

International Intelligence

Moscow accuses official of spying for Britain

Itar-Tass news agency reported on March 1 that a senior Russian arms industry official had confessed to spying for Great Britain, and that he had been supplied with invisible writing materials and means of secretly supplying information to intelligence agents at the British embassy in Moscow.

"On Jan. 25 the detainee was charged with high treason in the form of espionage, which he admitted fully," Tass said. The agency quoted Russia's Federal Counterintelligence Agency as saying the man had been arrested on Jan. 15. "On assignment for British intelligence for monetary reward, this Russian citizen collected and handed over information of a secret military and economic nature."

The information he passed on contained facts about the latest Russian research into the development of new weapons, as well as information about Russia's prospects of cooperation with other countries on defense projects, Interfax news agency said.

The announcement of the arrest by the Federal Counterintelligence Agency came one day after President Boris Yeltsin sacked the agency's chief, Nikolai Golushko. A presidential decree said only that Golushko, who headed the successor organization to the KGB since September, had been dismissed, and gave no reason. But Tass, quoting sources in the counterintelligence agency, linked his dismissal to the freeing of seven jailed opponents of Yeltsin from a prison under the agency's control. Other sources have linked the affair to the Aldrich Ames case in the United States, and have cited the Russian belief that Ames was betrayed by a U.S. "mole" within the Russian intelligence services.

Tory MP calls for resumption of SDI

Britain's Sir Nicholas Bonsor, a Conservative Member of Parliament and chairman of the House of Commons Select Committee on Defense, called for the West to revive a

Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI) program, in a commentary in the Washington-based *Defense News* of Feb. 21-27 entitled, "World Lurches Toward War—West Must Reverse Foolish Military Drawdown."

"The threat to world peace is now greater than it has been at any time since World War II," he wrote. "Major international conflict is likely to occur within the next decade or so. . . . The breakup of the Soviet Union may prove to be illusory. . . . We must ensure sufficient conventional strength to meet the demands of a major war."

Concerning the SDI, Sir Nicholas wrote: "The NATO allies must renew the program to produce an effective antiballistic missile defense system. . . . Military sources said that because of the earlier research, it should now be possible to produce such a system at an acceptable cost should development be resumed. Moscow already has a ground-based defense system, albeit of limited effectiveness, and both western Europe and America should ensure that at least their main population centers are similarly protected."

Pontifical Academy will fight for human life

Denouncing what it called a culture of death, the Vatican on March 1 announced the creation of a Pontifical Academy for Life. "The church isn't interested simply in affirming its own teaching about life issues, but plans to work so that this teaching be disseminated, explained, and defended," said Cardinal Fiorenzo Angelini, according to Reuters.

Angelini, head of the Pontifical Council for the Pastoral Care of Health Workers, said the new academy would be made up of 70 people named by Pope John Paul II. Angelini said the president would be the French geneticist Jerome Lejeune. It would include non-Catholics and non-Christians, but all members would be required to take an oath to follow Roman Catholic teachings on the sanctity of life, and would be expelled if they did not, Angelini said. The academy "won't ask them to believe in the doctrine of the Trinity and in the Immaculate Con-

ception, but in human life: against abortion, against contraception, against euthanasia."

Cardinal John O'Connor of New York said it was important "to protect human life in a growing culture of death" and that the academy would be "the counter-culture against the culture of death." He said the pope wanted the new academy to send a "very dramatic while at the same time very substantive" signal to the world about threats against life. The pope is expected to publish a major document on life issues before the end of the year.

O'Connor said the academy should help clarify Catholic teaching on the dignity of human life. He spoke of a "consistent ethic of life" which went far beyond opposing abortion and euthanasia and included promoting care for the poor and the homeless. He said he felt abortion was the key social issue today, and that it led to a host of other ills. "I've never condemned a woman who's had an abortion," he said. "We're not in the business of condemning. But we've had a contempt for human life that . . . now is advancing more toward euthanasia and assisted suicide."

Russian church and military reach accord

The Russian Orthodox Church (ROC) and the Russian military concluded an agreement on March 3 to coordinate "spiritual" and "patriotic" policies in the country. Patriarch Aleksii II and Defense Minister Pavel Grachev decided to set up a special committee to coordinate ROC-military work. This would have the aim of reinforcing "spiritual values" and "the traditional values of the Motherland." This includes allowing ROC clergy to enter Russian Army garrisons, pursuant to local agreements between commanders and clergy.

This agreement is a reflection of the "Third Rome" matrix which, as *EIR* and Lyndon LaRouche have said, is now governing Russia. According to the ROC's age-old doctrine, Moscow is destined to be the third and final Rome, the capital of a new empire.

The agreement invokes the cooperation between church and army during World War II: "Our collaboration is centuries old. Today, on the eve of the 50th anniversary of victory, the re-emergence of this tradition will contribute to the moral and spiritual reinforcement of the Russian Army."

The patriarch declared that the Russian Orthodox Church "has always helped the Armed Forces to defend the holy borders of our Fatherland." He stressed that "there are many believers in the Army, and we have to satisfy their spiritual needs."

Said Grachev, "The military needs ecclesiastical help to educate the young generation. Never has spiritual support been so important."

Commenting on the news, the Italian daily *Corriere della Sera* wrote, "After Marx, there is God; after Marxism-Leninism, Holy Russia; after ideology, catechism; after the commissars, the priests. The Red Army is converting."

New British spy chief is Middle East expert

British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd named David Rolland Spedding as the new chief of MI-6, the United Kingdom's foreign intelligence service. Spedding is a leading Arabist, and that could spell danger for the Middle East.

After attending Sherborne public school and studying history at Hertford College, Oxford, Spedding joined the secret service in 1967. He immediately moved into the Middle East Center for Arab Studies, the British foreign service and intelligence training establishment at Shemlan, in the hills above Beirut, Lebanon. This establishment was moved to Cairo during the Lebanese civil war. Spedding was then stationed in Beirut. From 1972-74 he was stationed in Santiago, Chile, his only service outside of the Middle East, which coincided with the overthrow of Chilean President Salvador Allende. In 1978, he was stationed in Abu Dhabi. From 1981-83 he was based at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office in London. In 1983-86 he was counsellor in Am-

man, Jordan, where he received the Commander of the Royal Victorian Order on the occasion of Queen Elizabeth's visit to Jordan. He also has an Order of the British Empire. From 1986-92—hence during the Gulf war—he worked on Mideast affairs in London.

Known as a field operative, Spedding is said to have once led a joint operational section staffed by both MI-6 and MI-5 (domestic security), as well as being in charge of Middle East operations. One press report says he was MI-6's terror expert during the 1980s. Since 1993 he has been director of operations in MI-6, second only to the director.

According to press reports, Spedding had been exposed to the Soviets as a spy by Kim Philby, another Arabist who defected to the Soviets in 1963 while stationed in Beirut.

Christian leaders denounce Iraqi embargo

Pope John Paul II has accepted an invitation by the Iraqi government to visit Iraq, said Chaldean Patriarch Rafael Bidawid, the leader of Iraq's 1 million Christians, at a press conference on Feb. 26. The pope will be able to "see the suffering of the Iraqi people," he said, referring to the impact of the United Nations trade embargo against Iraq. No date has been set for the visit.

Christian leaders of Middle Eastern churches visiting Iraq denounced the trade sanctions imposed on Iraq. "We have seen the suffering and lived with it for several days," they said in a joint statement. "It is a flagrant aggression against human rights. . . . We persistently call for a lifting of the embargo . . . regardless of political differences between governments," the statement said.

The church leaders also called on Iraqi Christians to stay and not leave their country. "We are aware of your pain and the hardships you pass through as a result of the embargo. Nonetheless loyalty to faith and homeland urge you to be patient and stick to [your] land and heritage," the statement added.

● **SOUTH AFRICA** and the Vatican on March 5 established full diplomatic relations. The pope is due to make a trip to Africa late this year or early 1995, and Vatican sources have said that South Africa could be included in that trip. The pope accepted South African President F.W. De Klerk's invitation to come to South Africa when De Klerk visited the Vatican last December.

● **THE SDI** defeated communism, said Russian novelist Alexander Solzhenitsyn, according to David Remnick writing in *New Yorker* magazine on Feb. 14. "The Cold War was essentially won by Ronald Reagan when he embarked on the 'star wars' program and the Soviet Union understood that it could not take this next step," said Solzhenitsyn.

● **CHINESE** Premier Li Peng stressed the importance of "public security," at a meeting in Beijing in preparation for the National People's Congress, which opens in March, the *China Daily* reported. Participants in the meeting stressed that "the public security system is grim and the public is discontented."

● **ESTONIAN** President Lennart Meri on March 7 charged Russia and the West with imposing a new "Ribbentrop-Molotov Pact" on his country, with their demands that Estonia sign a four-year agreement with Russia on the continued use of the Russian radar station at Skundra. Estonia wants all Russian troops out by Aug. 31, 1994, as originally envisioned.

● **ISRAEL** needs a Charles de Gaulle who can bring about "the peace of the brave" as France's de Gaulle did in solving the French-Algeria crisis of the late 1950s-early 1960s, PLO chairman Yasser Arafat told the French daily *Libération*, in an interview published on March 3. De Gaulle achieved peace, said Arafat, by confronting the Secret Army Organization (OAS), which was mounting an illegal challenge to the authorities.