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R 13247)1BYLHYDZAT

ZNYR-MISSILES (2 TAKES)Z

MOSCOW, JAN 11, REUTER -- SOVIET ARMS NEGOTIATORS TODAY TOLD A GROUP OF U.S. CONGRESSMEN MOSCOW WOULD CONSIDER DESTROYING SOME OF ITS MEDIUM-RANGE MISSILES AFTER REDUCING THEIR NUMBER AS PART OF AN ARMS CONTROL SETTLEMENT.

THE OFFER WAS THE FIRST TIME THE SOVIET UNION HAD MENTIONED THE POSSIBILITY OF DISMANTLING THE WEAPONS IT WOULD WITHDRAW. NEGOTIATOR GILYAROV KAPOV AND YULI KVITSINSKY, WHO REPRESENT MOSCOW AT THE CURRENT U.S.-SOVIET STRATEGIC ARMS AND MEDIUM-RANGE MISSILE TALKS IN GENEVA RESPECTIVELY.

MEMBERS OF A 13-MAN CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION, FOR DESTRUCTION OF THE MISSILE. HE SAID LAST MONTH THE SOVIET UNION WAS READY TO REDUCE ITS STOCKS OF SS-20 MISSILES. ZNYR252

R 13283)1BYLHYDZAT

ZNYR-MISSILES 2 MOSCOWZ

WESTERN LEADERS SAID A MAJOR FLAW IN THE OFFER WAS THAT IT WAS NOT CLEAR WHAT WOULD HAPPEN TO THE MISSILES. AS THEY ARE HIGHLY MOBILE IT WOULD, IN THEORY, BE EASY TO BRING THEM BACK FROM STORAGE OR DISTANT SITES IN THE EVENT OF A CONFLICT.

HANS-JOCHEN VOGEL, WEST GERMAN SOCIAL DEMOCRAT CANDIDATE FOR THE CHANCELLORSHIP NEXT MARCH, SAID AFTER TALKS WITH ANDROPOV YESTERDAY THAT HE TOO HAD COME AWAY WITH NEW DETAILS ABOUT THE FATE OF THE SS-20s.

VOGEL SAID THIS CONCERNED THE DISPOSAL OF THE MISSILES, AND IT APPEARED LIKELY HE HEARD A SIMILAR PROPOSAL.

TOM LANTOS, LEADER OF THE U.S. DELEGATION, SAID NEITHER KAPOV NOR KVITSINSKY WOULD SPECIFICALLY MENTION THE NUMBER OF MISSILES WHICH MIGHT BE DESTROYED.

WESTERN DIPLOMATS SAID THE NEW SUGGESTION WAS INTERESTING BUT THE FACT THAT THE TWO MEN HAD USED THE WORD "CONSIDER" MEANT CAUTION WAS NEEDED.

THE SOVIET UNION IS ESTIMATED TO HAVE 333 SS-20 TRIPLE-HEAD MISSILES DEPLOYED NOW, ABOUT 220 OF THEM IN STRIKING DISTANCE OF EUROPE. ANDROPOV'S OFFER WOULD MEAN IT WOULD HAVE TO DISPOSE OF ABOUT 60 OF THEM. Z



William Sanders/Washington Times

...available for the second playoff game against the Kings Saturday. Some fans started their wait Sunday night.

There was no immediate comment from Schweiker, but it was learned he had called a meeting of his senior staff for this morning.

Administration officials said Schweiker plans to leave "fairly soon." Other reports indicated he would leave next month.



Richard Schweiker

UPI

see RESIGNS, page 12A

...aying the course is for

...the farmers that today million bushels of corn have along with record soybean crops and billions of butter, cheese and milk.

...Block has been so worse these dairy surpluses, faster than the cheese. warehouses are bursting, and despite record price-supports, the net holds little more than," the president said. "ous productivity of the farmers did not produce but Reagan said there is a grain rush. As a world recession and abroad, Reagan said, bursting with food surplus has low farm prices incomes.

...ent said the PIK probably a crop swap under mer taking additional production would be what he didn't grow for out of the commodity surplus. He said the do what he wishes with

AN, page 12A

Soviets offer to dismantle some missiles in arms deal

From combined dispatches

MOSCOW — Soviet arms negotiators yesterday told a group of U.S. congressmen Moscow would consider destroying some of its medium-range missiles after reducing their number as part of an arms control settlement.

The offer was the first time the Soviet Union had mentioned the possibility of dismantling the weapons it would withdraw from Europe as opposed to re-siting them in Asia or putting them in storage.

It was made by the country's two top arms negotiators, Viktor Karpov and Yuli Kvitsinsky, who represent Moscow at the current U.S.-Soviet strategic arms and medium-range missile talks in Geneva respectively.

Members of a 13-man congressional delegation who met them yesterday said that when asked to elaborate on an offer by Soviet leader Yuri Andropov to reduce missile forces, the two men

explained that Moscow would "consider destruction of the missiles."

Andropov said last month the Soviet Union was ready to reduce its stocks of SS-20 missiles in Europe to the combined level of British and French missile forces — 162.

But that reduction would be contingent on the North Atlantic

West German opposition leader Hans-Jochen Vogel reports Andropov doubts U.S. is willing to reach accord on nuclear weapons growth in Europe. Page 5A.

Treaty Organization's shelving plans to deploy new U.S. medium-range missiles in Western Europe, they said.

One of the diplomats called the offer "significant," but noted the Soviets said only that they were considering such a move. He also

said no numbers were mentioned and pointed out that verification would be difficult.

The Soviet negotiators, by saying the Kremlin would consider destroying some SS-20s after their withdrawal from Europe, made a step in principle toward answering NATO objections to the most recent Soviet proposal for limiting medium-range nuclear missiles in Europe.

The Soviets now have 333 SS-20s deployed on their territory, with about 220 thought to be within striking distance of Western Europe.

NATO rejected the Andropov offer because he did not say what the Soviets would do with missiles he was offering to withdraw. It said those missiles could be removed to the Asian part of the Soviet Union and, because they are mobile,

see MISSILES, page 12A

...story
...in Yew

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New Lebanon turmoil shadows Habib visit

Stayman, 34, of Chester, Pa., and co-pilot David Russel, 32, of Lansdowne, Pa.

A spokesman for Transport Canada, the Canadian government's transportation agency, said the twin-engined Sabreliner aircraft went down in a cemetery in an unpopulated area just north of the city.

The last radio transmission between the Toronto control tower

Don Butterwick, who was working several hundred yards from the crash site, said he saw the plane plunging toward the ground but didn't see the crash because a factory blocked his view.

He said that when he arrived moments later, he saw one body in the field and another inside the shattered craft. Pieces of the jet were strewn over the empty field. Police arrived within five minutes and cordoned off the area.

Bohdan Korzeniewski, oper-



Ross Hennigar

ations manager at Philadelphia International Airport, where the flight originated, said the plane was boarded there by two crew members and three passengers.

Lantos said the Soviet officials did not raise objections to the British or French placing more warheads on their existing missiles.

The congressman said the issue of the British and French weapons being independent deterrent forces, and not part of the NATO arsenal, was not touched on. That also is a major NATO argument against the Andropov proposal.

In Amman, the official Jordanian news agency Petra quoted Hussein as telling a private meeting of Jordanian and Palestinian officials Monday:

"We have obtained a written commitment from... Reagan that the American administration will throw its weight behind efforts to produce a just and honorable solution to the Palestinian question."

Hussein met with Reagan in Washington last month.

"I came out with the impression that Reagan intends and insists on making this matter his No. 1 concern," the agency quoted the king as saying.

Hussein also told the meeting, "I am very short, and action

"But I got a very positive feeling they were serious about it," he said. Andropov's offer to reduce the number of SS-20s in Europe to 162 was based on the combined number of French and British nuclear missiles. Most of those are an older and less-accurate generation of submarine-based rockets and all have single warheads as opposed to the SS-20's triple warheads.

ing out the 1975-76 Moslem-Christian civil war.

In another development, Israeli Defense Minister Ariel Sharon rejected the inclusion of the PLO in any form in the peace talks delegation being discussed by Jordan and the PLO.

A Defense Ministry communique issued in Tel Aviv said Sharon opposes PLO participation, "whether overt or covert." In a separate statement to Israel Army Radio, Sharon said, "We are not prepared to talk with the PLO or people who speak for it."

PLO leader Yasser Arafat and... of Jordan met in

No successor has been mentioned, but there was speculation Reagan might select another woman to the Cabinet. Elizabeth Dole, a Reagan aide, was just named to head the Transportation Department.

"The choice of a successor is not yet set," said one official, indicating the search for a replacement is already under way.

Listed among the speculation is former Rep. Margaret Heckler, a Massachusetts Republican who was defeated in November. The White House personnel office has been scouting for a government position for her. She is popular with activist women's groups.

Schweiker joined the Senate after 20 years in Congress — during which he was with liberal and labor groups. Schweiker proposed a plan to cut Social Security in 1981 that lasted about a year before it was withdrawn before a storm of protest.

On Monday, he said to require federally funded birth control programs to notify parents whose children under 18 seek prescriptions. Schweiker was considered when Reagan announced the 1976 Pennsylvania would be his running mate. He won the Republican nomination.

lowing in his address correspondents.

"There have been recommendations their way into the Weinberger told...

He said some systems value exist that are not others of no use...

"Whatever changes in weapons systems discussed in general one point, the very specific terms budget is... Weinberger's details... posed, but said... nounced in a... conceded, how... wage increases... sidered.

Proposed... Germany... construction... cuts would... involve... Troubles...

MISSILES

From page one quickly rolled back within range of Western Europe at any time. Rep. Tom Lantos, D-Calif., the U.S. delegation leader, said neither Soviet negotiator would give the number of SS-20s that might be destroyed.

MIDEAST

From page one agenda" for talks with Israel provided the issues are considered "topics for discussion, not binding principles."

The talks have been deadlocked over Lebanon's insistence that they focus on withdrawal of Israel's army, and on Israel's demand that normalization of relations with Lebanon be included on the agenda.

"This is our final position, the... we can go," the official...

DEFENSE

From page one

gram that meets some of our economic problems, and this just enhances that because of all the abuse he has been taking."

Reagan said whether budget cuts affect the readiness of the nation is "a considered judgment and not a risk."

"It's simply a slight slowdown in some things that have been planned in readiness," he said, "but I don't think it sets us back any."

The president indicated his announcement approving Weinberger's plans was his first decision on the entire budget.

He refused to discuss his plans for the domestic budget or the looming budget deficit.

"We are looking at 11 alternatives and, when I've got all I need in front of me, I will make decisions that may come as a surprise to some of you, in view of what I've been reading lately in the press," he said.

"I'm announcing that I'm accepting this gladly," said of Weinberger's proposal, he "And Cap did this, and I'm pleased with it, and it will be