

International Intelligence

Netherlands denounces Thornburgh Doctrine

Public officials and the media in the Netherlands are in an uproar over the fact that the U.S. Air Force attempted to illegally seize an American airman whom the Dutch High Court refused to extradite to the United States. The action is seen as a further attempt to implement the Thornburgh Doctrine, under which the U.S. Justice Department has given itself the right to arrest foreign nationals on foreign territory if they are deemed to have violated U.S. laws.

The airman's lawyer was quoted in the Dutch press calling the action an attempt to conduct a "little Panama."

The airman, Charles Short, was convicted in a Dutch court for the murder of his Turkish wife. The court refused a request for extradition to the United States, on the grounds that there he would face the death penalty. On March 30, the Dutch High Court turned down an American appeal for his extradition. On the same day, 12 U.S. airmen from the 32nd Tactical Fighter Squadron based at Soesterberg Air Base in the Netherlands, under the command of one Colonel Reeves, appeared at the court in two cars and a van. Dutch media reported that the Americans intended to seize Short.

Although the U.S. embassy denied this, and claimed that the troops were only sent to take custody of him had the court decision been in the favor of the U.S., no explanation was given for the heavy military deployment.

Thatcher upholds policy of Neville Chamberlain

British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher made it clear in an interview that Britain will do nothing if Soviet President Gorbachov uses force in Lithuania.

In the course of a long interview, *Hinduistan Times* correspondent H.K. Dua asked, "Supposing there is violence . . . and force is used by the Soviet government to check Lithuania's secession or independence,

would it affect the flow of aid and technology to the Soviet Union?" Thatcher replied, "We would have to consider each matter as it arose. For example, there were problems in Azerbaijan and Armenia and it looked at one stage as if there could almost have been a civil war and then, I think, no one complained that the troops had to be put in there because that was the kind of situation that we all understood."

Thatcher's office in London on April 11 confirmed the statement.

'Temple Mount' crazies spark Jerusalem shootout

A group of "settlers" from the fanatical Israeli cult Ateret Cohanim staged a provocation during a Holy Thursday procession to the Church of the Holy Sepulcher in Jerusalem on April 12, leading to riots, gassing, and shooting at the Greek Patriarchate by Israeli troops.

The Ateret Cohanim was exposed by *EIR* as part of the internationally steered "Temple Mount" project to destroy the Muslim mosque of the Dome of the Rock in Jerusalem, and rebuild the Temple of Solomon on the site. The cult is closely tied to the Quatuor Coronati Lodge of the Freemasons in London.

The incident started when the Ateret Cohanim bought the lease to a building near to the Church of the Holy Sepulcher, which was owned by the Greek Orthodox Church. The building is in a neighborhood inhabited by Palestinians. The settlers moved 150 Jews into the building, as part of their policy of occupying as much of Jerusalem as possible.

When the plot was discovered, the church demanded that the settlers leave, but Israeli courts granted an injunction allowing them to stay throughout the Easter weekend. Matters escalated during a procession which passed in front of the building, when a Greek Orthodox priest tore down a Star of David which had been placed over a Crucifix on the building facade. In the ensuing commotion, Israeli troops charged the crowd—firing tear gas, and injuring Greek Orthodox Patriarch Diodoros.

Later in the day, Arab youths raised an outlawed Palestinian flag on the roof of the church, and renewed clashes with police led to stone throwing by the youths and firing of tear gas and rubber bullets by police.

German monetary union talks to begin

East and West Germany began unification talks on April 18, and a Bonn spokesman said crucial negotiations on monetary union could start by Friday, according to Reuter. Government spokesman Dieter Vogel told journalists that formal talks on monetary union would begin after East German Prime Minister Lothar de Maiziere made his debut policy speech on April 19. Asked if the talks, aimed at introducing Bonn's powerful mark in East Germany, could start as early as April 18, he said: "This is possible. I cannot tell you definitely, because the date still has to be discussed with the East German government."

Vogel's statement on monetary union came on the first day of East-West German unification meetings. Interior Ministers Peter-Michael Diestel from East Berlin and Wolfgang Schaueble from Bonn opened the series of meetings with discussions on police cooperation and how to drop controls for travelers across the now-open border. The two told journalists they agreed that agents from East Germany's former Stasi security police should not continue working in West Germany.

Ethnic conflicts mount in Yugoslavia, Romania

Yugoslavia, the ethnic powderkeg of the Balkans, came one step closer toward explosion on April 13, when the republic of Serbia abruptly and indefinitely cut off all electricity supplies to the republic of Croatia, using the excuse that Croatia owes Serbia some 66 million dinars (about \$6 million) in overdue electricity bills.

The move, two weeks before elections are held in Croatia, has forced Croatia to

ration electricity, and has done more to inflame ethnic hatreds than months of chauvinistic speeches. Serbia's move is a clear political provocation, proven by the fact that the same Serbian utilities which supply electricity to Croatia have been ignoring for years unpaid electricity bills within Serbia itself. In fact, one of the ways that Serbia's demagogic leader, Slobodan Milosevic, has ensured his own support, has been to allow Belgrade households that can't pay their bills to continue to receive electricity anyway.

The Serbian escalation has come on the heels of renewed interethnic conflict in Romania, in this case by a reincarnation of Romania's pre-war fascist Iron Guard, now called *Vatra Romanesca*. *Vatra Romanesca*, which was spawned by the hated Securitate secret services, was responsible for the pogroms against ethnic Hungarians in the country's Transylvania region, and is now spreading its racist propaganda around the country, under the banner of "Romania for the Romanians."

'Battle of dinosaurs' in Dominican Republic

On May 16, voters in the Dominican Republic will be electing a new President, in what local commentators are referring to as "the battle of the dinosaurs." Incumbent Joaquín Balaguer, 84, is seeking a fifth term; his main opponent is former President Juan Bosch, 81, who holds a 2 to 1 lead according to some polls. Bosch's previous presidency was ended by a coup in 1963, an event that led to the U.S. invasion of that Caribbean country in 1965.

An avowed Marxist, Bosch is now pushing free-market nostrums and calling for the privatization of state-owned companies. In exchange, the United States has dropped its long-standing objections to his return to the presidency, and U.S. Ambassador Paul Taylor has become a sort of unofficial adviser to his campaign. Bosch says that the Dominican Republic needs to industrialize rapidly, but he also advocates a return to the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

Balaguer has refused to sign with the IMF, because it would mean an end to his extensive public works program, including the construction of rural roads, a hydro-electric dam, and housing for the poor in the capital city of Santo Domingo. Nonetheless, he has continued to service the estimated \$4 billion foreign debt to the tune of \$700 million per year, 70% of the country's exchange earnings, which has caused mass unemployment, currency devaluations, a shortage of basic goods, and an energy crisis.

Given Balaguer's age, there is a strong possibility that if reelected, his term might be completed by Vice President Carlos Morales Troncoso, former president of Gulf and Western holdings in the Dominican Republic and a chum of Henry Kissinger.

Also in the running are former Vice President Jacobo Majluta and José Francisco Peña Gómez, a voodoo practitioner and protégé of Venezuelan President Carlos Andrés Pérez. His campaign has recently surged thanks to an infusion of funds from the Socialist International and, reportedly, the U.S. Project Democracy.

'Alarming rise' of drug abuse in China

China's *Legal Daily* on March 14 reported an alarming rise of heroin and opium use in southwestern Yunnan Province, where it said heroin use could wipe out some ethnic minorities. The newspaper reported dozens of deaths, mostly of youths, who overdosed on drugs or contracted AIDS from injecting heroin with contaminated needles. Yunnan is near the Golden Triangle opium-growing region.

The number of reported AIDS case in China saw a more than five-fold increase in February, when the health ministry said 146 addicts in Yunnan had contracted the disease.

At a conference of Asian narcotics experts in Beijing in October 1989, Chinese authorities acknowledged that southwestern China had become a major transshipment point for heroin.

● **THE BRITISH MI-6** intelligence service has cleared Gorbachov of responsibility for the massacre in Tbilisi, Georgia, one year ago, according to the London *Sunday Express* of April 15. MI-6 conducted a top-secret investigation by its agents in the Soviet Union, to find out if Gorbachov had actually given orders for the massacre. They claim they found no evidence of any direct involvement by any Moscow leaders, and blamed local authorities.

● **RADIO MOSCOW** on April 12 praised President George Bush for his sellout of Lithuania. "In a White House meeting with representatives of 14 Baltic groups . . . he insisted that the United States take into account the interests of the Soviet Union as a whole, and not let the Lithuanian problem hamper the upcoming Soviet-American summit," the broadcast said.

● **SCHILLER INSTITUTE** activists are fielding an electoral slate, "Italians for Progress," in the town of Caorso, near Milan, Italy. The candidates are fighting to reverse Italy's ban on nuclear energy. Caorso is the site of one of the nuclear plants shut down three years ago, as a result of the country's anti-nuclear referendum.

● **CHINESE** student leader Chai Ling called on the West to adopt much tougher sanctions against Beijing. She surfaced in France in mid-April after 10 months of hiding in China. "No economic or political sanction is too much against Li Peng's government, which massacres its own people," she told *Le Monde*.

● **EUROPEAN** Community ministers, led by Irish Foreign Minister Gerard Collins, met South African President De Klerk on April 12, following talks with the African National Congress. De Klerk is scheduled to visit Europe in May.