

International Intelligence

KGB operations in Germany on the rise

Soviet KGB activities have increased, in tandem with the success of Gorbachov's arms control policy, said German Federal Prosecutor Kurt Rebmann in a press conference in Karlsruhe on July 21. He reported that 13 KGB spies have been detected by German police since early March. One of the cases involves a journalist who worked at Radio Free Europe in Munich for many years.

Thirty-seven East bloc espionage agents, prominently involving electronics engineers and computer merchants, have been arrested since the beginning of 1988. Rebmann, rating the arrest of 13 KGB spies this spring as unprecedented, pointed out that the arrests, though partly a result of more efficient police investigations, are also an indicator of greatly increased Soviet espionage activities.

Colombia's bishops sound alarm on drug plague

On July 14, the Colombian bishops' council issued a document on the devastating impact of the drug trade on Colombian society. Particularly striking was its focus on the infiltration of the drug industry into the national economy, as the following excerpt indicates:

"The national economy is suffering serious social damage through the so-called 'sinister window,' the concentration of lands in the hands of the drug traffickers, the artificial rise in cost of real estate, the inflation that hits especially hard against the poorest, the 'laundering of dollars,' and the takeover of previously prosperous, balanced, and socially beneficial businesses. Even sports associations, which represented the national oxygen and national sanity, have been contaminated.

"The normal and progressive cultivation of legitimate consumer goods is suffering serious social damage, through the cultivation of crops which generate false marijuana and cocaine bonanzas, which end by ruining

individuals and the crops that are necessary for the development and prosperity of the community."

This statement appeared as the country is in a political upheaval over the proposal by the M-19 narco-terrorists, to hold a "summit meeting," forcing the political leadership of the country to "negotiate" with them.

Gorbachov puts the squeeze on Japan

Soviet General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachov warned former Japanese prime minister Yasuhiro Nakasone, in meetings in Moscow on July 22, that Japan will gain nothing by pursuing "ultimatum-style approaches and demands." The two appeared to make no progress in resolving the territorial dispute between their countries.

"We regret that over the three years of *perestroika*," Gorbachov was quoted by the Soviet news agency TASS, "when the U.S.S.R.'s relations with many other countries have made significant headway, those with Japan have stayed put and at times even rolled back. . . . Ultimatum-style approaches and demands are unacceptable to us."

Ten days before, the Soviet daily *Pravda* had denounced Japan for carrying out a "revanchist campaign." Correspondent Igor Latyshev targeted Japan in a July 12 commentary, saying, "Unlike a large number of leaders of Western countries, Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita and Foreign Minister Sosuke Uno remain champions of the former 'cold,' 'hard-line' approach to the Soviet Union," and are refusing to "recognize the new realities of international life and revise their former prejudiced attitude."

This is indicated, *Pravda* continued, by Takeshita's claim that the restructuring being carried out by the Soviet leadership "has had no effect at all upon Soviet policy in Asia." The prime minister even alluded to Soviet expansionist aspirations in Asia and the Pacific, and alleged that Moscow was "building up" the combat might of its armed forces near Japan—in the "northern territories."

Soviet citizens will testify against 'Nazis'

The Soviet Union has for the first time given permission for its citizens to go to the West to give evidence against alleged "Nazi war criminals living in Britain," the *Independent* newspaper reported on July 22.

Sir Thomas Hetherington, former Director of Public Prosecutions for the U.K., and William Chalmers, former Crown Agent in Scotland, who have been heading an "independent inquiry" into the "Nazi war crimes" question, met recently for four days with Soviet officials in the U.S.S.R., to discuss the matter.

According to the paper, the alleged atrocities under investigation were all committed in German-occupied territories now part of the Soviet Union. Ephraim Zuroff, a top "Nazi hunter" from the Simon Wiesenthal Center in Los Angeles, told the *Independent*: "There's no question that the willingness of the Soviet authorities is critical to the prosecution of Nazis living in Britain. This is a tremendous step forward."

Similar "collaboration" between Soviet and U.S. authorities has allowed the prosecution and deportation of such U.S. figures as Karl Linna, space scientist Arthur Rudolph, and autoworker John Demjanjuk, on political grounds, and on the basis of no "evidence" other than that provided by the Soviet Union.

Poland reports increased emigration to the West

More and more Poles are emigrating to the West. Col. Edmund Liziniewicz, of the Polish state-owned news agency PAP, confirmed in Warsaw on July 25.

For the first time, he released official figures, according to which 256,000 Poles have left Poland for the West since 1981. In addition, each year, some 250,000 Poles have illegally prolonged their vacations or visits in the West, predominantly to West Germany, to earn money and support their

Briefly

● **PHILIPPINES** President Corazon Aquino was forced to accept the resignation of the chairman of the Presidential Commission on Government, due to charges of corruption. The commission was created to get back the money allegedly pilfered during the Marcos era, and give it back to the state. But investigations showed that commission members were using the money to line their own pockets.

● **A SENIOR** Soviet official has appealed to Iran to help resolve the crisis in Afghanistan, the Soviet news agency TASS reported on July 22. The appeal was made during a visit to Teheran by First Deputy Foreign Minister Yuli Vorontsov. According to TASS, "The Soviet side pointed out in particular that Iran might make its contribution to the cause of normalizing the situation in Afghanistan. It was agreed that the sides would continue to discuss the issue."

● **THE PLO'S** peace initiative was sabotaged from within, by number-two man Abu Iyad and "Foreign Minister" Farouq Kaddoumi, declared Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak on July 20 at a seminar in Cairo. He praised PLO chief Yasser Arafat as "one of the most flexible persons" as far as peace negotiations are concerned, and called on the PLO leadership to get together.

● **INDIA'S FIRST** "indigenous" AIDS death occurred in Vellore, Tamil Nadu on May 14. Doctors have come to the conclusion that the death occurred due to "an Indian strain" of the AIDS virus. The deceased had no record of any "foreign" contact, although he was sexually promiscuous.

● **THAI AND AMERICAN** marines on July 23 conducted a mock beach-landing exercise at Had Yao Beach in Chon Huri's Sattahip district. The maneuvers, code-named Cobra Gold '88, were described as a response to a mock Kampuchean invasion of Thailand at the beachhead.

families in Poland.

Both trends—real and hidden emigration—are seen as "having mainly economic reasons" by the Polish authorities, who have so far tolerated this development. Both trends have shown an upward curve, however, over the past few months, for reasons linked to the accelerated Soviet looting of the Polish economy.

West Germany, the preferred place in Europe for the Poles, alone expects 70,000 to 100,000 immigrants from Poland this year.

British spook accused of running drug ring

A "former" agent of Britain's MI-6 intelligence service is the suspected leader of a giant international marijuana- and hashish-trafficking ring that has just been cracked by Britain's Scotland Yard and American authorities. Oxford University graduate Howard Marks is accused of heading a drug-trafficking and money-laundering ring, extending from Europe to Asia, estimated to have almost \$2 billion in assets.

U.S. Attorney Robert O'Neil declared on July 26, "This gang touched every corner of the world in one way or another, either with its drug supplies or its money." The *Times* of London described Marks as "one of the world's four leading drug barons," who operated an international syndicate "like a multinational company," with its financial center in Hong Kong.

Marks was arrested in the early hours of July 25, at his home outside Palma, Majorca, by an international police squad. Twenty-two people around the world are being held in custody, and more arrests are expected.

One of Marks's favorite practices was to use big-name international rock stars, such as Eric Clapton, to smuggle hashish and marijuana, hidden in their giant sound speakers. The rock stars are claiming that the smuggling was done without their knowledge.

Marks was well connected in British high society, being a friend of Harold Macmil-

lan's grandson Joshua, Lord Balogh's son Steve, and one Kate Mortimer, now a director of N.M. Rothschild's bank.

British newspapers report that the Marks gang was broken when sleazy British Lord Moynihan (no known relation to the U.S. senator of the same name) agreed to cooperate with police, to avoid being charged with involvement in the drug ring. Lord Moynihan runs an extensive porn-shop and brothel business in the Philippines, where he moved in 1969, to escape investigation in London on charges of fraud.

Moscow complains about U.S. presence in Far East

A growing U.S. military presence near the Soviet Union's Far Eastern borders, and the U.S. advantage over the U.S.S.R. in military aircraft and ship-based planes, is causing great concern in Moscow, senior Soviet Embassy official Aleksandr Loshakov told reporters in Manila, the Philippines, on July 21, according to Japan's Kyodo news service.

Military experts, Loshakov said, have reported that the U.S. Seventh Fleet, based in Subic Bay Naval Base north of Manila, is deploying increasing numbers of ships armed with Tomahawk cruise missiles in the region. The U.S. Third Fleet is "stepping up its activities," he said, and has widened its operational area to include the northwestern sector of the Pacific. Loshakov added, "There are obviously nuclear weapons of the U.S. here, and no Soviet nuclear weapons in Cam Ranh Bay" in Vietnam.

Soviet diplomacy is currently active in the Far East. V.M. Kamentsev, deputy chairman of the U.S.S.R. Council of Ministers and chairman of the Council's Economic Commission, visited Malaysia and Australia early in July. In Malaysia, he met with economic officials, and exchanged ratification instruments to the agreement to preclude dual taxation, which was signed during a visit to the Soviet Union of Malaysian Prime Minister Mohamed Mahathir last summer.