

# International Intelligence

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## ***Chevènement: Iraq war was to prop up Bush's image***

Former French defense minister Jean-Pierre Chevènement charged, in a speech at the Institut Français in Freiburg, Germany, on Jan. 17, that the war against Iraq was "avoidable, useless, and disproportionate," and that a negotiated solution was possible, but President Bush rejected that option from the start. Bush opted instead for a war which he hoped would rebuild his shaken domestic popularity.

Chevènement resigned from his post in the government of President François Mitterrand shortly after the outbreak of the war last year, in opposition to Mitterrand's support for the Anglo-American policy.

The former minister in his speech described the results of the war: Kuwait was liberated, but the old oil monarchy was put back on the throne; Lebanon—a longtime zone of French influence—has come under Syrian control; the U.N. embargo against Iraq is mainly affecting the "unfortunate population," and the Kurdish problem is still unresolved.

Moreover, the war whipped up Islamic fundamentalism, especially in the Maghreb states, and racism in various European countries in response, said Chevènement. The lesson to be drawn is that Europe gains no advantage by following the directives of the one remaining superpower, but rather should work out a genuine policy and defense of its own, he declared.

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## ***Euthanasia advocate in Germany is in trouble***

Henning Atrott, the president of the German Society for a Humane Death (DGHS), has come under criminal investigation for his role in selling cyanide pills to a patient in a psychiatric hospital and assisting the patient to take them. The patient, who was supposedly being "helped" to commit suicide because he suffered from an AIDS-related psychosis, died. Although he did have AIDS, it was not true that he was psychotic.

The "liberal" DGHS is the counterpart

of the Hemlock Society in the United States, and is responsible for the deaths of hundreds of people.

Atrott's murderous campaign for "death with dignity" has been opposed by the Club of Life and its founder, Helga Zepp-LaRouche, since the Club was founded in 1982.

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## ***Vice President Rutskoy says Russia faces chaos***

Russian Vice President Aleksandr Rutskoy, one of the chief critics of the economic policy of Deputy Prime Minister Yegor Gaidar, warned in a recent interview that chaos and lawlessness are becoming the order of the day.

Rutskoy has not made any public statements since early January, when he apparently went into a hospital for a routine checkup of war wounds from the Afghan war. A Dec. 25 interview with him was published in the January issue of *Argumenty i Fakty*. It begins with the following lines: "I am like the emperor without clothes," Russian Vice President A. Rutskoy told our correspondent N. Zhelnorova, referring to his current position—a title, but no power."

Rutskoy warned that "it is impossible to make a transition from dictatorship to democracy bypassing the process of firm authority, the power of the law. Therefore, we are now in the most vulgar, banal dictatorship—the dictatorship of the street and that of street leaders."

Asked who has the real power in Russia, Rutskoy replied: "Everybody talks about combatting crime, but nobody does anything. Crime will decrease when we start to show seriously that we care about our people. . . . But crime feeds on the young. Look at the students' stipends and the price of slacks, shoes, dresses. Thus—prostitution, drug dealing, profiteering, racketeering.

"We do not have a real power today. Power is where the laws are observed. Everybody disregards them these days."

He denounced the current economic policy of the government: "It is unacceptable

that we are pushing millions of people into poverty. Before the great perestroika started, we had 20 million people below the poverty line; now we have 100 million."

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## ***Anti-Beijing reporter in Hong Kong is killed***

The leading anti-Beijing journalist in Hong Kong, Chan Kang-nan, was assassinated on Jan. 27. He was an outspoken anticommunist, as well as an opponent of the independence movement in Taiwan. Chan was bludgeoned to death in his apartment building by two men, who didn't take several thousand dollars that he had in his pocket.

His murder follows by two months a public attack by the P.R.C. government against the Hong Kong press corps, who were threatened as lawbreakers who would be prosecuted for their attacks on the Beijing leaders, after Communist China takes over control of Hong Kong from Britain in 1997.

Chan, who wrote for the *Express*, a leading Chinese newspaper, had recently exposed an attempt by Beijing to set up an "advisory" team of prominent Hong Kong residents to prepare for 1997, which is seen as an attempt to force through P.R.C. policy in the period before the turnover. Chan is famous for many articles exposing P.R.C. corruption and swindles, especially in the Special Economic Zones, and for having many reliable sources within the P.R.C.

Sources close to the deceased say that the hit most likely came from Communist Party leaders in the south of China, rather than from Beijing. They also report that in the colonial environment of Hong Kong, where protection from the British is not to be expected, the hit will have a significant effect in silencing criticism of the P.R.C.

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## ***Mitterrand's party suffers election losses***

The Socialist Party of French President François Mitterrand lost large percentages in legislative and cantonal elections which took place Jan. 26. In the north, the SP lost

18% against the Greens and the National Front in a legislative election, and lost entirely in four cantonal elections.

Even more humiliating, the "elephants" of the Socialist Party—the top national leaders—were booed and kicked out of an anti-racist demonstration organized by left-wing layers in Paris on Jan. 25, which brought out some 50,000 people. The organizers of the demonstration asked former prime minister Michel Rocard, Socialist Party president Laurent Fabius, Pierre Mauroy, and others to leave, accusing them of attempting to co-opt the movement (which was originally set up by the Socialists).

## **Brainin leads trio in concert at 'Verdi' tuning**

For the first time in recent history, three piano trios were performed in concert at the low "Verdi" tuning of A=432 by an ensemble of some of the world's most prominent musicians. The concert in Wiesbaden (Germany) was inspired by Lyndon LaRouche's fight for a renaissance in music and the return to the scientific tuning which had prevailed until modern performers and conductors drove the pitch into the stratosphere, in search of "brilliance."

The Jan. 18 concert featured Norbert Brainin, formerly the first violinist of the Amadeus Quartet, and an endorser of LaRouche's presidential campaign; pianist Günter Ludwig; and cellist Klaus Stoppel. They played Mozart's Trio in E major, KV 542; Beethoven's Trio in D major, Op. 70, No. 1, "The Ghost"; and Schubert's Trio in E-flat major, Op. 100. Stoppel was replacing Martin Lovett, the cellist of the Amadeus Quartet, who had an accident before the concert.

According to the review published in the daily *Wiesbadener Kurier*, at the lower tuning, "the impression which the trios by Mozart, Beethoven, and Schubert left on the listener, was a different one. The sound was softer, with less sharp tones, particularly in the high passages of the violin. The reason is rather easy to perceive: In fact, during the time of the classics, a tuning of C=256

(which corresponds to A=432) was used; also the art of building violins which was developed during that time, and before, was based on this. Thus, the sound quality of the instruments is richest at this tuning. . . . All in all, this was a vote for the 'new' old tuning."

LaRouche, in a campaign which has drawn great international attention in the music world, maintains that only the lower tuning corresponds appropriately to the registration of the human voice; and that therefore that tuning is indispensable to convey the poetic qualities of the musical line, as intended by the classical composers.

## **Chilean Supreme Court to ask Bush to testify**

The Supreme Court of Chile on Jan. 28 approved a judge's petition for President George Bush to testify in an investigation into the 1976 assassination of Orlando Letelier, an exiled opponent of former military ruler Gen. Augusto Pinochet. Letelier was killed in Washington in a car bombing, at a time when Bush was director of the CIA.

The former chief of Pinochet's secret police, Manuel Contreras, and his deputy Pedro Espinoza were indicted on murder charges four months ago by a Chilean judge. Contreras, who headed the feared National Information Agency (DINA), is accused of ordering the Letelier killing. His lawyers claim the CIA murdered Letelier, using anti-Castro Cuban agents.

Among the five questions the defense want to ask Bush, is whether Michael Townley, an American explosives expert who worked for DINA, was a CIA agent. Townley was expelled from Chile by the military in 1978 and confessed before a U.S. court that he went to Washington on orders from Contreras and planted the bomb under Letelier's car.

Letelier was Chilean ambassador to Washington and later foreign minister during the government of Marxist President Salvador Allende, who died in the 1973 coup led by Pinochet.

## **Briefly**

● **KAZAKHSTAN** wants to keep the nuclear weapons stationed on its territory, according to French Foreign Minister Roland Dumas, who at the end of January visited the four "nuclear republics" of the former Soviet Union—Russia, Ukraine, Belarus, and Kazakhstan.

● **AN EXILED LEADER** of El Salvador's FMLN guerrilla group, Facundo Guardado, returning home on Jan. 24 pursuant to the new peace agreement, proclaimed, "We won, and victory is ours." Guardado was the architect of the prolonged assault on the capital San Salvador, in November 1989. Reuter comments that "there is a widespread impression in El Salvador that the government conceded more than its rebel adversaries in the peace accords."

● **DENG XIAOPING**, the leader of Beijing's "gang of ancients," appeared in public on Jan. 23, for the first time in nearly a year. Deng, 87, was on a holiday visit to the Special Economic Zone of Shenzhen. One Hong Kong newspaper called Deng's visit "very significant. He knows that economic failure destroyed the Soviet Union."

● **A CANADIAN** diplomat who met with Penan tribesmen and anti-logging activists in the Malaysian state of Sarawak was accused of having "blatantly interfered in Malaysia's internal affairs" by Sarawak's industrial development minister, Abang Johari Abang Openg. "I deplore such an unwarranted act by a representative of the Canadian government who has obviously abused our hospitality and openness," Abang Johari said.

● **VENEZUELAN** Foreign Minister Armando Durán traveled secretly to Cuba at the end of January to urge Fidel Castro not to execute Cuban exiles who had been captured and sentenced to death. The mission was reportedly carried out on behalf of the heads of state of Venezuela, Colombia, and Spain.