

# International Intelligence

## **Philippines bishops criticize Ramos policy**

The Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines is attacking President Fidel Ramos's population control plan, charging that it is the result of U.S. "demographic imperialism" and citing U.S. National Security Study Memorandum 200, a 1974 document that demanded population control in Third World countries in the interests of U.S. national security.

Bishop Teodoro Bacani said, "We have a copy of a U.S. national security document that shows all its designs are happening in the Philippines. What we are going through is a case of demographic imperialism, or the imposition of population control on other nations by a richer nation."

Asked if family planning in the Philippines could be considered a U.S. plot, the Rev. James Reuter, a spokesman for the Bishops Conference, said, "That's exactly what [the U.S. study] implies." He added, "Certainly there is a strong belief in lay quarters that the family planning program comes to the Philippines from the U.S. [Agency for International Development], complete with targets and threats." He said that the "threats" involved making new loans contingent on meeting population targets.

The issue was taken up by the Council of the Laity of the Philippines, a leading Catholic lay group, which released a summary of the U.S. document at a news conference on Aug. 16. The Council of the Laity has vowed to challenge the constitutionality of the government's family planning program in the Supreme Court. It is holding what one priest described as "down with the condom" prayer rallies.

## **Cambodian government attacks Khmer Rouge**

Cambodian government forces on Aug. 18 launched the biggest attack on the Khmer Rouge guerrillas since the U.N. operations began in Cambodia in early 1992. The gov-

ernment has announced that it will not negotiate with the Khmer Rouge, which has been sabotaging railroads and bridges and attacking Vietnamese peasants in Cambodia. Government co-chairman Hun Sen said that the Khmer Rouge "must give its army and territory to the government. This is final, and it is not necessary to negotiate."

The Khmer Rouge, one of the most barbarous regimes in world history, was responsible for the deaths of an estimated 3 million Cambodians during its brief rule in 1975-79.

The Cambodian Army, made up of the three factions which participated in the national elections, attacked the Khmer Rouge positions in northwestern Cambodia, overrunning a Khmer Rouge stronghold near the Thai border on Aug. 18. Khmer Rouge leader Khieu Samphan, speaking from Bangkok, Thailand, called for negotiations, as government forces moved into contested areas in three other provinces.

This is the first time that the three government factions have fought together against the Khmer Rouge. Previously, the forces of Prince Sihanouk allied with the Khmer Rouge, with the backing of the U.N. Permanent Five and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, to oppose those of Hun Sen, in over a decade of civil war. U.N. spokesman in Cambodia Eric Falt expressed "surprise" that the new army was "working so quickly."

## **Bosnia war 'a delayed victory for Hitler'**

Warsaw Ghetto resistance leader Dr. Marek Edelman characterized the situation in Bosnia as "a delayed victory for Hitler, a victory from the grave," during a visit to besieged Sarajevo in mid-August. Filmed by a German television crew, Edelman drew comparisons between the West's failure to act to help the Warsaw Ghetto fighters against the Nazis and the current failure to act against those who have unleashed the war in Bosnia.

Edelman told the German interviewer,

"I thought that something had been learned, that the Munich agreement had made people learn. But I was wrong." Referring to the Warsaw Ghetto resistance in 1943, he said, "Then, too, we were alone. We had no military help—that was our misfortune. The world looked the other way."

## **Shining Path massacres Indian tribe in Amazon**

Showing their "love" for the "indigenous populations" which has made them the darlings of the international "human rights" mafia, the Peruvian narco-terrorist Shining Path guerrillas attacked members of the Ashaninka tribe in the Amazon jungle, 1,000 of whom had been liberated from Shining Path concentration camps a while ago, and murdered 55 in cold blood, including women and children, after torturing some of them. The Peruvian government has asked the international human rights organizations to come to Peru and verify the massacre.

The Peruvian government also released statistics showing the dramatic reduction in Shining Path activities since the government began its tough crackdown against the guerrillas, including the jailing of their leaders. The number of victims killed by Shining Path has fallen from 3,044 in 1991 to 2,617 in 1992 to 774 so far this year. Thirty more terrorists were captured in mid-August.

## **Boutros-Ghali upholds U.N. 'multilateralism'**

United Nations Secretary General Boutros Boutros-Ghali continued his assault on national sovereignty, appealing for an expansion of the "multilateral role" of the U.N., and denouncing resistance to this policy voiced by Italy, in a commentary in the *New York Times* on Aug. 20.

The most fundamental task of the post-Cold War era, he said, is "the defense and strengthening of a cooperative and healthy international state system while defending

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legitimate minority rights within state borders." Boutros-Ghali stated that "multilateralism is the democracy of international society. The United Nations has been mandated to undertake comprehensive and costly endeavors to transform societies and states where the risks of failure and likelihood of long-term involvement have been far beyond any one state's interests."

Alluding to Italy's objection to U.N. policies in Somalia, he stated: "National forces that voluntarily serve under unified multilateral command cannot expect to conduct or not conduct a military operation on their own decision or decide in the field to disobey orders. Member states that elect not to provide troops cannot subsequently decide to enter the theater of conflict at and in a manner of their own choosing, and governments should not feel aggrieved when the U.N. abides by binding resolutions and expects all states to do the same."

### **Former Algerian premier assassinated**

Kasdi Merbah, a former Algerian prime minister and security chief, was assassinated in an ambush outside Algiers at the end of August. Although the government blamed Islamic militants, there has been no claim of responsibility.

It is widely believed that many of the recent assassinations of political figures in Algeria have been linked to a power struggle within the regime itself, and are not actually the work of Muslim militants. The 1992 assassination of President Mohamed Boudiaf is seen as an example of this.

Merbah was an old-line member of the ruling National Liberation Front (FLN), and played an active part in the 1965 coup that brought Houari Boumediene to power. Although he had called for the militants to turn in their weapons to the government, he recently left the FLN to form his own opposition party, the Algerian Movement for Social Justice.

The assassination followed the recent sacking of Prime Minister Abdesselam Be-

laid, who had come under criticism by the International Monetary Fund. He was replaced by former Foreign Minister Redha Malek, who is willing to renegotiate Algeria's foreign debt, which has been a demand of its western creditors. Malek is also a hard-liner when it comes to dealing with the Islamic opposition.

### **London press boosts 'political correctness'**

London *Times* political editor Simon Jenkins proclaimed in a commentary on Aug. 18 that he has become more sympathetic to "political correctness" in the United States, after having read a "brilliant" article in the July 16 issue of the *Times Literary Supplement* by Prof. Ernest Gellner. Gellner, formerly of Cambridge University, is now a chief intellectual figure at the Central European University in Prague.

Wrote Jenkins: "Some months ago, the Royal Anthropological Institute launched a publicity campaign to bring anthropology closer to everyday life. The campaign implied that no well-ordered family should be without a consultant anthropologist. He would assist in such domestic chores as child abuse, sex discrimination and arguments over Bosnia. The RAI even suggested an anthropology telephone helpline.

"Mock not, says Professor Gellner. Social anthropology, the study of the evolution of human communities and cultures, is moving to the center of the intellectual and perhaps political stage. It is elbowing aside economics and political science. Gellner points out that Marxism was not the only thing that should have crashed in the 1980s. Much of social science, the thesis that human societies obey certain universal codes of behavior, deserved to crash with it."

According to Gellner, what is rising in the ashes of communism is not "liberal democracy," but "ethnicity, tribalism and territoriality." This is characteristic of a worldwide pattern: "From Somalia to Estonia, from Los Angeles to Kashmir, embattled tribes, however defined, are demanding recognition as groups not as individuals."

● **JORDAN** announced on Aug. 16 that it had detained 10 men, including six military students, for plotting to assassinate King Hussein at a public ceremony in June. The government is charging the Islamic Liberation Party with being behind the plot.

● **ARGENTINA** will be the site for a NATO meeting in October. U.S. Ambassador James Cheeks told the Argentine government that because of the country's "trustworthy" role in international bodies, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization will be meeting in Buenos Aires under the auspices of the Argentine Council of International Affairs.

● **TAIWAN** President Lee Teng-hui won another four-year term as chairman of the ruling Kuomintang party on Aug. 18. In the first election by secret ballot for the post in the KMT's 99-year history, Lee gained the votes of 1,686 delegates at the party's 14th congress. In a sign of unprecedented dissent among the Nationalists, however, 357 spoiled ballots were cast.

● **ISRAEL** is likely to break off its contacts with North Korea, following U.S. pressure, a high government official told Reuters on Aug. 16, following a meeting between Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres. Israel began contacts and investments this year, purportedly to try to stop North Korea from selling Iran missiles capable of striking Israel.

● **CHINA** told the United States on Aug. 13 to stop interfering with a Chinese ship which the United States alleged was carrying chemical weapon materials to Iran, and said it would hold Washington responsible for all consequences of the row. Assistant Foreign Minister Qin Huasun demanded that the United States call off its warships and military aircraft that have been tailing the ship.