

Brezhnev announces freeze on Soviet missile deployment

Reagan not satisfied, wants dismantlement

By DAVID MINTHORN
Associated Press Writer

MOSCOW (AP) — President Leonid I. Brezhnev announced a freeze on deploying medium-range nuclear missiles in the European part of the Soviet Union yesterday but warned of "retaliatory steps" if the United States and its Western allies station new rockets in the NATO countries.

In a major Kremlin speech, Brezhnev also said that unless the international situation worsens the Soviet Union plans to "reduce a certain number of its medium-range missiles on its own initiative" west of the Urals, considered the European part of the Soviet Union.

But President Reagan said the Brezhnev proposal "simply isn't good enough because it doesn't go far enough," and challenged Brezhnev to "join in real arms reduction." Reagan told the Oklahoma legislature in Oklahoma City that the Brezhnev proposal would lock in a lopsided Soviet advantage in intermediate-range missiles that can hit targets in Western Europe.

"Our proposal is that we not deploy any intermediate missiles in exchange for Soviet agreement to dismantle what they have," he said.

Western diplomats in Moscow said the Brezhnev proposals appeared to be a new Soviet bid to encourage Western European opposition to plans to deploy 572 new U.S. Pershing 2 and cruise missiles in Europe beginning in 1983. It was also considered another step in the Kremlin's attempt to portray the Soviet Union as the driving force behind attempts to control nuclear weapons.

NATO governments are committed to the decision to deploy 572 new NATO weapons but large segments of the public oppose the rockets and have held massive peace rallies to pressure

their governments to rescind the decision. A West German government spokesman in Bonn reacted cautiously to the Brezhnev announcement, saying the Soviets must prove it was a "turning point" by ending the "further amassing" of missiles and by initiating a "real reduction" through U.S.-Soviet arms negotiations in Geneva.



Leonid I. Brezhnev

The Bonn government position is critical because most of the new American missiles would be stationed on West German territory if the Geneva talks fail to bring a result.

Geneva talks on reducing arsenals of nuclear-tipped missiles in Europe were recessed for two months yesterday. Negotiators from the two sides had been meeting since Nov. 18 and were thought to have used the initial rounds to outline opening proposals for cutting the weapons.

Brezhnev announced the missile moratorium in a speech opening the national trade union congress, which is held every five years.

"We are freezing, in both quantitative and qualitative respects, the armaments of this kind already stationed here, and are suspending the replacement of old missiles, known as the SS-4 and SS-5, by newer SS-20 missiles," Brezhnev said.

Nevertheless, Brezhnev warned of Soviet potential when he said that U.S. and NATO plans to deploy the 572 new U.S. missiles would "compel us to take retaliatory steps that would put the other side, including the United States itself, its own territory, in an analogous position. This should not be forgotten."

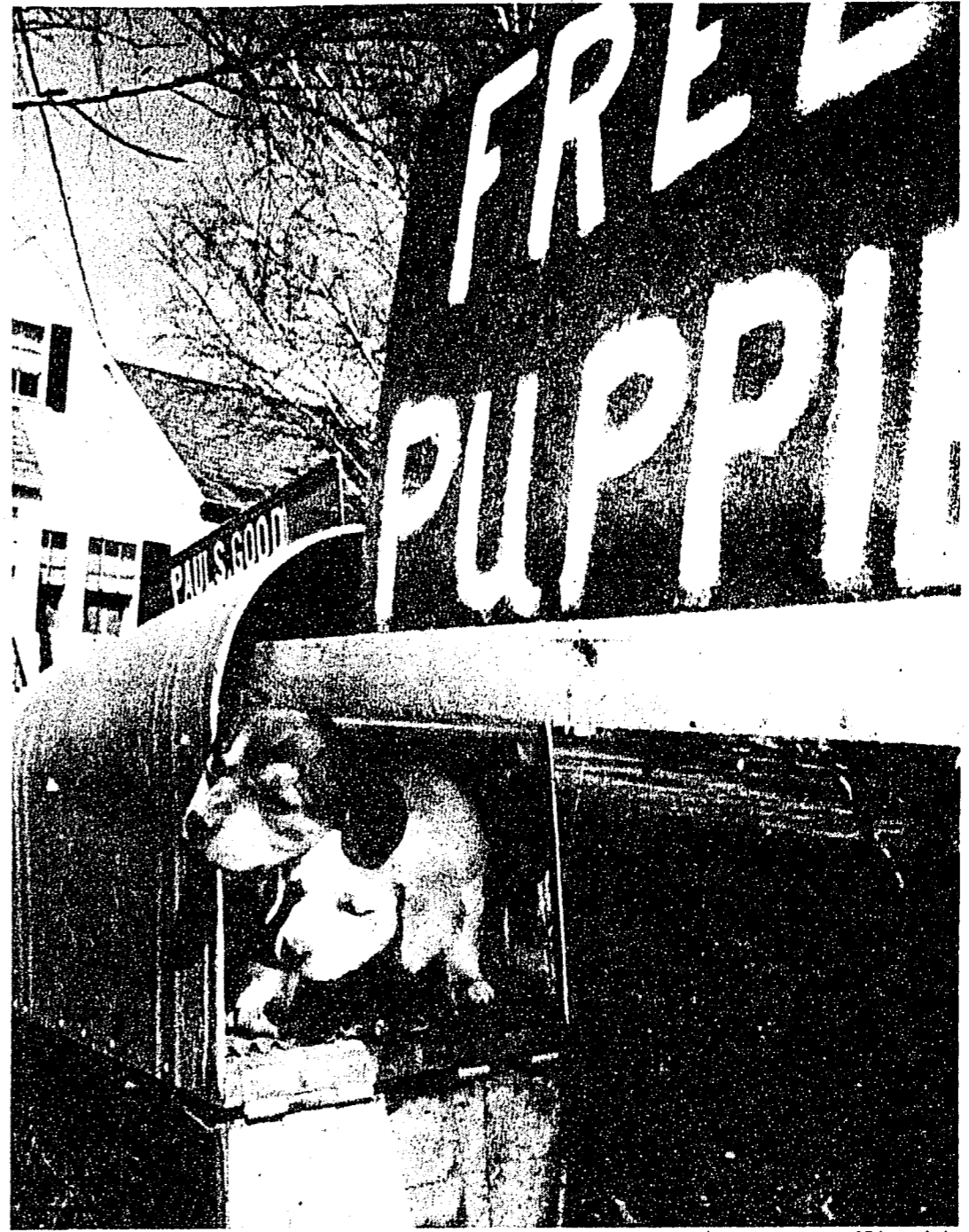
That was seen as a threat that the Soviets would increase strategic, as opposed to medium-range, missile capability should the Western deployment plan be carried out.

The Soviets view the West's medium-range missiles as strategic weapons because they can strike the Soviet Union, whereas the Soviet medium-range force is mainly targeted on Europe.

On Monday, a senior State Department official said in Washington the Soviets had deployed 300 SS-20s with a total of 900 nuclear-tipped warheads, each capable of hitting Western Europe.

In addition, the official said U.S. intelligence has spotted five additional SS-20 sites under construction inside the Soviet Union and expressed alarm at "the continuing buildup."

The missiles represent a cumulative increase of 200 SS-20 systems since 1979, the official said.



First class

How much are those puppies in the mail box? Paul S. Good of Harmony Twp., N.J., is doing his part to prove that the best things in life are free. These captivating canines are surely hoping they will not be long without good homes.



Photo by Stelios Varlas

Practice makes perfect

Elizabeth Steen (8th-music) rehearses with the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra in preparation for the orchestra's performances in Eisenhower Auditorium this weekend. Assistant conductor Michael Lankester is in the background.

Nicaragua suspends human rights

Government cites U.S. 'plans of aggression'

MANAGUA, Nicaragua (AP) — Nicaraguan's leftist government suspended all individual rights and guarantees for 30 days Monday because of U.S. "plans of aggression against our country."

Daniel Ortega Saavedra of the ruling Sandinista junta said the United States was using anti-Sandinista groups of exiles in neighboring Honduras and Miami.

Hours before Ortega's announcement, the Interior Ministry reported guerrillas dynamited two key bridges in the northern and northwestern parts of the country Sunday night, causing serious transportation problems.

Ortega said the suspension of rights may be extended "in keeping with the prevailing circumstances in the country."

He also said the government would exercise strict control over the media. A few minutes before his

announcement, the Interior Ministry announced the indefinite closure of the Roman Catholic Church's Radio Catolica for reporting the dynamite attack on the bridges before the government announced it.

Ortega did not elaborate on what the suspension of rights and guarantees entailed, but government sources said freedom of expression, the right to carry out political and union activities, and the right of habeas corpus were all affected.

The new American ambassador, Anthony C.E. Quaiton, arrived Monday evening and denied that the U.S. government was plotting to overthrow the Sandinista regime.

"I cannot discuss a plan that does not exist," he replied to reporters' questions. "The United States does not seek to intervene in Nicaragua or any other place in Central America."

Quaiton said the U.S. government "wants to establish effective and

sincere relations with the government and people of Nicaragua."

The Interior Ministry in a brief statement said the dynamiting of the bridges was "part of the CIA plan to destroy the popular Sandinista Revolution."

One of the bridges — which spanned a river near the town of Ocotal, 105 miles north of here — carried traffic along the heavily traveled Inter-American highway that connects Nicaragua with Honduras, the statement said.

In Washington, State Department spokeswoman Sue Pittman said, "I don't think we're going to have anything to say about that until tomorrow."

The Reagan administration has repeatedly charged that Nicaragua funnels Soviet-bloc weapons to leftist guerrillas fighting the U.S.-backed junta in neighboring El Salvador.

Bill would help to fund student loans

By ANN H. FISHER
Collegian Staff Writer

After the initial shock of President Reagan's proposed budget cuts, legislators are developing alternate student financial aid programs.

State Sen. J. Doyle Corman, R-central Pa., is co-sponsoring a bill that authorizes the Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency to sell tax-exempt bonds.

Senate Bill 1330 would allow proceeds from the bond sales to fund Pennsylvania college loan programs.

Some loans would be made directly to graduate and undergraduate students or to their parents. Others would be channeled through colleges or commercial lenders.

"The plan would help us make loan funds available to Pennsylvania students at rates well below current market levels," Corman said. "And we could do this at no cost to taxpayers since the program would be self-supporting."

PHEAA estimates that 41 percent of the students receiving loans will either have their loans eliminated or reduced for the 1982-1983 academic year. About \$262 million will be lost in state funds.

The bill's initial bond offering would be about \$100 million.

"PHEAA can't float more bonds than the state can really cover," Corman said. "We don't want to extend credit too far."

The bill was unanimously approved by the State Senate Education Committee last week and will be on the floor when the Senate reconvenes on March 22.

Depending on the Senate's priorities, the outcome of the bill may be decided by June, Corman said.

It already has the bipartisan support of 29 senators, said state Sen. James J. Rhoades, R-Schuylkill, the prime sponsor of the bill.

Concerned about the huge federal cutbacks to the loan program, the Senate took the initiative in making money for moderate loans available, Rhoades said.

Although the bill was introduced in the state House of Representatives last October, it has been moving rather slowly, Rhoades said.

If the state Senate approves the bill, it must then be approved by the state House before it becomes law.

"It is our intention to start this program in time for next school year" if it is passed, Rhoades said.

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weather

Partly cloudy and breezy today with high temperatures around 57 degrees. Mostly cloudy tonight with a few rain showers. Low temperatures near 38 degrees. Morning showers giving way to partly cloudy skies tomorrow with high temperatures around 46.

—by Mark Stunder

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