

CHERNOBYL

the Kremlin to rein in its troops to avoid a possible clash with the local population. The note also called for establishment of a commission giving Estonia a direct link with the military in order to avoid "confrontational situations...., examples of which could be observed in Tbilisi and Baku." Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Valentin Nikiforov told Kuldsepp that the Soviet Foreign Ministry is willing to mediate in situations of conflict, but said that Estonia's status has not yet reached a level that would allow communication via diplomatic notes. (Riina Kionka)

**CANADIAN SOLUTIONS FOR ESTONIA?** Estonian Supreme Council deputy Jaak Allik, who recently visited Quebec, told *Sakala* on June 21 that Estonia's troubles with northeast non-Estonian secessionists and Canada's Quebec question have a lot in common. "Canadian citizens consider themselves Canadian and Quebecois, that is, national feeling and nationality are based not on language, but on territory. That's like our talking about the Narva nationality" [an area in northeastern Estonia]. "Maybe this is a possible path of development for us? Maybe we shouldn't relate to the people in Narva as Russians, but rather as Narva people. This sort of self-determination would ease and clarify solving many of their problems considerably." Ironically, Allik's remarks came just before Canada's rejection of the Meech Lake Accord. (Riina Kionka)

**CHERNOBYL VICTIMS FROM LATVIA.** According to Radio Riga of July 16, 67 persons from Latvia are now listed as victims of the Chernobyl disaster: 38 have died and 29 are classified as invalids. All the victims had participated in the cleanup efforts after the explosion at the atomic energy plant. Nearly 1000 other Latvians were also involved in that effort. (Dzintra Bungis)

**LATVIAN PARLIAMENT PROTESTS EXPULSION OF EMBREKTS.** Radio Riga reported that the Supreme Council of Latvia on July 16 protested the KGB-engineered expulsion of Ivars Embrekts from Latvia on June 18. The KGB accused Embrekts of having engaged in unspecified illegal activities while visiting Latvia. Embrekts, an American-born graduate student of Latvian heritage, had been working as an unpaid aide for Latvian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The Supreme Council also called for the drafting of new laws to limit the activities of the KGB in Latvia. (Dzintra Bungis)

**LITHUANIAN PREPARATORY COMMISSION MEETS.** On July 16 the Lithuanian parliament commission responsible for the political, legal, and diplomatic preparations for Lithuanian-Soviet negotiations held its first meeting, TASS reported. The ten-member commission, approved by the parliament on July 11, discussed the principles and methods of its activity. It is headed by Lithuanian Supreme Council Deputy Chairman Bronislavas Kuzmickas and includes only one member, Minister of Justice Pranas Kuris, who is not a member of the parliament. (Saulius Girnius)

**LITHUANIAN SUPREME COUNCIL SESSION.** Today's session of the Lithuanian Supreme Council began with a presentation of guidelines for an economic reform program. The session is scheduled to approve a law on the establishment of a national defense service and approve the members of a commission that will engage in negotiations with the RSFSR. The negotiations were proposed last week by Russian officials participating in the commemorations of the 70th anniversary of the Soviet Russia-Lithuanian peace treaty. It is expected that Deputy Chairman of the Lithuanian Supreme Council Ceslovas Stankevicius will head of the commission. (Saulius Girnius)

**USSR**

**DETAILS ON THE NEW PARTY LEADING BODIES.** Politburo member Yuri Prokofev said that the Presidential Council rather than the Politburo will run the country. The Politburo and Secretariat will concentrate on purely Party matters. The Politburo will meet once a month; the Secretariat, once a week. Prokofev also listed the following distribution of portfolios among Central Committee Secretaries: Dzasokhov—ideology, Yanaev and Falin—foreign policy, Shenin—Party organizational

work, Semenova—women issues, Girenko—nationality issues, Stroevev—agriculture, Baklanov—defense industry, and Manaenkov—supervision of the Russian CP. Prokofev indicated that Gidaspov will remain Leningrad Party leader. He did not mention Party Secretary Kuptsov, who is responsible for cooperation with other parties and organizations. Prokofev spoke at a press conference, which was broadcast by Soviet TV yesterday.

According to another Politburo member, Ivan Frolov, the hard core of Party leadership will consist of seven "senior" Secretaries—those Central Committee Secretaries who simultaneously have a seat in the Politburo. They are: Gorbachev, his deputy Ivashko and those Secretaries, who have been put in charge of the Party's future key areas, such as ideology, cadres, foreign policy, agriculture and women issues—Dzasokhov, Shenin, Yanaev, Stroev, and Semenova, respectively. With the promotion of Shenin, the Party cadres portfolio has been elevated to a senior secretary's level. For the past three decades it had remained always with a junior secretary. At the same time, supervision of the defense industry—a key task in the past—was downgraded to the junior secretary's level. No Secretaries in charge of overall economic questions and supervision of the Army and KGB have been appointed—a clear indication that the Party apparatus has been stripped off these control functions. (Alexander Rahr)

**UKRAINIAN SOVEREIGNTY DECLARATION.** Radical Ukrainian parliamentarians, hailing yesterday's declaration of state sovereignty, remain quick to point out it does not go as far as some would have liked. Deputy Larissa Skoryk told RFE-RL that she wanted to see the elimination of the words "Soviet Socialist" from the republic's name, for instance. Many radicals fought hard for the institution of a single Ukrainian citizenship, but the final proclamation allows for dual citizenship. These drawbacks aside, in several key aspects Ukraine's declaration of sovereignty goes farther than those that have preceded it in other republics—particularly in the assertion of Ukraine's right to maintain its own army and internal security forces and its stated intention of becoming a neutral state. In addition, Ukrainian laws will now take precedence over all-Union laws, and the republic will be the sole master over its natural resources. A separate banking system and Ukrainian currency are also envisioned. In short, Ukraine has come within a step of declaring its independence from the Soviet Union. (RL Ukrainian service/Kathy Mihalisko)

**BUT WILL UKRAINE REMAIN INTACT?** Crimea Oblast recently became the latest Russian-speaking region of Ukraine to refuse to switch to GMT +2, the new "Kiev time." Other oblasts, such as Donetsk and Dnepropetrovsk, never went off Moscow time. A Congress of Peoples of Crimea will shortly discuss whether the oblast should secede from the

Ukrainian SSR. In her interview with RFE-RL, Larissa Skoryk emphasized that "Crimean separatism" is being pushed by local officials and has nothing to do with the Crimean Tatar movement. (Kathy Mihalisko)

**THOUSANDS LEAVING MOSCOW PARTY.** Some 23,000 people have quit the Moscow CPSU organization this year, city Party boss Yuri Prokofev told TASS yesterday, with 8,000 leaving the Party in June alone. Only 12,000 left last year, he said; about half of the new departees are workers. He blamed the increase on the Party's losing sight of the working class, "which has benefitted from perestroika least of all." Prokofev also announced that the Moscow Party plans to adopt a new reform program in September. In a related story, Prokofev said told "Vremya" last night that some 100 primary party organizations in Moscow have refused to join the conservative RSFSR Communist Party. (Alex Meerovich)

**JURIST SAYS PARTY MUST OBEY THE CONSTITUTION.** The CPSU must become a parliamentary party that observes constitutional norms, a leading Soviet jurist told *Novosti* on July 13. Yuri Kalmykov, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet's Committee on Legislation, Legality, and Law and Order, said that only by competing on an equal basis with other organizations in elections and in government can the CPSU realize the program of its 28th Party Congress. Kalmykov also said that the Congress program must be "reinforced" with laws on public associations and possibly on political parties as well. (Alex Meerovich)

**DEMOCRATIC PLATFORM WARNS MINERS MAY STRIKE AGAIN.** At a meeting over the weekend, the Democratic Platform (DP) warned that coal miners may stage a new strike this fall, according to Interfax. If the Communist Party does not move quickly, DP leaders said, miners will begin a longer strike in September. The DP, which claims to have up to 2 million supporters, also used the meeting to outline its plans for economic and political reform. It said that the DP and other pro-democracy movements should be parliamentary parties. And it said the DP backs the drive to implement a market economy "based on all forms of ownership, including private." (Margot Jacobs)

**CHINA TO ACQUIRE SOVIET MILITARY TECHNOLOGY?** For the first time in three decades, China has opened negotiations with the Soviet