

International Intelligence

Russian military issues resolution against Japan

At closed-door hearings of the Russian Parliament Constitutional Committee on July 28, the Russian military issued a "Resolution of the Russian Federation's Armed Forces General Staff on the problem of territorial delimitation between Russia and Japan." The statement criticized Russia's Foreign Ministry and stated that no compromise is possible with Tokyo over the Kurile Islands.

The resolution criticizes the Japanese for "tying up the question of . . . financial help . . . extension of economic cooperation, and signing a peaceful treaty between Russia and Japan with the resolution of the 'territorial issue.'"

After detailing the importance of the Kuriles for Russia, the resolution notes: "The Japanese possession of the southern part of the Kuriles may create, should there be a war with Japan, a serious threat to the rest of the islands, when seizure or at least control over them would completely preclude the deployment of the naval forces in the Pacific Ocean, would considerably complicate the defense of Kamchatka Island, and "would provide the adversary with an important superiority." The resolution adds, "The military-political leadership in the U.S. and Japan regard Hokkaido Isle as a main launching pad for deploying landing groupings against the Russian Far East."

The document warns that the Kuriles should not be traded for "a transient economic profit."

Argentine-Chile border pact meets resistance

A border agreement which Argentine President Carlos Menem wants to sign with Chilean President Patricio Aylwin, by which Argentina would cede 1,057 square kilometers of territory in the Patagonian province of Santa Cruz to Chile, has provoked intense resistance in Argentina. A statement published in the Aug. 7 *La Prensa*, signed by

former Presidents Arturo Frondizi and Juan Carlos Onganía, asserts that by moving the border eastward, as the agreement contemplates, Argentina would not only lose control of the Santa Cruz River basin, but that this would also affect Argentina's claims to the Antarctica "to the exclusive benefit of Great Britain and Chile."

Argentine Defense Minister Ernán González has emphasized that resolution of this dispute, which most Argentines recognize as having already been resolved in a 1902 Papal edict, will guarantee the demilitarization of both nations.

However, there is not yet sufficient support inside Congress for the bill that Menem is supposed to present in Chile on Aug. 27. There have been mass protests in front of the Congress and frantic attempts by Foreign Minister Guido Di Tella to muster the necessary votes.

In a statement on Aug. 7, Col. Mohamed Alf Seineldín, the nationalist leader imprisoned after the Dec. 3, 1990 uprising against the Army high command, attacked Menem's giveaway as a "scandalous and shameful" decision coherent with his policy of dismantling the Armed Forces.

Seineldín warned Menem that, unless he changes his policies, "with an ignored population, dispossessed territory . . . and violated sovereignty, there can be no state or nation."

Russian paper praises pope for his leadership

Nezavisimaya Gazeta, an independent Russian newspaper, called Pope John Paul II "the friend of freedom and the foe of despondency," in a story on Aug. 4 about the pope's latest illness. It noted that Russians, even Orthodox Christians, were concerned about his health. "What is the secret of John Paul II?" the publication asked.

The article stressed the pope's role within the Catholic Church and the way he affected processes of change in eastern Europe. "For those who were waiting for changes, for those who during all these years followed the activities of the pope . . .

John Paul II is the friend of freedom and the foe of despondency. . . . It is possible . . . to recall many of his prayers, speeches, and addresses in which he talked about the fact that pessimism and despondency cannot be justified. . . . Many followed his everyday activities as well as the activities of Solidarnosc which in our historic conscience is connected with its spiritual (and not only spiritual) father—the pope." Despair, despondence, and pessimism were rejected by John Paul II not only "in words, but in practice."

The article claimed that because of the strength the Catholic Church has shown under the pope's leadership, the Russian Orthodox Church has also grown in numbers and developed a new internal strength. "Without all that has been done by John Paul II it is impossible to fully comprehend the history of Europe in the 20th century—including . . . the history of the return to Christianity in Russia . . . at the end of this century."

Azeri forces step up aerial bombardments

Azerbaijani forces have stepped up aerial attacks against Armenians in the enclave of Nagorno-Karabakh in Azerbaijan, including the first-ever air attacks on the Karabakh capital of Stepanakert. At least 20 Armenians were killed and 50 wounded in an air attack in early August. In protest, the Armenian delegation has stormed out of the multinational talks on Karabakh which are now taking place in Rome.

In an interview with BBC on Aug. 7, Britain's Baroness Cox gave an account of the devastation in Karabakh, many details of which have been independently confirmed by *EIR*. She said, based on a trip to the region, that the situation has "deteriorated very seriously since June." The Armenians are feeling more and more desperate, as they are faced with constant bombardments, food shortages, refugee flows, and masses of people living in underground shelters. Azeri forces have adopted a "scorched earth" strategy against the Arme-

nians in towns or villages they have conquered, including using incendiary bombs to burn down houses. The Azeris have "an enormous preponderance of weaponry," and are now subjecting the Armenians to "fearful aerial bombardments." The Armenians have no capability to retaliate by air, and no intention, in any case, of doing so.

Baroness Cox said the mood in Karabakh was one of "great despair," with the Armenian population faced with "enormous suffering." She warned, "They are in danger of being annihilated, and the world is in danger of looking away."

British monarchy moves to restore censorship

The recent uproar in England over press leaks on alleged sexual escapades of minister John Mellor, which culminated in stern warnings by the Press Council, is part of a campaign by the British monarchy to gag the press and prevent further indiscretions as to their financial and other evil-doings, according to Irish sources.

This assessment coheres with actions taken recently by the intelligence services against the press. On July 31, for example, the High Court in London held Channel 4 television in contempt for refusing to disclose its sources for a documentary alleging that the British military in Northern Ireland was linked to loyalist death squads, and was fined £75,000. These sources would most certainly be murdered were their names to become known. All leading journalists in the country have denounced the court's decision as, as one journalist put it, "the end of investigative journalism in this country."

This ruling is of the greatest importance in the light of the new directive by Miss Remington, head of MI-5, that British security forces may engage in domestic terrorist operations as "stings."

Similarly, Alan Muir of *The Sun* and Ron MacKay of *Scotland on Sunday* were arrested in raids on their homes in England and Scotland, after they published a report on a mysterious break-in to Edinburgh police headquarters on July 18 which was high-

ly critical of police security and claimed that stolen information had been passed on to terrorist groups. McKay was charged with reset, a Scottish term for receiving stolen goods, although it appears that neither of the journalists ever saw or received the files.

Austrian paper warns against 'new Versailles'

A realization of U.N. plans for a new Kuwait-Iraq border would be "a new Versailles at the Persian Gulf," the Aug. 6 Austrian daily *Die Presse* wrote. The paper warned of a repetition of the blunders of 1919 that brought no peace to Europe after the First World War.

The result of the U. N. border plan would be the implantation of instability and revanchism in the region for the long term, thus increasing the potential for new conflicts in the future. This is also the analysis of Arab diplomats who are critical of Saddam Hussein but are at the same time criticizing the U.N. scheme which is backed, in their view, by a "shortsighted policy of the Americans," the paper reported.

Even opposition Iraqis such as Gen. Hassan al Naqib, who is living in exile in Damascus, oppose the U.N. border plan as a "time bomb" against stability in the Persian Gulf region. This indicates, *Die Presse* wrote, that the problem will remain under a post-Saddam regime.

Meanwhile, opposition to the use of force to oust Iraqi President Saddam Hussein has been growing. Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad said, "We will not support any action to invade Iraq just to unseat Saddam. Our stand is clear as we are against military aggression," the Aug. 8 *New Straits Times* reported. Mahathir said Iraq's neighbors could build up their defenses with foreign help if they felt Baghdad threatened their sovereignty.

Russian President Boris Yeltsin said after his meeting with Ukraine President Leonid Kravchuk in Yalta on Aug. 3, that there is no need for special action against Iraq since it is currently meeting all U.N. conditions.

Briefly

● **MALAYSIAN** Foreign Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi expressed grave concern over China's moves in the South China Sea, the government news agency Bernama reported Aug. 1. We are getting "uneasy signals" from China with its moves in the area, he said. "It is important that they do not send the wrong signals."

● **EVIDENCE** of massive dope trading by U.S.-backed Afghan rebel groups has been suppressed by the U.S., the Pakistani daily *The News* reported Aug. 2. When the news first broke some time ago, U.S. officials in Islamabad intervened to cover the affair up, the daily reported.

● **AFGHANISTAN** security forces head Gen. Abdul Rasul Parwani died Aug. 2 when a bomb placed under his car detonated, according to reports from Kabul. No group has yet claimed authorship of the attack. Afghani security services have come under attack in Anglo-American intelligence and media circles recently for cooperating too closely with Iran.

● **THE ZIMBABWE** weekly newspaper *The People's Voice* reported on Lyndon LaRouche's illegal prosecution for a second time, in its June 28 edition. The article, entitled "Bush 'Prisoner' Wins North Dakota Primary," covered his proposal to nationalize the Federal Reserve and create 6 million jobs.

● **AZERBAIJAN** is establishing diplomatic relations with Iraq, Radio Moscow reported Aug. 8. A full embassy is soon to be opened, and an ambassador will be sent to Baghdad.

● **INDONESIA** halted sales of the *Wall Street Journal* and *International Herald Tribune* on Aug. 7 after the government demanded they apologize for publishing an "unethical" advertisement: DHL International Ltd., a courier firm, on Aug. 5 apologized for its advertisement, which showed portraits of five Asian leaders with Indonesian President Suharto next to that of a DHL employee.