

International Intelligence

Thai official to visit Communist China

Thailand's Prime Minister Chatichai Choonhavan leaves for the People's Republic of China the week of Oct. 23 for a three-day unofficial visit, and is scheduled to meet Chinese leaders to discuss bilateral issues.

A government spokesman had no details on a meeting with exiled Kampuchean Prince Sihanouk while in China, but it is clear that a discussion of the International Control Mechanism for Kampuchea is on the agenda.

In a discussion with *EIR*, a Taiwanese expert said that Chatichai is planning to act as a middleman between China and the U.S. He said that if Chatichai really wants peace in neighboring Kampuchea, he could stop the flow of Chinese arms to the Khmer Rouge, but he is not going to do that while acting as a middleman for both China and the U.S.

Chatichai plans to visit the United States, shortly after his China visit.

Soviet Red Army demands food

The Soviet Red Army is launching an "autumn counteroffensive" against the politicians who are trying to cut the Army's budget and contain the military's power, the Italian daily *Corriere della Sera* reported Oct. 16.

"Soviet Army Launches a Warning: Enough with Starvation Stipends," *Corriere* headlines its coverage of a recent article in the Soviet military daily *Red Star* written by General Kanarik, who headed a commission set up by the Soviet Defense Ministry to study the state of the Soviet Army.

Kanarik's findings are reported in *Red Star* under the headline, "The Poverty Threshold." He says bluntly, "A people which does not wish to feed its own Army, ends up feeding the Army of the enemy." Kanarik reports there is considerable malaise spreading throughout the Soviet Army.

"An Army is strong when the people loves it. But the people are spitting at us when we pass by, in the Baltic, in the Transcaucasus." The Soviet forces are "not motivated and not understood," he said.

Kanarik says budget cuts are making conditions of life more precarious. In the Leningrad Military District alone, 200 young officers have asked to be decommissioned, and "this figure is only the tip of the iceberg, of the spirit of demobilization." He says that 91% of 2,000 sample Soviet officers polled, complained that their salary does not correspond to the "physical effort, energy, time, and huge psychological responsibility demanded of them." Often, their families have nothing to live on, and their lodging is bad. "Young officers are living in misery." One Russian general tells Kanarik, "A soldier in the American Army earns more than I do, and I am a general, and a junior officer in the American Army earns more than our Defense Minister."

The Soviet Army as an institution has "by no means thrown in the towel," but is fighting back against those who are attempting to rein it in, says *Corriere*.

Kissinger in trouble again

Henry Kissinger's Brazilian friends are once again being linked to drugs.

Since Sept. 24, *Jornal do Brasil* has been running a series exposing the Brazilian networks who protected American drug-runner William Reed Elswick who escaped prosecution in the U.S. by establishing operations in Brazil. Those operations included setting up Claymore International Bank in the Cayman Islands using Elswick's dirty money. Brazilian Congressman Hermes Zanetti is calling for a parliamentary inquiry into the charge that Elswick's money was used to found Claymore International.

"Claymore is currently an inactive bank. But in its initial phase it counted on important names on its board," *Jornal* notes. "The President of Claymore International was Sergio Correa da Costa, Brazilian ambassador in the United States from 1985-87, and

an ex-partner of Henry Kissinger in a consulting firm in New York. . . . In the same period, Correa da Costa was also director of the Brazilian branch of the Bank of Credit and Commerce International, BCCI, which has already been accused twice by the Federal Police of attempting to send dollars out of Brazil illegally; last year, the BCCI of Miami was accused of being one of the leading financial institutions laundering money earned by the mafia by drug trafficking."

While Correa da Costa claimed he had never been President of Claymore International, *Jornal* replied, on Sept. 28, "In fact, two-thirds of the voting capital of the BCCI de Brasil, of which Sergio Correa da Costa is chairman of the board, formally belongs to Brazilians, but its president is Englishman Ashley Jenner and 50% of its finance capital is from the Bank of Credit and Commerce International of London."

U.S. troop pullout from Korea hinted

U.S. Ambassador to Japan Michael Armacost hinted Oct. 12 that the 43,000 American troops in South Korea might be reduced in the near future, but said the move would be made with full consultation with Seoul, the *Washington Times* reported Oct. 13.

"There will come a time when it is appropriate to adjust the size of our presence," Armacost said in a speech at the Asian Research Council. "As the [South Korean] economy has grown and as it has become more self-sufficient militarily, we have been prepared to make adjustments in our relationship."

Armacost said the U.S. is ready to respond to "genuine efforts" by North Korea to join the international community, and welcomed the upcoming visit to Pyongyang of Gaston Sigur, former U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs. Sigur now heads the Sino-Soviet Institute at George Washington University. Sigur will visit there at the invitation of an institute of North Korea's Academy of Social Sciences. South Korean newspaper *Hanguk Ilbo* on Oct. 4 quoted a Sigur cohort

saying that Sigur will stay for about one week to "exchange views" with ruling circles "on all issues of interest of both the U.S. and North Korea."

Cardinal Ratzinger attacks modern 'art'

The modern arts are worshipping a cult of the ugly and evil, and are degrading man, Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger said in a speech at Dachau Castle in West Germany the weekend of Oct. 14-15.

There is a tendency in modern arts, he charged, that "turns the ugly into the basis of a new aesthetic theory, and meaninglessness into the new honesty."

This phony "new aesthetics" was taught in special depth by Theodor W. Adorno and his Frankfurt School, he said. Adorno said that the world is evil, therefore the arts couldn't present the good, and if it did, it was a lie. "What is expressed in this theory of the arts," said Cardinal Ratzinger, "is the ugliness of man and the world, man's evilness, hypocrisy and baseness."

Soviets fool around with ozone layer

The possibility that the Soviet Union is "punching holes" in the ozone layer as part of an "environmental warfare" grand strategy was raised by the Oct. 15 *Sunday Correspondent* of London in an article entitled, "Russia Researches Weather Wars."

"Soviet scientists are conducting experiments in the Arctic aimed at manipulating the weather for military purposes," the paper warns. The information comes from classified CIA documents that have been obtained by *The Economist's Foreign Report*. The Soviet program allegedly comprises "as many as 300 experiments falling directly under the Soviet high command," and could "contravene a U.N. ban on the military use of weather modification."

All nuclear powers except France and Communist China signed a convention at Geneva in 1977 prohibiting "hostile use of

environmental modification techniques," the paper said.

Author Amanda Mitchison comments that the CIA documents "claim there have been attempts to generate artificial lightning and punch holes in the ozone layer using bromine 'missile injectors.'"

Amnesty International backs drug mafia

Amnesty International intervened on behalf of Colombian drug traffickers, releasing a report on Oct. 10 blasting the Colombian armed forces and paramilitary groups for human rights abuses "on an unprecedented scale."

Amnesty warned that the current crisis over drugs could "divert attention" from this issue. It accused the Colombian armed forces of torture, causing "disappearances" of various personalities, and other abuses.

This stance may explain why Amnesty International's London headquarters has so far refused to intervene on behalf of political prisoner and anti-drug leader Lyndon LaRouche, even in the face of growing pressure from chapters and branches of Amnesty in different parts of the world.

NATO head cautions against force reduction

NATO Secretary General Manfred Woerner said at a symposium on NATO's future on Oct. 12 that the West has embarked on a risky strategy of encouraging the peaceful death of Communism in the Soviet bloc, but that this encourage-and-wait stance must march in step with a strong military posture in Western Europe until major arms agreements are concluded.

"It is a long-term program designed to reshape East-West relations fundamentally and to allow Communism to phase itself out peacefully," Woerner said. "But periods of great political change are also periods of greater risk. And the larger the risk, the more it must be underwritten by a sound insurance policy."

Briefly

● **THE BRAZILIAN** Congress has passed legislation which retroactively limits interest payments on foreign debt to a ceiling level of 6%, instead of the floating market-based interest rates which have been used ever since Brazil's debt crisis began in 1982.

● **VALERY GISCARD** d'Estaing, the former President of France, said that Gorbachov's economic *perestroika* policies will fail, in an interview with *Paris-Match* weekly Oct. 10. "One must be clear: He will not succeed." To the extent the Soviets continue to discover the reality, "they see an abyss at their feet."

● **B'NAI B'RITH** has opened chapters for the first time in Moscow, Leningrad, Riga, and Vilnius, the *Wall Street Journal* reported Oct. 13. The Soviet authorities apparently have not interfered, and an unprecedented founding dinner was held in a Leningrad Hotel.

● **PRINCE PHILIP**, president of the World Wildlife Fund, arrived in Thailand Oct. 17, and called on the King before presiding over a public function in Phuket organized by the Wildlife Fund of Thailand. He will proceed to Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia where Queen Elizabeth has been on a week-long state visit.

● **DRESDEN'S OPERA** House staff quoted what Ludwig van Beethoven had to say about freedom and truth, in the program notes for their new performance of his opera *Fidelio*. "Always hold freedom and truth in high esteem, especially when standing in front of the thrones of those who have the power."

● **'TORIESFIDDLE** While Economy Burns," headlined Oct. 15's *Sunday Times* of London report on the ruling Conservative Party's conference. While major upheavals had gone on that week, "there was no hint of any such fundamental change in the balance of power in Blackpool."