

contracts signed even before the USA introduced its discriminatory trade legislation.

Thus correcting the abnormal situation is up to the American side. We are ready to move ahead to develop economic ties in various directions, to trade with both large and medium-sized firms, but only on the basis of full equality and mutual benefit. And, of course, we resolutely reject any attempts to link trade with any sort of political conditions, and we will not permit any kind of interference in our internal affairs. This must be made clear once and for all....

Some are maliciously spreading notions about some kind of military threat that supposedly emanates from the Soviet Union, as if our country were interested in continuing the arms race. They are even putting out scare stories about some sort of Soviet "preparations for a first nuclear strike" on America. For whom and why it is necessary to babble such rubbish, I do not know, but the fact is that such chatter does exist.

The absurdity of such fabrications, one would think, are obvious. They contradict the whole policy of the Soviet Union, which is directed at reducing, and ultimately also fully eliminating the threat of nuclear war, at curtailing the arms race, at the development of peaceful coexistence between states....

As concerns the Soviet-American dialogue, we have proposed to the USA to mutually renounce the creation of new generations of atomic submarines like the Trident and new heavy bombers like the B-1, as well as the corresponding types of Soviet submarines and bombers. We have proposed the mutual withdrawal of all nuclear-arms-bearing ships from the Mediterranean. All these proposals remain in force.

A new indication of the peace-loving character of our policy is the proposal made by the Soviet Union and its Warsaw Pact allies to all participants in last year's Helsinki conference, including the United States — to conclude a pact on non-first use of nuclear weapons against each other. We await an answer to this proposal and we hope that it will be positive.

Thus talk about some kind of sinister plans of the Soviet Union in relation to the USA is pure invention. And malicious invention at that. For it provides a cover for unbridled inflation of military budgets and further arms buildup. And that is a dangerous thing. It cannot be rule out that by raising a hue and cry about imagined Soviet intentions, some in the United States are themselves fostering plans of a "first strike" without being aware of the consequences. As for the Soviet Union — and I want to repeat this with all forcefulness — it has been and remains a

convinced opponent of all such adventurist conceptions, as of nuclear war in general. We adhere to the agreement with the USA on averting a nuclear war, and we presume that the American side too will fulfill its obligations under this agreement.

We highly value what has been done by our two countries to lessen the threat of nuclear war. We are ready to go further in this direction, in cooperation with the new American administration, if it too will act in this spirit. The Soviet Union believes that efforts must be stepped up to conclude a new agreement on limitation of strategic offensive weapons on the basis which was agreed upon not long ago at Vladivostok. We think that it is time to put an end to the nearly year-long "freeze" that Washington put on this important question. The Soviet Union is ready to discuss new possible steps to effectively prevent the spread of nuclear weapons across the planet, and also other measures to lessen the threat of nuclear war....

Uruguay CP Chief: SATO Augurs World War III

The following is a paraphrase of an interview with Prensa Latina, granted by Rodney Arismendi, Secretary General of the Uruguayan Communist Party, on Nov. 30 in Havana, Cuba.

The attempted politico-economic integration of the Latin American Southern Cone threatens the sovereignty of the nations of that region. The multinationals, Washington and Brazilia would be the main beneficiaries of this tendency, pushed mainly by the military governments of Brazil, Chile, Uruguay, and Bolivia.

The Brazilian military has extended its zones of influence in the Cone, with the aim of achieving a politically and economically interrelated area of which Brazil would be the center.

The possible creation of a South Atlantic Treaty Organization is a threat to international peace and détente. Public opinion and progressive governments should impede any economic or political military alliance of governments who in the name of so-called Western Civilization, augur the imminent beginning of World War Three.