

'Peace' conference shows KGB pedigree

by Poul Rasmussen

In closing remarks at the final session of the World Peace Conference held in Copenhagen Oct 15-19, the president of the conference, Hermod Lannung, said: "We might consider creating a super-coalition, an international alliance of organizations concerned with peace and the Earth's future, which will assemble a far more potent political force for our survival than otherwise possible."

Now, what would be the real purpose of such a worldwide super-coalition? Lannung did not say, but the five days of this Soviet propaganda conference certainly did not leave any doubt. The Soviets want a worldwide mobilization to stop President Reagan's Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI), now.

Occurring only three days after the Reykjavik meeting between Reagan and Gorbachov, the World Peace Conference was totally dominated by the pre-summit's dramatic outcome, for which neither the Soviets themselves nor their Western stooges had been prepared. In his opening remarks, Lannung called the summit both a "failure" and a "success," and this confusion prevailed throughout the conference.

The Soviets had apparently anticipated the confusion, and in order to ensure that the conference retained its focus, they send the director of the Soviet Press Center at the Reykjavik Meeting, Andrei Grashev, directly to Copenhagen to deliver the marching orders. Grashev is a senior intelligence operative working out of the Soviet Commission at Unesco.

The marching orders were clear: Almost all of the special sessions, work shops, and press conferences centered around the perceived need to stop the SDI. The way the SDI was presented to the participants of the conference was hardly recognizable for anyone who knows the real contents and aim of the SDI program. Speaker after speaker presented the SDI as an evil plan to deploy nuclear weapons and mass destruction lasers in space. The hysteria culminated with the presentation of Soviet astronaut Vladimir Aksyonov, who scared the wits out of the audience by describing how laser beams can be directed toward plants and animals on Earth, causing chromosomal defects and death. If directed against human beings, Aksyonov said, there can be no doubt that lasers can cause new types of immune deficiencies (i.e., SDI causes AIDS).

In this atmosphere, it was very difficult for the few who

tried to maintain the line that the SDI won't work. Dr. Booss from the World Federation of Scientific Workers tried desperately to explain to the audience that the SDI was nothing but a fantasy, but the monster picture of the SDI was so much alive in minds of the death-scared peace lovers, that they refused to listen.

While it was clear that the SDI should be the future target, it was less clear how they should stop it. After hours of deliberation and discussion, two proposals won universal approval. One: a worldwide campaign for a comprehensive nuclear test ban, with the explicit aim of stopping the development of the x-ray laser. Two: an international petition drive against the SDI.

Reagan called a terrorist

The organizers of the World Peace Conference had made a tremendous effort to conceal the fact that the conference was nothing but the child of the World Peace Council, an infamous KGB propaganda organization. To the dismay of conference organizers, scores of articles in the European press had already disclosed the event as a despicable Soviet propaganda trick. At the opening session of the conference, demonstrators seized the stage and unfurled a banner saying: "This is a KGB conference." All over Copenhagen placards and stickers appeared saying: "Go home KGB—and take your bogus 'Peace Conference' with you."

Despite efforts from the conference officials to maintain the façade of an "open and non-biased" conference, the true face of this KGB event came to the surface at the last working session, titled: "Terrorism and State Terrorism." The speakers were an amazing array of experts in this field, from Libya, Syria, Israel, the PLO, the Kurds in Turkey, Basques in Spain, Irish IRA, Nicaragua, El Salvador, Guatemala, and, of course, the Soviet Union. The tone of the discussion was set by Prof. Alexei Vassilyev from the Moscow Institute of African Affairs, who stated that all claims of left-wing participation in the present wave of terrorism in Europe are nonsense.

He quoted from the French paper *Le Monde*, which said that the French government would cut subsidies to environmental groups because of the terror wave. "This shows," said Professor Vassilyev, "that it is right-wing forces who benefit from terrorism." He dismissed all claims of Soviet backing of terrorism as primitive anti-communism. But, he said, we do of course support all legitimate struggles for national liberation!

This became the theme everybody else picked up. The Libyans, the Kurds, and the others claimed to be fighting for legitimate national liberation, which should be seen as a natural continuation of the struggle for peace. According to all of the speakers, there is only one terrorist in the world, and his name is Ronald Reagan. And there is only one country in the world supporting terrorism, and that is the United States of America.