

# International Intelligence

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## ***Pope John Paul II puts the blame on Nietzsche***

The Pope has charged that the writings of existentialist "God is dead" philosopher Friedrich Nietzsche are responsible for many of the "terrible experiences of the 20th century," the French daily *Le Monde* reported on Aug. 15.

Pope John Paul II called for the creation of a Europe that would re-assert its Christian values, insisting, "We have the duty to construct a more united Europe, on the basis of respect of the rights of man and those of nations." He then attacked what he called the "new idolators" of modern society.

"For man of the end of the 20th century," he said, "the ideal seems to be to live as if God doesn't exist." He then quoted Nietzsche: "We are beyond good and evil," and added, "When we look back to the terrible experiences of the 20th century, it is clear that it is the program of Nietzsche that was put into effect."

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## ***Iraq issues emergency appeal on anesthetics***

The Iraqi Foreign Ministry announced on Aug. 13 that Iraqi hospitals have had to stop performing surgery that requires general anesthesia, due to the lack of chemicals required. The statement calls upon the international community to allow Iraq to import nitrous oxide.

According to an unofficial translation of the government release, it says that "due to the unjust economic sanctions imposed on our country, Iraq, our medical gas factory has stopped producing nitrous oxide, the main substance used in general anesthesia of patients for surgical operations, such as required in caesarean section childbirth operations, operations performed on women, children, and on the eyes. Due to its destruction, and also because Iraq is not allowed to import the substance in accordance with the resolutions of the U.N. Sanctions Committee, the unavailability of ammonium nitrate

has led to a severe shortage of the anesthetic, which is vital in saving lives.

"This shortage has threatened the lives of many civilians and a number of deaths have occurred in the past few days. The international organizations have all been informed and urged to help provide the substance. The shortage was at an extremely dangerous level as of three weeks ago, which forced us to restrict the use of the substance. As of Aug. 11, 1991, the International Red Cross and Unicef have been informed that the remaining stocks of the substance were at zero level. Due to the circumstances, all surgical operations requiring anesthesia have been halted. Therefore, we expect a high mortality rate among women requiring caesarean sections and among their newborn babies.

"We are urging the international community to save the lives of these mothers and their newborn babies from imminent death by using all necessary means to pressure the U.N. organizations and agencies to allow Iraq to import ammonium nitrate, which is a necessary in operating the medical gas factory, so that that factory can be used for producing anesthetics for surgical operations. In this regard, we express our readiness and approval to accept a U.N. representative to oversee all production of the substance in the factory and at the places of supply."

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## ***Salinas makes a deal with Bronfman***

Edgar Bronfman, chairman of the World Jewish Congress and magnate of the Seagram's liquor empire, secured a pledge from Mexican President Carlos Salinas de Gortari on Aug. 15 that Mexico would vote to repeal the U.N. resolution, passed in 1975, that condemned Zionism as racism.

Bronfman, accompanied in his talk with Salinas by two prominent members of the Mexican Jewish community, said that Israel seeks to overturn the 1975 resolution, which "is not simply anti-Israel, but is anti-Semitic."

Bronfman explained how the topic came up by saying that he and Salinas were "discussing the great success Mexico has had in the last two years. After reviewing how the North American Free Trade Agreement will make North America one of the great market blocs of the world, then I brought up the Zionism-racism resolution."

What Salinas was offered in return, was not reported by the Mexican press.

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## ***Ibero-American bishops warn of social explosion***

Robert Luckert, chairman of the Department of Social Communication of the Latin American Bishops Council (CELAM), said on Aug. 13 that the Catholic Church denounces the enormous social injustice on the continent, and seeks to "open the eyes of the political leadership who are oblivious to the concrete reality of injustice."

He warned that the region "is on the brink of a social explosion of unpredictable dimensions because of the blindness and insensitivity of governments vis-à-vis an impoverished, marginalized, and unjustly treated population."

He then went after the evangelical Protestant sects, denouncing the "electronic church," the "televangelists" who are wiping out the faith and culture of the people. He went on to say that the objective of these sects was "not to Christianize the peoples of the region, but to make them become anti-Catholic, in order to divide the continent and leave it defenseless in the face of the neo-liberal model that they want to impose on us."

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## ***Iraq's Hammadi hits U.S. 'Roman' peace***

Iraqi Prime Minister Sadoun Hammadi ridiculed current U.S. efforts to establish world hegemony, in an Aug. 8 interview with the *Jordan Times*. "It is true that the U.S. influence in the region is stronger than ever before," he said. "This growing influence will

backfire, for the U.S. is trying to monopolize the world. We are witnessing a return to old political and economic colonialist practices and policies. What will these practices lead to? They will only lead to provoking the world's nations.

"Even if the U.S. were able to obtain the peace they are talking about, the only peace that area will witness will be the peace of hegemony, or what can be called the Roman peace. . . . It will eventually crack up."

In reference to the Egyptian government and the other Gulf states, that joined the U.S.-led coalition against Iraq, Hammadi said that their view that appeasing the West will make them stronger is "conceited." "They have not learned a lesson from the examples of the fate of King Farouk in Egypt or any other regime that remained subordinate to the colonialists in the post-World War II era."

### *Israeli appeals court to review Demjanjuk case*

Important new evidence provided by defense lawyers has obliged the Israeli Court of Appeals to agree to review the John Demjanjuk case, in December of this year. Demjanjuk, a retired Cleveland auto worker who was illegally deported to Israel by the U.S. Justice Department, has been given a death sentence for alleged "war crimes," despite massive evidence that he was not the Nazi death camp official "Ivan the Terrible."

Defense lawyer Yoram Sheftel reports that he has received documents from the Soviet Union, withheld until now, which contain statements from over 20 Ukrainian SS concentration camp guards, who all put forward the identical assertion in sworn testimony to Soviet authorities in the late 1940s and early 1950s that "Ivan the Terrible" of Treblinka concentration camp was *not* Demjanjuk, but a certain Ivan Marchenko. The appeals court agreed that a hearing could be held in December, although they refused to release Demjanjuk from prison pending that hearing.

Sheftel told the press on Aug. 14: "To-

day is the day I've been waiting for. . . . The evidence will hasten the acquittal of Mr. Demjanjuk. The evidence is plain and clear, and will totally negate that Demjanjuk is 'Ivan the Terrible.' "

Prosecutor Michael Shaked has responded by saying, first, that it doesn't matter whether Demjanjuk was ever at Treblinka, since he was certainly at the Sobibor concentration camp and is a criminal anyway, even if he did not commit the crimes for which he was convicted. Second, Shaked claimed that "Marchenko" was Demjanjuk's mother's maiden name, and that he often used it as an alias. Defense attorneys say that is not true.

### *Moscow denounces Pope for backing Croatia*

Radio Moscow on Aug. 19 accused Pope John Paul II of "pouring oil on the fire" of the Yugoslav crisis, by his support for Croatian independence.

The broadcast praised the "growing anti-war movement" in Yugoslavia, as shown by marchers from Bosnia to both Belgrade and Zagreb, who demanded a "stop to the civil war." This means that "the Yugoslavs, by themselves, can help stop the fighting."

The problem, said the commentator, comes "from the outside," from those who "pour oil on the fire." "Why, at this sensitive time, did Pope John Paul say he supports the 'legitimate aspirations of the Croatian people,' as he put it in a speech in Hungary? Such statements set people against each other for religious reasons, which is out of place in the current situation."

The broadcast also criticized those in the European Community who want an international conference to "define the future" of Yugoslavia. This idea, warns Radio Moscow, means "not preserving the territorial integrity of Yugoslavia. If Yugoslavia disintegrates and borders in the Balkans shift, there could be a chain reaction, which would affect not only Yugoslavia, but also all European security."

## Briefly

● **THE SERBIAN** "Black Hand" terrorist group threatened German diplomats with assassination, in a message delivered to the German embassy in Ottawa, Canada on Aug. 15. The group warned Germany to stay out of the "inner-Yugoslav conflict" and give up its alleged plans for a "Fourth Reich," or else. The original "Black Hand" fired the shots at Sarajevo that sparked World War I.

● **NIGERIA** is set to restore diplomatic relations with Israel after 18 years. Talks were held in Jerusalem to this end on Aug. 5 between Nigerian Minister of External Affairs Maj. Gen. Ike Nwachukwu (ret.) and Israeli Foreign Minister David Levy. Radio Nigeria quoted the Nigerian leader saying that official ties would be restored when Levy paid a reciprocal visit to Nigeria shortly. He appealed to Israeli businessmen to invest in Nigeria.

● **KURDISH LEADER** Massoud Barzani called the sanctions against Iraq inhuman, in a meeting with Dieter Schinzel, the vice president of the German-Arab Society, in Iraq in mid-August. Barzani declared: "Tell everybody in Europe that they should put an end to the sanctions. The Kurds are exposed to an inhuman suffering under these sanctions. Please give us a chance for survival!"

● **THE SERBIAN** Orthodox Church held a state memorial on Aug. 16 for King Peter I at the former royal chapel of Oplenac. King Peter, the first monarch of the "Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats, and Slovenians," ruled for three years, and died in 1921. The services "in honor of our great liberator" were conducted by Patriarch Pavle.

● **SOVIET GEORGIAN** President Zviad Gamsakhurdia on Aug. 17 dismissed his entire cabinet, warning of a plot against himself and the government, and denouncing former Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze, a Georgian, as "an agent of Moscow."