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Proprietor - The Toronto Sun Publishing Corporation  
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# Deeds, not words

Mikhail Gorbachev plays lefties in the world media the way a fly fisherman plays trout — with skill and evident joy.

Gullible journalists treat him like a philosopher king — not the totalitarian kingpin he really is.

To no one's surprise, he's making hay out of the U.S. attack on Libya. The American action was "neo-fascist barbarity" to him, but Libyan terrorism merely a manifestation by frustrated victims of imperialism.

Still, this Soviet master of Orwellian doublethink hasn't ruled out a summit this year with Ronald Reagan "if the atmosphere's right." The "right atmosphere" being our acquiescence to every Soviet condition, of course.

Gorbachev, wooing Western Europe, claims that the U.S. ignored it when it attacked Libya.

He said that President Reagan's "piratical action not only failed to take notice of world public opinion" but that of most of its allies. It's obvious that he's trying to drive a giant wedge between the U.S. and its friends.

The absurdity of his posture is clear in many ways, one being his willingness to still talk summit. So, deep down, he's really not all that upset by America's strong stand.

After all, he knows behind the steel smile that the Soviets would not have been nearly as patient as the U.S. in the face of relentless terrorist murders. And the terrorists — those who aren't funded by the KGB — know it too, one reason that Russians aren't dying throughout the world from sneak attacks like the rest of us.

Gorbachev must produce more than just PR gestures to bring real movement on disarmament. As Douglas Roche, Canada's ambassador for disarmament told us yesterday, concrete steps Gorbachev could take would be to reduce Soviet troops in Europe and to show a willingness to resolve issues other than nuclear arms, such as chemical warfare.

Gorbachev postures because he knows a fair percentage of the world media love to paint him as a peacemaker — silly as that may seem.

In other words, the useful idiots are there to be used, and Gorbachev is just doing his job — using them to help spread the totalitarian gospel.