Mahathir to speak out. There is

nothing wrong in listening to the outspoken Southeast Asian leader."

"Improving U.S.-Indonesia Ties"

Leading independent, English-language Jakarta Post (11/2) opined on the U.S. -Indonesia Society, "The fact that informal relations between nations play an important role in paving the way for formal relations, or at least helping to speed up the process of fostering closer relations, is beyond doubt.... We agree with one...observer who said that relations between Jakarta and Washington have spiraled downward during the last several years, mostly due to human rights issues in Indonesia and the way Washington has approached those matters. "That relations have been moving toward the worse despite official statements that they are 'fundamentally sound' is indicated, among other things, by the shocking accusation by a retired general here recently that 'the United States is one of the parties which does not want to see Indonesia become an advanced country and thus is plotting to topple the present government.' Some people may think that statement ridiculous, but such remarks indicate to a certain degree how unsatisfactory the relations actually are.... The possible continuation of the IMET program in the near future is also a good indication that there are still enough cool heads on the U.S. side, who are not as short-sighted as, say, certain people in the U.S. Congress.... It will require more than just goodwill and ample funds to...foster a better understanding of Indonesia in the United States. Without a real effort from the Indonesian side to help it succeed, which includes mustering the maturity to take criticism, the mission will be hampered."

"During the Post-Cold War, We Need No U.S. 'Security Umbrella'"

Kompas contended (11/1), "What Dr. Sheldon Simon of Arizona State University pointed out at a seminar in Jakarta (10/30) is absolutely true, that is, U.S. security policy in Asia Pacific is neither clear nor consistent. There is the impression that the United States has no security policy....(and) the downsizing (of U.S. military bases) has been misinterpreted by a number of Asia-Pacific countries which feel abandoned by the United States as the guarantor of stability, peace and economic growth. This is made more complicated by fears of China's military projections and Japan's new international role.... We need not think that the United States has left the Asia-Pacific, nor make a prejudgment that China and Japan will re-establish imperialism. We have seen that the ASEAN Regional Forum dialogues and the APEC meetings are powerful means to achieve peace and welfare in Asia-Pacific without the necessity of a U.S. security umbrella."

"Clinton's F-16s"

The nationalistic, English-language Indonesian Observer (10/31) held, "As most analysts would agree, any danger the state faces would probably come from within in the form of, for example, separatist movements.... U.S. military strategists are, of course, also aware of this. But this has not prevented President Clinton from offering President Soeharto costly sophisticated F-16s, which require above average professional aviators to fly, and dedicated mechanics to maintain. Clinton made the proposal when

Soeharto paid a visit at the White House last week.... Do we need the F-16s? Yes, if only to keep up with the Joneses. Does our top brass have a penchant for new military toys? Some of them may, but others seem to find political battles much more interesting."

"Pride Brought From Washington"

Independent Media Indonesia (10/30) commented, "(It seems the) Clinton administration's susceptibility to the influence of U.S.-based anti-Indonesia NGOs is beginning to be neutralized. That Washington decided to offer F-16s to Indonesia and is willing to re-open the IMET program for Indonesia are true examples, because it is more likely that the F-5e and IMET issues of two years ago were affected by the lobbying of those NGOs rather than by a Clinton government initiative. Wanting a friendly U.S. attitude is surely not a one-way desire. Washington also seems to view Jakarta as always understanding differences of opinion during bilateral dialogues. The United States then...can benefit more from a policy of engagement than one of confrontation."

"U.S., Indonesia Support Comprehensive Trade Liberalization"

Ruling Golkar Party's Suara Karya (10/30), said, "In...Washington, (both) Presidents Soeharto and Clinton disagreed on Japan's proposal. The comprehensive principle that rules trade and economic activities should consistently be maintained without exception; otherwise, trade liberalization would stumble. Should Japan's proposal be tolerated, other members would likely propose further exceptions since each one has its own sensitive sectors, such as...textiles, the automotive industry, etc. And, ultimately, trade liberalization will not mean anything."

MALAYSIA: "Osaka -- No Surprises Please"

The government-influenced, financial Business Times observed (11/3), "Members of APEC except Malaysia, were quick to agree to the Bogor Declaration which targets free trade in the developing countries by the year 2020 and developed countries 10 years earlier.... The other members were perhaps too quick to please the host, Indonesia, or maybe they were afraid of upsetting the Americans.... It is important...that the group, in trying to move ahead, consider the views of its members.... It is unreasonable to expect the poor countries to compete on an equal footing with the giants by the Bogor target dates when everybody knows that the field would still be heavily tilted in favor of the rich and mighty.... Each member must be allowed to speak with equal confidence. But most important of all, no surprises, please."

PHILIPPINES: "Wrong On China"

The anti-administration Philippine Daily Inquirer (11/7) said that it was "in the context of the dispute arising from rival claims on the Spratlys" that Pres. Ramos raised the threat which China poses in the region. That reference to China came alongside the President's statement that the United States cannot afford to leave Asia in the hands of a single dominant power.... This provoked some domestic critics to charge that Mr. Ramos raised the Chinese bogey as an invitation for the return of

U.S. facilities to the Philippines. This reaction stretches anti-Americanism too far. What he said about equilibrium reflects the consensus of ASEAN and anxieties in Japan that it is dangerous to leave a power vacuum in Asia. That's what all this means."

"Ramos Is Right"

The liberal Today (11/7) commented on President Ramos' call for continued and strong military presence in the region to balance China's power, "It is not that the United States is dying for the role. The opposite is probably true.... But from our point of view, a U.S. presence is essential.... Without it, we--along with Malaysia--will certainly suffer the humiliation of having the Spratlys taken away by China without a shot fired in return.... The only thing that has reined in China is fear of U.S. reaction.... Allowing American forces more deeply into Asia...may be needed.... If access to Philippine facilities will help achieve this, it won't detract from our national sovereignty to agree to it. On the contrary, it will protect that sovereignty.... An access agreement should be viewed purely on national security considerations, without regard to filling emotional deficiencies."

"Asian Stability"

Tokyo-based Christine Cunanan commented in the Philippine Daily Inquirer (11/2), "It took a rape of an Okinawan schoolgirl by three American soldiers to jeopardize America's security position in Asia Pacific.... "Whether the Japanese appreciate it or not, American presence in Japan deters any ambitious get-rich-quick plans...by the North Koreans and Chinese in potentially explosive Northeast Asia.... The Americans...also temporarily alleviate Asia's fears regarding a militarized Japan.... The American military presence in Asia also deters the arrogant Chinese.... Even without China, smugly prosperous southeast Asia is itself a landmine of potential military crises.... The success of Okinawans might just prompt other Japanese and Asians who are unaware of the bigger picture to launch their own anti-American movements. However, it is in Asia's best interest that the situation remain unchanged until another stabilizing force can be identified for the region."

SINGAPORE: "How Japan's Leadership Is Needed At Osaka"

An editorial in pro-government, Chinese-language Lianhe Zaobao said (11/9), "Japan's economy has actually reached a bottleneck in development even though it has not reached the peak. In order to overcome this constraint, Japan must first lift the self-restriction by opening its markets to compete fairly with the world.... The Osaka summit gives the Japanese government a chance to change the existing situation. The success of the summit depends mainly on whether member states will continue to affirm and work for the goals of 'trade and investment liberalization.' This will depend on the willingness of Japan, the chairman of the summit, to exercise its leadership at the summit."

"Shortsighted U.S. Approach To China-WTO"

The pro-government Business Times' Lu Ning, a correspondent specializing

in China, wrote (11/9) regarding China's WTO status, "Washington's tactic of continued stonewalling of the Chinese bid is short-sighted and costly. Beijing, in the short term, has little to gain economically but a lot to lose by joining the WTO. Many of its industries could be wiped out under international competition.... It would be fair for Washington and its allies to accept China's accession as a developing country with transitional periods of varying lengths for at least some of its industries."

"There Is Scope For Compromise"

Editor Yang Razali Kassim opined in the Business Times (11/8) regarding disagreements about the agricultural issue among APEC and Osaka participants: "The trick is to find an accommodation without undermining APEC's agreement to liberalize all sectors by 2020. There is scope for compromise."

"Remember The Big Picture"

The Straits Times (11/7) said, "The attack on the girl, terrible though it was, does not detract from the importance of the U.S. bases in Japan or of their role in the new Asia-Pacific era. The proper response...must be to let the law take its course; it is geopolitical realities, however, which provide a perspective on the need for American soldiers to remain in Japan. Thus, to view the U.S. defense secretary's visit purely as a victory for Washington is to miss the large picture, because his reaffirmation of the alliance with Tokyo is important for Japan and for the rest of East Asia, too."

"U.S. Defense Secretary's Trip To East Asia"

Lianhe Zaobao (11/4) opined, "The U.S. military presence in Japan can ease the anxiety over China's growing military might while reducing the need for a Japanese military buildup. "From the standpoint of power balance and stability, U.S. military presence in Asia should be regarded as a positive factor. However, it is also a sensitive political issue. Although the Okinawan rape case will not affect U.S.-Japan security cooperation, the United States should draw a lesson from the incident. It should show more respect to Asian nations' sensitivity on the issue of national sovereignty.... Japan is almost standing on par with the United States in economic power. If the U.S. troops in Japan do not get rid of their 'occupation forces' mentality, such an incident is likely to recur in the future. This will exert a grave impact on the future of U.S. bases....

"According to reports, South Korea has also expressed concern about the same problem. The United States has also agreed to study whether it should hand those U.S. military personnel accused of committing serious crimes in South Korea to the South Korean authorities for interrogation. In fact, the issue of handling such problems in South Korea is more important to the United States. This is because nationalistic feelings have a special appeal to people on both sides of the divided Korean Peninsula. South Korean students' street protests have almost become a distinctive feature of the country's mob politics. Very often, mob

feelings can be easily aroused by the misconduct of foreign forces.

"During his visit to South Korea, Secretary of Defense William Perry stressed the importance of U.S.-South Korean security cooperation. In particular, he mentioned the experience of the United States and South Korea fighting shoulder to shoulder in resisting the communist invasion from the North in the fifties.... Times have changed. Younger South Koreans not only have no memories of the war, but they may even have different perceptions of the gravity of the Communist threat. The United States can no longer depend on its past credits, but has to face the new situation of the end of the Cold War and the rise of East Asia.

"This new recognition should also be reflected in American's stand on the Sino-Taiwan issue. The United States cannot agree that there is only China and that it has no intention to confront China while saying time and again it will not sit idly by if China uses force on Taiwan. Besides reflecting the lack of a coherent policy, this contradictory stand may raise doubts about the real motive of the U.S. military presence in Asia. During his visit to China, Mr. Perry should be able to feel the negative or destructive impact of the contradiction in U.S. policy."

"New Spies And New Risks"

The pro-government Straits Times (10/19) said, "It is troubling enough that these are early days of a whole new genre of spying...now that the economic struggle among nations is becoming as grim as the old contest over ideology and the military edge was deadly. Governments and business interests cannot minimize the great potential for harm to international relations that spying--even of industrial secrets and the intricate ways of winning business orders--can cause."

THAILAND: "East, West Views On Trade Liberalization"

The top-circulation, English-language Bangkok Post's Thai-language sister publication Siam Post(11/8) pointed out the different views between the West and the East regarding trade liberalization, saying, "While the West may advocate free trade areas, the East prefers progressive liberalization.... The United States has two reasons for joining APEC; firstly, to remain involved in this rapidly growing region, secondly, to liberalize trade in order to solve its trade deficit problem."

"Surakiart Outlines Thai Commitment To APEC Plan"

The business and finance section of the independent, English-language Nation (11/7) said: "Finance Minister Surakiart Sathirathai has unveiled the nine measures Thailand will offer (at the APEC meeting) as its 'down payment' toward trade and investment liberalization within APEC.... (They include) restructuring the tariff system...keeping APEC members updated on the progress of intellectual property protection reform in Thailand...and allowing foreign companies to participate in its privatization program at a faster pace than committed to the WTO.... Thailand will also present a study on the planned amendment of the Alien Business Law.... (Thailand) may also allow wholly-owned foreign companies to enjoy concessions provided by the Board of Investment and will liberalize the agricultural sector."

"Supachai Predicts Downfall Of APEC"

Siam Post (11/7) quoted former Deputy Prime Minister Supachai Panitchpak as predicting, "The upcoming APEC meeting in Osaka is likely to collapse as agriculture remains an outstanding issue on which APEC members have been unable to reach an agreement."

"Thailand Looking For Greater UN Role"

Rita Patiyasevi wrote in the Nation (11/3) of Thai Foreign Minister Kasem S. Kasemsri's campaign to raise the profile of ASEAN at the UN: "In light of the so-called new world order, which is moving away from the problems of North and South and bipolar conflict that were so prominent during the Cold War, Foreign Minister Kasem S. Kasemsri said ASEAN's contribution was important but that contribution alone would not suffice. It was time for ASEAN to be allowed to show leadership as well. He said Thailand's view is that ASEAN should have a larger involvement by becoming an observer at the UN.... He said it was time changes were made at the UN, particularly in the allotment of seats in the Security Council and the five permanent members' right to veto."

"Tact And Wisdom Needed To Resolve Taiwan Impasse"

The Nation (10/31) commented, "Taiwan should strive for a win-win situation for Taipei, Washington and Beijing--something which requires great diplomatic tact and political wisdom. Taiwan must not allow its international breathing space to be reduced, and in ensuring this, Taipei has to make sure that its communication channels are not blocked as ties between China and the United States improve. The attitude that 'China and Taiwan should be left to solve their own problems' must not be allowed to prevail, for it would be playing directly into Beijing's hands."

"U.S.-Vietnam Relations Must Be Based On Mutual Respect"

The Nation (10/20) held, "One area that is of concern to many is the tendency of the Clinton administration to use economic negotiations as a bargaining chip vis-a-vis the human rights situation in Vietnam. While the protection of human rights is important, at this point...it would be disastrous for Washington to pursue such a policy with Hanoi.... Countries will change due to the experiences their people acquire.... Anyone who has been to Vietnam recently will testify that Vietnamese society is more liberal now compared to the situation a decade ago. Changes in Vietnam...will have to come from within and insistence from the outside that such changes be imposed will fall on deaf ears."

EUROPE

GERMANY: "Kohl's Trip--To Clear Away The Mines"

Beijing correspondent Peter Seidlitz wrote in business-oriented Handelsblatt of Duesseldorf (11/8), "A high-ranking German diplomat recently said that the German-Chinese community of interests had far-reaching objectives which also affected Japan and America. This is

also the way the Chinese see things, and that is why they are seeking close cooperation with Germany and value Europe (and particularly Germany) as a counterbalance to the Americans and Japanese. For Kohl, who thinks in historical dimensions, this is another reason to foster intensive contacts.... The chancellor and his delegation will certainly warn the Chinese to stick to the rules and not to pursue any short-sighted policy to their own benefit. It is, for instance, unfair for Chinese companies and banks to be able to act as they please abroad, while foreigners are denied the right to get involved in trading and banking in China....

"Beijing knows that the transformation of the economy does not always run along ordered lines. This is why German firms in China are going to have to live with frustration for some time to come. In the meantime, the politicians have to cultivate the environment and clear away any mines which might jeopardize business."

"Triumph Of Submissiveness"

Uwe Schmitt wrote in right-of-center Frankfurter Allgemeine (11/4), "The visit of Defense Secretary Perry in Japan this week, which was fearfully expected as a tough confrontation about troop reductions and a revision of the Status of Forces Agreement, did not result in negotiations but schoolmasterly demands, which were subdued by vague compromise formulas, of a patron toward his ward. William Perry himself was certainly surprised at the meek eagerness of his interlocutors ranging from Premier Murayama to the Chief of the Office for the 'Self-Defense Forces,' etc. Japanese and U.S. press reports signalled a tense and pugnacious atmosphere even in Tokyo's government circles....

"But nothing happened. When Perry left Japan for South Korea after three days...Japan's coalition government resembled less a self-confident alliance partner than a refractory model pupil who voluntarily stands in the corner and makes a full apology after a single severe look by the teacher.... When Perry arrived in Tokyo, the Japanese government could well have submitted suggestions for a transfer and a reduction of U.S. forces as a basis for negotiations. With such demands, the (Tokyo government) could have done--at least symbolically--justice to the angered citizens of Okinawa. And it would have created greater difficulties blaming the central government for having been sold down the river again. Thus, it remains open whether Perry would have been willing to make concessions.

"But the Japanese government decided not to decide. Unlike problems regarding car parts or semiconductors, Tokyo's willingness to fight seems to be remarkably low when it comes to a more balanced relationship with the United States in national security matters.... Thus everything seems to be OK again and a great chance has been missed with the exception that the people of Okinawa would loudly make clear that, unlike the Tokyo government, this is not the way to deal with them."

RUSSIA: "U.S. Sees China As Main Potential Opponent"

According to official government Rossiyskaya Gazeta (11/3), "Worried

about China's growing might, U.S. strategists see it now as America's chief potential opponent. Their aim is to drag Asians into confrontation with that new 'evil empire,' and have the entire system of U.S. military ties...spearheaded against China. In short, instead of working toward economic integration, they seek to form an anti-China coalition.... The Americans would like to turn this consultative forum (APEC) into an executive body, so they could use it to reduce the protectionist barriers of the less competitive countries."

SPAIN: "Washington To Investigate Charges Of CIA Spying On Japanese"

Center-left El Pais (10/19) observed, "The conflict (between the two countries on Japanese charges of U.S. trade spying) may turn worse after new claims that the CIA extended its spying to the Japanese government during Hosokawa's visit to Washington and to Latin American presidents.... These denunciations highlight the new activities of the CIA, which is undergoing a process of adaptation to the new reality of the post-Cold War era."

SOUTH ASIA

INDIA: "Taiwan Continues To Be Sticking Point"

The independent Hindu's Tokyo correspondent F.J. Khergamvala (11/2) said, "After the meeting in New York...between...President...Clinton, and his Chinese counterpart, Jiang Zemin, both sides sounded cautiously upbeat about the future. Yet, trouble lurks round the corner, on the most sensitive issue between them, that of Taiwan.... The one thing to come out clearly from the talks was the lack of detailed comment about Taiwan....

"The Clinton-Jiang meeting ended with the Americans saying that personal visits by the Taiwan leader will be 'rare, private, personal, and unofficial.' This is a cautious holding position that walks the line between the administration's official 'one China' policy and Congressional sentiment. As much as...Jiang finds himself at odds with his military, the United States too is split between the official administration position and congressional sentiment, presumably representative of national sentiment.... Presently, it is premature to discuss the actual resolve behind China's threat to take military action only if Taiwan declares independence or if the island is taken by force by another power. It is unclear if...Jiang runs the military or the military is leading him. After March 1996, Taiwan and the U.S. Congress could force the real leader into the open."

MIDDLE EAST

OMAN: "Nudging The Sleeping Dragon"

The semi-independent Times of Oman (10/26) remarked, "The One Action That could soften Beijing is for Washington to review its foreign policy vis-a-vis Taiwan and accord a higher priority to Beijing, something Clinton is not likely to do. Short of that, the distancing will stay and Clinton will ostensibly have to content himself with hitting back on the

human rights issues and the charges levelled at China in that context.
While Beijing has never felt it necessary to answer any of these
accusations, the United States has been making human rights a major
pressure point and obviously intends to keep doing just that."

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===== ATTACHMENT 1 =====

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ATT BODYPART TYPE:D

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id <01HXG2YSTAPC0041G3@PMDf.EOP.GOV> for williams_ma@a1.eop.gov; Thu,
09 Nov 1995 16:50:22 -0400 (EDT)

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(5.65v3.2/1.1.8.2/17Oct95-0424PM) id AA24200; Thu, 09 Nov 1995 16:57:05 -0500

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09 Nov 1995 16:19:48 -0500

Organization: USIA

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CREATION DATE/TIME:13-NOV-1995 10:15:00.00

SUBJECT: 11_13_U.S._Budget_Nigeria_NATO

TO: matsui_d (matsui_d@A1@CD) (WHO)

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TEXT:

FOREIGN MEDIA REACTION

EARLY REPORT USIA

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Patricia McArdle, Branch Chief Media Reaction, (R/MR), Tele. No. (202)619-6511 Ann Pincus, Director

onday, November 13, 1995

U.S. BUDGET STANDOFF: WHO WILL BLINK FIRST?

Tonight's impending shutdown of the federal government, the result of what the business-oriented Australian Financial Review dubbed "a blink-first game of chicken" between President Clinton and the Republican Congress, alarmed leading media voices overseas, who shuddered to contemplate the shutdown's ramifications for U.S. fiscal and economic wellbeing. London's conservative Times depicted the fundamental issue as "the future size and role of the U.S. government." But it was the press in Germany, a country widely seen as a model of fiscal probity, that proved harshest in its assessments. Centrist Sueddeutsche Zeitung of Munich said, "American government securities have a reputation as being the safest investment in the world. This reputation is now severely tarnished.... It is obviously too much to expect Dole and Gingrich to understand these links."

EXECUTIONS IN NIGERIA

The executions of nine Nigerians activists, including poet Ken Saro-Wiwa, were unanimously condemned in the foreign press. Editors in African, Commonwealth and Asian nations called for stronger actions against Nigeria, including an oil embargo. In Lagos, the pro-labor, independent Vanguard concluded that Nigeria--as a result of the executions and its subsequent suspension from the Commonwealth--was in the process of becoming a "pariah" nation. Observers in Africa praised the insistence by South African President Mandela that Nigeria be not just suspended but expelled from the Commonwealth, and noted that the executions had resulted in "one of the rare times that the OAU dared to raise its voice against one of its members." Johannesburg's Afrikaans-language, pro-NP Beeld observed that, following the executions in Nigeria, the Mandela government now realized

that "the South African formula of consensus-seeking and reconciliation doesn't always work and that the alternative of stronger action may be necessary."

NATO: REMEMBER WHO'S IN CHARGE HERE

European analysts welcomed--albeit with regrets--the Dutch government's decision to withdraw Ruud Lubbers's candidacy for NATO secretary general. Most observers stressed that the Europeans should have known better than to have announced their choice without first consulting Washington, and thus causing this "slap in the face to the Dutch," and, not incidentally, a loss of face for all the leaders who supported Mr. Lubbers's bid.

BRIEFS

- Dayton Talks And U.S.-Russia Accord
- U.S.-Japan Security Agreements

EDITORS: Mildred Sola Neely and Pat McArdle

U.S. BUDGET STANDOFF: WHO WILL BLINK FIRST?

Germany "Republicans Are Trying To Blackmail Clinton"

Washington correspondent Peter de Thier filed for Saturday's centrist Sueddeutsche Zeitung of Munich, "Nobody has ever accused Bob Dole or Newt Gingrich of having the slightest understanding of the economy or the financial markets. But they ought to have one or two advisers somewhere among their staff. After all, what the two figureheads of the Republican Party have now perpetrated is going to have far-reaching effects. Their refusal to permit the treasury secretary to raise the public debt ceiling until President Clinton agrees to sign a budget bill he regards as socially unacceptable is--to quote Clinton's Chief of Staff Leon Panetta, a 'form of terrorism.'..."

"The opposition is trying to blackmail Clinton without considering the consequences. Even if Treasury Secretary Rubin manages to avoid insolvency by dipping into the pension fund, the damage has already been done. The loss of confidence at international level has long since occurred. American government securities have a reputation as being the safest investment in the world. This reputation is now severely tarnished.... If, as a result of the disaster, the Treasury has to pay higher interest rates on its securities, every American will feel the effects sooner or later. But the politicians aren't concerned for the welfare of precisely these ordinary citizens, are they? But it is obviously too much to expect Dole and Gingrich to understand these links."

"Speechless"

Washington correspondent Carola Kaps said today in right-of-center Frankfurter Allgemeine, "What the White House and Congress have got up to this year leaves one speechless.... Is it the hope that the 'unthinkable' will not actually happen which is driving them to

recklessly jeopardize America's creditworthiness? Don't they know that in the world of investment, America is regarded as the gold standard and American government bonds, which are classified as 'absolutely safe,' are used as a yardstick to measure the creditworthiness of other countries and international concerns?"

"Dole's Ambitions More Important Than Integrity
Of His Country's Institutions"

Klaus-Dieter Frankenberger penned this editorial on the front page of Frankfurter Allgemeine, "The negative or at least dubious impression this sort of irresponsibility creates abroad leaves many unpredictable and narrowminded Republicans cold. Even Senate Majority Leader Dole does not seem worried about America losing foreign policy stature. He wants to become president and is therefore not interested in success for Clinton. It is regrettable but probably inevitable that Dole's own ambitions are more important to him than the integrity of the most important institutions in the country."

Britain "Real Test--Elections--Will Come Next November"

According to the independent Financial Times, "In driving themselves to the brink and in adding all their conditions to the temporary bills, Mr. Gingrich and his allies seem convinced it is Mr. Clinton, with a long record of vacillation, who will finally blink. But each passing day produces a poll that appears to strengthen the president's resolve....

"Yet the cold fact remains that whatever happens in the immediate days ahead...the budget battle still has not reached its Waterloo. That may not come now until well into December. In reality, the contrasting social visions of both sides will not be fully tested until next November's elections."

"Main Issue: Size And Role Of U.S. Government"

The conservative Times judged, "The fundamental budget issue in what is rapidly becoming a might battle of wills is over the future size and role of the U.S. government."

France "Rarely Has Crisis Been So Serious"

Jean-Bernard Cadier said on Europe One Radio, "Cohabitation between a Republican Congress and a Democratic president is turning into confrontation.... Rarely has the crisis been so serious. It is the role of government which is at stake."

"Republicans: Deficit; Clinton: Presidential"

Over the weekend, Pierre Briancon commented from Washington in influential Liberation, "The Republicans want to show that they abide by their campaign promises, and take seriously the question of the budget deficit. Clinton has an opportunity to show himself 'presidential' by refusing to give in to the Republicans' 'blackmail.'"

Australia "Blink-First Game Of Chicken"

The Washington correspondent for the business-oriented Australian Financial Review wrote for the front-page, "In a blink-first game of chicken, Republicans are counting on Mr. Clinton's reputation for vacillation under pressure.... However, Mr. Clinton's political spine appears to be stiffening as new polls show that his approval rating has risen to an 18-month high."

EXECUTIONS IN NIGERIA

Nigeria "A New Pariah Is Born"

Yesterday's Lagos-based, pro-labor, independent Vanguard commented on the suspension of Nigeria from the Commonwealth following the execution of Ken Saro-Wiwa: "In the opinion of Auckland summit participants, Nigeria's crime has overflowed. And it flew further with the blood of the Ogoni convicts, the news of which they received in their mid-session.

"For Nigeria to have been suspended presents grave consequences in political, economic and social spheres. By this, we are gradually becoming a pariah in the comity of nations."

Cote
D'Ivoire "An Insult To Conscience"

Prominent, independent Le Jour remarked, "It was a 'failure for Africa.' I don't know how better to classify the act of Sani Abacha than the way it was put by the spokesman for the Organization of African Unity. This was one of the rare times that the OAU dared to raise its voice against one of its members.... The greatest satisfaction comes to us from Nelson Mandela...who demanded the expulsion of Nigeria from the Commonwealth.... It is difficult to explain why, 48 hours after the crime of Sani Abacha, an insult to the human conscience, we have not heard anything from Nigeria's neighbors, particularly the countries of ECOWAS.... Indifference or complicity?... Will black Africa always be the subject of history rather than an actor?... We must learn to appreciate and preserve the lives of those among us who have hoisted the level of our conscience. May Sani Abacha, the 'little general' of Abuja, be the last monster."

"One Death Too Many"

Government-affiliated Fraternite Matin said, "With the execution of Ken Saro-Wiwa...we cannot but believe all of those observers who, the day after the putsch of Sani Abacha in Nigeria, said that it was the worst thing possible for the country.... Neither the threat of economic sanctions by the Western powers (with the United States at the head) nor the appeals for clemency from the African countries had any effect.... By showing himself to be so aggressive, Sani Abacha risks losing rather than attracting the sympathy of the Nigerian people."

South "Responding With Contempt"

Africa

The black, independent Sowetan observed, "This is the second time that...Sani Abacha has responded with contempt to Mandela's quiet diplomacy.... Getting rid of military dictators in Nigeria will take time and cause considerable damage. It is almost impossible for the nations of the world to interfere in the internal affairs of a country. It will have to take the combined anger and action from the world and Nigerians inside and outside the country to bring such murderers to book."

"Second Change"

Afrikaans-language, pro-NP Beeld observed, "With what happened in Nigeria, President Nelson Mandela and the South African Department of Foreign Affairs have lost their innocence in international politics. Now they will realize that the South African formula of consensus-seeking and reconciliation doesn't always work and that the alternative of stronger action is sometimes necessary....

"Because Africa, the Commonwealth and other groups have placed so much hope on President Mandela as the main negotiator in the crisis, he had an extraordinary responsibility to try and protect lives and principles. He has reason to feel disillusioned over Nigeria's treason. This is, therefore, a hard lesson in realism for the South African leader. Now he and other heads of state and institutions should show how can they avoid a greater tragedy in Nigeria. Human rights should be protected."

Britain "Well-Oiled Tyranny"

According to the conservative Times, "The Commonwealth has suspended Nigeria. What is at stake here is not just whether the Commonwealth can outgrow the politics of mere gesture.... Nigeria is key to the security and prosperity of West Africa. A return to the horrors of the 1967-70 Biafran war must be avoided. It may not be, if General Abacha stays. Of all the soldiers to seize power since independence, he has been by far the most destructive. He has harrassed newspapers and trade unions, bypassed judges, emptied the universities of talent and filled the jails with political and even military critics of the encroaching chaos. The economy is collapsing, as are education and health services.

"The question is what will loosen Gen. Abacha's grip.... There are only two things that would hurt hard and fast: the freezing of the ruling clique's overseas bank accounts; and depriving them of the oil revenues that they steal."

"Nigeria Must Be Punished"

The conservative Daily Express opined, "Nigeria's suspension should be a warning to many others that, in the Commonwealth at least, the hangman's rope cannot be used to throttle dissent."

Australia "Nigeria Exits In Disgrace"

The conservative, national Australian, commented, "Nigeria is all too plainly in the grip of a tyrant, and the Commonwealth has acted in its members' interests by ejecting him from the company of nations. Strongly-worded protests from capitals around the world have accurately conveyed the abhorrence felt at so despicable an act (as the executions)."

South "The Intensity Of International Pressure"

Korea

Moderate Hankook Ilbo maintained, "The United States is taking punitive action against Nigeria, but its effectiveness is questionable because it does not really threaten the country's military regime. Cutting off Nigeria's oil exports is the way to teach a lesson, but nobody is willing to go that far. Loud voices alone cannot get anything done."

NATO: REMEMBER WHO'S IN CHARGE HERE

Germany "Tug-Of-War"

On Friday, regional radio station Norddeutscher Rundfunk of Hamburg said, "By deciding to back Lubbers, the Europeans--led by France--wanted to send a signal that they wanted more influence on decisions within the Alliance.... The Americans, however, want to nip this in the bud.... They are not prepared to have the candidate for the highest post in the Alliance dictated to them. Misgivings about Lubbers' abilities...were certainly not the main reason for turning down the Dutchman.... The tug-of-war has turned into a public row which is more about power than personalities. In concrete terms, this means that according to the logic of this game, France is bound to reject any candidate favored by the United States."

"European Friends Should Talk To Chirac"

On Friday, regional radio station Westdeutscher Rundfunk of Cologne stressed, "The Americans have nothing against their European partners assuming more responsibility, but they do not want to be pushed onto the sidelines. Since Chirac took office in Paris, he has caused a lot of ill feeling. It is high time his European friends took the French president aside and stopped him acting alone."

"End The Affair As Soon As Possible"

Guenther Nonnenmacher's editorial on the front page of Saturday's right-of-center Frankfurter Allgemeine pointed out, "Lubbers's decision (to step down) allows the European nations to save face (and)...America too has saved face.... It was a mistake to express public support for Lubbers without prior consultation with Washington. Neither side has distinguished itself in this matter. The affair should be ended as swiftly as possible."

Britain "Reassure Americans"

An editorial in the independent Financial Times today held, "Not long ago U.S. officials would have assumed almost automatically that a candidate good enough for the UK would be good enough for them. But the endless bruising wrangles over Bosnia have left them deeply suspicious, especially when Britain and France have agreed a common position.

"However irritating they may find the U.S performance, NATO's European members have to accept that the central purpose of the Alliance is to sustain American commitment to European security. No secretary general will be the slightest use unless he (or she) enjoys American confidence. It is tempting to think the problems could be solved by giving the job, for the first time, to an American--but, given the sharp divisions within the United States, that could easily be counterproductive. The search must be renewed for someone who can credibly represent Europe in assuring Americans of its continued commitment to the Alliance, and reminding them why it is that Europe both needs and deserves their continued support."

France "A Setback For Lubbers, His Country And Supporters"

Pierre Bocev filed from Brussels over the weekend for conservative Figaro, "There is a major crisis between Europe and the United States, despite their being partners in the Alliance. The U.S. rejection of the Lubbers candidacy is a setback not only for Lubbers and his country, but for all those who had publicly supported him...from Jacques Chirac to Helmut Kohl, John Major and Felipe Gonzalez."

Belgium "Sent Home Like Little Boys"

Foreign editor Axel Buyse wrote in independent Catholic De Standaard, "The news of the blunt American rejection of Ruud Lubbers...(was) a slap in the face to the Dutch who traditionally consider themselves as the best pupils in the Atlantic school.... The ultimate, decisive factor for rejecting Lubbers's candidacy are the tensions between the Clinton administration and the Congress regarding (U.S.) relations with Europe.... In order to have the deployment of 25,000 U.S. troops in Bosnia approved, the White House has to call all hands on deck.... Clinton believes that he simply cannot afford creating the impression that Lubbers has been forced upon him by the European Allies....

"The Clinton Administration is rendering an extremely bad service to the Alliance. The European Allies are being sent home like little boys. The 'European' credibility of the future secretary general is being undermined beforehand."

Spain "NATO: Who's In Charge Here?"

Centrist El Mundo opined, "Washington appears not to have liked that France and the United Kingdom, Lubbers's main supporters, bet on his candidacy without taking its opinion into consideration.... The American appeal for greater consensus is only an excuse. The European governments should agree on a candidate who does not upset the American Ally. It is clear that the United States has wished, by humiliating its partners (by vetoing Lubbers) to remind them of the considerable weight it carries within NATO.... And this takes place immediately after U.S. diplomacy took the reins in the Balkan conflict and (brought) the contending parties to Ohio to force them into negotiating a solution.... While Europe has not yet managed to put together a common defense and security policy and a project like the Euro-army is still in the works, the United States continues to be, in practice, the gendarme who comes to everybody's rescue."

BRIEFS

DAYTON TALKS AND U.S.-RUSSIA ACCORD

Bosnia- "Now For The Hard Part"
Herzegovina

Zoran Pirolic commented in independent *Oslobodjenje* today, "The last and most difficult stage of the American scenario for the Bosnian peace will start today in Dayton.

"An impression was created that real advancement has been achieved, but in reality one can only see huge paper work that affirms previous agreements. The Federation of Muslims and Croats will enter history, thanks more to the great number of bombastic agreements reached far away from Bosnia than very moderate achievements on the ground.

"Right now, the essential questions, which huge paperwork cannot disguise, should be discussed.... We should see what solutions the Americans propose for the central government in future Bosnia, how they see the future of Sarajevo, and finally what will be the line of demarcation."

Italy "Agreement On Slavonia An Auspicious Start"

Paolo Garimberti observed from Dayton in left-leaning, influential *La Repubblica*: "Over the last few days, Croatian President Tudjman had war drums rolling in Slavonia.... His move was clearly a tactical and provocative one. But it succeeded in making the Americans very angry. Another possibility is that the Americans had secretly agreed upon such a move with Tudjman in order to exert pressure on Milosevic, and that they simply pretended to get angry. A possibility one cannot rule out, given the trick games which have made all of us external observers very suspicious. No matter how things really went, the result is a positive one.... The agreement on Slavonia represents, on a smaller

scale, what could be an overall peace treaty for the former Yugoslavia as a whole."

Russia "Testing Ground"

Reformist Izvestia ran this report by Vladimir Nadein in Washington: "It took several meetings of the defense ministers, a meeting of the two presidents, and hard intellectual labors to produce a brilliant decision--to consider NATO commander-in-chief not a NATO representative, but simply an American general! The main thing now is to reach success at the Dayton talks."

"Clear And Reliable Mechanism"

Mikhail Pogorely remarked in today's centrist, army Krasnaya Zvezda, "This mechanism is clear and sufficiently reliable. Incidentally, it can also be employed by other countries which, like Russia, while being no NATO members, would to contribute to peacemaking."

U.S.-JAPAN SECURITY AGREEMENTS

Japan "If The U.S.-Japan Alliance Did Not Exist"

Business-oriented Nihon Keizai said yesterday, "Both the government and Japanese officials so far only reiterate the importance of bilateral security arrangements but have failed to explain clearly or reasonably why the security treaty remains important. Now is the time for the government and the people to start discussing in a serious manner why the U.S.-Japan alliance remains important in the post-Cold War period and why the security treaty remains in force. "The U.S.-Japan relationship is a source of peace and prosperity, and close and strong bilateral ties cannot be severed."

"Step-By-Step Scale-Down Of U.S. Bases On Okinawa Should be Proposed"

Liberal Asahi opined, "With his talks with President Clinton in Tokyo only eight days away, PM Murayama decided to sign papers granting land-lease for the U.S. military on Okinawa. After their talks, both leaders are expected to issue a joint statement reaffirming the significance of the U.S.-Japan Security Treaty as a nucleus to maintain peace and security in the Asia and Pacific region.

"The bilateral security treaty has already grown into a framework of U.S.-Japan cooperation to maintain security in Asia and the world as a whole. We urge PM Murayama to propose to President Clinton a concrete program for the step-by-step scale-down of U.S. military bases on Okinawa. The prime minister should also discuss the Okinawa base issue

with Asian leaders who are attending the APEC Osaka summit."

Australia "Political Pitfalls In Okinawa Rape"

An editorial in Thursday's Brisbane Courier-Mail read, "The Okinawans' attitude is understandable, but there are great risks for the entire Asia-Pacific region if the United States gives in to their demands.... Their exit (i.e., the U.S. military) would leave the Asia-Pacific a far less stable place, with potential effects on investor confidence and the progress toward free trade. It is because of this that Australia's interests are best served by a continuation of the American military presence in Japan."

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===== ATTACHMENT 1 =====

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