

# International Intelligence

---

## ***U.S. tries to revive Bosnia-Croatia alliance***

U.S. Defense Secretary William Perry and Assistant Secretary of State Richard Holbrooke were slated to meet with both Bosnian and Croatian officials on Feb. 5 at the Wehrkunde conference in Munich, to attempt to reaffirm the "Washington Accords" which established a federation between Croatia and Bosnia last spring.

"If the federation falls apart, it's going to be extraordinarily difficult to get anything else moving," Holbrooke told the *Washington Post*.

Meanwhile, U.N. pretenses that the Belgrade Serbian regime was no longer supplying the Bosnian Serbs were shattered near the eastern Bosnia enclave of Srebrenica on the evening of Feb. 3.

"Dutch U.N. soldiers reported seeing 15 to 20 helicopters flying in formation towards the west from the direction of [Serbia]," Unprofor spokesman Paul Risley said, according to Reuter. "The fact that U.N. observers on the Serbian side were denied access to airport radar facilities [to check] the helicopters indicates to us that they originated in the F.R.Y. [Federal Republic of Yugoslavia]," he said.

The sortie was the largest in the six months since Serbia promised to cut off aid to the Bosnian Serb military.

---

## ***Dominican media play up critic of border war***

Schiller Institute spokesman in the Dominican Republic Jorge Meléndez was interviewed on Feb. 2 on the "Sintesis" program on Dominican TV. Meléndez read the statement on the Peru-Ecuador conflict of the Ibero-American Solidarity Movement (MSIA) which was quoted last week in *EIR*, and said that the fight is the result of manipulations by British-run interests.

This problem was supposedly solved 50 years ago with the Rio Protocol, he explained. But the geopoliticians always leave some little aspect unresolved, to be exploit-

ed later.

The Santo Domingo daily *El Nuevo Diario*, reporting on the MSIA statement on Feb. 2, observed that the MSIA "says that the conflict between Ecuador and Peru is part of a plot to prevent several countries in the region from seeking the alternative of deciding on a moratorium on the foreign debt."

The paper quoted the Dominican-Peruvian Association, of which Meléndez is a member, which criticized Peru's Ambassador to Santo Domingo, "Horacio Sevilla, whom they accused of fanning the flames and of working for interests from outside the region. Among other reasons they said that the conflict was caused by the failure of the free trade model. 'The Dominican-Peruvian Association calls on Peruvians and Ecuadorans to use all peaceful means to solve the conflict, which was provoked from the outside, and to neutralize the war-mongers in each country, who are not defending the true interests of our people, but those of the international financial oligarchy.'"

---

## ***Japanese officials fear terror attack on ship***

Top Japanese officials fear that terrorist groups will take advantage of Greenpeace's campaign against the vessel *Pacific Crans*, to undertake "direct actions" targeting the freighter, which is carrying plutonium waste material from France to Japan.

Greenpeace, the operational arm of Prince Philip's World Wide Fund for Nature, has mounted a global campaign against Japan's nuclear industry and its breeder reactor, which uses plutonium as a fuel source. The plutonium is the by-product of uranium used in Japan's nuclear power plants. The spent nuclear fuel is shipped to France and Great Britain, where it is separated from the uranium waste and encased in glass, and shipped back to Japan.

This month, the *Pacific Crane* will leave Cherbourg, France, and travel to Japan, going through the Panama Canal with the next shipment.

Greenpeace, which plans to tail the

freighter in sophisticated seacraft, has also prepared ambush points along the Panama Canal route, as well as along its alternate routes. Greenpeace has deployed its *Rainbow Warrior* to the Caribbean on a 12-nation tour designed to rouse hysteria regarding the plutonium shipment.

---

## ***Form a Palestinian state now: Jewish leader***

Henry Siegman, former executive director of the American Jewish Congress and now a fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations, wrote that the only way to save the Middle East peace process is to form a Palestinian state now. In a commentary in the *New York Times*, Siegman argued that the Gaza-Jericho accord hinges on "Yasser Arafat's ability to keep order in the territories which in turn depends on the prospect of of Palestinian statehood. . . . If the Palestinians are persuaded that there is no chance of achieving their national aspirations—an independent state, not autonomy under Israeli military control—they will reject Mr. Arafat as a traitor."

The commentary asserts the futility of military and security solutions to the problem of security. It calls on Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin to begin discussions on defining the territorial limits of a state in the negotiations while beginning the process of uprooting settlements now.

---

## ***Political troubles grow for Pavel Grachov***

On Feb. 3, the liberal Russian daily *Sevodnya* charged that Russian Defense Minister Pavel Grachov had gone into the hospital to avoid a new corruption scandal. It said Grachov was suffering from "trench disease," or cowardice, not over the Army's mishaps in Chechnya, but over the discovery of an undeclared bank account in Germany full of money which belonged in Russian state coffers.

*Sevodnya* journalist Sergei Pakhromenko cited "various unrelated sources" re-

## Briefly

porting that President Boris Yeltsin had confronted Grachov during a Russian Security Council meeting on Jan. 25, with an embarrassing document. The document showed that when the Soviet Army was withdrawing from eastern Europe, Ministry of Defense officials opened a \$20 million account at Deutsche Bank in Berlin, to siphon off the proceeds from the sale of military equipment. Grachov was further accused of having presided over widespread corruption among Army officers leaving Germany in summer 1994. He allegedly accepted a Mercedes car bought from a fund that was earmarked for housing returning Russian soldiers.

European papers reported Feb. 4 that Grachov will probably be ousted soon. One possible replacement could be Col.-Gen. Mikhail Kolesnikov, the chief of the General Staff. The London *Times* reported that Kolesnikov presided over a meeting of the collegium of the Ministry of Defense on Feb. 3, in Grachov's absence.

### *Britain's Major between a rock and a hard place*

Ever since British Prime Minister Major expelled nine Conservative Party members from the party in December, creating a minority government, he has narrowly escaped at least two no-confidence votes. The tight-rope he is walking on has the "Euro-skeptics" on one side and the pro-European enthusiasts on the other.

The Conservative Party Euro-skeptics, who oppose Britain's involvement in the European Union or any kind of West European integration, attending the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland in late January, denounced any effort to create a single European currency by 1997—a proposal by Jacques Santer, the new European Commission president.

British Employment Secretary Michael Portillo declared, "We cannot be led into a political union that we do not wish to see," according to Reuters on Feb. 1. Fearing too much Euro-centered control over policy, Britain negotiated an "opt out" clause to the

Maastricht Treaty before it would sign on. Major is credited with designing the provision.

Former Foreign Secretary Lord Geoffrey Howe—credited with pulling the rug out from under Maggie Thatcher's leadership because she was hostile to closer European integration—charged Major with "selling out to anti-Europeans in Britain's divided, ruling Conservative Party," Reuters reported. Howe represents the faction in the Conservative Party around Foreign Minister Douglas Hurd, which, ever since President Clinton renounced the "special relationship" with Britain in favor of closer ties to Germany, has worried that Britain will lose its influence in European decisions.

### *Pope calls for peace talks in Sierra Leone*

On Feb. 1, John Paul II called for peace talks in Sierra Leone and voiced his concern about the fate of seven nuns kidnapped on Jan. 25 by rebels of Foday Sankoh's Revolutionary United Front, who, it is being said in news reports, launched their revolt from Liberia in 1991.

The U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees said that 24,000 refugees have fled over the border into Guinea.

Nigerian Ambassador to the United Nations Ibrahim Gambari described the situation in Sierra Leone as alarming, and noted that the thousands of refugees and the general chaos would further destabilize Liberia, where talks broke down again at the end of January.

U.N. Secretary General Boutros Boutros-Ghali appointed an Ethiopian diplomat, Berhanu Dinka, to "help" settle the "civil war" in the West African country.

The Sierra Leone rebel leader, Foday Sankoh, was reported Feb. 1 to have asked if the Red Cross could negotiate a ceasefire in the four-year-old civil war. The rebel movement has made little attempt in the last two years to communicate. There has been speculation that the rebel leader is dead and that the alleged rebels are merely government soldiers turned into bandits.

● **ERITREAN** President Isaias Afwerki thinks that war with Sudan is a definite possibility, according to a broadcast of London-based MBC Television in Arabic Jan. 29.

● **MAINLAND CHINA** talks with Taiwan over fishing disputes ended after six days on Jan. 27, without producing any written accords, because they could not reach agreement on what are "territorial waters." The breakdown was unexpected, since the two sides have reached agreements on two other issues.

● **THE IRISH** government on Feb. 5 released five more IRA prisoners held in Irish jails. Prime Minister John Bruton called on London to reciprocate: "I would like to see the British government looking at its policy and following suit. It would build confidence if abandonment of violence brought a reward for families separated from their loved ones."

● **THE GAMBIA'S** military leader, Captain Yahya Jammeh, announced a handover to civilian rule by July 1996 on Feb. 2—two years earlier than planned—and appealed to the international community to resume aid.

● **SIR MICHAEL ROSE**, the former U.N. Protection Forces commander in Bosnia, bridled on Feb. 2 in Washington when a reporter asked if the British government had sent him to the U.S. to persuade Congress not to lift the arms embargo against Bosnia. "Being a running dog of the British government when I am actually in the United Nations, is something I haven't been accused of before." He said he had, however, been accused of being Russian-controlled.

● **KENYA** reported Feb. 4 on the existence of Communist-led guerrilla movement, which is seeking to overthrow the government of President Daniel arap Moi. A statement from the presidency said the guerrillas have training camps in a neighboring country.