

International Intelligence

Vatican criticizes U.N. show of force in Somalia

The Vatican newspaper *Osservatore Romano* on June 15 questioned the United Nations' show of force in its response to Somali warlord Mohammed Farah Aided.

"The raids on Mogadishu have been without a let-up—and without success, seeing as Aided always manages to evade capture," the newspaper said. "One has to ask how far Aided's arrogant attitude justifies the use of such force or whether the bombardment is out of all proportion."

A suffering population which had looked to the U.N. for peace and food now finds itself in the middle of an offensive involving missiles and weapons of all kinds, the paper said. "Seven months later, the reality of Operation 'Restore Hope' has changed completely."

The paper also said the attacks risked legitimizing Aided's argument that the West was trying to recolonize the East African country.

"The case of Somalia imposes on us all the duty to think long and hard about the role of the United Nations in facing up to tensions in the world," the paper said. "A precise ethical and moral framework is needed to enable it to find just solutions in line with international law."

Croatia warns West against supporting Serbs

In a statement distributed by its embassies, the government of the Republic of Croatia warns western governments that they are giving "the wrong signal" by tolerating Serbian conquests. The statement made particular mention of the June 19-20 referendum which the Serbs scheduled in the areas they have seized from Croatia, including the Krajina region.

"If this referendum is given any measure of respect and credence," says the Croatian document, "it will inevitably re-ignite a full-scale Croatian-Serbian war, prolonging the conflict in the former Yugoslavia, costing

more lives and increasing the danger of this war to other countries in Europe."

Croatia's ambassador to Washington, Petar Sarcevic, said that Croatia is bitter about the lack of western intervention, saying, "When the United States threatened military action, the Serbs became conciliatory. Now, when it became clear that no action is planned, the Serbs have resumed their attacks."

French law aims at zero immigration

The French government is about to pass new legislation to restrict immigration, the European *Wall Street Journal* reported on June 16. Interior Minister Charles Pasqua said the move is aimed at achieving "zero immigration." The legislation hits the former French colonies in Africa the hardest, especially Algeria.

Pasqua went on to say that the restrictions should be seen as a "signal to all countries who send emigrants" to curb emigration as a condition for receiving development aid from France.

Mustapha Souang, an Algerian university professor, charged: "This is the true bomb. They are discriminating very clearly, without considering the very concepts for which the French fought for two centuries and which are inscribed on their own coins: 'Liberté, Egalité, Fraternité.'" The legislation would also put restrictions on acquiring French citizenship to require "real assimilation" and exclude all those deemed to be a threat to the "public order and culture of France."

Scherer backs Italian secret service reform

Gen. Paul Albert Scherer (ret.), the former head of West German military intelligence, was interviewed in the Italian Catholic daily *Avvenire* on June 15, under the title "Former Chief of the German Military 007: 'Secret Services to Be Reformed, But the Carabinieri Are Necessary.'"

"Abolishing or reforming the secret services?" the paper wrote. "Gen. Paul Albert Scherer intervenes into the debate which has opened in Italy. . . . People listen to Scherer in international circles. He is rumored to have influenced Clinton's decision to adopt a hard line against Serbia, a decision matured after a visit by Scherer in Washington at the beginning of March, during which the former head of the German 007 met several representatives of the U.S. administration. . . ."

"We met General Scherer during a conference organized in Bonn by the Schiller Institute, on the theme of security and cooperation in Europe, a conference full of delegations from the former communist bloc. We asked him for an opinion on the debate in Italy on reorganizing the secret services."

Scherer says he would look favorably upon a non-military leadership of the intelligence services in Italy, but warns against dropping all military structures. He takes the example of the Carabinieri, which are very useful for intelligence purposes. He also suggests a single intelligence service, rather than two, to avoid competition and rivalries.

Scherer's views on the reform of the Italian intelligence services and on the Yugoslav conflict reportedly drew great interest among Italian intelligence experts, at a moment when the Italian government is going to take crucial choices on both issues.

Cambodian Assembly backs Prince Sihanouk

The Cambodian Constitutional Assembly unanimously voted Prince Sihanouk "full and special powers" on June 14, so that he might "effectively save our nation and allow Cambodia once more to know progress and prosperity." The Assembly also declared "null and void" the 1970 coup against Sihanouk, run by U.S.-controlled Gen. Lon Nol. This measure recognizes Sihanouk as the "legal chief of state of Cambodia since 1970 without interruption."

The vote was supported by both the royalist Funcinpec party, with 58 seats, and the

Cambodian People's Party (CPP), with 51 seats, as well as two smaller parties with a total of 11 seats.

Despite a "heated debate" before the Assembly by Prime Minister Hun Sen (CPP) and Funcinpec head Prince Norodom Ranariddh, both parties agreed to meet with Sihanouk. Hun Sen flew to Kompong Cham province to announce that the province remains under central government control.

Officials of the U.N. Transition Authority in Cambodia, however, are saying that the Assembly decision is of doubtful legal force.

Oxford historian hits British 'old boys'

It's complete nonsense to say that Germany is responsible for the war in ex-Yugoslavia; it's rather a group of pro-Serbian "old boys" in the British military and diplomatic circles who are to blame, wrote Oxford University historian Norman Stone, in a commentary in the German daily *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung* on June 22.

In a discussion with *EIR*, Stone elaborated on his views of the British government. "John Major's problem is, he's a twit. Thinking of Major reminds me of what George Orwell wrote about [former British Prime Minister] Stanley Baldwin: 'He's not even a stuffed shirt, he's a hole in the air.'"

"The real human beings in Britain, of whatever political stripe, are for helping Bosnia and against the Serbs; it's only the plastic people and plastic mousers who are against this," Stone charged. "Major's a twit. When he was in Split [in Croatia], meeting the British troops, he had no idea even where he was, and was too afraid of going to the conflict zone, so the troops had to travel five hours just to see Major, and when they arrived, he distributed rock music tapes to them." Stone similarly denounced British Foreign Minister of State Douglas Hogg as a "silly twit."

Stone said that British policy toward ex-Yugoslavia made him "shake with rage," since it had unnecessarily led to "tensions between America and Europe." He de-

nounced British Foreign Office attempts to blame Germany for the crisis in ex-Yugoslavia as "rubbish" and "tripe," and said that U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher was acting like a "dingy little bugger" with his recent attacks on Germany. Stone attributed to Lord Carrington a "geopolitical fixation on keeping Yugoslavia together," in part to ensure "repayment of Yugoslav debt," and also to "maintain all sorts of cozy relationships that depended on Yugoslavia being kept together." He attributed to high-level French circles and to Henry Kissinger, the strategy to use the Serbs as a "geopolitical" weapon for the containment of a united Germany.

Questions about murder of Mexican cardinal

Mexican Bishop Genaro Alamilla said that "the hierarchy of the Catholic Church will never cease to demand that the murder of Cardinal Juan Jesús Posadas Ocampo be cleared up." Cardinal Posadas was assassinated on May 25 at the Guadalajara Airport, supposedly because drug traffickers confused him with a rival drug lord.

According to the daily *El Universal* on June 20, Bishop Alamilla said that among the questions that the Mexican government must answer is who helped the alleged killers escape. Manuel Talamas Camandari, bishop emeritus, said that Attorney General Jorge Carpizo is presenting the official version as the absolute truth, when "there are many aspects that are not convincing," that lead one to believe that Cardinal Posadas was the intended victim. The chairman of the Mexican Bishops Conference, Adolfo Suárez Rivera, said that the case cannot be considered closed. One bishop went so far as to call for a march from the Basilica of the Virgin of Guadalupe to the attorney general's office, to protest the government's coverup.

Only Geronimo Prigione, the papal nuncio, upholds the attorney general's version, and says that ideas to the contrary "are suppositions without foundation, inventions, figments of the imagination."

● **THE WORLD** Jewish Congress has set up a watchdog agency to review United Nations "performance and efficiency." Unveiled on June 17 in Vienna, United Nations Watch will be based in Geneva, under the chairmanship of Morris Abram, former U.S. ambassador to the United Nations in Geneva, who said he hopes it will improve the U.N.'s "spotty and unbalanced" record on enforcement.

● **IMPRISONED** Argentine nationalist Col. Mohamed Alf Seineldín says he may be a victim of a setup intended to take his life. In an interview with the magazine *Gente*, Seineldín said that the objective of recent political attacks on him "is to achieve . . . our physical elimination, and for that they will use any pretext, no matter how absurd." Seineldín and his men were recently dispersed to separate prisons.

● **A PALESTINIAN** group of 28 people went to Jordan on June 20 to train for a proposed Arab police force in the Occupied Territories. The group was part of a security force for the Orient House, the East Jerusalem headquarters of the Palestinian peace talks team.

● **GAIDAR ALIYEV** took power in Azerbaijan on June 16, as the legally elected President fled in a helicopter. Aliyev is the former communist ruler of Azerbaijan, was a member of the Soviet Communist Party's Politburo, and was a joint agent of the Anglo-Soviet "Trust."

● **LORD DAVID OWEN** warned the Bosnians that partition of their country is the best deal they're going to get, so they should accept it. Speaking from Geneva on June 17 to the BBC, Owen threatened the Bosnian government that they would be "well advised to look very seriously at this plan and negotiate. It's not holy writ, the details can be adjusted. But it must be looked at seriously by anyone who wants the war to end."