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KGB: WE BUGGED ROYALS

Russians finally admit listening in during Princess's official trip

By **Will Stewart** IN MOSCOW and **Camilla Tominey**
 THE KGB has admitted spying on the Royal Family, the Sunday Express can reveal.
 Soviet secret agents bugged Princess Margaret's telephone and listened in on the conversations of other senior royals. Listening devices were planted in the Princess's bedroom during an official trip

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Louis leaps to Strictly victory
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Flood chaos strikes Britain

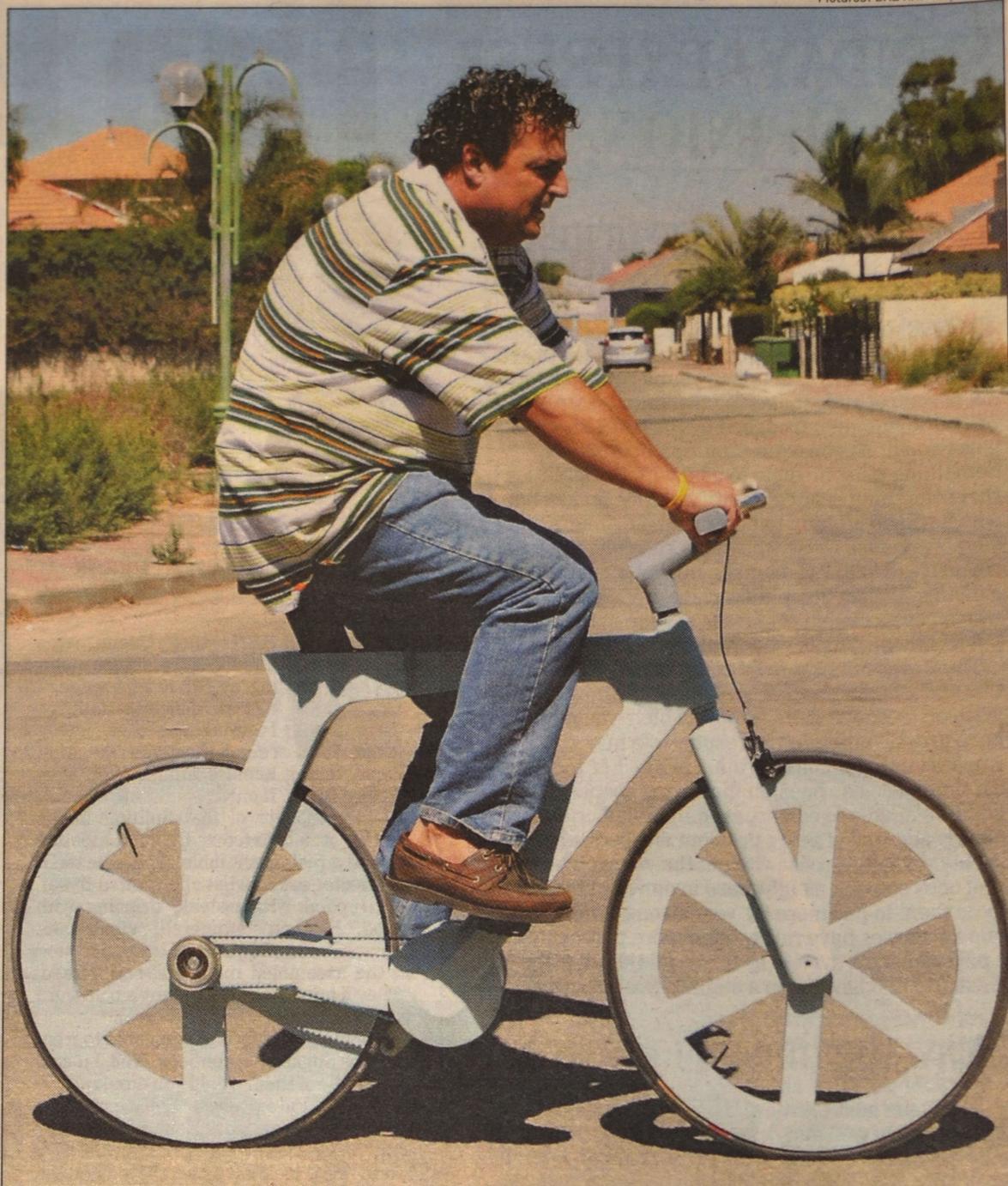
FLOOD warnings for an area stretching from Cornwall to North Yorkshire were issued last night.
 Urgent work was under way to keep motorways and railway lines open as "exceptional weather" threatened to wreck the plans of holiday travellers.
 The Government said everything was being done to help unite families at Christmas but Transport Secretary Patrick McLoughlin warned travellers to plan journeys well in advance.
 The Environment Agency has issued six severe flood warnings, 184 flood warnings and 355 flood alerts.

FULL STORY PAGE 8

Yours for £12.50: bike made of cardboard



GETTING ON HIS BIKE: Gafni in his workshop, left, and on the road, right, could have the answer to the Third World's travel problems



HERE'S the ultimate take on recycling, turning old bits of cardboard into bicycles.

When you look at the pile of discarded boxes after opening presents on Christmas morning, it's hard to believe that it may hold the answer to the Third World's transport problems.

Israeli inventor Izhar Gafni has come up with a way of turning cardboard into a durable bike that can be mass-produced.

The 50-year-old, himself a keen cyclist, recently unveiled his prototype cardboard cycle, which he says could sell for little more than £12.50 and provide inexpensive travel for those close to the poverty line.

Using many of the same manufacturing techniques, it will also be able to produce urban bikes with an electric motor, learner ones for children and also wheelchairs.

"Making a cardboard box is easy and it can be very strong and durable, but to

By **Anthony Kay**

make a bicycle was extremely difficult and I had to find the right way to fold the cardboard in several different directions.

"It took a year and a half, with lots of testing and failure until I got it right," he said.

"I'm repeatedly surprised at just how strong this material is; it is amazing. Once we are ready to go to production, the bike will have no metal parts at all."

Although cutting and shaping the cardboard is relatively straightforward, the material has to be treated with a secret concoction to make it waterproof

Nimrod Elmish, Gafni's business partner, said the bikes could be made wherever there was demand. He said: "This is a real game-changer. Everything that we have known in the production world can change. Instead of moving production to cheaper labour markets, [this] causes factories to be built everywhere."



INVENTION: Anirudha Surabhi with his cardboard helmet

...and a cycle safety helmet to match

THOSE looking for the perfect accessory to go with a cardboard bicycle should consider the helmet created by British designer Anirudha Surabhi.

The chief executive of Kranium got the idea for the honeycomb cardboard safety headgear after a cycle accident. He said: "The honeycomb cells trap air, which acts as a compression membrane. The structure is designed to absorb the impact by flexing and crumpling."

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