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THE CONTRIBUTION OF GORBACHEV TO THE DEATH OF SOVIET COMMUNISM

(The contributions which Marx and Lenin made to the destruction of the Soviet Union have been discussed in previous newsletters, and the contribution of Ronald Reagan will be described in a future edition.)

"The operation was successful, but the patient died." This somewhat cynical statement was sometimes heard during my student years. The speaker was usually describing the results of a radical surgical procedure by some courageous, or foolhardy, surgeon. It can also be used to describe the operation on the Soviet Union which was performed by Mikhail Gorbachev.

Using a medical analogy, Gorbachev can be likened to a surgeon who is called upon to diagnose and treat a patient who is seriously ill. His patient was the Soviet Union.

Gorbachev confronted three major symptoms of Soviet malaise. These were: 1) Stagnation of the Soviet economy; 2) Corruption of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union (CPSU); and 3) Potential, worldwide, nuclear conflict.

Economic Stagnation

The Communists and their dupes had always expressed confidence that the Soviet Union would surpass the United States economically in the near future. The boast of Nikita Khrushchev, when he was leader of the Soviet Union, is well-known. He said, "We will bury you." Many interpreted this threat militarily, but Khrushchev claimed that he meant it economically.

When Gorbachev came to power, the evidence was overwhelming that the Soviet Union was falling further and further behind the United States economically. He describes the prevailing economic situation in his book, "Perestroika":

"Analyzing the situation, we first discovered a slowing economic growth. In the last fifteen years the national income growth rates had declined by more than half and by the beginning of the eighties had fallen to a level close to economic stagnation." (Page 19)

This economic stagnation was accompanied by moral degeneration:

"A gradual erosion of the ideological and moral values of our people began...

"Decay began in public morals; the great feeling of solidarity with each other that was forged during the heroic times of the revolution, the first five-year plans, the Great Patriotic War and postwar rehabilitation was weakening; alcoholism, drug addiction and crime were growing; and the penetration of the stereotypes of mass culture alien to us, which bred vulgarity and low tastes and brought about ideological barrenness increased." (Pages 21 and 22)

Gorbachev placed much of the blame for this deterioration of the economy and morality upon the prevailing economic system which destroyed individual incentives. In the existing system, the Communist Party controlled everything. It had set up institutions which decided what products should be produced and in what quantity; what workers should produce them and what those workers should be paid. Very little room was left for individual initiative. This had led to the situation described as follows: "We pretend to work, and they pretend to pay us."

Perestroika

The therapy which Gorbachev introduced to deal with this situation was called "Perestroika". The possibility of rewards for achievement were introduced, and the powers of the higher authorities were relaxed. Greater responsibility was given to local managers to set prices and wages. Competition was encouraged. The chains which bound the Soviet people were loosened, but not removed.

Corruption in the Communist Party

In the imagination of Lenin, the Communist Party was to be a vanguard which consisted of an intelligent, disciplined, self-sacrificing elite which would devote all its talents and energy to the well-being of others. In reality the Communist Party invariably became a tyrannized and tyrannical group of greedy seekers for personal privileges. Every Communist leader, from Lenin to Gorbachev, had to grapple with the reality of Communist greed and engage in periodical purgings of the Party.

Gorbachev found that corruption and greed permeated the Communist Party from top to bottom. He describes the situation thus:

"Political flirtation and mass distribution of awards, titles and bonuses often replaced genuine concern for the people, for their living and working conditions, for a favorable social atmosphere. An atmosphere emerged of 'everything goes,' and fewer and fewer demands were made on discipline and responsibility. Attempts were made to cover it all up with pompous campaigns and undertakings and celebrations of numerous anniversaries centrally and locally. The world of day-to-day realities and the world of feigned prosperity were diverging more and more.

"Many Party organizations in the regions were unable to uphold principles or to attack with determination bad tendencies, slack attitudes, the practice of covering up for one another and lax discipline. More often than not, the principles of equality among Party members were violated. Many Party members in leading posts stood beyond control and criticism, which led to failures in work and to serious malpractices.

"At some administrative levels there emerged a disrespect for the law and

encouragement of eyewash and bribery, servility and glorification. Working people were justly indignant at the behavior of people who, enjoying trust and responsibility, abused power, suppressed criticism, made fortunes and, in some cases, even became accomplices in--if not organizers of--Criminal acts." (Pages 22-23)

Glasnost

The therapy which Gorbachev provided for the Party was "Glasnost", meaning openness. He abolished the monopoly over information which the Party had held since its inception, and permitted freedom of speech and the press. The weaknesses and misdeeds of the members of the Party became known. The Soviet people were informed of the hideous crimes which the Party had committed during the 60 years of its rule.

The prestige of the Party plummeted as its character and crimes became public knowledge, and the path was prepared for its final demise.

National Holocaust

As the possessor of the awesome responsibility of deciding if and when the massive nuclear Soviet arsenal should be used, Gorbachev was well aware of the consequences of a nuclear war. In his book, *Perestroika*, he writes:

"It is crystal clear that in the world we live in, the world of nuclear weapons, any attempt to use them to solve Soviet-American problems would spell suicide. This is a fact. I do not think that U.S. politicians are unaware of it. Moreover, a truly paradoxical situation has now developed. Even if one country engages in a steady arms build up while the other does nothing, the side that arms itself will all the same gain nothing. The weak side may simply explode all its nuclear charges, even on its own territory, and that would mean suicide for it and a slow death for the enemy. This is why any striving for military superiority means chasing one's own tail. It can't be used in real politics." (Page 219)

The certainty of mutual assured destruction (MAD), if nuclear war broke out between the Soviet Union and the United States, gave him a powerful motivation to improve relations between the two superpowers. He writes:

"The bulk of nuclear weapons is concentrated in the Soviet Union and the United States. Meanwhile, ten percent or even one percent of their potential is enough to inflict irreparable damage on our planet and all human civilization." (Page 224)

This realization undermined his Marxist conviction that history had created a state of truceless class war between the Soviet Union and the United States, in which it was inevitable that the Soviet Union would be victorious:

"So I think we and the Americans, with our historic achievements, will have the wisdom, ability, responsibility and respect for each other that is necessary to get to grips with reality and avert catastrophe." (Page 225)

(To be continued)

For literature, videos, and tapes containing accurate, documented information on Communism and demoralization, write to: CHRISTIAN ANTI-COMMUNISM CRUSADE, P.O. Box 890, Long Beach, CA 90801.

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THE LONG-RANGE PLANS OF COMMUNIST CHINA

The General Secretary of the Chinese Communist Party, Jiang Zemin, outlined some of the long-range objectives of the Chinese Communists in a speech he delivered to celebrate the 72nd anniversary of the founding of the Chinese Communists. A summary of his speech is published in the July 12-18 edition of BEIJING REVIEW.

The Chinese Communists have three long-range objectives. They are:

1. To become the world's leading economic power;
2. To become the world's leading military power;
3. To strengthen the Chinese Communist Party and maintain its dictatorial power over the economic and military might of China.

The Economy

Jiang Zemin states:

"The Party has finally found the correct road of building Chinese socialism to enhance the economy...

"It has done this by carrying out reforms and opening to the outside world. China's growth, expansion and independence and advance towards prosperity under its leadership are closely linked to the issue of enhancing the economy."

The Chinese Communists are seeking to follow the example of Japan, and to ultimately surpass Japan's economic might. The natural resources and population of China are much greater than those of Japan. By developing "Socialism with Chinese Characteristics" China has made remarkable economic progress during the past few years. This has been achieved by allowing private enterprise to operate in the economy, while maintaining dictatorial political power.

The Party

Jiang Zemin stresses that the power of the Party must be maintained and enhanced. The report states:

"The more rapid the development of reform, opening, and the national economy, the more important it is to strengthen Party leadership and build up the Party." Jiang said." (Page 4)

He does not hesitate to criticize the party, particularly making special reference to the growth of corruption within it. He says:

"Some Party organizations are slack in discipline, and a tendency among some Party members to worship money and pleasure and pursue personal gain is growing. All these problems must be handled. Jiang said.

"How to solve them is a new test for Party committees and officials at all levels.

"He asked leading Party members at all levels to raise their awareness of the importance of systematically studying Marxism, Leninism and Mao Zedong thought, and especially Deng Xiaoping's theory on building socialism with Chinese characteristics.

"The Party should be consolidated and unified, Jiang said. If a Party is lax in organization and its members go their own way, this party cannot have fighting strength in fulfilling its historical task. This is especially true when it is a turning point of historic development.

"The most important thing for guarantying the unanimity of the Party in organization and action is to strictly implement democratic centralism, he said...

"The Party will firmly carry out the policy of promoting the reform and opening drive with one hand and cracking down on severe crimes with the other, according to Jiang."

Military Might

The Chinese Communists are endeavoring to increase their military might by purchasing advanced weapons from Russia. They have become Russia's most important customer for these arms. They are buying aircraft, missiles, and other items in addition to developing their own military production. They already have a large accumulation of nuclear weapons..

How can a rational person believe that "Communism is dead"?

MEDICAL MALPRACTICE

The educational program to combat AIDS is unsuccessful. Evidence which proves this conclusively is provided in an article in the LOS ANGELES TIMES MAGAZINE, July 25, 1993. The caption of the article is "Dangerous Delusions", and the sub-caption, "Young Gay Men Know All About AIDS and HIV, yet they persist in having unprotected sex."

The author of the article, Robert A. Jones, interviewed a number of young "gay" men in the San Francisco Bay area. He reports:

"For reasons that no one really understands, a generation of young gay men--not even men, really, but kids about to become men--seem to have turned away from the fundamentals of safe sex..."

"Among the men aged 23 to 25 in the survey, nearly 30% said they recently had unprotected anal intercourse. Among the men 17 to 19 years of age, the rate rose to roughly 43%. As for unprotected oral sex, about 82% of the older group said they had taken part, and the figure went up to a little more than 90% for the younger crowd..."

"In the 23-to-25 crowd, 10.4% turned up HIV positive. Among the 17-to-19-year-olds, the HIV rate jumped to 14.3%."

AIDS cannot be cured, but it can be prevented. The proven way to prevent the spread of an infectious disease is: 1) Find out where the infectious agent is (this requires universal testing), and 2) Pass and enforce laws that will prevent the transfer of the agent from the infected to the uninfected.

Consider including the Christian Anti-Communism Crusade in your will.

THE SIMPLE SIMON SOLUTION

A cartoonist amuses many Australians by depicting the imaginary activities of a "Simple Simon" who engages in ridiculous activities based upon "simpleton" logic. I remember one cartoon which showed his activity after a visit to a doctor, who had provided a bottle of medicine, of which a teaspoonful should be taken three times a day. Simon reasoned: "If one teaspoonful of medicine provides a certain benefit, two teaspoonsful must provide twice that benefit." Extending that logic, he decided to drink the entire contents of the bottle immediately.

Many problems have a "Simple Simon" solution. When a spectrum of elements influence a problem, one element is selected and treated, while the others are ignored. The results are disastrous.

I was reminded of the "Simple Simon" solution when I read the record of the statements and activities of Dr. Joycelin Elders, President Clinton's nominee for the position of Surgeon General. When she was Director of the Department of Health of the State of Arkansas, she confronted one very real problem. That problem was the increasing rate of pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases in teenage girls. To prevent this, she advised the girls to put a condom in their purses when going on a date. The results were described by the newspaper columnist, Cal Thomas, in the July 28 edition of CONSERVATIVE CHRONICLE:

"Under her 'leadership', Arkansas went from having the fourth highest teen birthrate in the country to the second highest, according to the publication, 'Vital Statistics of the United States'. That teen pregnancy rate, despite Dr. Elders's goal, reached a 10-year high. Under her 'leadership', the incidence of sexually transmitted diseases rose dramatically. Between 1989 and 1992, there was a 130 percent increase in syphilis cases among Arkansas teenagers and a 150 percent jump in teens affected with HIV."

One Senator challenged Dr. Elders with such facts during senatorial hearings prior to her possible confirmation. She did not deny the truth of the facts, but claims that her policy had not had sufficient time to produce the desired results. She advocates commencing sex education with 3-year-olds in the kindergarten, and she said it would take about 13 years before a judgment of the efficacy of the program could be made.

Dr. Elders can be assured of the wholehearted support of the U.S. Communists. Since she is black, they are accusing anyone, who expresses concern about her ideas and record, of racism. The communist newspaper, PEOPLE'S WEEKLY WORLD, of August 7 carries an article headed, "Racist Maneuvers Delay Joycelyn Elders Vote".

Sexual conduct is influenced by many factors which are intellectual, moral, and spiritual, as well as those which are material. Problems of teenage pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases cannot be solved in a Simple Simon way.

A FAMOUS VICTORY

What a victory for women! They may now engage in armed combat in the front lines of battle.

The author of the following poem is unknown. It was published in a magazine in Australia, when I was a youth, and it was said to have been found in the meager possessions of a soldier who had been killed in the First World War. It describes life in the trenches as it actually is.

What did you do, daddy, in the great World War?

I learned to peel potatoes, and to scrub the barracks floor;
I learned to use a shovel, a barrow, and a pick;
I learned to "get a jerk on", and I learned to "make'em click".

I learned to wash in shell holes, and to shave myself in tea,
While the fragments of a mirror did a balance on my knee.
I learned to gather souvenirs, that home I hoped to send,
To hump them round for months and months, and dump them in the end.

I learned to write home cheerful, with my heart a lump of lead,
At the thought of you and Tommy, when you heard that I was dead.
So much for what I did do, now for what I have not done;
I never kissed a French girl, and I never killed a Hun.

I never played the hero, and walked about the top;
I kept inside my funk hole, when the shells began to pop.
Well, Tommy Jones' father must be made of different stuff;
I never asked for trouble, the issue was enough.

And I read the English papers where the warriors of the pen
Tell of "Christmas in the trenches" and "the spirit of our men."
And I save the choicest morsels, and I read them to my chum,
Who muttered as he cracked a louse, and wiped it on his thumb.

"May a thousand chats from Belgium crawl through their fingers as they write;
May they dream they're not exempt, 'til they die of mortal fright;
May the fattest rats of Dickbusche race over them in bed;
May the lies they've written choke them, like a gas cloud, 'till they're dead.
May the horrors and the torments of the things they never tell,
For they only write the order, be reserved for them, in hell.

You'd like to be a soldier, and go to France some day;
By all the days in Delville Wood, by all the nights I lay
Between our line and Fritzie's, before they took me in;
By this old wood and leather stump that once was flesh and skin;
By all the lads who crossed with me, and never crossed again;
By all the prayers their mothers and their sweethearts prayed in vain;
Before the things that were that day, should ever more befall,
May God, in common mercy, destroy us one and all.

If the National Organization for Women (NOW) wishes to use this poem for recruiting purposes, they are free to do so.

A copy of this poem is available on request.

THE TRIUMPH OF FRED SCHLAFLY

One of the great warriors in the army that fights for righteousness, truth, and freedom, has left us. Fred Schlafly, the husband of America's real First Lady, Phyllis Schlafly, has responded to his final roll call. On July 14, 1993, he went to receive God's great award, "Well done, good and faithful servant."

One of the great rewards that I have received while fighting against the forces promoting tyranny, disease, and death, is to have had Fred Schlafly as a colleague and friend. On many occasions we were partners in intellectual battles against the defenders of tyranny.

In such conflicts, one of our basic objectives has always been to take the offensive, while the enemy always seeks to place us on the defensive. I remember one occasion when Fred skillfully transformed defense into offence.

We were debating permissible tactics against the Communists, with two professors from a well-known American university. One of them asked the trick question: "Won't you admit that the civil liberties of some people have been infringed by the activities of the House Committee on Unamerican Activities?" In a flash, Fred replied: "I certainly would. The civil liberties of the Congressmen on the Committee have been infringed over and over again. They have been abused and slandered constantly in the news media and on the college campuses."

These words of Shakespeare describe Fred well:

"His life was gentle and the elements
So mixed in him that Nature might stand up
And say to all the world, "This was a man!"

Fred has left a great heritage. On October 20, 1949, he married his beautiful sweetheart, Phyllis Stewart, of St. Louis, and together they produced six outstanding children. The adjective that understates the intellectual stature of the family is "brilliant".

Words are inadequate to describe the achievements of his wife, Phyllis. Almost singlehandedly, she defeated the apparently invincible forces promoting female degradation through the passage of the Equal Rights Amendment. One leader of the opposing feminist forces paid her a supreme compliment when she said that she could think of no finer role model for her daughter than Phyllis Schlafly.

Fred has been called to higher service, and has left the battle against evil, to which he dedicated his life, in our hands. By God's grace, we will not fail.

TRUTH DEFEATS DECEPTION