

Jet fighter tests precede Soviet end to demands

WASHINGTON (UPI) — Withdrawal of Soviet demands for SALT restrictions on cruise missiles was preceded by tests in which MiG-25 jet fighters "shot down" drones similar to the U.S. weapons, high-level Pentagon sources said yesterday.

But a Defense Department spokesman, Thomas Ross, said the administration is "confident that the cruise missile we are now building can penetrate existing Soviet air defenses" and will be successful against future defenses as well.

Ross and a spokesman for the CIA declined to comment on recent intelligence discoveries involving issues that are linked with SALT, but sources at the Pentagon said new developments have come to light.

Among them are installation of the SA-10, a new type of anti-aircraft missile regarded as designed in part to combat the cruise missile, aboard ships now being built in Soviet shipyards and completion of a new plant apparently planned to expand production of the Soviet Backfire bomber.

The Backfire, which can reach the United States at high altitudes, is excluded from limitations on strategic weapons in the SALT II treaty now being negotiated.

The cruise missile is a small, pilotless jet plane that can carry a nuclear warhead to a target with pinpoint accuracy by following a computerized "map" of the terrain over which it flies.

Soviet tests of MiG-25 Foxbat jets — high altitude interceptors — against drones have been conducted recently, sources said, including some shortly before Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko early this month dropped a demand that cruise missiles launched from planes be limited to a 1,500-mile range.

The sources contended, however, that U.S. intelligence analysts are not agreed that Soviet radar capability was good enough in the last test to shoot down a missile flying below 200 feet, as reported by Aviation Week and Space Technology magazine. The altitude is the same at which cruise missiles operate.

Defense officials acknowledged recent U.S. tests which simulated Soviet defenses showed that cruise missiles can be shot down in some "one-on-one" situations, but said U.S. plans to be able to launch as many as 3,000 of the weapons in a mass attack are designed to avoid that problem.

Sources also said the shipboard version of the SA-10 might be used as an offshore weapon against U.S. bombers carrying cruise missiles, but said it was more likely the rockets were intended to protect the ships from air attack.

They said a new 800,000 square foot plant is located next to the present Backfire assembly line at Kazan, several hundred miles from Moscow, but gave no indication how big a boost in production might be expected.

The Soviets now have about 140 Backfires and are already building about 36 a year, which would bring them close to the level of 400 planes U.S. sources say would be acceptable during the term of a SALT II treaty.



Phew!

CAPE ELIZABETH, Maine: The Robert Jordan family recently found a skunk in one of their lobster traps. They freed the skunk by covering the trap with a canvas and flipping it over. The skunk immediately darted into another empty trap though, and has since shot his spray twice while rescuers devise other methods of removing the un-wanted tenant from the Jordan's lobster trap pile.

other empty trap though, and has since shot his spray twice while rescuers devise other methods of removing the un-wanted tenant from the Jordan's lobster trap pile.

U.S., Soviets fail to conclude arms treaty

MOSCOW (AP) — U.S. and Soviet negotiators failed last night to conclude a treaty to limit strategic weapons, complicating prospects for a signed accord or a presidential summit before the end of the year.

The next step in the drive by the two nuclear powers to restrain the arms race was not made clear as the talks ended at the Kremlin with Soviet President Leonid I. Brezhnev at the bargaining table.

"Any question about what happens next awaits the secretary's report to the president," U.S. spokesman Hodding Carter told reporters.

Secretary of State Cyrus R. Vance cabled a detailed account of the proceedings to President Carter, and plans to report to him on his return to Washington last night.

Both sides described the talks as "constructive" but said some issues remained unresolved.

"We continue to hope an agreement is possible by the end of the year," said State Department spokesman Carter.

Asked if he could use the word "progress" to describe the talks, the U.S. spokesman replied: "I'd really like to. I simply have not been given that description."

The official Soviet news agency Tass said "the two sides stated the resolve to bend every effort and bring this important matter to a conclusion so as to ensure the early signing of an agreement."

Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei A. Gromyko said "we are a little closer than we were in Washington" and Vance concurred: "I would agree with him."

Announcement that no treaty would be nailed down during the Kremlin session, the last in the current round of SALT talks, came as no surprise, because both sides had indicated earlier they were still apart on some issues.

Brezhnev brought top arms experts to the negotiating table with him. His intervention, matching President Carter's participation three weeks ago in the previous round in Washington, underscored evident determination on both sides to complete the accord. The Soviet president was accompanied by Marshall Nikolai V. Ogarkov, deputy minister of defense, and Andrei Alexandrov Agentov, his foreign policy adviser. They were joined also by Georgy Korniyenko, the Kremlin's top expert on U.S. affairs, U.S. Ambassador Anatoly F. Dobrynin and Gromyko.

On the U.S. side of the table with Vance were Paul C. Warnke, the chief U.S. arms negotiator, and Malcolm Toon, the U.S. ambassador to Moscow.

By all accounts, at least 95 percent of the treaty to limit the United States and the Soviets to a total of 2,250 bombers and missiles has been completed.



James W. Cosgrove (left), 26, of Geveva, N.Y., and Edward J. Mendenhall (right), 24, of Rochester, N.Y., are the two remaining defendants facing charges of plotting to steal a nuclear submarine, USS Trepang, from its harbor at New London, Conn., and sell it for \$150 million to an unknown buyer in the Atlantic Ocean.

School prayer faces court judgment again

HARRISBURG (AP) — Lawyers argued yesterday whether Warren County teacher Lloyd Fink had the academic freedom to say prayers and read Bible stories in his fourth-grade class.

Fink, 43, who was dismissed last May when he refused to obey school authorities' orders to stop those practices, has appealed to the state Education Department.

"He could have done it before school, or at the breakfast table with his family, or on the way to school, or after school," Joseph Massa, attorney for the Warren County School District, told a department hearing examiner.

"All the state is saying is that there are times when you are in the public employ . . . you have a captive audience and there must be reasonable regulation of some of your rights," he said.

But John Whitehead, a constitutional lawyer from Cleveland, Ohio, argued that the U.S. Supreme Court "never mandated that teachers be robots."

He referred to the high court's ruling in 1963 that struck down a Pennsylvania law that mandated school prayers.

"It's not reasonable if he must give up his Constitutional right," Whitehead said, adding, "A teacher has a certain amount of academic freedom."

Initially, Fink, who is a member of the Wesleyan Methodist Church, opened his class by reading excerpts from the Bible to his 18 students, and then said the Lord's prayer.

After his principal complained, Fink then switched to reading Bible stories from a book and saying a 15-second spontaneous prayer, all of which lasted about five minutes, Whitehead said. Students were allowed to leave class

during that time, he said.

Whitehead and Fink's other attorney, Daniel Flint of King of Prussia, say Fink's right to read the stories and say the prayers are covered by the First Amendment to the Constitution, which guarantees freedom of speech.

"You are so concerned about the rights of Mr. Fink," Massa told the other attorneys. "What about the rights of the students?"

The parents of two students complained about Fink's prayers, but they were not part of the action that led to his dismissal by the Warren County School Board.

"The parents have not come forward," Whitehead said. "I'm saying that the parents should intervene if we are to raise their interests in this case."

Massa said that Fink "chose a deliberate course of action. I don't doubt

the depth or fervor of his beliefs. His competence is not in question here.

"...I respectfully submit that the spontaneous prayers and reading of Bible stories in an elementary school class by an agent of the state, paid with state funds, and cloaked in the authority and dignity of a public school teacher, is the type of action proscribed by the Supreme Court," Massa said.

Fink, who now works at a milling company mixing animal feed, has been receiving small contributions of \$5 and \$10, Whitehead said. "But you have to remember it's a rural area," he said. "I think he's received only about \$500."

Hearing examiner Mark Corrigan, who will make a recommendation to Education Secretary Caryl Kline, took the case under advisement. It could be months before a final verdict is rendered.

DID YOU KNOW?
the
**Penn State Bookstore's
HUB Supply Division**
is open
7:45 A.M.
Monday - Friday

**ROCCO'S
PIZZERIA**
434 E. College Ave.
**FREE DELIVERY
CALL 237-2466**

PENN STATE CIRCLE-K'S
**THIRD ANNUAL
HYPERTENSION
SCREENING**
When's the last time you
had your blood pressure checked?
Come to the:
HUB Ballroom
Oct. 24-25
9:00-5:00
Sponsored by
Circle-K in conjunction
with Penn State Raiders and Red Cross
IT'S FREE, TOO!

stash your trash

Leather to Boot
116 W. College Ave.
Daily 9:30 - 5:30 Monday & Friday open til 9:00