

# International Intelligence

## **Israel threatens to invade Lebanon**

Israel—possibly to help the beleaguered Assad regime in Damascus by giving it a chance to rally the population around the renewed threat of war—is openly threatening an invasion of Lebanon.

Last week, Yehoshua Saguy, the chief of Israel's military intelligence, visited Washington secretly to meet with Alexander Haig and to announce Israel's plan to invade Lebanon soon.

Also, Defense Minister Ariel Sharon held a secret meeting with Bashir Gemayel of the fascist Lebanese Falangists last month, reportedly to plan an invasion aimed at decimating the P.L.O. forces in Lebanon. Such an attack would also be aimed at propping up the Assad regime by creating a military emergency.

However, both Israeli and American sources believe that an invasion by Israel would soon engulf Saudi Arabia, and could lead to a world war.

"What Sharon is planning to do is the most reckless adventure conceivable," said a prominent Zionist leader.

## **Weinberger flops in Saudi Arabia**

Following Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger's three-day visit to Saudi Arabia last week, Saudi officials and military officers are leaking to the press that Weinberger's performance there was embarrassing and that his visit was a failure. The Saudis were reportedly wearied by Weinberger's obsessive warnings about Soviet encroachment into the Persian Gulf and told Weinberger bluntly that the real threat to stability in the Middle East is the failure to solve the Palestinian problem.

In an appearance with Weinberger, Saudi Defense Minister Sultan made a not-too-subtle jab at the U.S.-Israeli relationship when he declared that the real destabilizing actions in recent months in the Middle East have been the Israeli

bombing of the Baghdad nuclear reactor and Israel's annexation of the Golan Heights.

Another indication of Weinberger's poor showing in Saudi Arabia was Prince Fahd's refusal to set a date for his visit to Washington, a trip that has been twice postponed. Moreover, the Saudis refused to set a date for the next shipment of U.S.-built AWACS radar planes. Although the AWACS will not be ready until 1984, the Saudi refusal to set a date indicates Fahd's intent to publicly distance Saudi Arabia from the United States.

## **Kissinger and Rio de Janeiro's racketeers**

The world-famous "Carnaval" in Rio this year is the scene of a peculiar battle over who will become the next governor of the state of Rio and the master of its notorious crime syndicates. Israel Klabin, Henry Kissinger's "man from Rio" is making a big play to grab the governorship for himself.

Banker Klabin sponsored Kissinger's November visit to Rio during which they plotted, with the world's other top Dope, Inc. bankers, Brazil's future as a trunk route for moving Andean cocaine to the United States and Europe (*EIR*, Dec. 22, 1981). The Brazilian police, following their January capture of 38 kilos of cocaine which had arrived in Sao Paulo from Colombia via the Amazon free port of Manaus for refinement and export to Miami, confirmed that Brazil is now a big league drug route.

The gubernatorial prospects of the populist demagogue Miro Teixeira, who had been considered a shoo-in until Kissinger's visit, have taken a nose dive. He had been Rio's all-time record vote-getter, thanks to the backing of Rio political *cappi* and incumbent governor Chagas Freitas and his personal links to numbers "banker" Aniz Abrahão David who projects his petty crime into mass psychosis through his funding of Beija Flor, the most popular "samba school" in Rio's carnaval.

According to the Brazilian weekly *Istoé*, Chagas Freitas is considering dumping Miro in favor of Klabin as his candidate for governor. *Istoé* reports that the initial pressures on Chagas to do that came from "outside," from Brazil's security agencies. General Octavio Medeiros, Brazil's intelligence chief, travels in the same political circles in Israel, in the United States, and in Brazil as Klabin.

In response to such opposition, Miro Teixeira delivered in November a philippic against the government's "repressive apparatus."

To make matters worse for Miro, in the last few weeks, his electoral captain, Anis Abrahão David, the colorful numbers mafia chieftain, has had his clandestine casino shut down, has suffered thousands of his numbers sellers being rounded up off the streets by the Federal Military Police, has had his numbers "banks" raided, and even two police precincts on his payroll locked up. This Lebanese-Brazilian king-pin of petty crime had previously been "Mr. Untouchable" in Rio, although his operations were in broad daylight.

David's thugs still control the mass vote. But Governor Chagas Freitas has a personal clamp on the top party structure. In an expression of fealty to mobster Chagas, Kissinger's buddy Klabin intoned in January, "I entered public life by the hand of Chagas, and I will only leave it by his hand."

## **Malaysia to end support of Pol Pot?**

The China Card strategy has suffered another setback this month as Malaysian Prime Minister Mohammed Mahatir threatened to end diplomatic recognition of the Chinese-run Pol Pot regime in Kampuchea and rebuffed visiting British Foreign Secretary Lord Carrington's attempt to work out a "compromise."

Mahatir's threat to withdraw recognition of the Khmer Rouge as the government of Kampuchea was made in response to a final refusal of the Pol Pot forces to accept partnership in a coalition

## Briefly

● **HELMUT SCHMIDT** charged charged in a speech Feb. 7 that "orthodox forces in Moscow and conservative forces in the West" are interested in installing a new government in Bonn. This is the first public recognition the West German Chancellor has given to the existence of a conspiracy to topple him.

● **PFLASTERSTRAND**, the Frankfurt-based radical magazine edited by Daniel Cohn-Bendit, published in its current issue a photo of Holger Börner alongside one of Hanns-Martin Schleyer, the industrialist assassinated in 1977 by the Baader-Meinhof terrorists. Börner is the governor of the state of Hesse and the closest party ally of Chancellor Schmidt.

● **SAUDI OIL** exports over the past six months have fallen by two million barrels a day, to below their 1976 production ceiling of 8.5 million barrels. Now London-based oil company sources say that Saudi Arabia will have to drop an additional 2 million.

● **YASSER ARAFAT**, leader of the Palestine Liberation Organization, has offered to invite Egyptian President Mubarak to the next Arab summit regardless of whether Mubarak breaks with Camp David, the *Vienna Courier* reports.

● **SOUTH AFRICA** is activating its credit facilities with the IMF for the first time in six years, according to reports. The move reflects South Africa's weak balance-of-payments situation, due to drops in income from minerals exports.

● **CORRECTION:** On page 37 of *EIR's* Feb. 16 issue, Mexican oligarch Juan Sánchez Navarro was incorrectly identified as a member of the Mont Pelerin Society. It is his associate Agustin Navarro Vazquez who is one of the small group of Mexican members.

with former Prince Sihanouk and former Prime Minister Son Sann that would reach a political settlement with Vietnam. Mahatir proposed this derecognition at a Feb. 1 heads of state meeting with the other members of the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN), Indonesia, Philippines, Singapore, and Thailand. Should ASEAN withdraw support for the Khmer Rouge, it is virtually certain that the U.N. would end its seating of the Chinese-run Pol Pot forces who murdered 3 million Kampuchians during their 1975-78 rule.

Singapore and Thailand are expected to oppose Mahatir's proposal, but Indonesia—whose population comprises the majority of the total ASEAN population, is likely to support Mahatir. The Indonesian government is reportedly considering a proposal to open direct negotiations with Vietnam over the Kampuchea issue. According to press reports, Indonesia will propose partial Vietnamese troop withdrawal from Kampuchea in return for U.N. security guarantees in the area.

### *Syrian coup may be in the works*

Syrian Air Force officers and other military personnel opposed to the drug-running, Israeli intelligence-allied regime of President Assad have staged a major rebellion in Hama, Syria. Although reports filtering out of Syria are inconclusive as of this writing, it appears that a significant effort to complete a coup d'état is underway.

According to wire service reports, near insurrection has broken out in Hama, which has been sealed off and partially razed by the Syrian government troops. Hundreds of people are said to have been killed as a result of the most brutal crackdown on dissidents and rebels ever enforced by Assad. In addition, the towns of Aleppo and Homs have also been sealed off as reports of full-scale civil war spread.

Reported to be among the exile lead-

ers of the rebellion are Hammoud al-Choufi, Syria's former ambassador to the United Nations, who resigned over Syria's backing for Iran's mullahs. Also involved is the family of the late Akram Hourani, a Syrian Baath Party founder who was a powerful landowner and businessman in Hama. Hama is one of Syria's major industrial towns and the location of the country's biggest air base.

### *Schmidt warns SPD on fascist potential*

West German Chancellor Schmidt, in an extraordinarily blunt interview this month with the Hamburg weekly *Die Zeit*, warned his Social Democratic Party to heed the lessons of 1930, when the SPD toppled the last of their own governments under Hermann Müller in a dispute over unemployment insurance. "Afterwards came Brüning, then Papen, then Schleicher, and then came Adolf Hitler. . . . The last Social Democratic government was toppled because of a quarrel about a minor burden on the broad masses of the population, paving the way for something worse and afterward something totally evil," Schmidt said. He warned against a repitition today of Chancellor Heinrich Brüning's austerity policies, adding that he suspects Christian Democratic Union chief Helmut Kohl of aspiring to be the new Brüning.

Schmidt insisted that the current mess in the SPD does not represent the true base of the party or of the population. How is it possible, he asked, that 70 percent of the German population agrees with my policy and yet I have problems with my own party?

Schmidt openly denounced the Free Democratic Party for its perpetual maneuvering against him and its efforts to split the coalition. The FDP and its chairman Hans-Dietrich Genscher want to impose a harsh austerity program, he said, whereas Schmidt himself knows much better than the FDP the importance of the trade unions.