

Tuesday, June 13, 1989

## Gorbachev visits Bonn, pushes for talks on short-range nukes

BONN, West Germany (AP) — Soviet President Mikhail S. Gorbachev on Monday welcomed U.S. proposals to reduce conventional forces in Europe and said they could result in a speedier agreement between the superpowers.

But Gorbachev, in his first state visit to West Germany, stressed during a dinner given by Chancellor Helmut Kohl that the Kremlin still wants simultaneous talks to be held on reducing short-range nuclear weapons.

Gorbachev, enormously popular in West Germany, arrived in Bonn amid much fanfare Monday as he seeks to strengthen ties to West Germany and bridge the ideological differences that divide the continent.

"Today, we can already state that we have started to leaf through the first pages of a new chapter in our relations," Gorbachev said at the gathering in Bonn's resplendent Redoute palace.

Kohl, meanwhile, appealed to Gorbachev for a unilateral Soviet cut in short-range nuclear missiles. Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman Gennady I. Gerasimov conceded at a briefing earlier that the Warsaw Pact has an advantage in such weapons.

Gorbachev said the alliance would wait until its next meeting, expected in July, before giving a detailed response to President Bush's proposals for substantial cuts in East-bloc and Western armies in Europe by the early 1990s.

He said the Soviets already had noted "with satisfaction" that the West had produced proposals and accepted some Eastern suggestions.

"There is now reason to presume that an agreement in Vienna can be reached much more quickly than was expected earlier," Gorbachev said, referring to the site of East-West talks on conventional weapons.

But he stressed the Soviet Union still wants parallel talks on reducing short-range nuclear weapons in Europe.

The issue has caused squabbling within the NATO alliance recently. West Germany demanded talks soon on reducing short-range nuclear weapons, while the United States said a conventional arms reduction must be negotiated first because of Soviet superiority in non-nuclear weapons.



Mikhail Gorbachev

The disagreement was resolved with a compromise during a NATO summit last week when the Western alliance agreed that a partial reduction of short-range nuclear weapons could be negotiated.

About 120 dignitaries were in-

vited to the dinner in the opulent palace. Gorbachev was accompanied by his wife, Raisa.

Bonn government spokesman Hans Klein said Kohl briefed Gorbachev thoroughly on the NATO summit and the Bush proposals during 70 minutes of talks.

The state visit, which comes as Soviet troops try to quell a bloody ethnic dispute in the republic of Uzbekistan, began amid strong assurances from both sides that the nations that helped to divide Europe now want to overcome that rift.

The two countries already intend to bolster their commercial, cultural and political links Tuesday by signing 11 agreements and a "common statement" of purpose that Klein said is "a very significant, even historic document."

The declaration will "satisfy the very profound desire our peoples have to heal the wounds of the past with understanding and reconciliation and to build a better future," Kohl said at the dinner.

Klein said Kohl urged the Soviet leader to make "quick progress" at the Vienna talks on reducing conventional arms.

## Hundreds of thousands travel in heat, dust to visit site of Khomeini's grave

TEHRAN, Iran (AP) — A week after Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini was buried, his grave in a dusty field has become a golden-domed shrine to which hundreds of thousands of Iranians a day make a mass pilgrimage in the scorching heat.

They travel from all over the country to keep night-long vigils and touch the temporary monument over the grave of the octogenarian patriarch of Iran's revolution, who is rapidly being elevated to the pantheon of Shiite Moslem saints.

Many believe Khomeini's blessing and protection are bestowed on anyone who touches the square monument, fashioned from metal shipping containers covered in green cloth and topped by the large golden dome.

The containers are on metal pillars and a metal grille gilded with spray paint allows people to see the grave.

Marble slabs around the site, buried under flowers; make the temporary structure resemble the tombs of other Moslem holy men.

"The Imam is the greatest man in Iranian history," said a teacher, who identified himself only as Mohammad and struggled with his 6-year-old son through the mass of humanity around the shrine. Iranians call Khomeini "imam," or spiritual leader.

"He led the people back to our original faith, away from the materialism of the West," the teacher said in fluent English. "I brought the boy here so he can remember this great day."

"Tell the world how we loved the Imam," said a white-bearded old man. He rode on the shoulders of a young man, leading chants extolling Khomeini "the idol smasher."

Around him, women wailed "O Khomeini, our days will never be the same without you!"

The golden dome, sparkling in the sun by day and floodlighted by night, has become a beacon for followers of the fierce-eyed cleric whose fundamentalist Islamic revolution ended a 2,500-year-old monarchy.

All roads lead to the compound, 500 yards square, beside the huge Behesht Zahra cemetery 10 miles south of Tehran. Khomeini was buried there last Tuesday, three days after his death, to the accompaniment of hysterical anguish by 2 million Iranians.

Shiite Moslem zealots, most of them poor people who saw Khomeini as their savior, struggle for hours through the crowds to reach the shrine. Officials estimate more than a half million people visit the grave every day.

Toothless old men from the Tehran slums and cities as far away as Isfahan, Mashhad and Shiraz mingle with women clad in black head-to-toe chadors, babies clutched in their arms.

As the waves of mourners inch closer to the grave, men beat their heads and breasts with their hands hoarsely chanting verses from the Koran, Islam's holy book, and slogans of loyalty to Khomeini's teachings.

Some flail themselves with steel chains as drums beat slowly, a traditional ritual during Ashura, the month of mourning for Hussein, the first Shiite spiritual leader and founder of the sect.

Fire engines spray water over the crowds to cool them in temperatures that reach 104 degrees Fahrenheit under a blazing sun.

People arrive in unending thousands in packed buses and trucks, tractors towing trailers, in cars and on motorbikes.

Water tankers are parked every few yards for the thirsty throngs. Free iced lemonade and canned soft drinks are provided.

Visitors to the grave must walk two miles through open fields under a thick cloud of choking dust raised by the constant traffic. The last half-mile to the square compound marked off by 10-foot-shipping containers is a nightmare of shoving and jostling.

Revolutionary Guards in black uniforms herd women to one side of the compound, to keep them away from the men. They wail in mourning, their shrill lamentations drowning out the men's chants.

## Chinese upheaval threatens business relations with U.S.

NEW YORK (AP) — China's bloody political contortions have troubled millions of Americans transfixed by horrific scenes on television, but a broad economic impact also looms for the Chinese and threatens U.S. business relationships that have taken nearly two decades to cultivate.

The sudden, panicky mass exodus of foreigners this past week from the People's Republic because of the violent crackdown on a growing pro-democracy movement portends a dark and chilly era for foreign investment and trade. Few are expected to quickly return, even if things quiet down for a while.

The biggest U.S. multinational companies with offices in China aren't likely to disengage themselves because they have less and more to gain. However, many smaller companies say they can't easily afford to risk their money in a country where political stability is now so uncertain due to the unrest caused by the student demonstrations and the military response.

"The commercial and economic relations between the United States and China, so carefully nurtured and developed through the efforts of people on both sides over the past 18 years and so clearly in the overall strategic interest of both our two countries, have been dis-

rupted and could suffer long-term damage," the U.S. China Business Council declared.

Hundreds of joint ventures worth billions of dollars have suddenly been put on hold or severely curtailed, affecting factory construction and exports ranging from crude oil to luggage to hand-held hairdryers.

The lucrative Chinese tourist trade, which was earning more than \$2 billion in foreign currency annually for the Chinese, has now collapsed, during what is normally the busiest time of year. The outlook is uncertain.

Even foreign-financed projects hundreds of miles from Beijing have been disrupted. The disruption has been blamed partly on a State Department warning that Americans should leave the country due to the threat of widespread unrest.

On a broader scale, the chaos in China severely jolted the stability of British-ruled Hong Kong, the financial powerhouse scheduled to be surrendered to the Chinese in 1997.

Millions of dollars in Chinese-issued bonds, sold abroad to raise money for economic development, are suddenly worth less and will aggravate the country's recent efforts to raise money in world credit markets.

## Mexican police hunt for former security head

MEXICO CITY (AP) — A nationwide police alert was in force Monday for a former security official accused of murdering one of Mexico's most prominent journalists.

Police were watching airports, train and bus stations, ferries and border crossings nationwide, the Federal Attorney General's office said.

Authorities also enlisted the help of Interpol, the international police agency, in the search for the man wanted in the assassination of muckraking reporter Maneul Buendia.

The arrest warrant was issued Tuesday night for Jose Antonio Zorrilla Perez, former head of the Federal Security Department, a now defunct agency that was similar to the FBI in the United States.

Buendia, a front-page columnist for the newspaper *Excelsior* and the author of several books that tackled sensitive targets like official corruption, drug and weapons trafficking and the CIA, was gunned down in a

downtown parking garage in 1984.

Zorrilla, who arrived at the scene of the crime within minutes and headed the investigation at the outset, has long been suspected of concealing evidence and intimidating witnesses. In 1988, the city attorney general called him a leading suspect in the murder.

With the fifth anniversary of Buendia's death on May 30, Zorrilla's name again surfaced with extensive press coverage of his role in the case and the suspicions about his complicity in one of Mexico's most notorious crimes.

The respected news magazine *Proceso* published an extensive report on the case in May that said the Union of Democratic Journalists had evidence that Zorrilla's agents had been following Buendia for more than three months before he died.

When police arrived at Zorrilla's home Sunday night in a wealthy neighborhood in southern Mexico City, Zorrilla was gone. Authorities

have declined to speculate on his whereabouts.

They also declined to say why he might have killed Buendia. Special prosecutor Miguel Angel Garcia Dominguez said testimony taken in the last two months led to the arrest warrant, but he did not comment on the motive.

Although never charged, Zorrilla, 49, had been linked to Mexican drug kingpins like Rafael Caro Quintero, who is in prison for the 1985 torture and killing of U.S. narcotics agent Enrique Camarena.

Caro Quintero allegedly had police credentials on him when he fled the western city of Guadalajara in a private jet while police stood by. He is serving a sentence on drug and other charges and awaiting judgment in Camarena's murder.

Zorrilla also has been mentioned in press reports in connection with the deaths of three policemen and an investigator.

## Japan second to United States in foreign aid

TOKYO (AP) — Japan's total foreign aid rose 22.5 percent to \$9.1 billion in 1988, making it the world's second-largest donor after the United States, the Foreign Ministry said Monday.

U.S. foreign aid totaled about \$9.8 billion last year, the ministry said.

Much of the growth in Japan's development assistance in dollar terms came from the Japanese yen's greater strength in foreign exchange markets. In yen terms, the \$9.13 billion spent on foreign aid was an 8.8 percent increase over the \$7.45 billion spent in 1987.

The ministry calculated dollar figures using the government's official average exchange rate for 1988 of 128.15 yen to the dollar, down from 144.64 yen in 1987.

Japan's direct aid — not channelled through international agencies — accounted for 70.3 percent of the total, or \$6.42 billion, the ministry said.

Of total direct aid, about \$3.51 billion, or 55 percent, was in loans, an increase of about 30.9 percent from 1987. The remaining 45 percent — \$2.91 billion — was in grants, up 16.1 percent.

Japan's \$10 billion foreign aid budget for fiscal 1989 would make it the world's largest donor nation, assuming the yen doesn't weaken significantly.

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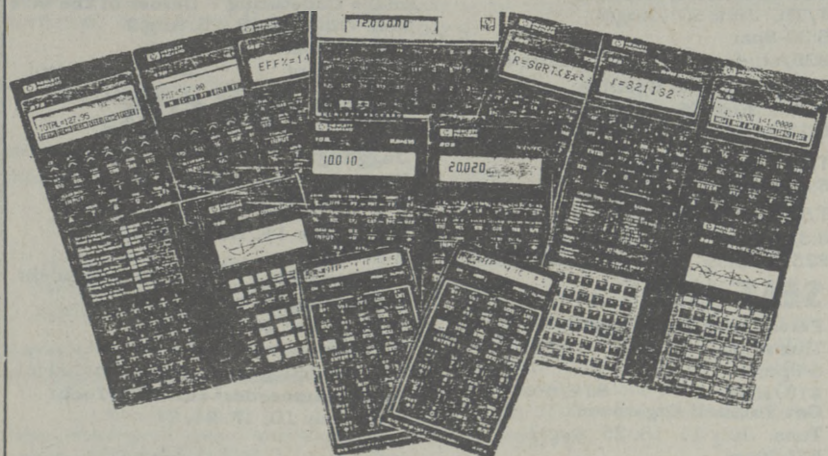
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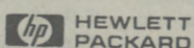
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