

International Intelligence

Beijing increases student repression

The Communist Chinese government put security forces on alert and reinforced plain-clothes police forces on university campuses, after it became known that Romanian Communist dictator Nicolae Ceausescu had been overthrown, the *International Herald Tribune* reported on Dec. 26.

Chinese sources said that police were to monitor any gathering of students and follow any groups, no matter how small, who leave the campuses.

On Dec. 23, when Ceausescu was reported to have eluded capture, students pasted an anti-government poster on a university billboard. "A dog is missing. Its name is Ceausescu," a student quoted it as saying. "Little dog, do not go and mix with the other three dogs, Deng [Xiaoping], Yang [Shangkun], and Li [Peng]."

To maintain tighter control, police leaves were canceled as of Dec. 24, and work unit leaders in Beijing were told to keep strict control of any signs of dissent. There was increased police presence at Christmas Eve services at Catholic and Protestant churches in Beijing.

On Dec. 26, according to Reuters, students at Beijing University celebrated Ceausescu's death by smashing bottles—a taunt aimed at Deng Xiaoping, whose name in Chinese sounds like "little bottle."

Aoun: Will Syria be next to fall?

The U.S.-Soviet backed puppet regime in Syria is in bad shape following the fall of the Ceausescu regime in Romania, states a Christmas-day press release from the Baabda presidential palace of Prime Minister Gen. Michel Aoun in Lebanon.

"With the fall of the Ceausescu regime, the Hafez Assad regime has been shaken in Syria," the release comments. "In effect, up to this day, Romania was providing 45% of Syrian military and industrial technology, in application of the 'preferential accords of cooperation' between the two regimes in the

economic, industrial, commercial, and military domains. The Assad regime is worried, in the face of such developments, for its infrastructure, taking into account that 70% of the road and telecommunications networks are of Romanian construction, and, what's more, undertaken without recompense by teams of several Romanian 'experts.'"

The release further points to the "technical and human exchanges on the level of methods and means of repression."

It is also getting increasingly difficult for Syria to conceal its vast drug-producing and trafficking operations, which White House officials continue to claim do not exist. In response to a Freedom of Information Act request in the United States by Joseph Bookaker, a vice-chairman of the Council of Lebanese-American Organizations, the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration replied that it has so many files on its "Operation Minaret"—an investigation into Syrian-controlled heroin production in Lebanon's Bekaa Valley—that it would cost \$108,110.38 to duplicate the entire file.

Fundamentalist upsurge in Algeria

Algeria seems to be ripe for an upsurge in Islamic fundamentalist activities following the Dec. 8 mass rally of 10,000 Islamic women organized by Sheikh Mahfoud Nana in the capital Algiers. At the rally, the militant women urged an end to all pro-Western and feminist activities.

The rally represented a show of strength by the Muslims who, over the last year, have been gaining greater influence there. During the second week in December, some members of the central committee of the ruling National Liberation Front asked for Islamic Law to be implemented in Algeria and for French to be banned from schools (or replaced by English). The spread of fundamentalism in Algeria has been the result of combined pressures exerted by the United States and the International Monetary Fund for a "greater liberalization and democratization" of the Algerian society.

The same argument is being used in

Washington against Tunisia. During the November visit of Tunisian President Ben Ali, U.S. President George Bush is known to have expressed his "surprise" at Ben Ali's refusal to give official status to the Tunisian fundamentalists. The Tunisian fundamentalist leader Ghannouchi is known to be working on behalf of the CIA in Afghanistan where, as a Tunisian Muslim, he led several missions of reconciliation between the Afghan Mujahedeen groups. With political support coming from Washington, Ghannouchi is financed directly by the Saudis.

In exchange for the Tunisian Muslims playing a role in Afghanistan on behalf of Washington, the Bush administration promised to use its influence to obtain their public recognition in Tunisia. These repeated demands have now created a serious diplomatic row between Tunisia, Saudi Arabia, and the United States.

ADL lauds 'Fourth Reich' hysteria

Kenneth Bialkin, past chairman of the Anti-Defamation League and former attorney for drug-runner Robert Vesco, in an interview with a journalist on Dec. 20 showered praise on the British journalist Conor Cruise O'Brien's recent diatribes against a unified Germany, which he has dubbed the "Fourth Reich." "There is no finer historian or political analyst in the world than Conor Cruise O'Brien. He is totally honest and perceptive. I know him, I've met him, I've conversed with him. He's open, sincere, and realistic. The last thing I would do is disagree with him. If he is raising these concerns about the emergence of a Fourth Reich, then I think he should be taken very, very seriously."

Bialkin said that he believes "it's understandable that German reunification would create a lot of fears and concerns. A unified and strengthened Germany could present a threat of some kind to Europe and to others. One has to keep in mind the Hitler era; one has to keep in mind the aggression of the Germans, who let themselves be led into a very bad path."

Briefly

● **PATRICIO AYLWIN**, a Christian Democrat, was the winner of the Dec. 14 presidential elections in Chile. He had about 55% of the votes, against former Finance Minister Hernán Buchi with 29% and populist businessman Francisco Javier Errazuriz with 15%.

● **EGYPTIAN** Interior Minister Baki Badr, an opponent of the Islamic fundamentalists, was the target of an assassination attempt on Dec. 17, when a pick-up truck carrying explosives blew up 30 yards from him. He was not hurt.

● **JAPANESE** and Soviet negotiators resolved nothing as they unsuccessfully attempted to draft a treaty to formally end World War II hostilities. A Japanese Foreign Ministry official reported on Dec. 19 that "There were absolutely no new points of contact."

● **ISRAEL** has begun buying oil from Iran in an effort to use trade ties to gain the release of Israeli soldiers, and possibly other Western hostages held in Lebanon, NBC News reported Dec. 18.

● **'SWEDISH** managing directors will now have to learn German, and it will probably again become the second language in the curriculum," exclaimed Carl Bildt, leader of the Conservative Party of Sweden, during a visit to East Berlin on Dec. 11. "There will be a Great Germany. There is no doubt of that," he said.

● **THE U.S.** and the Soviet Union signed an agreement on Dec. 21 on how to verify their Intermediate-range Nuclear Forces (INF) Treaty, Reuters reported. "The memorandum of agreement that was signed this session records the procedures and equipment for carrying out the on-site inspection provisions of the treaty," said U.S. spokesman John Garner.

From the opposite side, Lyndon LaRouche, who has relentlessly exposed the ADL's real identity as "American Drug Lobby," noted on Dec. 9 that ever since 1968, during the "New Left" experiments at Columbia University in New York, LaRouche had suspected Conor Cruise O'Brien of having been involved in Soviet-linked intelligence operations." LaRouche warned, "Those who follow Conor Cruise O'Brien within Britain are committing worse than the mistake made by Chamberlain and company, and Britain generally, in 1938-39 on the issue of first Czechoslovakia, and then Poland itself."

An ADL delegation will soon arrive in Moscow, to "investigate anti-Semitism."

Another U.S. arms deal for Iran

Intelligence sources suspect that delivering more arms to Iran was one of the topics of discussion between U.S. National Security Adviser Brent Scowcroft, Deputy Secretary of State Lawrence Eagleburger, and Chinese leaders during early December.

The last round of American-Iranian negotiations reportedly took place in late November in Algiers, in the immediate aftermath of Bush's personal decision to unfreeze some \$567 million worth of Iranian assets. The next steps are to include American compensation for the families of the Iranian Airbus shot down in July 1988, as well as new weapons deliveries. On Dec. 13, Washington officially announced that compensation to the families of the non-Iranian passengers was going to be paid.

Intelligence sources note the following elements of the negotiations: 1) At the beginning of December, an important Chinese military delegation visited Teheran, and Sino-Iranian military cooperation has been growing in all fields, including nuclear energy in the last year. 2) Iran's announcements in recent months, according to which its military industries have developed a "Made in Iran" new type of helicopter or even jet fighter, are reportedly merely a cover for a flow of weapons shipments from the West.

3) Several clients of Kissinger Associates have financial interests in both China and Iran, such as the Fluor Corporation, which built the Isfahan oil-petrochemical complex together with the Thyssen company of Germany. In November, the Iranian government reached an agreement with Thyssen for work to be continued.

Havel is new Czech President

At the end of the most tumultuous two months in Czechoslovakia since the 1968 Soviet invasion, a new non-Communist government has been sworn in in Prague, headed by playwright Vaclav Havel as President, and by former "Prague Spring" Prime Minister Alexander Dubcek as chairman of parliament.

The leadership change was announced Dec. 22 after talks between the Communist Party, the opposition Civic Forum, and other political groups, according to the Communist Party newspaper *Rude Pravo*.

The formal transition of power in Prague began on Dec. 7 with the resignation of Prime Minister Ladislav Adamec in the wake of the opposition National Front's demands for a say in the selection of seven key ministers in a new government. On Dec. 10, Czechoslovak President Gustav Husak swore in his country's first government without a Communist majority in 41 years, and resigned immediately afterwards. The new government, headed by Communist Prime Minister Marian Calfa, is composed of nine other Communists, seven unaffiliated ministers, and two each from the Socialist and People's parties.

Another Communist, Gen. Miroslav Vacek, who was named defense minister in an earlier reshuffle, retained his post.

On Dec. 17 several thousand people packed into a Prague church for a mass commemorating students injured in a rally exactly one month before. Afterwards, tens of thousands of Czechoslovak students marched through central Prague along the same route used in November, when police ambushed and brutally assaulted marchers.