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Movie renews Cold War fears

Soviets make film about U-2

MOSCOW (AP) — The Soviet Union has made its first movie about the U-2 incident 26 years after shooting the spy plane down, resurrecting Cold War fears to deliver an ominous message about U.S.-Soviet relations.

"Miy Obvinayem" (We Accuse) is showing in the midst of a heated Kremlin campaign against what it calls anti-Soviet U.S. films that color the way Americans view this country.

It seems clearly intended to back the current official line that the United States threatens world peace and cannot be trusted.

A Soviet anti-aircraft missile downed the U-2 on May 1, 1960, which is the international labor day and a major Soviet holiday. Its pilot, Francis Gary Powers, was captured on a farm in western Siberia and convicted of espionage in a trial staged before the world's press.

The movie includes about one minute of film from the trial, but the rest is made with professional actors. It also leaves out some relevant history.

There is no mention of Nikita S. Khrushchev, the Kremlin leader of the time, who ordered the plane shot down and made the announcement

to the world. Khrushchev later fell from grace and has been expunged from Soviet history books.

While castigating Washington for sending the U-2 over the Soviet Union, the movie neglects to note that Powers was exchanged in 1962 for Rudolf Abel, a Soviet super-spy who had run a large network of agents in the United States.

The central message is driven home in the closing scene, in which prosecutor Roman Rudenko is shown fishing with his son after the trial.

"Rudenko thought about how his son never heard the guns of war,"

the narrator says. "But he knew that those who planned this flight would not stop at that. There would be other acts. And there were."

According to the film, American businessmen, spies and general used Powers to scuttle the 1960 Paris summit between Khrushchev and Dwight D. Eisenhower.

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New therapy smashes gallstones

BOSTON (AP) — Shock wave therapy, which has revolutionized the treatment of kidney stones, can also smash gallstones inside the body, potentially eliminating the need for some of the 500,000 gallbladder operations performed in this country each year, researchers report.

A study conducted in Germany shows that a machine called the lithotripter can — at least in some carefully chosen cases — pulverize these stones into tiny fragments that pass harmlessly from the body.

The researchers speculated that this new approach may resolve life-threatening conditions in selected patients.

However, questions remain about potential side effects, and the researchers concluded: "It is difficult to make a prediction about the future role of shock wave treatment in therapy for gallstones."

The gallbladder is a sac-shaped organ that stores digestive juices. When painful stones form inside, the gallbladder frequently must be removed surgically.

The latest study was conducted on 14 patients by Dr. Tilman Sauerbruch and colleagues from the University of Munich. It was published in last Thursday's New England Journal of Medicine, along with an editorial by Dr. Albert G.

Mulley Jr. of Massachusetts General Hospital.

In December 1984, the Food and Drug Administration approved the use of lithotripters to smash kidney stones that otherwise would require surgery. Now, about 50 hospitals in the United States have these machines, which cost \$2 million apiece.

Patients are lowered into a stainless steel tub of water. An electrode produces a blast of shock waves that pulverize the stone inside the body.

The shock is focused on a particular point inside the body and the waves pass harmlessly through soft tissue and bones.

Marriages down, divorces up in 1985

WASHINGTON (AP) — Fewer Americans got married last year than at any time in nearly a decade, and the divorce rate headed up again after a brief decline, new government statistics show.

Overall, preliminary numbers from the National Center for Health Statistics indicate that Americans were still twice as likely to marry as to divorce last year — 10.2 marriages per 1,000 people compared with 5.0 divorces.

But the marriage rate was down from 10.5 a year earlier, and the 1985 level was the lowest since 1977. The divorce rate, meanwhile, edged up 2 percent.

After peaking at 16.4 marriages per 1,000 people in 1946, the rate dipped to 9.9 in 1952 and remained below 10 until 1968 when it climbed to 10.4 per 1,000. It edged up slightly in the early 1970s, dipped to 9.9 in 1976 and 1977,

then climbed back to 10.6 by 1982 before beginning to slide again.

The 5.0 divorce rate, up from 4.9 in 1984, matched the rates of 1982 and 1983. Divorce peaked at 5.3 per 1,000 people in 1979 and 1981 after rising steadily in recent years.

In total, the Center reported that there were 2,425,000 marriages in 1985, down from 2,487,000 in 1984. And there were 1,187,000 divorces, up from 1,155,000.

There were 1,665,000 people added to the U.S. population last year as a result of natural increase — the excess of births over deaths. The rate of increase was 7 per 1,000 people, the same as a year earlier.

The Center said there were 3,749,000 births during the year, the most since 1965.

That notwithstanding, the increase in births is not another Baby Boom, since the rate remained

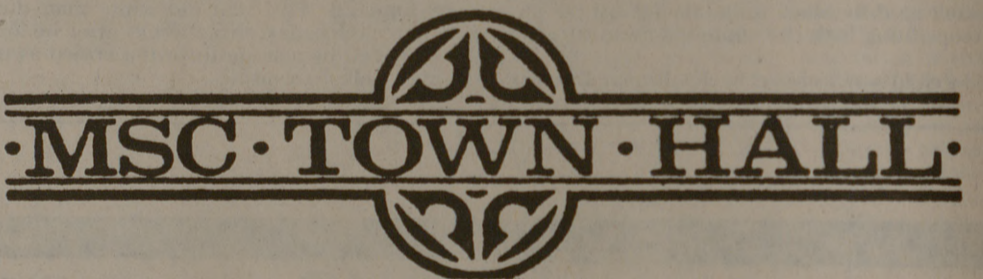
constant, due to the larger overall population. The birth rate was 15.7 per 1,000.

Population experts refer to the current increase in births as an echo of the post World War II Baby Boom, since it stems primarily from the large number of Americans born after the war currently in their prime childbearing ages.

The report showed 2,084,000 deaths in the United States last year. That is 37,000 more than in 1984 and the largest death total ever reported in the United States.

The rising proportion of elderly in the U.S. population, and an influenza outbreak in early 1985, contributed to the death toll last year.

However, despite the increase in total deaths, the jump paralleled the rise in population, so the death rate remained the same as in 1984, 8.7 per 1,000 people.



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