

National News

U.S. rejects Soviet inspectors as spies

An eight-man inspection team proposed by the Soviet Union as on-site inspectors to verify compliance with the INF treaty, was rejected by the United States, on the grounds that all eight have been linked to Soviet intelligence operations, according to a report published in the *Los Angeles Times* on July 21.

The eight were rejected during a preliminary screening process, before any Soviet inspectors were sent to the United States.

"The Soviets' proposal of these men is seen as an indication that Soviet intelligence agencies, including the KGB secret police and the GRU military intelligence directorate, have not curbed their operations under Soviet leader Mikhail S. Gorbachov's . . . *perestroika* . . . despite the new warmth in U.S.-Soviet relations," said the article.

"There's clearly been no diminution of Soviet intelligence activities in the United States," according to an unnamed U.S. counterintelligence official quoted by the *Times*. "We think KGB activities have been up for the past several years," he added.

Seven of the eight were slated to become permanent inspectors at Hercules Plant One in Magna, Utah. "The Soviets have [listening] platforms and agents on the East Coast and the West Coast," one official was quoted, "but none in middle America. We want to keep it that way."

Navy chief: Military can't stop drug influx

Chief of U.S. Naval Operations Adm. A.H. Trost said in a speech on July 22 that the armed forces and the law enforcement agencies of the United States could stop the smuggling of cocaine into the country from Latin America, even if they did nothing else.

Speaking to the Commonwealth Club in San Francisco, Trost said that the armed

forces are stymied, because "the economic incentives are so potent and the network of communications from farm to market via thousands of boats and small planes is so extensive."

Trost argued that "the only way we are going to stop this immense flow of illegal narcotics into this country is to shut off the demand for it."

He said nothing about blocking the "economic incentives" which foster the drug traffic, by cracking down on the dope bankers who launder billions of dollars for the narco-traffickers every year. This, the Reagan administration's vaunted War on Drugs has stubbornly refused to do.

Philadelphia vows to close 'crack' houses

Philadelphia Mayor Wilson Goode on July 24 announced a campaign to shut down more than 500 "crack" houses in that city. The program will include city workers cleaning out abandoned houses and sealing them up with concrete blocks to keep drug dealers out.

Goode said the city would do whatever was possible to close down any new crack houses that spring up, as well. "We will confiscate them, whenever legally possible," the mayor said. Acknowledging a drug problem that has "escalated in the past 12 months," Goode said that he directed the Police Department to step up its assault on the drug trade.

Despite these public statements, Mayor Goode has also called for large reductions in the city's police force. The new Police Commissioner, Willie Williams, claims that the cuts will not have an adverse effect on the anti-drug effort. But the facts belie this optimism. During a 10-day period in July, five people were killed in Philadelphia in drug-related crimes, including a five-year-old boy caught in the crossfire of a shootout. A total of 210 people have been murdered in the City of Brotherly Love so far this year. Police characterize 57 of those murders as "drug-related," although sources in the Po-

lice Department believe that figure is significantly underestimated.

Jackson backers get Democratic Party posts

The first glimmerings of what the deal was between Michael Dukakis and Jesse Jackson, for the latter's backing during the presidential race, became visible July 22, when Jackson supporters were awarded 15 Democratic Party posts.

Among those selected was Jackson's son Jesse, Jr., who was among the few allowed to address the party during the convention.

Negotiators for Dukakis, Jackson, and Democratic National Committee chairman Paul Kirk worked all night ironing out details of the deal. The new posts include a new party vice-chairmanship for voter registration and turnout—a post that went to New Orleans Mayor Sidney Barthelemy, a Jackson supporter. Two Jackson people will also be on the party's executive committee: Ronald Brown, Jackson's campaign strategist, and Janice Thurmond of Georgia.

Jackson was also awarded use of a DC-10 for the duration of the campaign, and a gold American Express card to be paid for by Dukakis.

State Dept. advisers worry about Mexico

Longtime State Department strategist Luigi Einaudi, the man who implemented Henry Kissinger's coups in Ibero-America, surfaced for a rare public appearance in Washington, D.C. on July 26, to warn that unless the United States pays more attention to what is going on south of the border, it will soon face a crisis comparable to that which developed in Iran. U.S. media coverage of Mexico, "our Iran next door," can only have a bad impact on the public, he said.

Einaudi shared the podium with Council on Foreign Relations Latin American direc-

Briefly

tor Susan Kaufman Purcell and Mexican academician Luis Aguilar Sinzer, at a conference co-sponsored by the Interamerican Dialogue and the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace.

The speakers expressed dismay at the upset victory of Mexican opposition leader Cuauhtémoc Cárdenas in the recent presidential elections (that victory was stolen from him by the ruling PRI party). Cárdenas had campaigned on a nationalist program of opposition to the austerity demands of the International Monetary Fund.

Kaufman Purcell referred to Cárdenas's "post-electoral mobilization" as something dangerous, that could get out of control. She attributed Cárdenas's success to the economic crisis, his Indian facial features, the fact that his father was a famous President, and the fact that "he sounded more PRIista than the PRI."

None of the specialists dared predict what will happen now. "The PRI wishes that Cardenas would simply freeze," said Luis Aguilar, a supporter of the PRI's presidential candidate, Carlos Salinas de Gortari. "But Cardenas is stronger now that he was before the elections. No one knows where Cardenas will end up."

Cuban officials caught running drugs in Miami

Five members of a Miami-based drug ring were convicted on July 25 of smuggling more than \$10 million worth of cocaine through Cuba. The five men, led by the Venezuelan Hugo Ceballos, arranged to have two loads of cocaine totaling 700 kilograms flown from a farm in Colombia to a military base in Varadero, Cuba, where men alleged to be Cuban government officials helped load the drugs onto boats which were then escorted out of Cuba's territorial waters by the Cuban coast guard.

U.S. Attorney Dexter Lehtinen charged, "These were not simply a few . . . low-level Cuban officials. . . . This demonstrates knowledge at high levels of the Cuban defense establishment." Drug Enforcement

Administration spokesman Jack Hook commented, "This is the first time we've had evidence that Cuba . . . is being used as a transshipment base for drug trafficking. Before this, it's only been rumors."

The "Cuban connection" has long been identified by *EIR*, which has pointed to the role of exiled U.S. financier Robert Vesco, one of the biggest drug kingpins, who resides in Havana, enjoying the protection of Castro to avoid being arrested and tried in the United States.

Hospital emergency rooms in bad shape

"Doctors around the United States describe emergency rooms as explosive pressure cookers where intense human suffering collides on a daily basis with harsh new economic realities confronting hospital officials," the *Los Angeles Times* reported on July 25, in an article describing the nation's inadequate emergency facilities.

"More and more people are arriving sicker and poorer at busy inner-city emergency rooms. Hospitals, however, are increasingly unwilling to absorb the cost of caring for them, due to tight budgets caused by stringent government cost controls, low occupancy rates, and in some cases, debts from overexpansion. . . . Looking to cut their losses, hospitals have closed their trauma centers or curtailed emergency service," the article continued.

The *Times* described Los Angeles as "probably the epicenter of this critical problem," quoting Dr. Stephen Groth, president of the California chapter of the American College of Emergency Physicians. Four private hospitals in downtown Los Angeles plan to close their emergency rooms in August to public ambulances that transport victims of "911" distress calls, while five others have threatened to follow suit.

In New York, hospitals are so full of critically ill patients that they back up into the emergency room, creating what Dr. Lewis Goldfrank of Bellevue Hospital called "medical gridlock."

● **HENRY HUDSON**, the U.S. Attorney in Alexandria, Virginia, received a setback to his ambitions as a "media idol" on July 27, when a federal judge ordered Jordanian-American Mousa Hawanda released without bail. Hudson had demanded Hawanda's incarceration, saying that he had plotted to assassinate Oliver North. But no indictment to this effect was issued. Justice Department officials publicly disputed Hudson's claim, and the judge said he found it "singular" that the suspect was not charged with any such activity.

● **GOV. MARIO CUOMO**, interviewed July 24 on the "Face the Nation" television program, said that Michael Dukakis will follow the budget-cutting recommendations of the Rohatyn Commission and the National Economic Commission, two of the fascist planning bodies exposed in *EIR*'s cover story last issue. Dukakis's defense policy would show, said Cuomo, "that you can spend less and still be strong."

● **JOHN SASSO**, the former Dukakis campaign manager, is trying to get back into the campaign. *Insight on the News* reported Aug. 8 that he may be considered for a spot in a Dukakis administration—possibly White House Chief of Staff. Sasso was fired for putting out a videotape on candidate Sen. Joseph Biden's plagiarism of speeches by a British trade union leader.

● **NEW YORK TIMES** editorial July 28 asks: "Should Cocaine Cost More? Less?" The *Times* maintains that "efforts to restrict cocaine sales haven't worked," since "arrests and seizures of cocaine are way up since 1980, but so is consumption." Their answer is to sell the dope at a low price, to ease the pressure on regular users, but put more policeman on the street to regulate sales.