

~~ARMED FORCES JOURNAL~~  
ON PAGE

ARMED FORCES JOURNAL

April, 1985

## Consolidated Mess

### Umpteen Clarifications of the Issue— and the National Press Is *Still* Confused!

BY NOW, ALMOST EVERYONE KNOWS or should know, that the Defense Intelligence Agency and the Central Intelligence Agency have different opinions (despite assertions of concurrence) about the degree to which Soviet military spending has increased since 1976.

Conflicting statements from Secretary of Defense Weinberger, Deputy CIA Director Robert Gates, and various CIA and DIA officials in February spawned a battery of conferences and briefings as all parties tried to convince the press and the public that there is agreement, at least in principle, on the rate of increase of the Russian defense buildup. The absence of a clarification from KGB Public Affairs left the issue contentious.

If the following two examples from the 22 February *Baltimore Sun* and *Wall Street*

*Journal* are any indication, the daily press is as confused as its sources:

### Spending rate for arms held cut by Soviet

*Soviet Union Has Stepped Up Spending  
On Military Following Lull, U.S. Finds*