

International Intelligence

IISS warns against N-bomb deployment

High-ranking representatives of the London International Institute of Strategic Studies (IISS) are criticizing the recent U.S. decision on the neutron bomb. IISS director Christopher Bertram stated Aug. 12 that its deployment could endanger the existence of U.S. cities.

IISS member Theo Sommer, editor of West Germany's weekly *Die Zeit*, wrote that the entire "flexible response" doctrine of limited nuclear war should be re-evaluated, since the use of any nuclear weaponry would quickly escalate to full-scale war.

Sommer added that President Reagan told Chancellor Schmidt in June that the neutron bomb would not be an issue in the foreseeable future, and already he has broken his word; now the neutron bomb will become a stumbling block for arms negotiations and will fuel the peace movement.

Sommer concludes that Washington is mounting an "ersatz" policy rather than a strategic policy, and not one real decision has been made thus far by the new administration.

Holger Börner, governor of the West German state of Hesse and one of the chancellor's closest political allies, declared Aug. 12 that the neutron bomb decision will undercut the NATO alliance.

U.S.S.R. issues a message to Pakistan

The Soviet Union sent a veiled warning to Pakistan Aug. 12 when the news service TASS reported on a four-day battle between Afghan troops and guerrillas near the Pakistan border. The report is one of the few Moscow has issued on the military situation in Afghanistan.

The possibility of a Soviet response to the deteriorating international situation

by means of a military operation against Pakistan is increasingly discussed in think-tank and intelligence circles. A Reagan defense policy architect and close Haig associate noted in a recent interview that Pakistan is "the easiest place for the Soviets to push, given their massive problems in Afghanistan. . . . If the Russians want to drive home a point, going into Pakistan is certainly an effective way to do it, and there's certainly nothing we can do about it."

A senior Soviet expert in West Germany also noted that a strike against the Afghan rebel bases in Pakistan is "no mere speculation." The Soviets could use the longstanding border dispute between Pakistan and Afghanistan for this purpose, or they could play "the Baluchi Card"—the strong anti-Pakistani movement in the region of Baluchistan, which also includes parts of Afghanistan and Iran. There have been persistent reports that the Soviet Union has set up training camps for Baluchi dissidents in Afghanistan.

Calvi reveals \$21 million bribe to Socialist Party

The leadership of Italy's Socialist Party (PSI), including its general secretary, Bettino Craxi, took a \$21 million dollar bribe from the illegal Propaganda-2 Freemasonic lodge, according to official testimony now in the hands of the Italian magistracy.

Roberto Calvi, the P-2 Banco Ambrosiano operative temporarily jailed for conducting illicit financial operations on behalf of P-2, told judges in the course of questioning that he had deposited the bribe in a secret account for the PSI leadership at the request of Umberto Ortolani. Himself a P-2 member, Ortolani is the ambassador to Uruguay for the Knights of Malta, and has often been described as "the man who owns Uruguay."

The latest issue of the Italian magazine *Panorama* further reports that as soon as Judge Guido Viola had obtained

this testimony from Calvi, he told the mayor of Milan, a PSI member, "Look, this is a big scandal. The leaders of your party are involved. The only way for you guys to emerge clean from this is by pushing Craxi to the side."

Mayor Tognoli responded by calling a press conference denying that Viola had ever discussed the matter with him.

Libya's foreign minister tours the Gulf

Libyan Foreign Minister Ali Abdassalam Tureiki has embarked on a Persian Gulf tour aimed at widening the gap between the Gulf states and Washington.

Tureiki's trip, which began the first week in August, has brought him to Bahrain, the United Arab Emirates, Kuwait, and Qatar, where he has busily promoted the "Islamic bomb" and the need to consolidate an alliance against Israel and the West.

One aim of Tureiki's organizing venture is to isolate Saudi Arabia and create the conditions whereby the Saudi royal family can be weakened, if not overthrown.

Libya's present organizing drive also extends to Beirut, where Prime Minister Wassan has accepted a Libyan offer to supply Lebanon with an air defense system.

Colombia joins front line of Haig's strategy

The Colombian government of Julio César Turbay has simultaneously decided to send a contingent to the multinational Sinai peacekeeping force and to step up its activity on behalf of David Rockefeller's and Alexander Haig's Caribbean policy.

In an Aug. 13 interview with the *New York Times*, Turbay declared that Cuban training for M-19 guerrillas was "a kind

of Pearl Harbor for us. Central America and the Caribbean are now our number-one priority." After a strategy session with all of Colombia's ambassadors in the region last month, Foreign Minister Lemos Simmonds has undertaken a six-nation tour of the Caribbean; and Colombia has reportedly signed a special accord with Chile to "combat Cuban expansionism."

Colombia has also provided \$10 million in aid to Seaga's marijuana-growing Jamaica, weakening Turbay's own commitment to fight illegal drugs.

The decision to participate in the Sinai peacekeeping force takes Colombia one step further to participation in the "SATO"-style military adventures promoted by the U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, Jeane Kirkpatrick. Colombia has a history of involvement in such operations: in 1951 it sent a crack infantry battalion to fight in the Korean War, and it has just participated in the Ocean '81 naval maneuvers in the South Atlantic. Although Egypt and Israel have invited several Latin American countries to dispatch troops to the Sinai, Colombia and Uruguay are the only ones to date to respond affirmatively.

Nigerian oil output declines

Nigerian oil production fell an additional 530,000 barrels per day from June to July due to the oil glut, bringing total production down to 815,000 bpd, according to the French financial daily *Les Echos* of Aug. 10. Citing statistics gathered in Lagos, *Les Echos* reported that as of July 31 anticipated oil income for the year totaled \$3.3 billion, or 13 percent of the \$24 billion originally projected by the Nigerian government.

Nigeria made its budget based on projections of 2.1 million bpd to finance its ambitious development plan. If the glut continues, the drop in income (Nigeria gets most of its foreign exchange from oil sales) will force Nigeria to cut back its development plans which could

lead to instability.

Les Echos cites observers who report that, due to Nigeria's low level of indebtedness, Nigeria could easily borrow to tide it through the glut period.

Iran gunboat seizure part of larger plan

Intelligence sources have confirmed that the Aug. 14 seizure by anti-Khomeini Iranians of three French-built gunboats being delivered to Iran was a joint operation coordinated by Adm. Kamal Habibollahi, Adm. Ahmed Madani, and Gen. Bahram Aryana.

The seizure, according to sources, marked the first step in a larger operation to remove the mullahs from power in Iran and install a more nationalist-oriented regime.

The plan reportedly has the backing of the Central Intelligence Agency; French intelligence; British intelligence; the Turkish/NATO military apparatus; the leftist Mujaheddin-e Khalq of Masoud Rajavi; and sections of the Iranian armed forces, in particular the navy.

"The seizing of the missile boats is right on schedule," commented one well-placed U.S. intelligence source. "It is the opening salvo. We are now expecting major action in September. Habibollahi, Madani, and Aryana have all been in Turkey recently to secure Turkish military backing for their coup efforts. The person who is likely to emerge as the strongman if a coup does occur is Admiral Madani."

The source ruled out overt participation by the Pahlavi dynasty in a takeover attempt, but foresaw a possible return to Iran of the young Shah Reza Pahlavi six months to a year after a coup. The source also foresaw possible participation in a new regime by Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, who "will change his colors overnight."

The participation of the Mujaheddin is crucial, the source added, noting its importance in rallying the youth of Iran behind a change in regime.

Briefly

● **ROGER LERAY**, Grand Master of the French Freemasonic lodge known as the Grand Orient de France, announced in an interview the lodge's full support for the Brandt Commission, World Bank, and Global 2000 population reduction policy. In his Aug. 13 *Le Monde* interview, Leray said that the French Freemasons—of which his organization is the largest—will play a crucial role in the "North-South dialogue" because they have branches in many Third World countries, and about 10 members of the Mitterrand cabinet are also members of the Grand Orient.

● **BETTINO CRAXI** and his Italian Socialist Party have emerged as one of the most enthusiastic supporters of Cap Weinberger. Craxi has released an interview to *La Stampa* stating that just as there was no protest when the U.S.S.R. increased its missile deployments, the U.S. is justified in increasing its own armamentarium in order to achieve "equilibrium" with Soviet forces. Other PSers say the neutron bomb is needed to counterbalance Soviet subversion in the Mediterranean.

● **PRINCE SAUD Al-Faisal**, the foreign minister of Saudi Arabia, is reported to have agreed to consider the World Bank's plan for indexing OPEC oil prices to inflation and the price of other commodities, during his visit to Venezuela the first week in August. The Saudis had previously resisted the plan, which Venezuela promotes.

● **CLOVIS MAKSOUD**, Arab League ambassador to the United Nations, has threatened to take "certain diplomatic initiatives and measures" against the countries of Colombia and Fiji for having agreed to contribute troops to the international peacekeeping force in Sinai. The force is being pulled together as part of the Camp David accords, which the Arab League opposes.