

News Digest

By the Associated Press

East-West security pact adopted

STOCKHOLM, Sweden — A 35-nation conference on Monday formally adopted the first East-West security agreement since SALT II, and diplomats said it could be a step toward improved superpower relations.

The conference did not deal with actual disarmament or nuclear weapons. Its goal was to reduce the risk of a military surprise attack or conventional war breaking out by misunderstanding in Europe.

Delegates toasted the agreement with champagne, ending 32 months of prolonged deliberations among the United States, Canada, the Soviet Union and all European countries except Albania.

The accord is politically binding and when ratified will come into force Jan. 1, 1987.

Agreement was reached late Sunday when Soviet and U.S. negotiators com-

promised on arrangements for notification, observation and on-site inspection of military maneuvers.

It was the first East-West security agreement this decade, the first during Ronald Reagan's presidency, and the first since the still unratified U.S.-Soviet strategic arms limitations accord in 1979.

The 35 countries are scheduled to review the results of the Stockholm conference and other offshoots of the 1975 Helsinki Accords at a follow-up meeting in Vienna, starting Nov. 4.

"We have taken an important step toward reducing the risk of military confrontation," Robert L. Barry, chief U.S. negotiator at the talks, said in a statement.

Oleg Grinevsky, Barry's Soviet counterpart, also praised the agreement, but said much work still had to be done in reducing war risks.

"We have left hell behind us and are now in purgatory. But we are still far from heaven," Grinevsky said.

The measures agreed upon allow NATO, the Warsaw Pact and neutral countries to closely monitor each other's troop movements, thus increasing mutual confidence and lessening suspicion between the blocs, delegates said.

Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger expressed reservations Monday in Washington as to whether Moscow would live up to the pact.

"They've violated many agreements in the past. . . . It is very possible that they will violate this too." . . . That's why verification is so enormously important to the other agreements which would cover actual arms reduction as opposed to merely notifying on maneuvers."

'The ice of negotiating stalemate could break' Reagan criticizes Soviets at U.N.

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y. — President Reagan told the U.N. General Assembly on Monday "the ice of the negotiating stalemate could break" during the current round of Geneva arms talks with the Soviet Union.

Although Reagan said "a pall has been cast" over U.S.-Soviet relations by the Nicholas Daniloff affair, he did not suggest the case would stand in the

way of progress toward reducing both medium and long-range nuclear weapons.

Referring to the FBI's arrest in August of a Soviet employee of the United Nations accused of spying for the Kremlin, Reagan said:

"Misusing the United Nations for purposes of espionage does a grave disservice to this organization. The world

expects better."

Reagan's speech used stern words to criticize the Soviets, not only for their treatment of Daniloff, an American journalist arrested in Moscow, but also for their treatment of civilians in Soviet-occupied Afghanistan and their insistence on supporting Marxist-Leninist insurrections around the world.

Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard A. Shevardnadze listened to Reagan's address, making notes without signaling any emotion, and sat quietly as representatives of other nations applauded as Reagan finished speaking.

But Reagan cited Daniloff's arrest and his subsequent confinement to Moscow on spy charges as "a particularly disturbing example of Soviet transgressions against human rights. The Soviet Union bears the responsibility for the consequences of its action."

On arms control, however, Reagan's tone was unusually conciliatory. He said the Soviets, while unwilling to accept U.S. proposals for a 50 percent cut in intercontinental missiles, bombers and submarines, have "now embraced our idea of radical reductions in offensive systems."

The Soviets had rejected the initial U.S. demand because it would have forced abandonment of many of the heavy land-based missiles that are the core of their nuclear arsenal.

"The ice of the negotiating stalemate could break — if both sides intensify their efforts in the new round of Geneva talks" that opened last week, Reagan told the world leaders gathered for the opening of the annual General Assembly session.

9-year-old kidnap victim identifies abductors, FBI says

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. — Two brothers arrested in a \$1.5 million kidnaping were identified in a photo lineup by the 9-year-old victim, who spent more than a day in a cardboard box, an FBI agent testified Monday.

U.S. Magistrate Harvey Schlesinger ordered Peter Farrell, 37, of Naples, and his brother Paul, 22, a second class seaman who was AWOL from the USS Saratoga near Jacksonville, held until a detention hearing Wednesday.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Alan Ceballos said he would urge at that hearing that the men be held without bond.

The brothers and two other men are accused of orchestrating the Sept. 16 abduction of Amanda Mueller, the great-great-granddaughter of C. Frederick Mueller, who founded the C.F. Mueller Co. pasta business in 1868. She was found Saturday.

FBI agent Howard E. Glavin said Amanda positively identified the brothers from a series of photographs. He said she identified Peter Farrell as the man who picked her up at her school and who took Polaroid pictures of her to send to her father, and said Paul Farrell stayed with her in a condominium for three days and later placed her in the box.

Glavin also said Amanda identified the condominium and said she had written her name on the walls in several places. He said Paul Farrell, who was arrested Saturday night at his wedding reception, got the key to the condominium from his father for use on his honeymoon.

The agent testified that Edward O'Brien, 38, of Naples, another defendant in the case, had given statements implicating the brother in the planning and execution of the kidnaping.

In Brief

Official: Combat reserves not ready

WASHINGTON — The Army Reserve and National Guard units that would be needed to bring active-duty divisions up to combat strength are not ready to fight, and the Army is deceiving itself by arguing otherwise, a top general says.

Indeed, unless training is improved throughout the service, "our Army will never have a satisfactory war-fighting capability because no standard is enforced to bring combat formations up to a uniform level of readiness," Maj. Gen. Robert E. Wagner wrote in a recent memo.

"Our reserve components are not combat-ready, particularly National Guard combat units."

Lt. Col. Craig MacNab, an Army spokesman, said Monday that the memo "reflected Gen. Wagner's personal, sincere thoughts" on a subject that has long concerned top brass.

Wagner's views "do not reflect the thinking of the U.S. Army or TRADOC," but the general was certainly entitled and expected to voice his concerns, the spokesman added.

Poll: Nebraskans approve of Reagan

OMAHA — Sixty-two percent of Nebraskans surveyed said they approved of President Reagan's job performance, according to a copyright poll.

Published in Monday's editions of the Omaha World-Herald, the poll of 903 Nebraskans showed that 26 percent disapproved of the president's performance. The other 12 percent had no opinion.

Reagan's approval rating among Nebraskans has remained above 60 percent in World-Herald polls since the spring of 1983.

Republicans surveyed gave Reagan 79 percent approval. Among Nebraska Democrats, 45 percent said they disapproved and 41 percent said they approved.

Of the men questioned, 66 percent approved of Reagan's performance, while 59 percent of women surveyed approved.

Reagan's lowest ratings in the poll came from farmers and ranchers, disabled and unemployed people.

Of the 63 farmers and ranchers questioned, 46 percent said they approved of the president's performance and 40 percent said they disapproved.



AIDS victims calling hotline for new drug

WASHINGTON — Since disclosure of the first therapeutic drug to help AIDS sufferers, thousands have called hotlines to get more information, health

officials said Monday.

Federal authorities announced Friday that an experimental drug found to cut the death rate and improve quality

of life of some AIDS patients would be made more widely available. They stressed, however, that the drug was not a cure, and that it could have serious side effects.

The National Institute of Health said a special telephone hotline established to answer questions about the drug had received more than 3,500 calls between Friday and Monday.

The hotline, which operates between 8 a.m. EDT and midnight seven days a week, has been receiving an average of 50 calls per hour on 10 incoming lines from doctors and patients interested in being included in further studies of the drug.

Unlike other purported developments involving treatment of acquired immune deficiency syndrome, inquiries about azidothymidine, or AZT, have not been as frantic as in the past, say operators of the hotline.

A spokesman for the Whitman Walker Clinic here, a clearinghouse for AIDS information, said it has been receiving calls about AZT, but said these inquiries have not been as urgent as in the past.

"Overall, people have been calm and not flooding us with inquiries, partly because of the hotline established at NIH before the announcement," said

Jason Whiddon, coordinator of medical services at the clinic.

AIDS, an incurable condition caused by a virus that results in destruction of the body's infection-fighting immune system, has been reported in 24,859 Americans to date, 13,689 of whom have died. Until now, there has been no effective treatment for the disease and no one is known to have survived it.

ATZ proved so promising in a controlled human trial that its maker, Burroughs Wellcome Co. of Research Triangle Park, N.C., asked the government to end the trial early for ethical reasons. This would allow people who took part in the study, but who had been taking a dummy drug, or placebo, to begin taking AZT.

The AZT patients suffered fewer deaths and, beginning six weeks after starting the drug, also had noticeably fewer bouts with other infections and cancers associated with AIDS, researchers say.

Federal authorities asked the Food and Drug Administration to speed approval of a new, wider trial that could allow thousands of AIDS patients, with conditions similar to those in the study, to receive the drug in coming weeks and months.

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