

International Intelligence

Conference renews war on technology

The First Global Conference on the Future, held in Toronto this week, was dominated by advocates of the "Aquarian Conspiracy," a "lifestyle" of drugs, environmentalism, and psychic experiences, and "postindustrial society." "Iran is a sign of the times," said Robert Jungk, head of the Berlin Institute for the Future. "There will be more examples like it, though hopefully less brutal."

Hazel Henderson, a Club of Rome spokesman who openly promotes a return to a "New Dark Ages," gave the fullest call for deindustrialization in her July 20 speech. We must defeat "the masculine principle of the tyranny of monetization and technology. This is the end of the Age of Petroleum and the dawning of the Solar Age." The 1980s require a "trial by entropy, in which the necessity of the winding down of the economy and the universe triumphs."

The next day, in her Third World forum, Henderson introduced pro-Iran specialist André Van Dam of Argentina, who screamed at the audience that as Westerners they are "oppressing the Third World with the evils of technology." The conference drew 6,000.

'Cocaine coup' in Bolivia

Bolivia's 189th successful military coup in a century and a half of independence July 17 was directed not so much against acting president Lidia Gueiler, a favorite of the Carter administration, nor against her legal successor, ex-president Hernan Siles Zuazo, who was expected to be re-elected in congressional balloting August 4. Rather, agents of the international cocaine traffic in the military feared that Siles would allow congressional inquiries to proceed into the rampant corruption of the armed forces and its heavy involvement in the illegal drug business.

That point was hammered home with the point-blank machine-gun assassination of Marcelo Quiroga, spearhead of the effort to open a congressional inquiry, when he was arrested at the national labor headquarters during the coup.

During the Carter administration's term in office, revenues from raw cocaine paste extracted from coca bushes in eastern Bolivia have grown from a trickle to over \$600 million per year.

Afghan offensive in the offing?

Western press reports are predicting a large-scale Soviet military offensive in Afghanistan following the conclusion of the Olympic games. The Soviets have reportedly replaced units removed with special troops from Eastern Europe, trained for counterinsurgency and equipped with new weapons more suited to the kind of hit and run warfare going on in the Afghan hills.

These reports also paint the Soviets as increasingly embattled and tied down in the Afghan war. But the reports are subject to doubt—they are usually based on "travelers' reports" out of New Delhi. Informed sources know that this is a convenient euphemism for briefings doled out by the U.S. Embassy in Delhi and also in Islamabad. *Daily Telegraph* correspondent Loudon, reporting from Kabul, cites the case of one such report from Delhi of heavy fighting in the Pargham suburbs of Kabul, with Soviet airstrikes and so on, a report which tried to show the Soviets unable to even control the immediate environs of Kabul. Loudon writes that on the same day the fighting was reported to have occurred he visited the area and found lovers strolling in the parks, birds singing in the trees, and no sign of any fighting.

Some renewed, carefully targeted Soviet military activity is likely, but not from the standpoint of weakness usually reported. One sign of tightening up is the moves by Babrak Karmal, the Afghan president, to take greater control over the government and, with Soviet backing, clamp down on factional infighting.

Bonn welcomes Arab diplomacy

Chedli Klibi, Secretary-General of the Arab League, arrived in Bonn this week for three days of meetings with West German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt and Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher. Genscher, at a banquet he gave for Klibi July 21, noted that the Arab League—which represents every Arab country except Egypt—has gained increasing political weight in recent years.

Genscher welcomed the advent of cooperation between Europe and the Arab world after a long history of economic and cultural ties; Europe and the Arabs, he said, share growing responsibility for peace and security in the Middle East and elsewhere. He pledged that West Germany and its European Community partners will establish a durable peace in the region, adding that in negotiations "the PLO must be involved."

Genscher proposed a meeting between Arab foreign ministers and their European counterparts this autumn. The European Community factfinding mission mandated at the Venice EC summit last month is now meeting in Brussels, where EC foreign ministers are also preparing a resolution for a United Nations debate on the Middle East for the General Assembly session that opened July 22. Genscher will brief the foreign ministers on his discussions with Klibi.

Food-price strikes destabilize Poland

Strikes occurred in several industrial towns throughout Poland following a jump in meat prices July 1. The government raised prices in order to reduce the drain on the state budget of subsidizing meat production, which has suffered from a series of bad harvests, and paying high import bills.

Edward Gierek, the leader of Po-

land's ruling United Workers Party, has toured his industrial base in Silesia and gone on television to explain the economic crisis. The most serious strike, which tied up the city of Lublin when rail workers demanded wage hikes to compensate for their meat bills, has apparently ended. But for the first time ever, official Polish newspapers acknowledged that strikes did occur, top office-holders appealed to the population to moderate demands, and the Party's Politburo issued a statement hinting at Soviet concern over the situation.

Hard French line against terrorism

In the wake of the recent assassination attempt against Iranian opposition leader Shahpour Bakhtiar in Paris, the murder of Syrian leader Salah el-Bitar and related terrorist threats, the French government indicated this week that its policy of granting asylum, notably with respect to Bakhtiar, will continue; its nuclear energy cooperation with Iraq will be maintained; and Muslim Brotherhood terrorist and support networks in France will be prosecuted to the full extent of the law.

At a reception July 22 arranged by the Iraqi Embassy, Prime Minister Raymond Barre stated that "There are services trying to disrupt Iraqi-French relations, but they will not succeed." The statement was taken as a reference to Israeli intelligence's campaign against the Franco-Iraqi nuclear agreement on the grounds that France is providing Iraq with atomic capability "to blow up the Middle East."

Following the attempt on Bakhtiar's life, French authorities refused to hear the Ayatollah Khomeini's demands for extradition of the arrested terrorists and expulsion of Bakhtiar. Interior Minister Christian Bonnet has instead pledged to prosecute the two and intensify the effort against terrorism in France. Last month steps were taken in that direction when

the government refused to renew the visa and work permit of Simon Malley, director of *Afrique-Asie* magazine, a terrorist supporter operating in France for 11 years.

Plane crash opens NATO scandal

A Libyan Mig-23 airplane crashed in the southern Italian region of Calabria July 22 under bizarre circumstances. The government of Libya has claimed that the pilot had a heart attack. The Italian press, however, reports that he was in fact being conducted over Calabrian air space by Italian Starfighters, and there was no question of health problems.

Why a Libyan plane was flying directly over a secret NATO base, which is presumably off limits, remains unclear. Italian Defense Minister Lagorio has announced that he has given permission to the Libyan government to take part in investigations of the crash, and to use Italian helicopters to examine the scene of the incident. This is unheard-of as well, especially since the defense minister himself recently warned that Libya might be the military base for a possible Soviet attack on NATO's southern flank.

Although the new junta's president, General Luis Garcia Meza, did not mention drugs in his voluminous inauguration speech, he pledged to reorganize the police—who had caught some of his friends with planeloads of cocaine.

The French government this week rejected allegations that the attempted assassination of Bakhtiar was a Palestine Liberation Organization operation, and that the murder of Bitar was ordered by Syrian President Assad, allegations apparently aimed at weakening French support for a comprehensive Middle East settlement. PLO leader Yasser Arafat's denial of PLO involvement has been prominently reported in the French press, and the allegations specifically rejected by *Le Figaro's* Paul Marie de la Gorce, who is known to be close to government policymakers.

Briefly

● A "NEWLY REPENTANT" terrorist named Paolo Salvi testified at the July 23 Italian parliamentary session which examined charges of terrorist collusion against Premier Francesco Cossiga. Salvi claimed that his fellow terrorist Marco, son of Cossiga ally Donat Cattin, had been tipped off that police were after him by the newspapers, not by his father or by Cossiga.

● THE TRIDENT MISSILE sale to Britain by the U.S. will not be hindered by the current SALT treaty proscription of the transfer of nuclear weapons to third parties by either the United States or U.S.S.R., according to Carter administration officials. The Russians may "complain," they say, but "possible" future SALT violations by the Soviets make such objections moot, they insist.

● ERNESTO SAMPER Pizano, chief of Colombia's marijuana lobby, says his just-released book promoting legalization of the drug was written "with the collaboration of 10 U.S. senators."

● JALALEDDIN FARSI may be Iran's next prime minister. A partisan of the terrorist Guardians of Islam, this week he praised the assassination attempt against Shahpour Bakhtiar.

● FRENCH MIRAGE jets are the subject of intense talks between India and France with the French going all out to convince the Indian government to drop the last phase of the previous deal for the Anglo-French Jaguar in favor of production in India of the Mirage 2000. The Mirage 2000 would go into production in 1985—the British are apoplectic about the deal. Indian sources report that Mrs. Gandhi is very warm toward increased ties to France and cold toward the Thatcher regime. A top envoy of the French President was in Delhi last week after a top Indian Defense Ministry team held preliminary talks in Paris in June.