

World Concern With Economic Growth Foreseen

By David Zizzo
Staff Writer

Make money not war.

That's what will be on the minds of superpower leaders during the next decade, former CIA director William E. Colby said Wednesday at a luncheon in Oklahoma City.

While the 1950s and '60s were dominated by military and strategic concerns and the '70s and '80s by political struggles, "the '90s are clearly going to be dominated by something else — economics," Colby said.

Colby, CIA director under Presidents Nixon and Ford, was the first speaker in this year's OSU International Affairs Forum. Three other experts will participate in the forum in the coming months.

Colby, a former "superspy" in World War II and now a high-powered consultant in Washington, D.C., said the military factor in the international equation is shrinking because of nuclear weapons.

"I think we have developed the consciousness among both the superpowers that we have to reduce both the threat of military action against each other and the extent which we devote to the large military forces we maintain," he said.

A major force pushing economics to the forefront has come from Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, who realizes "they have to do something about that miserable economy," such as reducing military spending, Colby said.

But, he said, Gorbachev is being criticized by skeptical citizens, who are demanding more goods in the stores.

"I give him two or three years," Colby said. "If he doesn't have things on the shelves by then, he's in very deep trouble."

Colby said recent history has shown the feared spread of communism never occurred and that free, Democratic ideals have "flatly and clearly won," as evidenced by the proliferation of democracy in many countries.

Stagnant Cuba remains one of the few truly communist countries in Latin America, he said.

The economic decade will not be without friction, with ethnic pressures and religious fundamentalism

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The New York Times _____
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The Christian Science Monitor _____
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still causing strife in some countries. But Colby does not expect "big wars" or "big problems."

He said he believes America will demand and gain more access to markets in protectionist Far Eastern countries, as well as neighbors such as Mexico. Western Europe will revamp its economy, with new players, such as Scandinavian countries and Austria joining in.

Africa will remain stagnant, with South African white leaders maintaining their grip on the country despite sanctions from around the world, Colby predicted.

China will remain a perplexing market for Western entrepreneurs, who have not yet deciphered the tricky political code there, Colby said.

The part of the world with some of the most serious economic problems also is the one with some of the biggest potential for Western prosperity — Latin America, Colby said.

If those countries can solve their huge debt problems, their strong middle-class could be an attractive market for American goods, he said.