

# International Intelligence

## **Bangladesh to get arms from China**

The Bangladesh government is negotiating a major arms deal with China, including shipment of Chinese tanks and refurbishing of a Chinese armaments plant in Bangladesh, according to reports from Peking.

The deal is reported to be the subject of talks carried out last week between visiting President Ziaul Rahman of Bangladesh and Chinese officials.

The Bangladesh President and his Chinese hosts jointly denounced the Soviet Union and Vietnam. It is not known what the arms are for, but it has been widely reported in India that Bangladesh has served as a base for Chinese armed and backed separatist tribal elements operating in the northeastern region of India.

## **French commentator warns Europe on Mideast**

Under the title "Triple Impasse," French commentator Paul-Marie de la Gorce writes in the July 30 *Le Figaro* that the "general indifference to concrete results" shown at the United Nations General Assembly session is dangerously cynical. Israeli "colonization" of the West Bank and the Knesset vote to take over Jerusalem have thrown all Camp David partners into an impasse. On the part of Israel, he states, the impasse is a deliberate move to "create a situation making impossible a negotiated settlement with her Arab neighbors, even the most moderate." U.S. policy, he adds, is at a grave impasse because all U.S. policymakers continue to allow Israel to implement *faits accomplis*.

Stressing with approval the French policy of seeking to open the way for a Palestinian state, de la Gorce protests that at the U.N., France and the rest of Europe "were resigned to new and interminable delays before a lasting peace can

be established. . . . The French should calculate what in fact it costs them—and what it will cost in the future—if the conflict is indefinitely prolonged." Among the costs he notes are assassinations on French soil. "At the risk of ruining remaining illusions and breaking with the precautions of protocol, it is necessary to tell the truth here: under the conditions prevailing today, new explosions in the Middle East are absolutely inevitable. . . . There can be nothing more urgent than for responsible nations to quickly impose a solution."

## **Terrorists said to target Schmidt**

West German officials fear a new terrorist wave, with Chancellor Helmut Schmidt potentially a target, reported the weekly *Der Spiegel* July 28.

The police began speculating that Baader-Meinhof terrorists are planning assassinations of state leaders when the bodies of two top terrorists were found in an automobile accident in the state of Baden-Württemberg July 25.

The car was driven by Juliane Plambeck, who was wanted for complicity in the assassinations of banker Jürgen Ponto, Christian Democratic leader Peter Lorenz, state prosecutor Siegfried Buback, industrialist Hanns-Martin Schleyer, and others. In the car the police found ammunition, explosives and documents that suggested the terrorists were on their way to a hit.

The veracity of the *Der Spiegel* account has been denied by West Germany's federal criminal intelligence bureau, the Bundeskriminalamt (BKA), but security has been strengthened for Chancellor Schmidt and other top West German officials.

The two most wanted members of the Baader-Meinhof, who have been reported to be staying in an unspecified "Arab country," have just returned to West Germany. Already, in Tuscany, the two daughters and nephew of a leading West

German journalist, Dieter Kronzucker, were kidnapped, reportedly by a joint group of German terrorists and Sardinian-Sicilian Mafia, the first time tourists have been targeted in this way by terrorists.

## **Cossiga off the hook for now**

The Italian parliament decided to drop charges against Prime Minister Francesco Cossiga in a special joint session of the two houses July 27. Cossiga had been accused of helping a terrorist to escape, the son of Christian Democratic Senator Carlo Donat-Cattin, his factional ally.

This was the first time in Italian post-war history that a Prime Minister has faced the possibility of impeachment in constitutional court.

The London *Guardian* commented in an editorial July 29 that Cossiga's acquittal will by no means be the end of the problem, since Italy's ruling families are all implicated in terrorism. Donat-Cattin told the press that he knows of 41 sons, daughters and other relatives of senior politicians who are terrorists like his son. "The whole affair has furnished a daunting reminder," wrote the *Guardian*, "of the problems which Italian governments will continue to face with terrorist groups long after Mr. Cossiga's personal difficulties are forgotten and in particular of the extent to which Italian terrorism has become an industry widely practiced by the ruling class."

## **Fidel Castro picks up 'fundamentalist card'**

Speaking last Monday at the anniversary celebration of the 1953 attack on the Moncada fortress in Cuba, Fidel Castro called on Christians and Marxist-Leninists to form a "strategic alliance." Ana-

lysts assume Castro was referring to the "Christian-Marxist dialogue" promoted by such Jesuit-run radicals as Mexico's "Red Bishop" Méndez Arceo. Castro added that Christianity was originally "the religion of the poor because it was based on profoundly human precepts." If all religions were to adopt that spirit, Castro continued, "socialism, communism, and Christianity would gain a great deal."

Castro made his statements shortly after returning from a conference in Nicaragua held to celebrate the first anniversary of the fall of the Somoza regime. Referencing the Nicaraguan revolution, and the violent situations in El Salvador and Guatemala, Castro risked a potentially Iran-scale fundamentalist scenario by noting that there is only one road for Latin America to follow to achieve its liberation: "that of revolution . . . of armed revolutionary struggle." It is statements of this kind that can be expected to fuel predictions by both Zbigniew Brzezinski and Ronald Reagan of an "arc of crisis" in the Caribbean and Central America.

### ***A military side to Soviet satellite***

The U.S.S.R. may be testing a new space satellite which would have the ability to destroy a Western spacecraft—and make the destruction look like an accident—according to a recent report by the London *Daily Telegraph's* science correspondent.

On three recent occasions, the Soviets have used their powerful Proton rocket (indicating a heavy payload) to launch two spacecraft that remained in space for only one or two orbits before returning to earth. The launches were so timed that recovery of the spacecraft took place at dawn.

For the first time since the beginning of the Soviet space program more than 20 years ago, information from spacecraft is being radioed back to earth in code to prevent Western analysts from

interpreting the relayed data.

The supposition is that such a satellite could be made to explode near a Western spacecraft in the period when it was out of touch with American tracking stations. The Western craft could thus be destroyed without leaving any evidence of Soviet responsibility, according to the *Telegraph*.

### ***New attack on Vietnam in the works?***

Thailand's foreign minister, Siddhi Swet-sila, and former Cambodian prime minister Son Sann were in Peking this week. There are strong indications that they were planning a renewed military attack on Vietnam. The *Far Eastern Economic Review* reports that the Chinese are pressuring Cambodian Prince Sihanouk to take the leadership of a Khmer united front consisting of Pol Pot and Son Sann gangs. So far, Sihanouk has resisted. Meanwhile, the Thais have renewed hostilities by cutting off border transit with Laos and threatening Khmer Rouge infiltration into Cambodia under cover of relief supplies.

This week *Die Welt's* Peking correspondent, Herbert Kremp, interviewed the Chinese deputy foreign minister, Zhang Wenjin, who openly stated that Peking does not rule out the possibility that a "violation" of the Thai border by Vietnamese soldiers could lead to a second Chinese attack on Vietnam. The first came in early 1979. Zhang adds: "It primarily depends on two points. First, the intensity of the use of force by the Vietnamese; second, on the desires of the Thai government; and third, on our resources and available means." Zhang gave the example of the Korean and Sino-Indian wars, commenting that China will not "cry out loudly" or "raise a hue and cry over what we will do before we act." Using the Indian example, he says: "When our patience was exhausted, we acted, and the Indians suffered a fatal blow."

## ***Briefly***

● **DEFENSE SPENDING** in Japan will increase only 9.7 percent this year, according to an agreement reached this week between the Finance Ministry and the Defense Agency. The increase, which is even smaller when inflation is taken into account, is far below the commitment made under Carter administration pressure by Prime Minister Masayoshi Ohira before his death last June.

● **HANS-DIETRICH Genscher**, West German foreign minister, announced July 31 after discussions in Bonn between Chancellor Schmidt and Jordan's King Hussein that West Germany will support a Euro-Arab ministers' conference before the end of the year to define a strategy for Third World development.

● **AYATOLLAH BEHESHTI** is an agent of British intelligence, said the French *Journal du Dimanche* July 27, referring to the hardline fundamentalist associate of Ayatollah Khomeini. The newspaper pointed out that British intelligence has had a strong hand in Iran for years, including a capability to manipulate fundamentalist mullahs. Isn't it strange that British property interests in Iran have been left untouched? the *Journal* asked.

● **MARSHALL GOLDMAN**, leading Harvard University Sovietologist, told *EIR* this week that "we would love it" if the U.S.S.R. invaded Sinkiang and Manchuria in response to a Chinese move into Vietnam. "China would swallow up the Soviets."

● **SIMON WIESENTHAL**, director of the Vienna-based Documentation Center, which traces participants in the Nazi slaughter of Jews, has called for the release of former Nazi leader Rudolf Hess from Berlin's Spandau Prison on medical grounds. Wiesenthal made the call in an interview in the West German edition of *Playboy*.