

International Intelligence

Aide to Prince Philip hails Russian theology

Dr. Martin Palmer, a gnostic adviser to Britain's Prince Philip, is working closely with the Russian Orthodox Church and the Soviets in a project to revise religious liturgies and prayers along "ecological" lines.

Palmer, in a recent discussion with a journalist, praised the Orthodox Church for having a "wholly different tradition, a more sophisticated reading of Genesis," than traditions in Western Christianity and Judaism. "The Orthodox Church is extremely sympathetic to our work," he said. "The Orthodox see themselves as priests of creation, not owners of creation. This is a much more dynamic and less utilitarian view than Western views."

The Soviets generally, Palmer said, "are very much more thinking of ecological necessities. They have just produced a new 'Constitution on the Environment,' which is incorporated in some form into Soviet law, which moves beyond the stage of justifying nature based on anthropocentric views. In this way, in their arguments for why you should care for nature, they have moved beyond the extremely utilitarian views of Western ecology groups."

Brazil's Sarney sees socialist takeover

Brazilian President José Sarney, in an interview with the daily *Estado de São Paulo*, declared that he views a Marxist takeover of Brazil as inevitable. Not hitherto known as a "Leninist" theoretician, he went still further to claim that world socialist revolution was also inevitable. The interview was published on Dec. 4.

Brazil is headed toward a "socialist revolution and totalitarianism," and "no one appears capable of stopping it," said the Brazilian President. According to a report in the Dec. 5 *Washington Times*, Sarney referred to the victories of Marxists and other leftists in Nov. 15 municipal elections

throughout Brazil. This, he said, is proof that "the country's political center was fragmented and that the time was ripe for a leftist takeover," reports the *Washington Times*.

Sarney did not take responsibility for the crisis, nor blame the International Monetary Fund's austerity regime—implemented by himself—for the advances of the Marxists.

Greenies riot in Taiwan parliament

A riot broke out in the Taiwanese Parliament over left-wing charges that some parliamentarians are "over-aged," the West German daily *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung* reported Dec. 5.

The opposition Democratic People's Party (DPP), which is linked to the Green Party in Germany, denounced a motion by the ruling Kuomintang (KMT) on early retirement of older deputies. The motion did not satisfy DPP demands for retirement of all older deputies. The older deputies, as a rule, are anti-Communist veterans of the Chinese civil war and Chiang Kai-shek's rule.

The DPP claimed that many older KMT deputies were "appointed" to the Parliament, never elected, and therefore should not remain in office.

When the KMT motion passed, pandemonium broke out. DPP members threw books and microphones at KMT members, and tried to storm the caucus room of the KMT. But the DPP's demands were not met. Police had to intervene to restore order.

The leaders of the DPP opposition were trained by Green and other Soviet assets in West Germany. They are the pointmen in a destabilization plot against Taiwan, part of the regional picture that has seen the overthrow of Philippines President Ferdinand Marcos, and the destabilization of South Korea, Singapore, Malaysia, Burma, and Indonesia. Taiwan is slated, under superpower agreements, to be returned to mainland Communist China.

The West German newspaper asserted that the Republic of China is being "liber-

alized." A Soviet trade office is likely to be opened in Taipei soon, and the border is being opened to Red Chinese who want to settle in Taiwan.

Russia-China-India summit in offing?

India's ambassador to Moscow, T.N. Kaul, told an interviewer that the possibility of a Soviet-China-India summit cannot be ruled out. A report on the conversation appeared in the "Behind the Scenes" column of India's *Hindustan Times* Nov. 28.

Soviet journalists who accompanied Mikhail Gorbachov to New Delhi in late November intimated that such a three-way summit might take place. But it would take "a little time" after the Sino-Indian summit in January, and a Sino-Soviet summit in 1989.

"If relations between India and China improve, this will be of help to the Soviet Union, and if relations between the Soviet Union and China improve, it will help India," said Kaul. The three nations are vital to any development in Asia, he said, and therefore, their relations are important.

Japan uneasy over Soviet 'Potsdam' policy

The Soviet response to the disturbances in Estonia and other Baltic states has "tempered" Japanese "optimism" that relations with the U.S.S.R. might improve, the *International Herald Tribune* argued from Tokyo Dec. 1. The Soviet position in the Baltic states was established by the same Potsdam Agreements that established the Soviets' occupation of Japan's Kurile Islands.

Japanese officials were reportedly encouraged by the "apparent" removal of Ivan Kovalenko as head of the Soviet Communist Party's policy apparatus dealing with Japan, because Kovalenko, who ran a Siberian prisoner-of-war camp during World War II, is a hardliner toward Japan. And, "If things

Briefly

go well with China, it will give Moscow more freedom to handle the Japanese case," one Japanese official is quoted.

But the Soviets have recently hardened their line on the Kurile Islands, which they occupied from Japan at the end of the war. In addition, because Soviet control of the Baltic republics was confirmed in the Potsdam Declaration, "Estonian demands for sovereignty could make Moscow reluctant to alter other provisions of the agreement" in relation to Japan, the *Tribune* argued.

West German nuclear 'accident' never happened

Charging that the management of the Biblis nuclear plant in West Germany hushed up an accident "worse than Chernobyl" in 1987, anti-nuclear forces have gone wild in West Germany. The truth is that there never was any accident.

The cited source for the Greenie lies is a McGraw Hill publication in Washington called *Inside NRC*, dated Dec. 5. In reality, that publication ran a story entitled "NRC Studying Implications of Unpublicized German Reactor Incident," in which it is noted simply that the NRC is considering a change in a sequence of steps required when a valve in the emergency core cooling system fails.

Inside NRC says that the incident occurred in mid-December 1987 at the 1,204-megawatt Biblis-A pressurized water reactor. "Although it resulted in a negligible release of primary steam with radioactivity below reportable levels, the incident was considered a precursor to an interfacing systems loss-of-cooling accident."

A reactor operator noticed that an isolation valve was open as the reactor was starting up, and tried to close it according to procedures spelled out in the operator's handbook. When this was unsuccessful, he moved to shut the plant down. In the 2 to 5 seconds that this took, "there was a small release of primary circuit steam" into the atmosphere.

The incident was not reported publicly by the German utility, because the amount of radioactivity released was far below the

level that would have required the utility to report it as a radiation incident. The German nuclear industry then altered the procedure on similar pressurized water reactors to have operators check sooner during a reactor startup for a failure of the valves opening to the emergency core cooling system.

"West German safety authorities placed information on the event into the OECD Nuclear Energy Agency's reporting system, but stamped it proprietary. NRC officials said that that meant they could not discuss the incident publicly or identify the country or reactor involved," wrote *Inside NRC*. U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission staffers discussed the incident Nov. 29, 1988 in their regular closed meeting on reactor incidents. *Inside NRC* quotes Thomas Murley, director of the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, saying that he didn't see "anything alarming" in the Biblis event, and "that he was not troubled that NRC did not learn of it sooner."

South Africans walk out of Angola talks

The South Africa delegation walked out of negotiations over Angola and Namibia Dec. 4, as they were apparently being denied any role in verifying Cuban troop withdrawals from Angola. It was left unclear whether the South African move would merely delay or block a final agreement.

South Africa has already pulled its own troops out of southern Angola—imperiling the position of Dr. Jonas Savimbi's pro-Western UNITA guerrillas—on the understanding that Cuba would also soon withdraw its 50,000 troops from Angola.

The Cuban-backed Angolan delegation denounced the South African move as "sensationalist," and Cuban leader Fidel Castro, speaking in Mexico City, said that the South Africans should not have a role in verifying Cuban withdrawals. "If we have to be there 10 more years, we have sufficient valor, sufficient force in our people, sufficient internationalist spirit to be there 10 years," Castro said.

● **LOCUSTS**, blown across the Mediterranean from North Africa, have landed on a six-mile stretch of the Turkish coast. The mayor of Kale, a village in the area, called this the first time locust swarms have been seen in the region.

● **EXTREMISTS** wearing masks stormed city council meetings in Bremen and Hamburg, West Germany, disrupting debates over anti-riot measures. Police moved in to protect council members and arrest rioters. On Dec. 2 in West Berlin, 50 masked extremists attacked an exhibition commemorating the 50th anniversary of Otto Hahn's crucial experiment in nuclear fission, destroying it in a matter of seconds.

● **KEY INDUSTRIES** in the Soviet Transcaucasus will be put under round-the-clock guard, the Soviet government announced Dec. 3. A resolution passed by the Council of Ministers called on authorities in Armenia and Azerbaijan, torn by ethnic strife, to ensure that all enterprises were working normally and warned against attempts to disrupt key industrial plants and transport.

● **YOUNG REZA SHAH**, son of the late Shah of Iran, has been denied entry into West Germany to address a rally of anti-Khomeini exiles. West German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher said he feared that granting an entry visa would harm relations with Iran.

● **THE SOVIET** embassy in London set up a special press center to meet British "human rights groups," to receive complaints about British actions in Northern Ireland. Mikhail Gorbachov was expected to be there at the time, but his visit was canceled following an earthquake in Armenia Dec. 7.