

International Intelligence

Mubarak sees growing Mideast war threat

Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak told world socialist leaders in Cairo on May 22 that an influx of Soviet Jews to Israel "threatens to blow up the peace march and put the whole region on the verge of a new bloody confrontation," Reuters reported.

Mubarak was speaking to the opening session of a conference of socialists to "confront the danger of immigrating Soviet Jews to the occupied Palestinian territories." President Mubarak had discussed the question of Soviet Jewish immigration to Israel the week before in Moscow with Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze and U.S. Secretary of State James Baker.

The Egyptian leader spoke following a bloody resurgence in a 28-month Palestinian uprising against Israeli rule in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Will Wolf be named to guard chicken coop?

Peter-Michael Diestel, the new East German interior minister, announced on May 11 that he has asked Gen. Markus "Mischa" Wolf, the former head of East Germany's communist foreign intelligence service, if he would like to join the independent commission that is to supervise the dismantling of the old Stasi secret police structure.

Diestel said he needs "competent advice to do this job" of dismantling the remains of the Stasi apparatus.

Wolf, as *EIR* reported last week, is overseeing—from his new base in Moscow—a plan to rebuild communist intelligence penetration of the West, dubbed "Operation Trojan Horse."

Diestel's statement created an uproar in East Berlin and Bonn. Eduard Lintner, spokesman of the parliamentary group of the Christian Democrats in Bonn, called on Diestel to either resign or for Minister President Lothar de Maiziere to "correct" Diestel's plans.

Diestel has also come under heavy attack from the East German Social Democratic Party, not least because he just rejected Social Democrat Danward Brinksmeier for the post of assistant interior minister on grounds of "incompetence." Instead, he appointed a former member of the communist SED to the post, a man who is accused with having been in control of the SED party security apparatus in Chemnitz.

Venezuela's Army gears up for riot control

Venezuelan President Carlos Andrés Pérez has ordered the Army to carry out military exercises in all Venezuelan cities, in order to be ready to suppress possible riots in the coming weeks, since he is planning to raise gasoline prices 80%.

The Joint Chiefs of Staff of the Army appealed to people not to be alarmed if they see soldiers in the streets, since they are conducting "training exercises in the streets, due to possible situations of civil riots." The head of the Army, Gen. Juan Bastardo, said that the "exercises" will take place all over the country.

The military mobilization has been accompanied by a media campaign calling for "calm" and announcing that on June 1, the first increase of 30% in gasoline prices will take place. After that date, gas prices will be raised every month until December, when they will be 80% higher than they are today.

Vatican hits U.N. anti-population policy

High-level officials of the Catholic Church have denounced a new United Nations report against population growth, calling it racist, obscurantist, and anti-scientific.

Cardinal Eduard Gagnon, president of the Vatican's Council of the Family called the report "a maneuver of the multinationals; behind such statements there is always the money of the big multinationals."

Msgr. Elio Sgreccia, theologian and Vatican expert on morality and science, was quoted in the Italian daily *La Repubblica* on May 17 calling the study "an obscurantist and anti-scientific perspective." "This is like the old anti-birth colonialist policies promoted by the World Bank of [Robert] McNamara, that imposed on the developing countries an anti-birth package, including sterilization, in exchange for food," he charged.

According to Monsignor Sgreccia, the U.N.'s malthusian theory is anti-scientific, because it was based on the prediction of a collapse of the energy equilibrium as a result of population growth, something which has been proven wrong by the discovery of new energy sources, like nuclear power. "Procreation cannot be left in the hands of chance, politics, or ideology," he said, "but to the responsible decision of parents, so that the number of children be regulated on the basis of respect for human life, for the dignity and the unity of the family."

Msgr. Franco Costa, of the Italian Bishops' Conference and responsible for family affairs, called the report a "manifestation of hypocritical racism." The right way to approach the population issue, he said, is to implement the teachings of Pope John Paul II in the encyclical *Sollicitudo rei socialis*.

Knives are out between U.S., French intelligence

Warfare is raging between the CIA and the French intelligence service DGSE. At the beginning of May, the Paris magazine *L'Express* reported, on the basis of secret documents from the DGSE, how American intelligence is being blamed for systematic sabotage of the French rocket Ariane. According to the exposé, in the summer of 1986, then Defense Minister André Giraud had a very stormy meeting in Washington, D.C., confronting the Americans with the DGSE file proving American sabotage.

The most recent explosion of the Ariane is being blamed on American intelligence, working through an American journalist

who had visited the site just prior to launch. The official version of the explosion blamed a technical failure; however, a more precise report states that a piece of cloth was put inside a crucial pipe of the engine.

L'Express also revealed that the CIA and the DGSE have been at each other's throats concerning industrial espionage. A DGSE network operating at the highest levels of the French subsidiaries of firms like Texas Instruments was recently dismantled by the CIA and the FBI. However, questions have arisen as to how the CIA knew of the precise meetings between the DGSE officers and their informants, implying that the CIA had deployed its own counterintelligence operation in Paris itself, infiltrating DGSE networks.

International outrage at Demjanjuk conviction

Britain's Independent Television (ITV) ran a documentary on May 15, providing clear indications of mistaken identity in the case of John Demjanjuk, the retired Cleveland auto worker who was illegally deported to Israel and convicted of being the Nazi death camp butcher known as "Ivan the Terrible." The program exposed the illegal and unscrupulous methods of the U.S. Justice Department's Office of Special Investigations (OSI) in the case. Demjanjuk's appeal of his death sentence was filed with Israel's Supreme Court in May.

The *Independent* newspaper on May 16 notes that the TV show "suggested the whole thing has been a matter of mistaken, even forged, identity. Information seems to have been suppressed (vital documents were found in a McDonald's dustbin opposite the Office of Special Investigations in Washington). An ID card looks to have been forged. Even eyewitness evidence, shaky and contradictory, is probably blurred by 40 years of time and remembered pain. On top of this, posit the suspicious death of the lead defense lawyer three days before the first appeal, the complete denials of villagers living near Treblinka (one of whom regularly slept with Ivan), and Demjanjuk's plea that

he spent most of the war digging peat in Poland, and it is hard not to bend before a conspiracy theory."

"If the Israelis execute Demjanjuk, Hitler will have had the last laugh," declared British Jewish writer Barbara Amiel in the *London Times* on May 18. "When the Demjanjuk case first surfaced in the United States, Office of Special Investigations officials made two statements: First, that the OSI had total confidence in Soviet evidence and, secondly, that if the Soviets ever forged a document, the OSI would be able to detect it. Both statements were individually untrue and mutually exclusive."

East bloc spies fomented anti-Semitism in West

A Czechoslovak defector admitted years ago that East bloc intelligence services were behind "Western anti-Semitism," according to a commentary in the West German daily *Die Welt* on May 17. The author, Israeli citizen Michael Wolffsohn, a history teacher at the West German Army College in Munich, investigates what may be behind recent anti-Semitic incidents in Western Europe and Israel.

"Especially striking was the fact that the [East German communist] SED of [Erich] Honecker presented itself as anti-fascist on the one hand, but tolerated the skinheads, whose public marches could hardly be overlooked. Skinheads from West and East Berlin repeatedly collaborated, in a weird efficiency of these otherwise mentally disturbed people, while the SED/PDS [communists] bemoaned their rise as a bad result of the fall of the Wall.

"Well, there have been paintings of swastikas for several years now in the Federal Republic [of Germany], also in Jewish cemeteries. There was much speculation about the criminals; in 1970, however, a former leading functionary of the Czech secret service, Ladislav Dittmann, reported that his agents had orchestrated these paint jobs, in order to libel the Federal Republic as a neo-Nazi state."

● **POPE JOHN PAUL II** has called a meeting of the presidents of European bishops' conferences in Rome June 5-7, to prepare an extraordinary synod on the continent's democratic revolution.

● **SOVIET SUBMARINE** activity is increasing in the Baltic Sea, according to the Finnish daily *Uusi Suomio*, citing Finnish Defense Ministry sources. The submarines have approached so close to Finnish territorial waters that Finnish naval forces have been forced to fire warning shots.

● **ROBERT MAXWELL**, media baron for the Anglo-Soviet condominium, is buying up the Berliner Verlag, publishing company of the East German communists' Party of Democratic Socialism. He made the announcement at a joint press conference with PDS chairman Gregor Gysi. Maxwell was born Jan Ludwig Hoch in pre-war Czechoslovakia.

● **EAST GERMANY** is using former Stasi security police experts to set up a military counterintelligence service that will have contacts with West Germany's equivalent organization, according to Reuters. "This military counterintelligence has no espionage role," Disarmament and Defense Minister Rainer Eppelmann said. "It has a passive role in hindering espionage against the National People's Army (NVA) and terrorism within or against the NVA."

● **BULGARIAN** opposition leader Zhelyu Zhelev warned on May 21 that the vote fraud which characterized the recent elections in Romania may be repeated in his country. Zhelev's Union of Democratic Forces, which represents more than 30 opposition groups, refused to sign a pre-election agreement, citing violence, falsification of electoral lists, and other "irregularities" by communist officials.