

Brezhnev Assails West on Security Talks

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Special to The New York Times

MOSCOW, March 10—Leonid I. Brezhnev, the Soviet leader, today accused the West of hindering progress at the European Security Conference in Geneva by introducing unimportant issues and personally appealed to other leaders to join him in winding up the talks at "the highest responsible level."

At the same time, Mr. Brezhnev dismissed the Solzhenitsyn affair as "not a problem" for the Soviet Union. He said that no single writer like Aleksandr I. Solzhenitsyn could slow up accommodation between East and West.

The Communist party leader also asserted that the Soviet Union had no intention of establishing with the United States a world dominance of superpowers, as China, France and other nations have charged.

Mr. Brezhnev made his comments in an hour-long interview with a group of French correspondents, most of them visitors, at Moscow's Vnukovo diplomatic airport, before he flew to the Black Sea resort of Pitsunda for two days of talks with President Pompidou of France.

The Soviet leader accused the French press of "biased" reporting that sometimes verged on "an anti-Soviet campaign" and undermined trust between France and the Soviet Union.

He said he was not specifically referring to French coverage of the Solzhenitsyn affair.

Though Mr. Brezhnev did not cite any examples of what he termed "biased coverage," he appeared to be reflecting Soviet sensitivity over French charges of Soviet-American dominance, complaints that Moscow had not consulted Paris during last fall's Middle East fighting and despite his denials, the extensive coverage of the Solzhenitsyn affair.

'Often Inessential'

Reiterating Moscow's insistence that the Geneva phase of the European security talks be concluded swiftly, Mr. Brezhnev contended that "there has appeared much at the Geneva conference that is often inessential, that hinders the solution of the central questions of the conference."

The Soviet press has complained that the conference is being prolonged unnecessarily, particularly on the issue of hu-



United Press International

Leonid I. Brezhnev in Moscow yesterday.

man rights, which the Soviet Union generally views as an issue that interferes in its internal affairs.

The 35-nation security conference, which opened in Geneva last July 3, is seeking to ease tensions and reduce military forces in Central Europe.

Dismisses Issue of Writer

Mr. Brezhnev brushed aside a reporter's question about Mr. Solzhenitsyn by saying that he had other things to think about and did not believe "in any case that Solzhenitsyn alone can represent the policy of an entire country."

The author was expelled from the Soviet Union Feb. 13 in the aftermath of publication in the West of his latest book,

Truck Bomb Kills Boy, 15, And Injures Two in Ulster

BELFAST, Northern Ireland, March 10 (Reuters) — A 15-year-old boy was killed and two of his friends were injured tonight when a bomb exploded in a truck parked outside a church in Northern Ireland.

The boy's two friends, who are brothers, were described as in "very serious" condition after the truck exploded in the village of Drumintee, a few miles from Ulster's border with the Irish republic.

Villagers said that the panel truck which had been parked outside the church for several days, exploded when one of the boys opened its door.

Some villagers said that the bomb had obviously been meant for the British Army.

"The Gulag Archipelago, 1918-1956," an account of the Soviet prison-camp system.

President Nixon, in a news conference Feb. 25, said that he had sought to avoid a confrontation with Moscow over the author's expulsion because he did not want to set back the improvement in Soviet-American relations.

Today Mr. Brezhnev, although he did not appear to break any new ground and sketched only the most general outline of the agenda for his meeting with Mr. Pompidou, did underscore the Kremlin's position on a number of other matters.

Discusses China

He took issue with the characterization of the Soviet Union as a "superpower," contending that "this word was born in China."

Mr. Brezhnev told newsmen that the Soviet Union "more than once" had tried to improve relations with China. "It is up to China to make the next move," he commented.

Mr. Brezhnev reiterated Moscow's interest in a Middle East settlement and its defense of "the just demands of the Arab countries." He indicated that the nations of Western Europe could make a "positive contribution" to such a settlement, but he left unclear whether he was asking them to take an active role at the Arab-Israeli talks in Geneva.

The Soviet leader said, however, that Moscow remained "firmly opposed" to any economic moves by the nine Common Market nations that would discriminate against nonmember nations.