

International Intelligence

Philippines angry at U.S. plan to cut aid

Philippines Foreign Minister Raul Manglapus blasted the Bush administration and Senate Minority Leader Robert Dole (R-Kan.) on Jan. 18, and suggested that the United States should consider reducing its standard of living to meet its foreign aid pledges to its traditional allies—in particular, the Philippines. He was responding to the proposal by Dole for 5% cuts in U.S. aid to Israel, Egypt, the Philippines, Turkey, and Pakistan to enable Washington to help Panama and the new democracies in Eastern Europe.

President Corazon Aquino had warned on Jan. 16 that U.S. failure to live up to aid pledges could damage prospects for a new agreement concerning the U.S. bases in the Philippines.

"When Bob Dole said supporting freedom is not free, we feel that we would like to remind everyone, we have been at the frontline of America's defense here for free since 1903," Manglapus said, according to Reuters. Asked what the Philippines would do if the United States went ahead with the proposed cuts, Manglapus said: The Philippines "will know what to do."

Kohl upholds goal of German unification

West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl insists that German unity be declared the ultimate goal of any treaty signed between the two parts of Germany.

In a Bonn parliamentary debate on Jan. 18, Rudolf Seiters, the spokesman for the chancellor's office, declared that the government's policy on the planned treaty must be the firmly stated will to unity of the nation. Anything less than that would make a new treaty meaningless.

The chancellor's offer of such a treaty is addressed to the first freely elected parliament and government of East Germany, which is supposed to be achieved in the May

6 elections. Seiters specified that in the meantime, the Bonn government will continue to talk to East Berlin leader Hans Modrow on "the most urgent tasks." Kohl will probably meet the Communist leader next in mid-February.

In an interview with the *Washington Post* published on Jan. 17, Kohl "appeared to take issue with the Bush administration's insistence that unification be achieved 'in the context of Germany's continued commitment to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization,'" according to the *Post*. "It's a new situation and we have to talk reasonably about this new situation," Kohl said. Reminded that Secretary of State Baker had stipulated the NATO condition in a Dec. 12 speech in Berlin, Kohl responded that "things have moved forward again, things have changed."

"Everything we do here, everything we say, goes along in very close communication with our American friends, and with our European friends, with our French friends and also in very open dialogue with Gorbachov," Kohl added.

Soviets pull out MiGs from Cam Ranh Bay

The Soviet Union has pulled out its only squadron of MiG fighter planes and some of its Badger bombers from Vietnam's Cam Ranh Bay military base, according to Western intelligence sources based in Bangkok. The *International Herald Tribune* has reported that there are no longer any submarines or large warships at the base. Maritime reconnaissance and antisubmarine war planes, Soviet electronic surveillance, and an interception center remain in operation.

Soviet officials had earlier told a Bangkok daily, the *Nation*, that Moscow would probably announce a unilateral military withdrawal from Cam Ranh Bay, regardless of whether or not the United States dismantled its military facilities in the Philippines. But indeed, such a *quid pro quo* may be exactly what Moscow is seeking. The withdrawal of the MiGs from Vietnam is thought

by some analysts to put added pressure on Vietnam and the Heng Samrin government in Cambodia to settle the Cambodian conflict.

In a related development, the *Washington Post* on Jan. 20 quoted Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze claiming that "the day is near when there will be no Soviet military presence in Asia beyond Soviet borders." Shevardnadze told this to U.S. Senators Timothy Wirth (D-Colo.), Albert Gore, Jr. (D-Tenn.), Claiborne Pell (D-R.I.), and Lloyd Bentsen (D-Tex.). Naturally, he implied to the senators that the United States should do likewise.

Ibero-American clerics appeal to U.S. on Panama

The Latin American Council of Churches appealed to U.S. churches in a letter Jan. 1 to repudiate the invasion of Panama. The letter, released to the public on Jan. 19, asked, "How long will the Christian churches in the U.S. continue to tolerate, and in some cases even justify, these actions that not only violate the most basic human rights, but also the right that the weakest or smallest countries have to make their own decisions and to write their own history?"

The letter asked if Christians in the U.S. are capable of speaking in biblical terms against political authorities. "Will the Episcopal Church particularly be able to firmly exercise its discipline upon a President that boasts of being an active member of this confession of faith? Or are we sad victims of the 'pagan ideology of national security' that has led so many Christians throughout the world to the sin of unfaithfulness and apostasy?"

KGB protecting Stasi agents

The KGB is safehousing senior officers of the "disbanded" East German security police, the Stasi, who have escaped public investigation, according to a report by the usu-

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ally well-informed Werner Kahl in the West German daily *Die Welt* on Jan. 18.

Not only have key Stasi files been clandestinely transferred to "pre-arranged secret depots of the [East German] Army," Kahl writes, but the KGB headquarters in East Berlin is providing shelter (and, likely, a new operational base) to Stasi personnel gone underground, for the time being, as long as the democracy movement continues to protest in the streets. The KGB headquarters is off limits to all East Germans, has a special "autonomous status," and is accessible only to a few select people with security clearance.

Intelligence analysts in Europe are paying close attention to the covert contacts between the East German communists and the Stasi on the one side, and Moscow on the other, in light of recent strange incidents in East Germany, such as the sacking of the Stasi headquarters. East Germany's communist prime minister, Hans Modrow, met Warsaw Pact Gen. P.G. Lushev in East Berlin recently, but no details were made public.

But the *Wiesbadener Kurier* newspaper in West Germany cited "Western secret intelligence sources" who claim that Modrow called on the Soviets to come to his help with troops "if need be."

Gorbachov had reportedly turned down a similar request from deposed East German party chief Erich Honecker on Oct. 7.

Euro Parliament, U.N. blast U.S. role in Panama

The European Parliament on Jan. 18 denounced the U.S. invasion of Panama as a "flagrant violation of the sovereignty and integrity of an independent state." It characterized the illegal U.S. search of the residence of the Nicaraguan ambassador and the harassment of the embassies of Panama, Cuba, and the Vatican as "violations of the Vienna convention pertaining to inviolability of diplomatic missions."

The condemnation of the U.S. invasion was motivated by both the Socialist and Christian Democratic members of the Euro-

pean Parliament. According to French radio reports, the main opposition to the statement came from the British Tories.

The following day, the U.N. Security Council voted to condemn the U.S. raid of the Nicaraguan ambassador's residence, but the U.S. vetoed the statement. Even Canada and France, which have otherwise backed the invasion of Panama, joined 11 other countries in the Security Council in voting to censure the U.S. for its action. Britain abstained, and the U.S. cast the sole vote opposed.

The resolution declared the U.S. raid "a violation of the privileges and immunities recognized under international law and codified in the Vienna conventions on diplomatic and consular relations."

Chinese regional leaders convene in Beijing

The top Chinese leadership pulled the provincial, regional, and municipal Communist Party leadership into a national meeting in Beijing Jan. 10-11, the official news agency Xinhua reported—the second such national meeting in three weeks. Communist Party chief Jiang Zemin, Prime Minister Li Peng, internal security head Qiao Shi, and others led the meeting, and stressed the need for political orthodoxy and better intelligence on the state of the party.

Top officials also addressed a five-day national meeting of the provincial justice bureaus in Beijing which ended on Jan. 13. Prime Minister Li stressed that "the judicial department in China is of the greatest importance in safeguarding public security and political stability and unity," and "faced with the new situation," the judicial departments should settle issues based on Marxism, Leninism, and Mao Zedong-Thought.

The meeting concluded, Xinhua reported, that "all policemen of judicial departments must fully perform their duty of exercising dictatorship over criminals and reforming them through labor." The meeting also stressed control of schools, universities, and prisons.

● **DENMARK** has issued a strong attack on developments in Cambodia. "The violent fighting of recent weeks has caused widespread fear that the country will be returned to the horror regime of Pol Pot," said Foreign Minister Uffe Ellemann-Jensen. "This must never be allowed to happen. The Danish government supports a solution which will shut out any possibility that the Khmer Rouge should ever have a chance of resuming its terror regime."

● **GEN. BORIS GROMOV** is a key man to watch on the Soviet political scene, European intelligence sources report. Gromov, the former military commander in Afghanistan and now head of the Kiev Military District, has been writing Russian nationalist tracts in the Soviet military paper *Krasnaya Zvezda*. Gromov has the reputation of being a particularly nasty brute.

● **MARGARET THATCHER** and François Mitterrand discussed the crisis in the Soviet Union and the East bloc, in a meeting in Paris on Jan. 20, the London *Times* reports. President Mitterrand had been in Hungary two days before.

● **THERE ARE 'STRAWS** in the wind" about a plan for the partition of Iran, with the Soviets taking the north and the U.S. taking the south, a European intelligence source reports. Such a development, in his view, is more likely than any unilateral Soviet military move into northern Iran.

● **MARKUS WOLF**, the former head of the East German Stasi secret police, is putting out disinformation to justify a potential crackdown there. "We are close to a great fire" he told the British *Daily Telegraph* in an interview published Jan. 17. Wolf lied that the revolution could soon degenerate into lawlessness, as people are "full of hatred and revenge."