

International Intelligence

ASIA

Korean Generals hit "flunkeyism"

Memories of May, 1961 were widespread in Korea this week when a close knit group of young generals staged a virtual coup in the country and issued a political manifesto. The insurgent generals, led by Army intelligence chief Gen. Chon Too Hwan, were virtual unknowns before they seized the dominant position in Korea, as was their mentor, the late President Park Chung-hee, when he came to power in a coup almost twenty years ago.

While the generals have been careful to maintain the existing civilian government in Seoul, their manifesto stated they have a "mission" to end corruption in Korea, particularly among business and political officials, and to end "flunkeyism," i.e., overdependence on the United States. The Carter administration, which has been strongly promoting "liberalization" of Korea since the October assassination of Park, is thought to have been shocked and angered by the coup.

Since the coup, which began with the arrest of Martial Law Administrator Chung Seung Hwa and 15 other top generals Dec. 12, the entire command structure of the armed forces has been overhauled. Virtually all top army posts, as well as sections of the newly-named civilian cabinet, are filled with men close to Gen. Chon.

It is significant to point out that most of the generals involved in the uprising come from two graduating classes of the Korean military academy, the eighth and eleventh. Gen. Chon himself is from the eleventh class—the first class to complete the academy's four year course.

More intriguing is the role of those from the eighth graduating class. It was primarily young colonels from this class, led by Col. Kim Jong Pil, who master-minded Park's 1961 coup. Eighth class graduates now occupy the key posts of Army Chief of Staff, Martial Law Ad-

ministrator, Third Army Commander, and director of Korean Central Intelligence. Whether Kim, who is now president of the ruling Democratic Republican Party (DRP), played a role in these events is the biggest unanswered question in Korea.

EUROPE

Thatcher begins new phase of Iran crisis

Great Britain's Margaret Thatcher arrived in the U.S. this week to proclaim that Britain fully supports the U.S. should Washington adopt a policy of economic and military retaliation against the regime of Ayatollah Khomeini. Sources say Thatcher advocates the U.S. intensifying its confrontation with Khomeini into a new phase.

According to the London Telegraph Dec. 19, Washington, with British backing, will demand of both continental European nations and Japan that they back a full trade embargo. Such a move, according to numerous informed sources, would trigger an Iranian oil embargo and a new oil-price spiral with serious damage to the economies of continental Europe and Japan who are Iran's prime oil importers.

West German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt last week reportedly told the press that he would support further U.S. sanctions against Iran. Behind the scenes, however, West German government officials state that many of his countrymen are extremely worried over the fact that any such action on the part of the U.S. will seriously damage Germany's financial and trade position.

Earlier this week, at a press conference, White House spokesman Jody Powell announced that "other remedies" are available. Leaked sources define the other remedies as a military blockade of the Persian Gulf through which 20 million barrels a day of oil flow.

Left Labourites seek Euro-Communist friends

The Italian daily *Il Giornale* last week published an analysis by its London correspondent Gino Bianco of the recent initiative by the "Marxist-colored" left wing of the British Labour Party to woo and win Europe's Communist Parties. Since the NATO decision to go ahead with its theater "modernization," the left-Labourites, under former "energy" minister Anthony ("Technology is Dangerous") Wedgewood Benn, have become disenchanted with the European Social Democratic parties. The Labour Party announced the formation of a committee under left political economist Stuart Holland to establish institutional contacts with the Eurocommunist parties.

MIDDLE EAST

Iraqis condemn U.S. complicity in Iranian embassy incident

The Deputy Prime Minister of Iraq, Tariq Aziz, stated this week that "what is happening in Iran is not detached from American plans in the region (referring to the Persian Gulf—ed.) and what America can use as a pretext for intervention." Aziz concluded that Iran "is doing a great service for the Americans in the region."

Middle Eastern sources indicate that the Iraqis are now lending logistical support to the various minorities in Iran that are waging a fight against the fundamentalist Islamic regime. There have been unconfirmed reports over the last two weeks of border clashes between Iran and Iraq.

Moreover, the Iraqis have begun to broadcast Persian and Kurdish lan-

guage broadcasts into Iran in support of the growing unrest in tribal and minority regions. A Baghdad domestic-service broadcast into Iran in Kurdish this month condemned Khomeini "for hiding behind the cloak of religion." The broadcast noted that "religion has nothing to do with the despotic, reactionary and chauvinist Khomeini, because Islam is tolerance and love and champions rights, whereas Khomeini is full of hatred."

Tension continues to mount in Iran with the murder this week of Ayatollah Mofatteh, who reportedly was preparing to break with Khomeini to support his chief religious rival who is leading the revolt, Ayatollah Shariatmadari.

LATIN AMERICA

Anti-American violence erupts in Panama

Panama faces destabilizations as a result of the arrival of the deposed Shah of Iran. Following the arrival of the deposed Shah in Panama Dec. 16, student demonstrators attacked the U.S. embassy and the Panamanian Foreign Relations and Justice Ministries to demand that the Shah leave the country. Demonstrators dragged the American flag through the streets, shouting anti-imperialist slogans. A tight guard now surrounds the American Embassy.

The protests fulfill the "predictions" made two weeks ago by a top level intelligence operative, indicating a policy to "spread" the Iranian crisis to Latin America. The operative, known to be a controller of international terrorism, reported to *EIR* that both the Philippines and Panama would experience destabilizations as a "spinoff of the Iranian crisis." In both cases, the "predictions" came true.

There are also indications that economic pressures were exerted on Panama to force the government to accept

the Shah. Reports in the U.S. press implied that the decision to accept the Shah was a precondition for receiving future economic aid from the United States. A U.S. functionary was quoted following the Shah's arrival: "I'm not saying that there is an immediate economic payoff for Panama ... but the United States is certainly indebted to Panama and can't let its economy go down the drain."

SOVIET UNION

Nuclear power debated in U.S.S.R.

A fight is brewing over the Soviet Union's nuclear power development program. At a conference on nuclear energy, Academician A.P. Aleksandrov, president of the Soviet Academy of Sciences, declared that "there are no grounds for constricting the development of nuclear power engineering in the U.S.S.R. Nuclear power plants are very safe. There has not been a single significant breakdown at any power station."

This is the second time that Aleksandrov has had to reply to arguments presented by Academician Dollezhal in the Soviet Party journal *Kommunist* against concentrating nuclear power plants in the heavily populated Western section of the Soviet Union.

Two articles in the most recent *Kommunist* are indicative of this environmentalist argument. One identifies environmentalism as the "antiwar movement" of the current "mass struggle"; the other calls for a "mass education program" to instill in the Soviet population more "environmental thinking."

Ecology is the topic of "global modeling projects" now being conducted between Soviet "systems analysis" experts and Western modellers for such groups as the environmentalist Club of Rome.

Briefly

● **SHOUL EISENBERG**, the notorious Israeli arms merchant, is rumored to have had a hand in the assassination of South Korean president Park Chung-hee. Eisenberg, based in Tokyo, has long had dealings with Korea, including a highly publicized role several years ago in bribing Korean officials. Eisenberg is also said to have been the middle man in the transfer of Israeli arms and equipment of the KCIA.

● **CUBA'S CABINET** was reshuffled late last week. The ministers of transportation and public health were dismissed. Dr. Sergio del Valle, who has served as Minister of the Interior, was appointed to head the public health ministry. Political observers believe the shakeup may be related to a factional struggle in the Soviet Union.

● **AYATOLLAH KHOMEINI** has been, and may still be, secretly a member of the Muslim Brotherhood organization, a clandestine society in the Islamic world, according to the Paris-based *Liberation* magazine. *Liberation* interviewed Ayatollah Khalkhali, the head of the Fedayeen-e Islam, which, said *Liberation*, is the Iranian branch of the Egyptian Muslim Brotherhood.

● **GEN. DALLA CHIESA**, the Italian Carabinieri's anti-terror specialist, has been given command of the northernmost of Italy's three Carabinieri divisions. The move by the coalition Cossiga government is in response to a ferocious terrorist assault over the last months in the northern industrial cities. Dalla Chiesa was formerly national Chief of Anti-Terror Operations, a special plenipotentiary post.