

## Editorial

### *A litmus test for fools*

A case of willful blindness is typically afflicting that section of the Western ruling elites which is most committed to the present strategic and economic deals with Moscow. The Soviet leaders are engaged in an unprecedented military build-up, involving the most advanced weaponry, at the same time that they have convinced a presently hegemonic section of the Anglo-American Establishment, that they are seriously willing to negotiate a "New Yalta" settlement.

The U.S. and Western European media reflected this refusal to see reality, in the way that they covered the recently concluded 19th Soviet Communist Party Conference. This media fraud was conveniently stage-managed on their behalf, by the Soviet collective leadership.

"Ah, *glasnost*," the Western commentators blither, while the reality is that the Russians are still masters of the art of creating "Potemkin Villages," (the stage-set villages which were shown to the royal family by the infamous Prince Potemkin, to show the supposedly happy lot of the Russian peasantry).

The heirs of Prince Potemkin have succeeded once again in convincing hordes of corrupt and gullible Western journalists that we have just "seen" an unrivaled week-long display of "openness" in the Soviet Union, at the party conference. The picture being presented to the Western public is a fraud.

The normally closed Soviet party congress is a thousand times more "open" than the recent party conference, which, unlike the party congresses, did not even permit "observers" from the countries of the Soviet bloc to attend its sessions. What Western correspondents "saw," was about 15 minutes of live Soviet television coverage, of staged portions of the conference, per five hours of closed sessions—in other words, a mere 5% of the total.

The rest of the raw material for Western coverage comes from the carefully edited and greatly shortened TASS summaries of what speakers said. Many a "tail" and an "ear" have been "seen," but the elephant has

been preserved in secrecy by the most secret Soviet party gathering since the Stalin era.

The fraud and travesty are being compounded by the Western media, which are editing even the minute "news" placed at their disposal by Moscow, to conform to their prejudices and illusions.

For example, they are fascinated that President Andrei Gromyko appears to be in the process of being retired, by agreement of all political factions. They accept the myth that Russia is to become a parliamentary democracy. Fat chance! Far more likely, this is a convenient way to move Gorbachov upstairs, into a purely ceremonial role.

With the conclusion of the party conference, the situation in the East bloc is becoming more and more explosive. Yugoslavia appears to be on the verge of civil war, and border clashes may soon erupt between Romania and Hungary, over President Nicolae Ceaucescu's insane drive to evict Hungarian and German farmers from their land, and to force them into exile.

In the coming weeks, will see his campaign beginning in earnest to burn down 8,000 Romanian villages, which are populated mostly by Hungarians, and by some Germans. Not only has the cultist Romanian dictator gone on a blood-and-soil rampage, but he is driving the "racial" message home by closing down Hungarian cultural centers. At this writing, the border between Romania and Hungary is sealed off, and there is a 10-mile area policed by Romanian troops who reportedly have orders to shoot to kill anyone wandering into the area.

Are we on the verge of a third world war? Probably not immediately, but we are certainly seeing a replay of the same Anglo-American political stupidity which has already brought the world to fight two global wars. A third world war will be incalculably more devastating in its consequences, not least because the United States is in the process of disarming its defense capabilities.

They whom the gods would destroy, they first make mad!