

# International Intelligence

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## ***U.S., Soviets clinched a new 'Yalta' betrayal***

A deal was clinched between the United States and the Soviet Union in November, whereby the U.S. assured Moscow that it would do nothing to hinder Soviet freedom of action "as far as the Baltic states were concerned," in exchange for a modification of the Soviet position on the Gulf. So stated an associate of Lithuanian President Vytautas Landsbergis, in a discussion with *EIR* on Nov. 27.

He estimated that this arrangement was established during U.S. Secretary of State James Baker III's trip to Moscow, and was reinforced during the summit meeting in Paris of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE). One concrete sign that a deal has been struck, he claimed, was a recent U.S. Senate decision to stop \$10 million in humanitarian aid to Lithuania.

Soon after the Baker visit, the source noted, Soviet Prime Minister Nikolai Ryzhkov began to harden the Soviet position toward a Lithuanian delegation with which he was negotiating, causing a breakdown of the negotiations.

"The situation now in Lithuania is desperate," said the source. "Landsbergis is practically calling for international help. He fears that the duly elected Lithuanian government, including himself, will be arrested by the Soviet Army. In the recent chain of events in Lithuania, the Army is practically taking over."

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## ***Israeli paper charges coverup of Saudi slavery***

Why doesn't the Israeli press make a bigger deal about slavery in Saudi Arabia? asks *Jerusalem Post* editorial page editor David Bar-Illan, in the paper's Nov. 16 issue. Under the heading "Slavery, Saudi-style," Bar-Illan writes: "One would think that the expulsion of almost a million Arabs, damning them to penury, suffering and death; the quasi-enslavement of another million; and

the torture, rape and robbery of hundreds of thousands of others, would make the front pages. The expelled are Yemenis, workers who have been in Saudi Arabia for decades. Many were born there. Only those who can find a 'patron'—for all intents a slavemaster who can expel them at will—can stay.

"Yet there is not a word of it in the Israeli press, and only random comment in the world press. Is it because the perpetrators of this enormity are the Saudis, whom the world must placate, lest they withdraw their permission to let Americans defend them? Or is it because when Arabs massacre, torture, exile and enslave other Arabs, it is considered as natural as the slaughter of millions of Africans by Africans? There is no more riling racism than that which relegates whole peoples to subhumanity and 'forgives' them their crimes, the way one forgives jungle animals."

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## ***Mandela rejects U.S. role in Persian Gulf***

Nelson Mandela, the deputy chairman of the African National Congress (ANC), said that the United States has no right to be stationing troops in the Persian Gulf region, and stated his readiness to be a mediator in the crisis. An interview with Mandela was published by the German daily *Die Welt* on Nov. 26.

Mandela attacked the "hypocrisy" of the United States and the West, since the U.S. invaded and occupied Grenada, and undermined that country's independence, yet there was hardly a protest in the West. Then, the U.S. arrested a foreign head of state by force, in the case of Panama, without any discussion or consent of the U.N., yet there was no reaction of protest from the West. "Such hypocrisy, we do not accept," stated Mandela. "Besides, America and the West have no reason to have troops in the Persian Gulf."

Asked whether he would be willing to play an active role in resolving the Gulf crisis, given that he is a hero in the Arab world, Mandela replied: "I can, first of all, play the role of mediator if I am asked to do so.

Whether I would do it, depends on a decision by the ANC, not by me alone. . . . I would meet Saddam, if the ANC decides."

Beyond this, Mandela insisted that the West demand Israel's withdrawal from the occupied territories, and take action to stop Israel's brutal treatment of the Palestinians. That pressure on Israel should be done with the same intensity as Iraq is being pressured on the Kuwaiti issue. "There is not the slightest basis to make a distinction between these two problems," he said.

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## ***Poland wants protection from Soviet turmoil***

The Polish government has asked the United States for a treaty that could include stationing U.S. troops on Polish soil, according to the *Washington Times* of Nov. 20.

The paper writes that the treaty is intended "to protect Poland from the fallout of the possible collapse of the Soviet Union, which Poles think is 'dangerously near' according to diplomatic sources. The proposed pact could include stationing U.S. troops in Poland to protect its eastern border from potential turmoil in the Soviet republics. . . . So far discussions between Poland and the Bush administration have centered mainly on Polish concern about a power vacuum in Eastern and Central Europe following the withdrawal of Soviet troops from the area."

Czechoslovakia and Hungary's ambassadors to Washington are said to have joined the talks at one point.

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## ***Bolivian anti-drug commander steps down***

General Lucio Añez, commander of Bolivia's Special Anti-Drug Force (FELCN), will be leaving his post, according to a Nov. 9 report from the Spanish news agency, EFE. General Añez, who previously served as Bolivia's representative before the Inter-American Defense Board in Washington, D.C., said he is leaving the job for health

reasons and will seek medical treatment in Brazil.

The resignation occurs in the midst of tremendous political and social upheaval in Bolivia. Recently, the national Congress voted not to impeach President Jaime Paz Zamora on charges that he had violated the Constitution last year, when he authorized the extradition of drug trafficker Col. Luis Arce Gómez to the United States. Bolivia does not have an extradition treaty with the United States.

After the Congress voted Nov. 20 to oust eight members of the Supreme Court for alleged ties to the drug trade, Supreme Court President Edgar Oblitas charged the nation was facing an "institutional coup d'état." After 18 months of factional brawling between the government coalition and the opposition, the nation is effectively paralyzed. Rumors of military coup plots are rampant.

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## *El Salvador's FMLN launches offensive*

The FMLN rebel organization in El Salvador attacked six provincial capitals before dawn of Nov. 20, hitting the Air Force base on the edge of the capital city of San Salvador and severing a major highway linking the capital to the northern provinces. Electricity for more than two-thirds of the country was cut off.

The FMLN delivered a communiqué to the press warning that their assault was deliberately limited in scope, but that if talks with the government collapsed, a much larger-scale offensive would be undertaken. "In the spirit of accelerating the negotiating process, we have decided to respond militarily to the impunity, repression, and military operations of the Armed Forces and to the intransigence of the government in rejecting the total demilitarization of society," said the communiqué.

The FMLN are not the only ones trying to force the government to the bargaining table. The Bush administration is similarly committed to a policy of "negotiating" dual power in El Salvador, with its military the

number one target. U.S. congressional legislation withholding aid to El Salvador's military to force negotiations with the FMLN is also White House policy.

This was confirmed by Assistant Secretary of State for Inter-American Affairs Bernard Aronson, who, in an opinion column in the *Washington Post* Oct. 12, complained that "too often in the past," the U.S. has "retreated in the face of intransigence by the Armed Forces." He urged cutting the military by 60%, as a step toward implementing "changes in the structure and size of the Armed Forces that would have gotten a Salvadoran leftist killed less than a decade ago." On Oct. 23, Aronson wrote a letter to the *New York Times* defending the administration's commitment to a ceasefire in El Salvador with the argument that "the people of El Salvador deserve an end to the violence." The U.S. decision to apply its "Lebanon" policy to El Salvador—namely, to sit back and watch it self-destruct—is hardly what El Salvador's people deserve.

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## *Chinese bishops are sentenced to hard labor*

At least two bishops of the underground Catholic Church in Communist China have been sentenced to prison after secret trials, the German newspaper *Süddeutsche Zeitung* reported Nov. 22 from Beijing.

Bishops Phillip Yang Libo, 76, of Gansu province, and Paul Li Zhenrong, 71, of Hebei, were sentenced to three years of prison at hard labor for their religious activities. Another bishop, Joseph Li Side, has been held in Tientsin for at least a year.

The three belong to a group of about 20 bishops and priests who were arrested at the end of last year, after 10 bishops had founded an independent bishops conference in Shaanxi province in November 1989 in the name of the underground Church faithful to the Vatican, splitting from the Beijing-controlled Catholic Patriotic Association. "Collaboration" with the Vatican is punishable by 10 years to life in prison and "reform through labor."

# Briefly

● **TARIQ AZIZ**, the foreign minister of Iraq, charged on Nov. 14 that the CIA might sponsor terrorist acts in order to blame them on Iraq. Alluding to a statement by White House spokesman Marlin Fitzwater, Aziz warned, "The U.S. official was apparently hinting of the U.S. intention to link Iraq with terrorist acts, most probably committed by the CIA to implicate Baghdad."

● **PERU** was the site of the First International Pan-American Mystical Congress on Nov. 24-25. Satanists, magicians, and those devoted to witchcraft, the search for UFOs, and other esoteric topics, attended from around the world. The event was organized by something called Peru Mystic Tour.

● **A SHAKEUP** in the Jordanian government is anticipated by an informed British Arabist. He forecast that the Jordanian parliament would soon have a vote of no-confidence in the government, and that King Hussein would be obliged to appoint a new government, which would be more oriented toward the Muslim Brotherhood and would have a more "pro-Iraqi" tinge.

● **SPAIN'S BISHOPS** issued a strongly worded criticism of the country's Socialist government on Nov. 23. The document condemns "nepotism," "black money," the "bad use of the public money," and "discrimination for ideological reasons," adding, "We are confronted with a society which is morally ill. . . . Spain has been transformed into a big casino."

● **THE SOVIETS** will withdraw 200,000 troops from Asia by 1992, according to Vadim Medvedev, a member of the Soviet Presidential Council, in a speech to businessmen in Seoul, South Korea. He said the Soviet Union was ready to "guarantee the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula along with other nuclear powers."