
International Intelligence

Obama Policy Worsens Situation in Haiti

April 14—Because President Barack Obama cynically refused to authorize U.S. help for quickly relocating up to a million Haitians out of the Port-au-Prince flood plain *before* the rainy season hit—as Lyndon LaRouche and other leading Democrats had demanded—up to half a million desperate Haitians have now returned to the devastated area that they had fled from in the aftermath of the Jan. 12 earthquake.

The United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) released its latest report on April 12, which says that there has been a “sudden increase in the number of displaced” in the quake area, leading to “the continuing increase in both the number of camps and the size of existing camps.” Rather than some 600-800 camps, they now estimate 1,373 sites in Port-au-Prince, Jacmel, Leogan, Petit, and Grande Goave. And instead of 1.5 million displaced, there are 2.1 million, as people return to the region “seeking to benefit from assistance being provided.”

In other words, huge numbers of desperate people who had initially fled Port-au-Prince to stay with friends and family in the interior, are now returning, and face the devastating rainy season.

Iran Holds Its Own Nuclear Summit

April 17—Iran answered President Obama’s nuclear security extravaganza of last week, with a nuclear summit of its own today. Organizers of the conference, entitled “Nuclear Power for All, Nuclear Weapons for No One,” claimed representation from 60 nations and several international organizations, including seven or eight foreign ministers and the deputy foreign ministers of Russia and China. Kazem Jalali, member of the Maj-

lis (parliament) National Security and Foreign Policy Committee, told the *Tehran Times* that the conference seeks to revive the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT).

“The Tehran conference is a global call for the peaceful use of nuclear energy and the Islamic Republic of Iran is seeking to integrate states that are trying to attain nuclear technology meant for peaceful purposes,” he said. He also said that “through the conference Iran is announcing to the world that it is not pursuing nuclear weapons,” because to do so violates the fatwa issued by Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei.

The conference was opened by Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, who denounced the “bullying” by certain nations through the UN Security Council, and called for the U.S. to be suspended from the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). Despite Ahmadinejad’s bluster, it appears that behind-the-scenes negotiations on a solution to the standoff are continuing.

Russia and Argentina Make Nuclear Deals

April 14—Russian President Dmitri Medvedev reported, during his April 14 press conference in Buenos Aires with Argentine President Cristina Fernández de Kirchner, that “in the atomic energy sphere,” the Russian Federal Atomic Energy Agency, Rosatom, will be making a “several-billion-dollar investment” in the Argentine market “to be spent on the building of . . . nuclear reactors, as well as on the development of [related] infrastructure” in Argentina.

Among 12 bilateral agreements signed by the high-level Russian delegation that visited Argentina April 14-15, the agreement on cooperation in the development of the peaceful uses of nuclear energy is most striking. It specifies that the two nations will work “jointly in the design and construction of nuclear reactors in Argentina, and the supply of nucle-

ar fuel based on the [Russian] VVER [light-water pressurized] reactors.”

Rosatom President Sergei Kirienko said yesterday that Rosatom will compete for a contract to build two third-generation reactors in Argentina, able to generate 1,200 MW each. One of those will be Argentina’s fourth reactor, Atucha III, which Argentina wants Rosatom to help build.

Prince Charles Visits His Mom’s Poppy Fields

April 14—Britain’s Prince Charles visited British troops in Afghanistan on March 25-26, becoming the most senior royal to visit the troops there. He received a briefing from Gen. Stanley McChrystal, commander of U.S. and NATO troops in the country. The London *Guardian* reported that “during a two-day visit amid tight security, he was flown by Chinook helicopter to Lashkar Gar, capital of Helmand province, where he met local leaders, the Governor Gulab Mangal, and British soldiers at a patrol base *surrounded by opium poppy and wheat fields*” (emphasis added).

It was not reported where Prince Charles met McChrystal—for example, in a poppy field, a heroin laboratory, or on a carpet, where the Prince was sitting cross-legged socializing with the local governor. AP reported that “the 61-year-old heir to the British throne said troops can keep themselves busy in the field, but for the relatives left behind, it’s ‘ghastly.’”

The paper further revealed the setting where the British troops are keeping themselves busy: “At Patrol Base Pimon, nestled among the blooming pink poppy fields of Nad Ali, he met some of the 140 British troops holding the front line and was told by commanding officer Maj. Ian Lindsay-German: ‘It’s a lot more quiet out there now, but it hasn’t been cleared fully’ of insurgents.”

Clearing the fields of opium poppy is not on the agenda.