

International Intelligence

Lebanon attacks reflect Israel's strategy

Israeli military thrusts into Lebanon this week were carried out in accordance with a new Israeli strategic doctrine announced Aug. 20 by Prime Minister Menachem Begin: "to hit the Palestinian encampments wherever and whenever we can." According to the daily *Le Matin de Paris*, Begin wants to force Syria and Jordan into a conflict so both can be knocked out of the picture. Then Israel will go directly after Iraq, described as the real target of Israel's Lebanon operations. *Le Matin* asserts that Israel is willing to start a war to prevent Iraq from becoming a regional nuclear power.

A well-informed Lebanese source gave *EIR* his time perspective this week on Israel's moves: "Israel will heat up the Lebanese situation over the next two weeks to the point of drawing Syria into combat. I foresee Israel attempting to annex southern Lebanon or to bombard Syrian encampments in southeast Lebanon, either one of which could draw Syria into war. The Israelis will be free to move on from there." The source said that Israel counts on unrest in Poland to keep the Soviet Union from intervening to aid Syria.

Prof. Cottam deplors EIR's influence

University of Pittsburgh Professor Richard Cottam is reportedly distressed by *EIR*'s growing repute among the Iranian exile community. More than a year ago, *EIR* exposed Cottam as one of the long-time controllers of such prominent figures as Iranian Foreign Minister Sadegh Ghotbzadeh and his predecessor Ibrahim Yazdi. Since then, Cottam admits, he has had to "lie low."

Cottam recently told a university colleague: "Empress Farah's charges that Brzezinski was behind the Shah's overthrow comes straight from *Executive Intelligence Review*. I have been trying to

get it across to the exiles that the conspiracy theories put forth by the magazine about the Khomeini takeover are not true.

"But the problem is that they see me as part of it—they think I run the Muslim Brotherhood, that I was somehow behind the Khomeini takeover. What disturbs me is not so much that the exile community *believes* everything in the magazine, but that they are *operating* on the basis of it. All the exile newspaper from all over the world print articles from *EIR*.

"What the Iranians here don't realize is that they are going after the wrong targets. Kissinger, Rockefeller and Brzezinski are their best friends, not their enemies!" Cottam went on to complain that he is now *persona non grata* in the Iranian community. "What the *EIR* has written and the influence it has cuts access for me, and access to Iranians is very important. Most of them just won't meet with me any more."

Iraq charges Britain with nuclear sabotage

The Iraqi government newspaper *Al-Jumhuriyah* has leveled charges that Britain is out to sabotage Iraq's nuclear energy program. The U.K., Baghdad says, is working to undercut Iraqi nuclear technology while London supplies enriched uranium to Israel and facilitates a nuclear cooperation agreement between Israel and South Africa.

Earlier this month, Baghdad television carried a special program on the historic role of the British embassy in Iraq and its use of "sabotage and espionage" to keep Iraq "a backward and weak country." "Britain still believes Iraq to be as it was," the broadcaster stated, charging Britain with "fabricating lies and falsehoods" about Iraq.

Meanwhile, reaffirming Iraq's commitment to its nuclear program, the government's Revolutionary Command Council issued a call to Arab nuclear experts to locate in Iraq to contribute to the program. Iraq has also withdrawn a

\$1 billion electronics equipment contract from the U.K. and will reportedly grant it to France instead.

Japan's defense stance: less than a buildup

In his first major speech, the new Japanese Premier, Zenko Suzuki, this week indicated that Tokyo will maintain a moderate military expansion, but not to the extent Washington demands. He also carefully avoided any direct reference to the Soviet Union as a source of danger. The statement was regarded as a confirmation of Suzuki's understated turnaround from the policies of his predecessor, Masayoshi Ohira, who had actively cooperated to create a U.S.-Peking-Tokyo alliance against the U.S.S.R.

Suzuki reiterated that Japan's defense spending will rise by 9 percent, equal to the expected rise in GNP, and said that "we must first and foremost avoid any occurrence through our diplomacy that would generate any external threat to Japan." He added: "We are committed to not becoming a military power." *EIR*'s sources had predicted that without publicly disavowing Ohira's policies, Suzuki would revert to something approximating Japan's traditional "equidistant diplomacy" regarding the U.S.S.R. and China.

New Korean leader gains support

General Chon Doo Hwan, expected to become the new president of South Korea, has won "acceptance" from both intellectuals and much of the population at large, according to Korean sources. The reason in large part is that his purge of some 20,000 officials for corruption has convinced people he is not simply a venal powerseeker. But the key to Chon's long-term survival will be the economy.

Park Chung Hee's regime had taken

hold in the 1960s because of the stupendous success of his high-growth program. Chon will maintain this policy and has announced that businessmen will be exempt from the purge so as not to disrupt the economy.

Chon is described as "a daring man with a strong sense of mission." His move this year to secure the presidency had been unexpected. He reportedly will not seek to rule as a "benevolent Confucian father" in Park's manner, but will campaign to establish himself as a popular leader.

The U.S. State Department has issued repeated statements "regretting any interruption of the process of democratization" and protesting the possible conviction and execution of opposition leader Kim Dae Jung. Part of Washington's solicitude is based on the fact that Kim supports "the China card" and Chon does not.

Rabin torpedoed inquiry into West Bank terror

Former Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin is responsible for quashing an inquiry by the opposition Labour Party into charges that current Prime Minister Menachem Begin deliberately obstructed investigation of Zionist terror bombings in the occupied West Bank, an Israeli source said this week.

The Labour leadership, including party chief Shimon Peres, considered following up the charges by *Washington Star* correspondent David Halevy in an Aug. 8 dispatch from Tel Aviv. Halevy claimed that Begin had forced the resignation of Shin Beth internal security chief Avraham Ahtuv by impeding Ahtuv's investigation of the Gush Emunim religious fundamentalists' involvement in the early June bombings and maiming of West Bank mayors.

But, the source continued, Peres's Labour Party rival, Rabin, "insisted that pursuit of the Halevy story would undermine Israeli national security. Rabin's strange behavior," he added, "licenses

Begin's policies and prevents Labour from winning real support from the substantial forces in Israel that want peace." He attributed this obstruction to Rabin's political affiliation with Henry Kissinger, and to a fear that Begin's people will put out a fuller dossier on the dirty financial dealings that brought Rabin down as premier in 1977.

Energy deals to help stabilize Poland?

Polish Communist Party head Edward Gierek was scheduled to visit West Germany Aug. 19-20 for talks with Chancellor Helmut Schmidt, but the visit was canceled because of Poland's domestic unrest. European observers had predicted that the talks would be a turning point not only for consolidating détente but also for countering the critical energy problems of both Eastern and Western Europe.

West German political and business circles believe Polish coal is the key to central Europe's future energy needs, said a leading expert on the East bloc at a think tank in Cologne, West Germany, this week. Poland's abundant coal reserves will soon replace a large part of Europe's oil imports, he added. The Austrian government announced Aug. 20 that a consortium of Austrian banks will give Poland a \$300 million loan in exchange for long-term delivery of coal to Austrian utilities.

The Polish destabilization also prompted Chancellor Schmidt to cancel his planned trip to East Germany the last week in August. Nevertheless, reports from Bonn are that he has put economic diplomacy vis-a-vis the East bloc into high gear. A cabinet meeting Aug. 21 reportedly focused on energy cooperation with East Germany, specifically construction of a coal power station and electrification of railways. Government spokesman Armin Gruenewald this week stressed Bonn's intention to intensify energy and economic cooperation with Co-meccon.

Briefly

● **JAPANESE SOCIALISTS** donated \$60,000 to the Khmer Rouge in the form of medical supplies for the soldiers of Pol Pot, according to the Aug. 18 *London Times*. Aid was personally delivered by Hideo Den, leader of the pro-China United Social Democrats and a close associate of Second International leader Willy Brandt.

● **A NEW POLICY PAPER** entitled "Political Islam" has just been released by Georgetown University's Center for Strategic and International Studies. It states that the spread of Khomeini-style Islamic extremism is "less alarming" than is commonly thought. Bernard Lewis, architect of the 1970s plan to redraw Middle East territorial lines according to tribal and sectarian criteria, advised the Georgetown project.

● **MOHAMMED TABATABAI**, brother of the slain Iranian exile leader Ali Akbar Tabatabai, confirmed last week that General Hossein Fardoust, the head of Khomeini's secret police, was in the United States shortly before the murder of the opposition leader on July 22. Tabatabai also spoke of a deal worked out between President Carter and Khomeini to allow Iranian terrorists free rein in the U.S. in exchange for a settlement of the hostage crisis that would boost Carter's political fortunes. Tabatabai's charges were aired by NBC-TV.

● **A YOUNGER** generation of intelligence agents without "ideological blinkers" has developed a new strategy for Israel's Mossad, the West German daily *Frankfurter Rundschau* reported Aug. 14. The key points are intimate relations with the Egyptian security services as long as Sadat stays alive; identification of the PLO as the "central target" of Mossad operations; logistical support for the opposition to the Syrian president; support for various "minorities" in Iran; and strengthening of relations with China.