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## Soviet 'active measures'

With a former KGB chief in the saddle in the Kremlin, Soviet-U.S. relations are entering a new era, in which *aktivnyye meropriyatiya* — active measures — will undoubtedly play a more and more decisive role. In lay language, "active measures" include backstairs Soviet operations designed, among other things, to destroy our democratic society through the use of our own institutions, and with the aid of some of our own people.

Naturally, the Soviets will increase their espionage activities; but, for the time being, there is no cause for alarm. The number of their agents in the United States — some 1,000, with 400 of them undercover at the United Nations in New York (but not including a still-undetermined number of deepcover Cuban surrogates) — is more than enough for them to keep conducting electronic eavesdropping and gathering traditional intelligence information. The real cause for alarm, however, lies in the fact that Yuri Andropov is the first Soviet supreme leader to ever know what's what about the U.S. built-in inability to cope with them.

Since Ronald Reagan's electoral landslide in November 1980, a large complement of KGB operatives has been sent into Havana and Mexico City. In the former, the Cuban General Directorate of Intelligence (DGI) is under direct KGB control. The Soviet embassy in the latter is widely known as a KGB staging area against American targets.

It is not by accident that the new reinforcements were composed mostly of disinformation specialists. Under Andropov, the KGB had honed that art to perfection. In return, KGB con artists helped Andropov score two big psywar wins via El Salvador and the anti-nuke movement.

Last year, quite a few Americans were misled to think that we were propping up "bad guys" against "good guys" in El Salvador. This year, the KGB plot was so successful that even prominent elected officials have come to believe that it is totally relevant and safe for the United States — which already trails the U.S.S.R. in terms of strategic forces — to freeze its military buildup and to divert its defense money to a welfare state.

The Soviet double propaganda coup shows an easily identifiable pattern. Throughout the process, from Havana and Mexico City, KGB agents acted as suppliers and supervisors, while their comrades in the United States skillfully used patriotic and honest men and women to front for their "active measures." At a later stage, well-trained propagandists posing as journalists, academicians, scientists and leaders of non-government groups were welcomed in droves into the country, where, due to lax security and naive liberal politicians, they were free to disseminate KGB poison.

In recent days, the party-run Soviet media have enthusiastically discussed a possible revival of detente. That came as no surprise. Neither did the unusual haste with which networks and newspapers on this side of the Iron Curtain picked it up. A resurrected detente would enable more KGB-related subversives to enter the United States as invited guests.

We can do nothing against KGB agents stationed beyond our border. But we can prevent their colleagues from coming into our homes to hang us, our spouses and our children with our own cords.

Recently, at the urging of the Marxist Institute of Policy Studies, Donald Frazer, the left-wing mayor of Minneapolis, and nine other Americans went to Moscow to talk about nuclear disarmament. In light of their past enthusiastic support for those who killed 3 million Indo-Chinese, their embrace of Moscow is understandable. However, it is not normal for us to let them invite 35 Soviet officials to come to the United States next May. We should no longer open our front gate to KGB agents.

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