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inter/national

From Associated Press reports

Arms plan rejected

The Soviet Union rejected Pres. Ronald Reagan's latest arms reduction proposal, and a top Kremlin spokesman said Thursday his country will pull out of the Geneva arms talks if NATO goes ahead with deployment of Pershing II missiles.

Reagan has proposed an interim agreement allowing the United States and the Soviet Union a total of 420 medium-range warheads

But in West Germany, where all 108 Pershing missiles are to be sited, Chancellor Helmut Kohl said the Soviets had signaled possible new concessions at the Soviet-U.S. talks on mediumrange weapons — specifically a willingness to drop their demand that British and French nuclear arsenals be included.

U.S. arms negotiator Paul Nitze met for over two hours with Soviet delegate Yuri Kvitsinsky in Geneva, and said the talks were continuing. Another session was set for Wednesday.

Soviet officials were noncommittal when asked if the threat to leave the Geneva talks meant a temporary walkout or a longer one.

Vadim Zagladin, a Communist Party Central Committee official, also said deployment of U.S. medium-range missiles would have a negative impact on the parallel talks on strategic missiles. But he did not say if the Soviets were threatening a walkout from the strategic arms reduction talks.

In Britain, where the first shipment of cruise missiles arrived Monday, a group of women kept up their protests and efforts to blockade the Greenham Common U.S. Air Force base. Police arrested five of them, bringing to 616 the number arrested this week.

Britain refuses to say how many cruise missiles have arrived, but the first 16 of 96 due to be sited there are expected by the end of the year if there is no agreement in the Geneva arms talks.

The weapons are among 572 cruise and Pershing 2 missiles NATO plans to deploy in Europe over the next five years to counter Soviet SS-20s aimed at targets in Western Europe.

In Moscow, an editorial in the Communist Party newspaper Pravda said Reagan's latest missile reduction offer is aimed at "drowning hopes" for an agreement. It said the U.S. offer is unacceptable because it does not take

into account British and French nuclear missiles and would allow deployment of U.S. mediumrange missiles, making allied strength in medium-range missiles twice the Soviets'.

Two hit by sniper fire

st. GEORGE'S — Snipers wounded two U.S. paratroopers Thursday, pushing the toll of wounded to 115 since American forces invaded Grenada more than three weeks ago. Eighteen other U.S. troopers have been killed

The snipers fired small caliber weapons at soldiers manning an observation post on Green Island, just off Grenada's northeast coast, Maj. Douglas Frey said.

The Army spokesman said the soldiers, members of the 82nd Airborne Division, were wounded "very slightly," one in an arm and other in a leg, and neither required hospitalization.

Frey did not identify the U.S. soldiers and said their assailants were not found on Green Island, a clump of rocks and swamps belonging to Grenada.

U.S. combat forces have been here since invading Oct. 25 with the declared mission of rescuing hundreds of Americans following a bloody coup on the Marxist-ruled island.

The invasion toppled a short-lived, radical army junta, which seized power Oct. 19 after slaying Prime Minister Maurice Bishop and an undetermined number of his followers.

Deficit bill abandoned

WASHINGTON — Congress abandoned all hope Thursday of major action this year to reverse the tide of budgetary red ink, as House and Senate negotiators agreed to increase the government's line of credit by \$101 billion to \$1.49 trillion.

Final action by the House and Senate on the compromise national debt limit bill was the last big obstacle to congressional adjournment for the year on Friday. Senate leaders said they might ask the full Senate to ratify the compromise Thursday night while the House was not expected to act until Friday.

The end of the 1983 battle to reduce federal budget deficits was signaled Wednesday night when the Senate refused, 65-33, to consider an \$88 billion deficit-

reducing package of tax increases and spending cuts proposed by Sens. Pete Domenici, R-N.M., and Lawton Chiles, D-Fla.

Another chance for deficitreduction action was closed off
Thursday evening when the
House voted 214-204 to reject
ground rules for consideration of
several proposed anti-deficit
plans. One plan, approved by the
House Ways and Means Committee, would have raised about \$8
billion in taxes over three years,
chiefly from high-income investors and the life insurance
industry.

"As we leave Washington, word of our impotence will precede us. . . . We have confessed to an already doubting nation that we are ruled by political fear, rather than economic courage," said Rep. Dan Rostenkowski, D-III., chairman of the Ways and Means Committee.

Who needs computers?

SALEM — Although high technology is often viewed as being the wave of the future, Oregon will need more sales representatives and janitors than people to make computer chips in the years ahead, according to a new state survey.

"People shouldn't be caught up in the hype about high tech," said Ed Bissell of the state Employment Division. "People shouldn't think that because they're not involved in electronics that they're out of the mainstream of the economy."

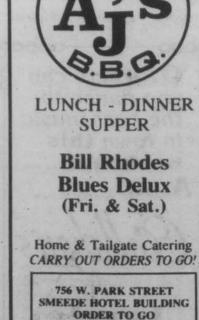
Bissell, head of the agency's occupational information unit, said the survey of future employment opportunities in Oregon shows that high tech will generate relatively few new jobs between now and 1990.

The survey, which is based on interviews with business officials around the state, indicates that sales will be the occupation with the largest number of net openings through the end of the decade.

"These are people who sell the big-ticket items such as refrigerators, furniture and cars. They're people who need a knowledge of what they sell," he said. "We anticipate approximately 3,500 openings per year through 1990."

The net number of openings will come through economic growth or replacement of people who leave the work force, Bissell said





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