

Zero-option surprises U.S.

The leader of the Soviet Union, Mikhail Gorbachev, has surprised the world.

First he accepted President Reagan's proposal to get rid of all intermediate-range Soviet missiles in Europe. Intermediate-range missiles can travel from 600 to 3,400 miles. In return, the United States must do away with all of their intermediate-range missiles in Europe, too.

Reagan made this proposal, nicknamed "zero-option," when he and Gorbachev met at Reykjavik, Iceland, last year. Gorbachev accepted "zero-option" this March. He also agreed to on-site inspections of both Soviet and American missile bases to prove each side has kept its promise.

U.S. officials were surprised and happy about Gorbachev's willingness to work on arms reduction. But they worried that an agreement on intermediate-range missiles might not be enough. The Soviet Union also has shorter-range missiles in Europe — those that can travel between 300 and 600 miles. They also present a threat.

When Secretary of State George Shultz met with Gorbachev in Moscow in April, he planned to make another suggestion to the Soviets: stop making shorter-range missiles and let the United States catch up.

Then Gorbachev dropped his biggest surprise of all. He suggested that the Soviets get rid of their shorter-range missiles in Europe completely.

The United States and its allies are very interested in Gorbachev's proposal, called "super zero-option" by some. Some coun-

tries that belong to NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organization) worry that the agreement would leave the Soviet Union with an advantage in Western Europe. NATO, an organization of countries — including the United States — that works to settle problems by peaceful means, is meeting now to discuss Gorbachev's proposal. In the meantime, U.S. officials say the chances for a Russian/U.S. summit in the fall look good.



Mikhail Gorbachev

Do you know these faces?

1. Greg LeMond, the '86 Tour de France winner, might not be back to defend his bicycle racing title in July. LeMond was accidentally shot in the back while rabbit hunting.
2. Greg Robinson saved the life of Diane Williams while both were skydiving in Arizona. Williams was knocked out after colliding with another skydiver. Robinson dove to her side and opened her chute.
3. Boston Marathon winner Toshihiko Seko of Japan (left) and Rosa Mota of Portugal wave to the crowd after receiving their medals. They each also won a Mercedes Benz car.
4. Cartoonist Berke Breathed and his cartoon "Bloom County," which stars the poochy penguin Opus, won the Pulitzer Prize for editorial cartooning.
5. Jenny Sellen and her third-grade classmates have a beef with McDonald's. They have written a letter to their Texas Attorney General to ask the hamburger chain to stop advertising the nutritional value of its food.



1.



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4.



5.

UPI PHOTOS

AT ISSUE

What do you like about your family?



Shannon Norris, 11

I like my family, especially my two sisters. I like talking to them, and we play games together. I like my mom. We don't have dad around, and she gives us a lot of attention. We go out for dinner a lot, and I like spending time with my family. If I could change anything about my family, it would be for my dad to come live with us. Overall, I think families are doing pretty good. The hardest part about being a parent is having to take care of the children. If you work, you have to come home and spend time with them.



Toni Vantzeliden, 8½

I like my mom and older sister, but I don't like my dad because he's kind of mean. He works nights and sleeps during the day. So when he doesn't work, it's fine. My mom is nice, and she doesn't spank me very much. My sister sticks up for me and loans me money when I need it. I want our family to be rich, and we could buy a two-story house and buy more clothes. I want to be a parent and have one boy and one girl, but I want a rich husband. Having a family is better than being in an orphanage.



Amy Douglas, 9

I like my family a lot. I like my mom's cooking and how we celebrate holidays. For Easter, either we visit friends or friends come to our house. We all eat together, talk a lot, and then the kids go out and play. I don't like that my mom has to work because my dad has a disease. I like having sisters because if you're bored, you have someone to play with. My dad makes a lot of toys for us, and I'm lucky to have a dad like that. I want a family when I'm a lot older. I'd have three kids because that's what I'm used to.



Tyler Hagist, 7

I like my family because they are nice. My mom takes me to stores to buy something and stuff like that. Sometimes my parents ground me when I get in trouble. I'm the only one in my family that gets grounded. I like having a small family. I have two sisters. I want to have a small family when I grow up. All of my friends have good families, too. I want to tell families to be good to each other and to tell them how great my family is. It's fun having my family together. Sometimes we go out to dinner or to visit grandma in Shelton.



Francis Estrada, 13

I like the way my family helps each other, and we defend each other. We have a large family, and sometimes that can be a problem. There are eight of us, but we have people living with us, and it gets crazy. My parents are okay, but sometimes they are sort of hypocritical. I want to change my parents' jobs so they can spend more time with us. We need families because we wouldn't have much to fall back on if we needed them. Some families aren't very organized, and they don't care about each other's well being.