

New Soviet leaders coming from same mold

By JONATHAN RICH
Staff Writer

The resignation of ailing Soviet Premier Alexei N. Kosygin last week has underlined the precarious nature of the country's aging leadership. Although the Soviet Union faces a dramatic leadership turnover in the near future, the new generation will be of the same conventional Communist Party mold, two UNC Soviet experts recently said.

"There is no question that new (Soviet) leadership will be coming soon," said political science Professor Joel Schwartz. "They have the highest median age of any country. There will be a dramatic and wholesale turnover at the top."

Although the new leaders could potentially emerge as imaginative and unconventional policy-makers, this development is unlikely, Schwartz said.

"It is problematic to characterize this new generation," Schwartz said. "They will represent a whole new cohort, men in their 50s. They politically matured in the post-Stalin era, and this has significant

implications. It is possible to envision dramatic changes in both domestic and foreign policy, as well as in leadership style," he said.

But this scenario would not be likely because of the existing selection process, Schwartz said. "You cannot reach the top without co-optation from the top," he said. "In what is termed the cloning phenomena, most people believe the Soviets' future leadership will be just like the present. It is not like the United States, where outsiders like Carter or Reagan can come in."

UNC political science Professor Robert Rupen said he was also pessimistic about the possibility of innovative leadership coming to power.

"Kosygin's immediate replacement by (Nikolai) Tikhonov is not terribly significant, but it is important as an indication," Rupen said. "It demonstrates an unwillingness to turn over to a new group. Tikhonov is a replacement from the old line, and there is no seeking out for change, for new ideas."

"There is an overall impression of age," Rupen said. "These people are unwilling to give anything up. But

the longer they wait, the more upsetting the transition will be when it comes."

Rupen also criticized the lack of technical and professional people in high government posts. "All that is wanted are a lot of yes-men, party bureaucrats," he said. "It is very hard to see any new blood. The people moving up are the non-imaginative conformists."

Rupen said he was disturbed by the increasing power of the military bureaucracy. "The whole combination of conservatism and holding back on change has resulted in an even greater emphasis on the Soviet military," he said. "The military is already spending too much, and it will increase."

Despite the need for widespread reform in the government and of national policies, the leadership's reluctance to relinquish any power has blocked such changes, Rupen said. "Although many leaders are cynical over old ideology, they are very conservative." The combination of a worsening economy and the lack of positive change has resulted in a very negative and disillusioned atmosphere, Rupen said.

debate

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"This country doesn't have to be in the shape that it is in," he said. "We do not have to go on sharing in scarcity with the country getting worse off."

Carter tried to stress his record since taking office in 1976. "I've been impressed with the stark difference between us," he said. "I consider myself in the mainstream of my party," adding that he was a wiser, more experienced man now than four years ago, and that he had acted with care and moderation when confronted with potential crises.

Meanwhile, independent presidential candidate John Anderson participated in the debate electronically over the Cable Network News from Constitution Hall in Washington.

Anderson, left out of the Carter-

Reagan debate in Cleveland, was taking part in his own debate set up by CNN. He watched his two rivals on a television monitor, then responded on the cable network.

However, technical problems plagued the independent, as the broadcast went blank for about four minutes in the transmission to the network's 3.5 million subscribers.

In addition, reporters were left at a disadvantage when the three dozen telephones hooked up for the Anderson version of the debate never worked, and a five-minute Anderson campaign commercial to be aired on NBC before the debate was never shown. Instead, the network telecast a sign complaining of technical difficulties.

To save or not to save? Lighthouse wall planned

HATTERAS (AP)—Torn between the desire to preserve history and to let nature take its course, the National Park Service will begin Friday to build an underground metal wall to temporarily protect the Cape Hatteras lighthouse from the eroding Atlantic Ocean.

The park service awarded a contract Monday to build a \$60,000 sheet piling project as a stopgap measure to protect the century-old lighthouse from the waves. Last weekend exceptionally big waves tore away all but 70 feet of beach between the 190-foot structure and the ocean.

William A. Harris, superintendent of the Cape Hatteras National Seashore, said the project should be completed around mid-November.

Officials agreed on the stopgap measure to give themselves time to decide what permanent measures—if any—they will take to protect the lighthouse, tallest in the nation.

Some researchers have warned the ocean will reach the lighthouse within two years if nothing is done.

The park service has a policy of letting nature take its course on the shoreline. Park officials will consider that policy, along with proposals to move the lighthouse or to build more permanent barriers.

Jim Howard, a spokesman for the park service's regional office in Atlanta, said the service would weigh the costs and benefits of tampering with nature against saving a piece of history.

News In Brief

Saudi Arabia, Libya sever relations

RIYADH, Saudi Arabia (AP)—Saudi Arabia severed diplomatic relations with Libya Tuesday in a dispute between the oil-producing giants over the Saudis' acceptance of four special American radar planes to monitor the Iraq-Iran war.

Exxon Corp., which receives oil from both Arab countries, said in New York that neither nation had advised it of any changes in the oil company's operations as a result of the rift.

A statement broadcast by the Saudi state radio said the decision was taken after Libyan attacks "exceeded all limits, extending to the Moslem faith itself."

The statement carried by Raido Riyadh said: "This could no longer be tolerated. We cannot remain silent."

Lawyer blasts media in Klan trial

GREENSBORO (AP)—Defense lawyer Robert Cahoon said Tuesday that the news media engaged in a conspiracy of silence prior to the fatal clash last Nov. 3 between Ku Klux Klan-Nazi members and the Communist Workers Party.

Cahoon's remarks came during his sixth hour of closing arguments at the first-degree murder trial of six Klansmen-Nazis charged in the shooting deaths of five CWP members.

The two extremist groups battled with sticks and guns at a "Death to the Klan" rally sponsored by the CWP last fall.

The defense lawyer said reporters knew the CWP members were armed and planned to "annihilate the Klan."

"They (the media) never went to the police saying they had been notified there would be violence," continued Cahoon. "It did not bother them so long as the objects of the violence were the Ku Klux Klan. That's the God's truth."


Man held for questioning in Jordan case

TAMPA, FLA. (AP)—A man wanted for questioning in the shooting of Urban League President Vernon Jordan Jr. and the killings of two black men in Salt Lake City was arrested in a blood bank in Lakeland, Fla., the FBI said Tuesday night.

In a statement released in Washington, the FBI said Joseph Paul Franklin, 30, was arrested on the basis of a warrant involving the Salt Lake City slayings.


FBI spokesman Otis Cox, in disclosing the arrest, said Franklin was also wanted for questioning in the wounding May 29 of Jordan in Fort Wayne, Ind.

Cox confirmed that Franklin was also known as James Clayton Vaughn of Mobile, Ala.



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