

# International Intelligence

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## *M-19 guerrillas sabotage truce in Colombia*

One week after the Colombian government of Belisario Betancur approved a ceasefire with the mass-based FARC guerrilla movement at the end of March, the drug-running terrorist M-19 gang launched at least three bloody assaults on military installations around the country in an attempt to shatter the truce and force the government into a hard-line retrenchment.

The M-19 leadership called a "clandestine" press conference the first week of April to charge the FARC with betraying them by not insisting on M-19 inclusion in the truce negotiations with the government. The M-19 demanded that the government begin immediate "peace negotiations" with them to prove its good faith. The M-19 is the terrorist gang which held hostage an entire city in retaliation for the Colombian government's spectacular raid last month against the largest cocaine-refining laboratories in the world.

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## *Sharon makes power bid; terrorism escalates*

Former Israeli Defense Minister Ariel Sharon, who advocates "Islamic fundamentalism" against moderate Arab states, won 42% of the vote at the Herut party leadership convention April 13. Sharon's show of support in this contest with Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir places him to become the next Israeli Defense Minister if the Likud coalition, which the Herut party leads, takes power in the July general elections. Shamir won 56% of the vote.

Sharon spelled out his policies in a provocative interview in the Parisian magazine *Le Point* the second week of April. Sharon used the typical camouflage of his ally, Henry Kissinger, pretending to be "anti-Soviet" to justify policies that will only promote the spread of Soviet-controlled Islamic fundamentalism in the region. Sharon backed the radical opponents of Yassir Arafat in the Palestine Liberation Organization, and Khomeiniac Iran.

Asserting that the 1982 invasion of Lebanon was to the benefit to the United States,

Sharon complained: "We should not have allowed Arafat from leaving Tripoli alive. . . . What was to be a victory for the West was turned into a victory for the East."

He also said that the greatest danger in the Iran-Iraq war is an Iraqi victory, "because the Soviets will be tempted to support Iran and we will have the Soviets on the Gulf. Think of what would have happened if we had not destroyed Iraq's nuclear reactor."

Jewish terrorist sects linked to Sharon, including Rabbi Meir Kahane's Kach Party, Rabbi Levinger's Gush Emunim, and the so-called Terror against Terror, were recently caught in a series of bus strafings, bombings and other terrorist acts. These groups are attempting to destroy the Al Aqsa mosque in Jerusalem, one of the most sacred sites in Islam.

The reasoning of Sharon, and his collaborator Rafi Eytan—the director of the Office to Advise the Prime Minister on the Warfare against Terror—is that the destruction of that Muslim shrine will insure an Islamic fundamentalist rebellion in Saudi Arabia.

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## *Casualties heavy in African fighting*

Heavy fighting broke out between forces of the Marxist regime of Mozambiquan President Samora Machel and the South African-backed Mozambiquan National Resistance in a southern province of Mozambique near the South African border the second week of April. Reports from Lisbon say that hundreds were killed in the fighting, which ended two days ago. The Mozambique government claimed to have put down the rebellion. This is the first fighting between the Soviet-backed Mozambique government and South African-backed forces since March 16, when the two neighbors agreed to halt further violence.

Mozambique is already facing famine threatening the lives of hundreds of thousands. The government has received weapons, but no food or economic aid, from its Soviet ally.

The attempted coup by Libyan-backed rebels in Cameroon in early April cost over 2,000 lives, according to diplomatic sources. Reports from the neighboring Ivory Coast

state that the two days of street fighting in Cameroon's capital, Yaounde, were "warfare in its naked horror," according to one witness. Radio reports refer to the "human folly" in the streets of Yaounde, with soldiers' bodies still lying in burned-out tanks and buildings.

The coup attempt was led by Col. Saleh Ibrahim on April 16, with a group from the Palace Guard. French sources report there is already evidence of the hand of Libya's Qaddafi in this disaster.

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## *Qaddafi executes 160 officers after uprising*

Libyan dictator Muammar Qaddafi is reported to have put his forces on high alert and ordered a mobilization of terrorist hit squads against his exiled opponents after a military uprising against him on March 25 at a base near Benghazi. One hundred and sixty Libyan military officers were said to have been executed before or on April 7 (Qaddafi's annual "liquidation day" for political prisoners).

According to unconfirmed reports from Arab sources, Abu Bakr Y. Jabr, the Libyan chief of the armed forces, has been implicated in the uprising and has been removed. If true, this represents an important break in the Qaddafi regime, because Jabr is a longtime Qaddafi devotee and one of the original members of the Libyan Revolutionary Council from the 1969 coup. Jabr has criticized Qaddafi's adventures in Uganda and more recently in Chad. He was reportedly replaced by another Qaddafi loyalist, Mustafa Karoubi, former intelligence chief.

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## *Japan opening markets before June summit*

Japanese Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone told visiting Belgian Prime Minister Wilfried Martens April 12 that the Japanese government is preparing tariff reductions, financial liberalization, and other market-opening measures before the June London summit of the seven industrial democracies in June. Nakasone emphasized to Martens that Japan has been making continuous ef-

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forts to open up its markets to imports and reduce its trade surpluses with members of the European Community and other industrial nations.

Nakasone also said that Japan is considering a science-and-technology cooperation agreement that Belgium has requested.

Martens told Nakasone that he expects the Soviet Union will take some action regarding its stalled talks with the United States on IRBM reduction, according to Jiji press. Nakasone stressed that Asia should not be sacrificed in any U.S.-Soviet agreement on IRBM reduction in Europe.

### ***Soviets call beam weapons Nazi propaganda***

Soviet Central Committee member and top journalist Yuri Zhukov wrote his third article in a row attacking the U.S. beam-weapons policy in *Pravda* April 9 comparing the idea of a defensive beam shield to Nazi propaganda which claimed that Hitler's Luftwaffe could prevent "any bomb" from hitting Berlin.

Zhukov quoted liberally from recent statements by the *Washington Post* opposing beam weapons, allowing that the *Post* was capable of coming to a "healthy conclusion."

### ***Izvestia* chief gets promotion**

Lev Tolkunov, editor-in-chief of the Soviet government newspaper *Izvestia*, was one of two new chairmen of the chambers of the Supreme Soviet named in Moscow April 12. Tolkunov was named chairman of the Russian Council of the Union. *Izvestia* has consistently opposed U.S. beam-weapons development and slandered *EIR* founder Lyndon H. LaRouche for his international role in promoting beam defense.

Tolkunov's new position is primarily symbolic, but it carries great political weight, and is a highly unusual appointment for an editor.

Reliable sources in Europe say that Tolkunov holds the rank of Major General in the KGB. In the 1960s, Tolkunov worked

directly under Yuri Andropov in the party Central Committee department dealing with Eastern Europe.

### ***Is Egypt being set up for war with Israel?***

Since Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak declared his readiness to resume ties with the U.S.S.R. on April 1, there has been a rapid decline in the already strained relations between Israel and Egypt. Syria and hard-line Arab states, at the prompting of the Soviets, are demanding Egypt break the Camp David accords with Israel. In Israel, the ruling Likud Party has denounced Mubarak for deviating from the treaty.

The tension is evidenced in a release censored by the Israeli military revealing that a civilian passenger bus was hijacked in Tel Aviv and driven to Rafah, a town near the Egyptian border. There are unconfirmed reports that responsibility for the hijacking was claimed from Damascus by the DFLP, the group that machine-gunned 50 Israelis in Jerusalem earlier in April.

At the same time, Israeli Defense Minister Arens issued an uncharacteristically harsh attack on Mubarak for Egypt's construction of military facilities in the Sinai, a violation of the Camp David accords.

Syria, working with the Egyptian internal opposition, is trying to draw Egypt back into the Arab front. Mubarak's top aide gave an unusual press conference the week of April 1, praising Syria and recalling the 1973 war between Egypt and Israel.

### ***A million Brazilians demonstrate for elections***

At least 1 million Brazilians demonstrated in the center of Rio de Janeiro for free elections to choose President Figueiredo's successor this coming November. This was the largest political rally ever held in Brazil, and "will go down in Brazil's history," said Rio's Governor Leonel Brizola.

Opposition party leader Rep. Ulisses Guimaraes stated: "The people want direct presidential elections for their own survival, to end hunger and get jobs."

● **ADALBERTO ROSAS**, the National Action Party's (PAN) date for governor of Sonora, was found guilty of misuse of power and stealing official documents by Sonora's Supreme Court of Justice April 13 and sentenced to spend two years and nine months in jail. Rosas stated that he will carry on his campaign as the PAN's nominee for governor from his jail cell—despite legal complications. Mexican law forbids criminals from campaigning for office.

● **J. R. JAYEWARDENE**, president of Sri Lanka, says that Tamil separatists backed by international terrorist groups were trying to incite a "communist revolution" in Sri Lanka. On April 11, Tamil separatists carried out terrorist acts against a Buddhist temple in the northern town of Jaffna, Sri Lanka, for the second time in two days.

● **PRINCE BANDAR Bin Sultan**, Saudi ambassador to the United States, told the National Press Club in Washington April 10 that if the United States continues to withhold arms from the Arabs, as it did recently with Jordan, then his country is ready to buy Soviet arms. Prince Sultan, the son of the Saudi defense minister, is echoing the statement made last month by Jordanian King Hussein after the U.S. Congress refused to approve a Reagan administration bid to sell sophisticated weapons to Jordan.

● **THE MANILA Times Journal** carried a front-page article from an *EIR* release denouncing the IMF for the destabilization of the Philippines March 30. The article covered an *EIR* interview with Sen. John Melcher (D-Mont.)

policy: "The IMF wants to make it [the Philippines] miserable. . . . The Philippines do not have a tremendous debt—only \$20 to \$30 billion—yet they are being hamstrung by the IMF. . . . Even the banks that would like to turn over their debt cannot do so because of the IMF restrictions. . . ."