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INSIDE THE BELTWAY

Who says?

Anyone who devotes much attention, as we do, to the State Department's translations from Pravda and the Soviet news agency, Tass, will probably come to the conclusion that a great deal of their commentary on the United States is picked up from our own press. Their quotes, of course, inevitably show the administration in a bad light.

One of the oldest tricks in the book, by no means restricted to the international scene, is to plant a story and then loudly quote it as having appeared in a "reliable" publication.

In line with this, it is worth

mentioning a paragraph from Early Warning newsletter:

"In waging their propaganda wars, the Soviets and their controlled fronts relish the irony of being able to quote American sources against the 'main enemy' — the United States. Every article in the Soviet media attacking the CIA and the U.S. intelligence community quotes at length from American press reporting, frequently from fringe newsletters like Covert Action Information and CounterSpy (now renamed The National Reporter), as well as from the major national newspapers."

— John Elvin