

Russian counter insurgency

By ALICE J. PITRE

Interested in Conflict? Well here's something for you.

This morning at nine o'clock, UNB's first annual Conflict Studies Conference will begin, with the theme *The Russian Experience of Counter-Insurgency: A Historical Perspective*. Until now, no conference on this subject has ever been held, and up to fifty people will be attending from all over Canada and the United States to hear papers presented by nine experts in the field.

For the uninitiated, counter-insurgency is the term used to describe the political and military measures that governments take to put down rebellions. Dr. David Charters, Director of the Centre for Conflict Studies here on campus, says that the Russian experience is unique, in that their counter-insurgency is mostly domestic, rather than imperial (eg. Britain). The papers to be presented by the six Canadian and three American sovietologists will cover campaigns from the 1830's to the current war in Afghanistan.

The titles of the papers include: "Counter-Insurgency in the Caucasus," "The Tabov Campaign," "The Campaign Against the Basmachi," "Counter-Insurgency in the Ukraine," "Pacification of the Ukraine," "Russia and Counter-Insurgency in Southern Africa" (this will feature slides of Angola), "Russian Lessons from Local Wars," "Russian Counter-Insurgency in Afghanistan," and

"Russian Operations in Afghanistan."

Students are welcome to attend the sessions from 9 am to 4 pm today and Saturday. The registration desk opens in Memorial Hall at 8:15 today, and 8:30 tomorrow, with a student registration fee of \$5 per day. Copies of the papers will be available at \$2 per copy, or \$15 for the set. The results of the weekend conference will later be published in a book.

The Centre for Conflict Studies opened in January 1980, as a university research institution, under the School of Graduate Studies and Research. Dr. Charters lists four basic functions of the Centre: research, publication, research assistance to students, and for public information: for instance as a background resource for the media. The four people on staff specialize in low-intensity conflict such as terrorism, civil war,

intelligence activities, propaganda, and psychological warfare.

They have done research on hostage rescue operations, and on the way armies adjust to an operational environment. Their biggest project, however, has been a study on deception in East-West relations. A team-written book is expected to be published within a year.

The Centre is located just down the hill from Lady Dunn Hall and behind the former

Maritime Forestry Research Centre buildings. Dr. Chambers encourages students to make use of their library facilities. The material they have on terrorism is the most extensive in the country. Besides the collection of between 1500 and 2000 books and monographs, the Centre's files of newspaper clippings would be well worth a student's time to investigate. The Centre is open Monday to Friday from 9 am to 5 pm

Chess exhibition in Fredericton

By KAREN MAIR

United States chess champion, Yasser Seirawan, will stage a chess exhibition at the Fredericton Mall, centre court, tonight at 7 p.m.

In simultaneous play on fifteen boards, Seirawan will match skills with members of the general public. In order to play, applicants names will be drawn one half hour prior to

the beginning of play. All players must be on hand to claim their seats. Applications are available all day at centre court at the Fredericton Mall.

Seirawan, 27, competed in Yugoslavia last month and secured a berth in the candidates cycle of the World Chess Championship. The championship will be the highlight of the World Chess Festival, scheduled for January 20 to February 23 of 1988 in

Saint John.

Seirawan, a native of Seattle, began playing chess at the age of twelve. At fifteen he was a recognized prodigy competing with the best in the country. In his late teens, he dominated the United States circuit and established himself internationally by winning the 1979 World Junior Championship.

Throughout the 1980's, Seirawan has been one of the world's leading grandmasters and a favourite on the international circuit.

The Seirawan exhibition is designed to give Fredericton and area residents previews of the calibre of play that will be arriving in Saint John in the New Year.

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