

News Digest

By The Associated Press

Gorbachev advises 'revolutionary restraint'

MOSCOW — Mikhail S. Gorbachev accused his Kremlin critics Monday of being either too timid or too impatient about the pace of reform, and advised "revolutionary self-restraint" in the drive to modernize the Soviet Union.

The Soviet leader said Josef Stalin committed "enormous and unforgivable" crimes and announced resumption of a campaign to rehabilitate the dictator's victims. He praised the communist state's second leader, however, for collectivizing agriculture and industrializing the country.

Gorbachev's nationally televised speech, which lasted two hours 41 minutes, was part of the 70th anniversary observance of the 1917 revolution that brought the communist to power.

It was his first address since the disclosure last week of a top-level fight over the pace of "perestroika," Gorbachev's program aimed at improving the quality of life by streamlining bureaucracy, encouraging individual initiative and boosting production of consumer goods.

In a mention of his visit to Washington next month for his third summit with President Reagan, Gorbachev pledged to seek a "palpable breakthrough" leading to reductions in long-range nuclear weapons and a ban on weapons in space.

Signing a treaty to ban intermediate-range missiles "is very important in itself," he said in his first public comment on the matter since the announcement Friday that he would meet Reagan on Dec. 7 and plan for a

return visit by the president.

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—Gorbachev

Agreement to scrap the weapons, he said, "was largely settled back in Reykjavik." That summit collapsed over the issue of Reagan's project for a space-based defense against nuclear attack.

"The world expects the third and fourth Soviet-U.S. summits to produce more than merely an official acknowledgment of the decision agreed upon a year ago, and more than merely continuation of the discussion," the 56-year-old Communist Party chief told an audience of Soviet leaders and international socialist figures.

"That is why we will work unremittingly at these meetings for a palpable breakthrough, for concrete results in reducing strategic offensive armaments and barring weapons from outer space—the key to removing the nuclear threat."

Criticism of Gorbachev's reform program has come from both sides of the party.

Published reports, confirmed in part by the party, said Moscow party boss Boris N. Yeltsin was frustrated by the slow pace and internal resistance to change, and tendered his resignation at an Oct. 21 meeting of the Central Committee.

His speech is said to have drawn a rebuke from Yegor K. Ligachev, who is No. 2 in the 13-member Politburo and a conservative force in the leadership.

Without identifying his targets, Gorbachev said Monday: "We should learn to spot, expose and neutralize the maneuvers of the opponents of perestroika, those who act to impede our advance and trip us up, who gloat over our difficulties and setbacks, who try to drag us back into the past."

Businesses, workers raise productivity

WASHINGTON — Led by manufacturers, American businesses and workers increased their productivity 2.6 percent last quarter, the government said Monday, a sign that the United States is continuing to improve its competitive posture in the world economy.

The increased efficiency by the nation's non-farm businesses in churning out goods and services in July, August and September was more

than double the improvement over the past year, the Labor Department said.

Productivity among manufacturers jumped 4.5 percent as factories raised their assembly line output by 8.2 percent — the biggest increase since the first quarter of 1984 — while working their employees only 3.5 percent more hours.

That combination, plus the ability of manufacturers to keep wage gains to only 1.4 percent the third quarter,

slashed the labor costs for each product coming off an assembly line an average 3 percent, the labor Department said.

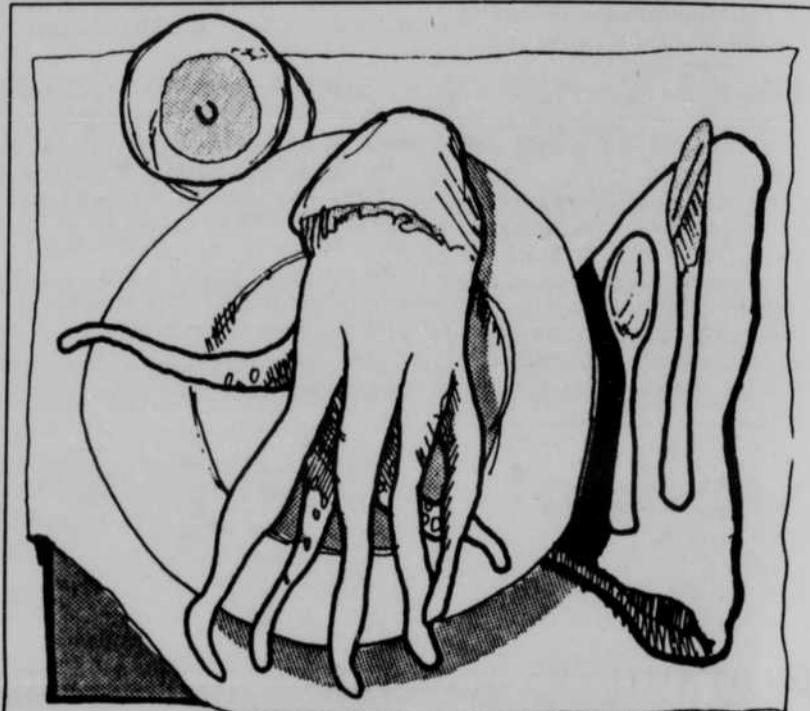
"It's another encouraging sign for the emerging return of a more competitive U.S. economy," said Allen Sinai, chief economist for Shearson Lehman Brothers, a Wall Street brokerage house. "Stronger productivity and lower unit labor costs are the key. Hopefully, it will continue."

Nominee Ginsburg's cable TV case to be investigated

WASHINGTON — President Reagan stood by his Supreme Court nominee Monday as Senate Democrats said they would investigate Douglas H. Ginsburg's having held stock in a cable TV company while supervising a government effort to win First Amendment protection for cable television operators.

Meanwhile, conservative groups said they were not concerned about reports that Ginsburg's wife, Dr. Hallee Perkins Morgan, performed two abortions and assisted in a third as a medical resident in Boston in 1979-80. One conservative spokesman said she should be commended for making a personal decision to stop participation in such procedures.

Members of the Senate Judiciary Committee, which will conduct hearings on Ginsburg's nomination, cautioned senators not to jump to conclusions about a possible conflict of interest in the cable television matter. But they also made clear they believe the issue should be investigated.



Brian Barber/Daily Nebraskan

Squid sales are strong to the strong-stomached

NEW YORK — Squid McNuggets may be a long way off, but the ugly little mollusks are finding their way onto the dinner plates of more and more Americans, alongside escargot and sushi, in these days of culinary adventures.

"Back in the late '70s you couldn't give squid away," says Bill Carroll, a squid pusher. "Now, a lot of restaurants have it on their menus. But most are calling it calamari (the Italian word for squid) because when you say 'squid,' people have a vision of Captain Nemo being dragged down into the deep by a monster shooting ink."

Carroll can relate to people trying to get their friends to eat snails or raw fish for the first time. As executive director of the Bi-State Seafood Development Conference, a New York-based trade organization, one of his missions is to whet the public's appetite for squid.

He gets a lot of wary stares.

Although squid is widely eaten throughout the world, in the United States it was regarded mainly as fish bait. But because of the growing popularity of ethnic and specialty foods, squid is becoming

more accepted, and a thriving U.S. industry has grown from scratch over the past decade.

Unlike many other specialty foods, squid is cheap and plentiful, as well as nutritious.

Squid has long been harvested in U.S. waters, but mostly by foreign fishing fleets from Asia and the Mediterranean. When the U.S. extended its coastal boundaries to 200 miles in 1977, however, most foreign fishing fleets were banned from the rich U.S. waters, and suddenly squid became an untapped resource.

"Mackerel, dogfish, monkfish, butterfish and squid were all species we found were under-utilized," Carroll says. "We determined squid had the greatest potential because there was a ready foreign market waiting. But we knew the domestic market would be a tough nut to crack because it's not a traditional American food."

One of the most popular ways to prepare squid is to cut the tube-like body portion into rings. The rings are then dipped in a batter or rolled in bread crumbs and fried. Squid also frequently is served cold in salads.

In Brief

Texas court upholds ruling against Texaco

AUSTIN, Texas — The Texas Supreme Court on Monday upheld a lower court decision ordering Texaco Inc. to pay \$11.1 billion to Pennzoil Co. for interfering in a planned merger of Pennzoil and Getty Oil Co.

The award, granted Pennzoil by jurors in 1985 and later upheld by the state's 1st Court of Appeals in Houston, is the largest in the nation's history.

Crews sight huge iceberg off southern Argentina

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina — A 450-foot-high iceberg has been sighted near shipping lanes off southern Argentina, the government news agency Telam reported Monday.

Satellite photographs from the national weather service showed the 2,100-foot-wide iceberg about 310 miles northwest of the Falkland Islands and 1,360 miles south of Buenos Aires. Weather forecasters said the iceberg and two others spotted about 415 nautical miles east-northeast of the Falkland Islands are believed to have broken off from Antarctica several months ago and drifted northward.

Sixty homes found to exceed radon guideline

More than half of the Lincoln homes tested since September exceed the federal health limit for radon — a naturally occurring radioactive gas.

Radon is an invisible, tasteless and odorless gas that scientists estimate is responsible for 20,000 lung cancer deaths a year in the United States.

Girl awake but still critical after multi-organ transplant

PITTSBURGH — A 3-year-old girl was awake and kicking with her favorite doll beside her Monday as doctors watched for any signs of rejection after she became only the third person in the nation to receive a five-organ transplant.

Tabatha Foster of Madisonville, Ky., remained in critical condition, which is normal after transplant surgery, at Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh, said hospital spokeswoman Lynn McMahon.

Surgeons transplanted a liver, pancreas, small intestine and parts of the stomach and colon during an operation that ended Sunday after nearly 15 hours.

The organs came from 2-month-old Heather Orick, who died after a car accident. "Part of her is living," said her father, Earl Shirks, 42, of Pennington Gap, Va.

China's new premier favors reform

BEIJING — Premier Zhao Ziyang took over as chief of the Communist Party Monday in a major leadership reshuffle that brought younger, reform-minded pragmatists to power in China.

The new line-up is the result of Chinese leader Deng Xiaoping's plan to replace an aging party leadership with new officials willing to continue his market-oriented reforms and open-door policy.

Deng, 83, stepped down from three

top party posts Sunday at the conclusion of the 13th Communist Party Congress, but he was reappointed chairman of the powerful Central Military Commission, ensuring that he will play a major role in China's political future.

In retiring from his posts, Deng forced leading conservatives, most notably President Li Xiannian and economist Chun Yun, to follow suit. Li and Chen, both 82, had opposed the pace of Deng's reforms.

The way is now open for Deng and his proteges to continue decentralizing the economy and further open the nation to the west.

"He is a great man," the paper said of the French-educated revolutionary, who has been purged three times in Communist China's 38-year-history.

The major surprise of the congress was the political survival of Hu Yaobang, the former party chief who lost his post after student demonstrations

for democracy last December.

Hu, a liberal by Chinese standards, will not return to the Politburo's Standing Committee, the core decision-making group in the party. But he retained his seat on the Central Committee and on the Politburo itself. It had been expected that Hu would be pushed from the Politburo.

Zhao, 68, further solidified his leadership position by being named vice chairman of the military commission.

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