

International Intelligence

French minister calls for Third World task force

Speaking at the United Nations Special Session on Economic Development, French Foreign Affairs Minister Jean François-Poncet officially called for the creation of "an emergency transportation task force under the aegis of the U.N." and announced that "France is ready to contribute to it."

François-Poncet motivated his call by referring to the need to cope "with extreme and sudden crisis, with tragedy that breaks out abruptly as in Uganda, where famine is reaching calamitous proportions." He emphasized France's helicopter airlifts which have succeeded in transporting aid into the regions.

The French minister stressed that "hunger and malnutrition are rampant in many areas. There will be no development unless these scourges are eradicated. . . The main point is to increase agricultural production through long-term widescale action designed to put existing or developing technologies at the disposal of the countries themselves. . . Industrialization and the development of agricultural production are both necessary to ensure that development enjoys the solid basis it requires."

Brazilian tank sales to China rumored

The Brazilian daily *O Estado* reported Aug. 10: "During the last few weeks, our arms industry has been concluding an agreement with Washington authorities on the export of armored cars in a transaction which will soon be signed with the People's Republic of China."

In July, Brazil's ambassador to London, Roberto Campos, sought to build a Brazil-China alliance during a secretive visit to Peking. Brazil has the world's largest production plant of wheeled light tanks. However, during the last few years, the Brazilian Foreign Ministry has vetoed arms deals with countries such as

Somalia, South Africa, and Rhodesia, on the grounds that their use of such equipment in offensive activities would damage Brazil's posture in the Third World. Aid to China's military buildup is a matter for similar controversy in Brazilian policy circles.

Washington may well be seeking to use Brazil—which has broken off military supply agreements with the United States—as a surrogate supplier to beef up Chinese capacities. If so, the deal is being kept secret; it is emphatically denied by the relevant State Department desk officers.

Indian communal riots elicit investigation

The Indian government announced this week that a judicial inquiry will be conducted into the origins of the widespread communal rioting and violence in the northern part of the country.

For now, the prime minister has asked the press to restrain itself from inflammatory coverage, and many questions are being asked in government and political circles about the "hidden hands" behind the violence which left scores dead and tensions all around. On Aug. 20, the correspondent of the *Times of India* reported from the worst-affected city of Moradabad that there is grave "concern" among officials "over the inflow of petrodollars . . . for the construction of two Islamic universities near that city." Islamic analysts have been quick to note that two organizations have come up in investigations on the riots—the Jamaati Islami, the Muslim Brotherhood's subcontinental operation, and the little-known Muslim secret society, the Tablighi Jamaat. The latter has generally involved itself in "cultural and educational activities."

That a conspiracy is suspected is evident from information released by law-enforcement agencies. A senior police superintendent in the northern state of Uttar Pradesh stated that the interrogation of a Pakistani national yielded information that implicates Pakistan. The

District Magistrate of Allahabad, another of the afflicted cities, has stated that "some mastermind was behind an organized and planned conspiracy to create trouble in the city."

Jewish Defense League announces Italian plans

The Jewish Defense League has sent a letter to the newspaper *La Repubblica* announcing the founding of the organization on Italian soil and spelling out a full activation of terrorism to be conducted out of the new Italian base.

The letter, a formal statement from the JDL leadership, says that it intends to: (1) furnish supplies and financing to agents of the Gush Emunim and related groups; (2) carry out terrorist activities against anyone who is opposed to the policies of Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin or Zionism in general; (3) pressure all areas of opinion whether public or private who are favorable to the Palestinians; and (4) carry out violent reprisals against Arabs presently in Italy.

Soviets blast NATO expansion

The Soviet daily *Pravda* Aug. 27 attacked NATO and the United States for trying to lay exclusive claim to the Mediterranean area as if it were a NATO preserve. If NATO tries to escalate pressure on Spain and Greece to join NATO, said *Pravda*, that would seriously escalate tension in the Mediterranean. The Mediterranean is also a Soviet sphere of interests, and a domination of the region by NATO cannot be tolerated, especially when viewed from a standpoint knowledgeable of the new U.S. "limited nuclear war" doctrine, the paper added.

This unusual warning comes in the context of strong attacks on the Carter administration's PD 59 military doctrine. The doctrine of "surgical" strikes and limited nuclear war amounts to "political

terrorism on a nuclear basis," wrote the daily *Izvestia* Aug. 23. Soviet Lt. Gen. Nikolai Chervov said in an interview published in the Czechoslovak daily *Rude Pravo* Aug. 20 that "Washington is now oriented toward the strategic goal of delivering the first strike. . . The United States, which is escalating political intimidation by gambling on a 'destructive' strike, reduces the nuclear threshold and increases the risk of a new, nuclear war which—in Washington's view—could have a limited character and last 'several weeks or even months.' In essence the United States is knowingly pushing the world into the abyss of nuclear war."

Shah was murdered, Mexican doctor charges

Victor Manuel Santander, the Mexican physician to the late Shah of Iran, has alleged that the Shah did not die of cancer but was assassinated. The charges were made public in the Aug. 27 issue of the widely read Mexican daily *Ovaciones*.

According to Santander, the Shah was deliberately "saturated" with an overdose of deadly anticancer drugs that destroyed his white blood cells and caused massive infection. "The Egyptian doctors [treating the Shah] in collaboration with two French semi-specialists ignored the instructions of the most prestigious American doctors and decided on their own initiative to increase the dosage of the anticancer drugs," the Shah's Mexican doctor revealed.

Santander also asserted that during his stay in Mexico, the Shah was "snatched up" and removed from the country by Richard Nixon, David Rockefeller, and Henry Kissinger.

Immediately following the Shah's death on July 27, Dr. Michael DeBaakey, the head of the American team of physicians treating the Shah, issued a statement that corroborates Santander's later, more extensive charges. DeBaakey said that the Shah's death resulted not from cancer directly but from the chemotherapy that he was receiving.

Europeans, Arabs draw the line on Israel

A recent refusal by West Germany, France, Italy, and Great Britain to send their military attachés to observe Israeli military maneuvers on the Golan Heights has become "a new focus of tension between Israel and the European Community [EC]," according to the *Jerusalem Post*. The European attachés refused to attend in protest of Israel's recent decision to annex East Jerusalem and its proposed legislation to annex the Golan Heights.

At a meeting in Israel last week with the attachés, Israeli military intelligence chief Yehoshua Saguy reportedly hinted that he might not invite the Europeans to Israeli maneuvers in the future, even if they take place within the 1967 borders. If the Israelis proceed in this fashion, a European diplomat warned, then the EC "might consider 'retaliatory' action against the Israeli military attachés posted to their capitals." At the same time, the French have announced that they intend to beef up the French contingent of the Unifil peacekeeping troops stationed in Lebanon.

Meanwhile, the EC's Middle East envoy, Gaston Thorn of Luxembourg, has put out feelers to visit Israel again, three weeks after his first visit with Prime Minister Begin to put the squeeze on the Israelis. Thorn has been spending time in Saudi Arabia and Egypt, and now wants to spend four days in Israel to meet with government officials and Palestinian leaders from the West Bank and Gaza. Begin has not yet responded, a sign of Israel's anger over Thorn's meeting three weeks ago with PLO chief Yasser Arafat in Beirut.

The Saudis are also playing it tough with Israel. Foreign Minister Prince Saud has urged the countries of the West to put pressure on Israel. "Short of war . . . only pressure from the West can bring about a solution," the prince told reporters after meeting with British Foreign Secretary Lord Carrington in Saudi Arabia.

Briefly

● **KING HUSSEIN** of Jordan plans a trip to the Vatican for meetings with Pope John Paul II. Sources in Amman report that the king is intent on forming a joint Christian-Muslim front against Israel's decision to make Jerusalem its permanent capital.

● **ABDULLAH FRANGIEH**, the PLO spokesman in West Germany, charged Aug. 21 that a substantial number of the 30,000 to 40,000 Palestinian émigrés in West Germany have been recruited into "dealing heroin and hashish." He said that the émigrés are manipulated by American and Israeli intelligence services.

● **HAN NIANLONG**, Peking's vice minister of foreign affairs, said last week that the danger of a Vietnamese attack on Thailand is less than the danger of a Vietnamese peace offensive in Southeast Asia, referring to a possible United Nations General Assembly ouster of Cambodia's Pol Pot representatives from the U.N. U.S. State Department Politico/Military Bureau Director Reginald Bartholomew recently told the Japanese in Tokyo that a new Thai-Vietnamese military conflict, on a restricted scale, is possible.

● **SYRIA** has established full diplomatic relations with Ethiopia, a key Soviet ally in northeast Africa, following the Ethiopian foreign minister's visit to Damascus this week. Relations had previously been cool because of Syrian support for the Eritrean Liberation Front against the central government in Addis Ababa.

● **FRENCH PRESIDENT** Giscard, in a statement this week, emphasized historic Franco-Polish friendship and his "personal ties" with Edward Gierek, and pledged French nonintervention. Chancellor Schmidt fully endorsed Giscard's statement. Former Italian Premier Andreotti stated that democracy will not spread through rebellions.