



NEW SOLIDARITY International Press Service

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ICLC EXECUTIVE STATEMENT ON PRE-WAR BLACK PROPAGANDA OPERATIONS IN THE UNITED STATES PRESS

The representation in the U.S. press, of new Soviet Defense Minister Dimitri Ustinov as an alleged "soft-liner" and the irresponsible speculations by the New York Times, in the notorious Mr. Zorza's Washington Post Column and elsewhere about possible frictions between Mr. Ustinov and the career military in the Soviet Armed Forces constitutes a psychological warfare manipulation of the U.S. population and of individuals in position of responsibility, aimed at forcing the reintroduction of the Schlesinger Doctrine of regional nuclear war.

Every person in a position of responsibility ought to be extremely alarmed with reports of State Department spokesmen already giving assurances to the public that as a result of Mr. Ustinov's appointment the Soviet leadership will allegedly change its well known stance of rejecting the Schlesinger concept of regional nuclear warfare.

Such State Department pronouncements and black propaganda efforts by notorious intelligence community conduits in the press come after entirely unambiguous and unprecedented public warnings by the Soviet government and highest Soviet officials that any further heating up of the situation in the Middle East must lead to regional nuclear confrontation including the danger of rapid escalation to general thermonuclear war. In light of last week's total black-out in the same press conducting the present black propaganda manipulation of the strong and explicit warnings contained in a major speech by Soviet Politburo member and KGB chief Yuri Andropov against aggression against any areas of vital Soviet strategic interest, only one interpretation of the Times-Post-State Department propaganda operation is possible: leading U.S. policy circles in both the Kissinger-Rockefeller and the Harriman-Ball faction have made the decision to go for war in the Middle East, bring their NATO coup d'état preparations in Italy to an early conclusion, and risk "limited" Schlesinger-style nuclear confrontation with the Soviet Union, creating the gravest danger of the outbreak of general thermonuclear war.

Contrary to Zorza's and others' lying assertions that with the Ustinov appointment "the military and the hawks (in the Soviet leadership) have suffered a major setback," it must be stated most emphatically that politburo member Ustinov is an uncompromising hard-liner thoroughly committed to longstanding Soviet military policy developed under Malinovsky and Grechko. Significantly this is precisely the way Ustinov is characterized in a front-page article of the International Herald Tribune, a joint Paris venture of the New York Times and the Washington Post. Pre-

sumably, the International Herald-Tribune was not informed in time of the U.S. black propaganda line.

Ustinov was elevated to the Soviet politburo at the recent 25th Communist Party of the Soviet Union (CPSU) Congress. He is an army industry expert most closely associated with the development and build-up of the Soviet nuclear arms and rocket forces.

In 1941, at the most critical point of the Soviet armaments effort against the fascist threat, Stalin appointed Ustinov "People's Commissar of Armaments." He has been in charge of the armaments and defense industry ministry ever since. His appointment as Grechko's successor at this point, when the Soviet Union is engaged in a renewed major armaments build-up effort to counter the threat of aggression from fascist austerity governments that Atlanticist forces are threatening to install in Western Europe, if anything, signals the exact opposite of what is contained in the U.S. press pre-war-type black propaganda assertions.

End of ICLC Executive Statement 04.30
