

# International Intelligence

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## **Goldsmith son-in-law challenges Benazir Bhutto**

Imran Khan, the Pakistani cricket player and husband of Jemima Goldsmith, was to announce his entry into politics in Lahore, Pakistan on April 21, reported the April 6 issue of the *Asian Age*. Khan went to Dubai to meet with Pakistani businessmen who want to fund his campaign. He is also expected to receive funds from wealthy Pakistanis in the United States, and from his father-in-law, British financier Jimmy Goldsmith. Khan received heaps of publicity in February when Princess Diana of Britain visited Pakistan, snubbing Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto and being hosted by Khan for the opening of a cancer hospital.

In an interview with the *New York Times*, Khan said the United States is backing the wrong horse, Bhutto, "in the hope that it would hold off Muslim fundamentalism," but that the Pakistani people's concern about lawlessness and corruption is at the core of so-called fundamentalism.

On April 15, the Shaukat Khanum Memorial Hospital and Research Center outside Lahore, which Khan had built, was bombed, killing six people. Earlier, on March 17, four suspects were arrested in Lahore for a plot to kill Benazir Bhutto during the World Cup cricket finals.

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## **British papers blame queen for Windsor woes**

In an unusual departure, two British newspapers heralded Queen Elizabeth II's 70th birthday on April 21 by criticizing the queen herself.

The London *Guardian* ran a commentary on April 20 by Simon Hoggart saying that the queen must be held personally responsible for the fact that "the monarchy, and through it our system of government, is in much worse shape than at any time since the death of George IV" nearly 200 years ago.

In a piece entitled "Mother of all our

woes: most misfortunes can be laid at the foot of the queen," Hoggart defended the institution of constitutional monarchy, then added: "But the Windsors? This lot? Do we need *them*? Are we stuck with this family, until they abdicate in bulk, or a mob storms Buckingham Palace?"

The fact is, Hoggart stresses, that "this queen must take a measure of the blame" for the crises hitting the monarchy. It is "amazing how unadaptable she has proved to be" to the changing times. She exhibits a "lack of flexibility," an "apparent willingness to live in a world of her own," in which she endlessly discusses "meaningless trivia," such as "golf courses and horse racing."

On April 21, the *Observer* wrote that both alleged "republicans" and royalists alike are all asserting that the queen has "some magical immunity from the Windsor disease," but there is something strange in this "critical exclusion zone" around the throne.

The truth is, that "fish stink from the head. Institutions rot from the top." The queen inherited an "impregnable" position with the throne, but she has dissipated it all.

"Any other 70-year-old chief executive who had presided over such a decline in her firm's fortunes, would be jumping before she was pushed," the *Observer* stated. Her worst failure is Prince Charles, regarded by his estranged wife and more than half the country as unfit to occupy the throne.

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## **French 'doctors' front puts pressure on Russia**

Doctors Without Borders, a French intelligence front active throughout Africa and the Mideast, has called for the Group of Seven to "put pressure on the Russian government to stop gross and systematic targeting of civilians and violations of humanitarian law in Chechnya," according to a report released in Moscow April 18. The Group of Seven met in Moscow with Boris Yeltsin, to discuss nuclear safety.

"We chose to make this urgent call because we are very concerned, indeed

shocked, by what we have seen in Chechnya," Dr. Eric Goemaere, director general of the group, told a Moscow news conference. "We are involved in all the major conflicts in the world but we believe Chechnya is the most cruel war. We are in the field witnessing the systematic massacre of civilian villages which are flattened by a [Russian] strategy of reconquest in south Chechnya."

Doctors Without Borders was formed by Bernard Kouchner, the Mitterrand humanitarian affairs minister, who drafted the U.N. Security Council resolution justifying the occupation of northern Iraq, based on oppression of the Kurds. It was the first time the U.N. had overtly intervened into the internal affairs of a country, without the explicit request of the government concerned, and under the argument that "humanitarian concerns supersede sovereignty." Doctors Without Borders is very active in southern Sudan, where it is involved in financing rebel activity through gold smuggling, according to Sudanese sources.

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## **Australian state target of pot-lobby ploy**

The long-awaited report by the Australian state of Victoria's Drug Advisory Council, set up last January by Premier Jeff Kennett to investigate drug abuse in the state, was released on April 10 by its chairman, Melbourne University Prof. David Pennington. It recommended decriminalizing marijuana, reported the *Herald Sun* on April 12.

From preliminary indications, the report is part of the push by George Soros's Lindesmith Center in New York. Two Australians are on the four-person editorial committee of Lindesmith's *Psychoactive Drugs and Harm Reduction: From Faith to Science*, the public relations book for dope decriminalization. Those two, Nick Heather and Alex Wodak, are helping to lead the charge in Australia for decriminalization, under the phony rubric of "harm reduction."

The report draws heavily on the official experiences of other countries—mainly the United States—to conclude, "there is no

## Briefly

**FRANCISCO GOYA**, the Spanish artist whose career spanned more than 60 years, is honored on the 250th anniversary of his birth this year with three exhibitions in Madrid. The main show at the Prado Museum will include the Prado's 128 pictures plus 42 others loaned for the occasion.

A **TWO-DAY** seminar was held in Moscow on the theme "1996—Year of Decision" by representatives of the Schiller Institute at the Methodological University on April 6 and 7. Presentations were given on music, the Socratic method, and the economics of Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr.

**COLOMBIA'S** Group for National Reconstruction, the core of the opposition to narco-President Ernest Samper Pizano, is organizing for a "Day of Silence" immediately following the expected absolving of Samper by the congressional committee "investigating" him.

**BRITAIN** granted asylum to Saudi dissident Mohammed Al-Massari on April 18, the London press announced. He is supposedly campaigning to "bring democracy to Saudi Arabia," but has recently expanded his focus to include attacks on Israel, Jews, and Yasser Arafat.

**ARTURO FRONDIZI**, the former President of Argentina who died one year ago, was remembered in a column published by several Argentine papers April 18. Frondizi's long-time political secretary wrote that the statesman died with certain unfulfilled dreams, among them, to see Argentina at peace and fully industrialized, and to witness the exoneration of Lyndon LaRouche and of Colonel Seineldín.

**PALESTINE** Liberation Organization intelligence official Col. Tawfeek Jaber said on April 21 that the PLO had arrested a Hamas cell which had planned to assassinate President Yasser Arafat and other high-ranking members of the Palestinian National Authority, Shomron News Service reported April 23.

possibility that attempting to stem supply will solve drug problems in our community."

The report recommends that the state legislature amend the "Drugs, Poisons, and Controlled Substances Act 1981" so that the use and possession of up to 25 grams of marijuana no longer be an offense, private households be allowed to cultivate up to five cannabis (marijuana) plants each, and that the laws regulating the public consumption of alcohol be applied to marijuana. Trafficking in marijuana would remain an offense.

The report is causing an uproar. The Police Association has come out in opposition, with the secretary, Senior Sgt. Danny Walsh, vowing: "We'll be at the forefront of their [members of Parliament] consciences as [we] approach the next state election, when we remind their constituents of which way they voted."

### *Soros's friend Prodi will be Italian premier*

The center-left coalition "Olive Tree" won Italy's general elections on April 21, achieving a clear majority in both houses of Parliament, defeating the center-right "Pole of Freedoms" alliance led by former Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi. Olive Tree leader Romano Prodi, who organized a special award to speculator George Soros last year at Bologna University, has been named to form a government.

The separatist Northern League of Umberto Bossi, although achieving an astounding positive result in terms of votes (they increased their total vote, becoming the first party in the Lombardy and Veneto regions with more than 20%), failed to become the "swing factor" at the national level.

The post-communist PDS (Democratic Left Party), the dominant component of the Olive Tree, became the largest national party with 21.1%. The Olive Tree attained a majority in the Senate but is dependent, in the Chamber of Deputies, on the votes of the other post-communist party, Communist Refoundation, which opposes the massive

privatizations to which Prodi is committed and has demanded a return of the cost-of-living escalator.

In addition to that potential factor of instability, the sword of Damocles hangs over the head of Romano Prodi, in the form of the three official investigations into his friend and partner George Soros, prompted by the LaRouche movement in Italy.

### *Unctad to meet in South Africa*

A major United Nations conference was announced at U.N. headquarters in New York April 22, to take place April 27-May 11 in Midrand, South Africa, under the auspices of the Geneva-based United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (Unctad).

This global conference, to gather 3,000 delegates from the 188 member governments of Unctad, mostly led by their countries' trade, finance, or industry ministers, is an effort toward consolidating the U.N.'s role as a world government. One agenda item is the creation of a Development Senate which would allow business representatives to directly take part in the U.N.'s work.

The new Unctad secretary general, Rubens Ricupero (formerly Brazil's finance minister), suggests the creation of a "financial surveillance and dispute settlement mechanism," and proposes that "governments undertake multilateral commitments in order to minimize the disruptive effects of domestic monetary and financial decisions on the economy of third countries." Policies which could be shown to benefit one country only at the expense of another, rather than improving the conditions of the world economy, could be brought up for resolution. Sanctions might be considered, Ricupero added.

While recognizing the difficulty for governments to cede national sovereignty, Ricupero notes that this was also the case in the area of trade and has been dealt with successfully, and that the de facto ability of national policymakers has declined.