

# International Intelligence

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## ***Boutros-Ghali humbled on Central American tour***

U.N. Secretary General Boutros-Ghali seemed to run into trouble everywhere he went during his would-be triumphal spring tour of the U.N.'s colonies in Central America, EIRNS concluded from Reuter news wires and *New York Times* reportage.

In Honduras, Boutros-Ghali's first stop on March 31, a baggage cart ran into his private plane, severing part of the wing. His itinerary in El Salvador April 1 had to be changed to eliminate any road travel inside the country, after the government advised him they had detected a plot to blow him up, along with his entourage. Flying into Guatemala, due to an unexplained "navigation error," his plane landed at a remote military airport, far from the country's international airport in Guatemala City where the Foreign Ministry officials and red carpet were waiting.

Then, as he ate with the President at the presidential palace on April 2, a bomb went off two blocks away, and "foreign diplomats" insisted to the press that the bombing had something to do with the celebrated visitor.

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## ***Say end to Iraq embargo will benefit Israel***

Lifting the U.N. embargo on Iraq will greatly benefit Israel, said retired U.S. Marine Corps Gen. Joseph Hoar, who replaced Gen. Norman Schwartzkopf as commander-in-chief of the Central Command (which includes Southwest Asia and the "area in which Desert Storm occurred," according to a Pentagon spokesman), it was reported on April 7 by the Arabic daily *Asharq Alawsat*, which said that Hoar's comments were made on April 6 in an interview with Israeli Army radio.

Hoar said that the sanctions imposed on Iraq and the policy of isolating the country have failed to achieve their announced objective of overthrowing Saddam Hussein's regime. Instead, there is a growing "anti-

American" emotion in an entire Iraqi generation.

*Asharq Alawsat* reported that Hoar also commented that "Israel will make great economic and political gains from having peace with Iraq," including "an oil pipeline" extending from Iraq to the port of Haifa in Israel.

Opening the ring of isolation around Iraq will also help to contain Iran, Hoar claimed. *Asharq Alawsat* referred to a report that appeared in the Israeli paper *Haaretz*.

On April 13, 1993 Hoar was interviewed by Qatar's *al-Sharq* newspaper, and was quoted then as saying that Washington would restore ties with Iraq if it met Gulf war-related U.N. resolutions.

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## ***British want betrayer of Bosnia as NATO chief***

A German newspaper confirmed rumors that the British government wants Lord David Owen, the architect of the betrayal of Bosnia, to become the new political chief of NATO, on the same day that Bosnian Prime Minister Haris Silajdzic made his strongest charges to date that western governments are accomplices in genocide against his people.

According to the April 6 edition of the German *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, British Prime Minister John Major proposed to U.S. President Clinton that David Owen replace NATO Secretary-General Willy Claes, who is under pressure in Belgium to resign over his role in the 1988 Agusta corruption affair.

Meanwhile, Silajdzic, in an interview with *Le Monde* on April 6, seemed to take direct aim at Owen, the former European Community "peace mediator" for the Balkans, when he charged that the persistence of western governments in not admitting they made a mistake in imposing the arms embargo against Bosnia three years ago means that they have a "deliberate policy. Bosnia was supposed to die." This is not an attitude of "neutrality," as is often claimed: "The arms embargo has contributed to killing 200,000 people. The international com-

munity, the democratic governments, all those who have insisted on imposing this embargo, are accomplices in genocide."

Silajdzic said that maintenance of the "status quo" only "ratifies conquests realized by force. . . . The international community has helped Serbia kill us. . . . The international community has shown itself to be naked." The prevailing attitude in European chancelleries is to "contain the conflict, at least until the next election," he warned, but "the virus of fascism and violence cannot be contained. . . . East-West relations have been replaced by the law of the strongest."

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## ***Arafat: Stop terrorism by economic development***

In an interview in the April 10 issue of *Corriere della Sera*, the nationally circulated Italian daily, Yasser Arafat said that economic development is the only way to stop terrorism—mirroring the judgment expressed in *EIR*'s feature on Gaza (April 7, 1995 issue).

The PLO chairman gave the interview to correspondent Lorenzo Cremonesi during a meeting with former Italian Premier Giulio Andreotti, who was traveling to Israel, Syria, and Jordan.

To the question "How do you stop Islamic terrorists?" Arafat replied: "We must improve the Palestinian economic situation: poverty feeds extremists." Arafat also "had an annoyed gesture in commenting on the requests from donor countries, which insist that only 'transparency' of PLO budgets could guarantee the delivery of promised aid. 'Well, they forget that we Palestinians have built the economies of a large part of the Arab world, and now [they] come here with all these preconditions and stupid slogans against our people. As far as I am concerned, funds could be directly managed by the United Nations.' "

In the same interview, Arafat hinted, "In the Hamas safehouse which exploded last week in the middle of Gaza, we found a lot of weapons from the Israeli army. It is like crazy OAS elements in the French Army

during the Algerian war. It is obvious that a close collaboration exists between radical groupings in the two camps."

## **British use prostitutes to profile Chinese**

The London *Sunday Times*, the mouthpiece of the oligarchy's secretive and ultra-powerful Club of the Isles, revealed on April 9 that over the years, the British Special Branch in Hongkong has used prostitutes to profile anti-British Chinese officials who visit the colony. "It is claimed the purpose was to intimidate the officials [into] staying away from Hongkong if they were deemed troublesome or 'anti-British.'"

A former Special Branch officer was quoted saying that they would blackmail the Chinese officials with their dossiers, and keep them away from Hongkong. The Special Branch, which is officially being dismantled, "became one of the largest undercover police operations in the world," according to the *Times*. The paper reports that 800 Chinese officials were "listed" for surveillance. Among those were Zhou Nan and Xu Jiatur, directors of the New China News Agency, China's de facto embassy in Hongkong.

## **War escalates in Tajikistan**

At least one component of the "Thirty Years War" scenario in Asia, described in the last issue of *EIR*, has escalated significantly since the article was written: the violence on the Tajikistan-Afghanistan border.

According to statements of the Russian Border Guards' Command, based in the Tajik capital of Dushanbe, as carried by Itar-Tass news wire, the escalation began on April 7 when over 200 Tajik rebels crossed from Afghanistan into the mountainous Gornyi-Badakhshan region of southeast Tajikistan. They killed at least 23 Russian troops and wounded dozens in three days of battles and skirmishes.

Itar-Tass quoted General Chechulin,

commander of the 15,000 Russian Border Guards based near the Tajik-Afghan border, saying that the attacks were "well-planned, well-conducted, large-scale" actions by the armed Tajik opposition. He gave his view that the aim of the attacks was to reestablish a strong guerrilla presence in the mountain region of southeast Tajikistan, and from there begin to move into the central part of the republic.

Chechulin implied that these attacks were timed to sabotage the peace talks between the Tajik government and opposition spokesmen, slated for the following week-end in Moscow.

## **Algeria presents 'reform' plan to get IMF loan**

Algerian Foreign Minister Muhammed Salih Dembri said on April 7 that his government will present to the International Monetary Fund a \$33 billion, three-year plan of economic reforms which will enable Algeria to enter the "market economy," the Arabic daily *Asharq Alawsat* reported April 8. Dembri asserted, in a press conference in London following a seminar at Chatham House, that presidential elections will be held by the end of 1995 as planned by the government, and that security issues in Algeria are under control of the government.

"Therefore, the Algerian crisis is coming to a close," he added. Dembri characterized the security policy of the Algerian government by saying that security policies in Algeria are fully committed to international human rights conventions and are being closely observed by organizations such as Amnesty International and the International Organization for Human Rights. He denied having any discussions with British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd about Algerian domestic affairs, saying they only discussed promotion of economic and political relations.

While Dembri was meeting with Hurd, on April 7 in London, Algeria's creditor banks reached an agreement on rescheduling the country's \$4.5 billion commercial debt with Algeria's commercial banks.

● **JOHN MAJOR'S** recent visit to Washington was a flop, wrote London *Times* columnist James Adams on April 9 in his "Inside Washington" column. The columnist, tied to elite circles which would like to be rid of the inept Tory prime minister, confided that "the British embassy had been trying to find some symbolic way whereby the two men could show publicly that they really liked each other—a political necessity, even if a lie."

● **TERRORISTS** from Hamas Militants and Islamic Jihad carried out two suicide bombings April 9 against an Israeli civilian bus and army patrol jeep near settlements in the PLO-ruled Gaza strip. PLO chairman Yasser Arafat, quoted in *Al-Arab*, called the bombers "enemies of peace attempting with their Israeli counterparts to stop the wheel of peace" and charged they are funded in part from the U.S., Iran, and Kuwait.

● **MISEREOR**, the German Catholic aid agency, did not fund the Zapatista terrorist "liberation army" in Chiapas, said the German Embassy's press attaché in Mexico City on April 6 at a press conference with two visiting German parliamentarians, it was reported in *El Nacional*. But he did not deny that nearly 3 million marks went to "Red Bishop" Samuel Ruiz's Human Rights Center, a pivot of ideological training of the insurgency (see *EIR* Special Report on Chiapas, March 31, 1995).

● **BRITISH MI-5** intelligence agents foiled a plot by Irish Republican Army hard-liners to assassinate Sinn Fein President Gerry Adams in Ireland in January, the London *Observer* newspaper claimed on April 8.

● **THE TURKISH** government announced on April 8, in a news conference in Diyarbakir, that it had completed the withdrawal of 3,000 of the 35,000 troops it sent into northern Iraq.