

International Intelligence

British SAS was involved in South Africa terror

The British Special Air Services counterinsurgency force was linked to the "third force," so-called black-on-black terror during South Africa's transition to majority rule, as documented in a just-released finding of the "Steyn Report" inquiry, according to the London *Guardian* of Jan. 31. Earlier reports in the *Guardian* documented that a group of SAS officers working for KAS Enterprises, who had been hired by "wealthy conservationists" to fight elephant and rhinoceros poachers in South Africa, became involved in paramilitary operations with regional intelligence agencies.

The findings of the inquiry, headed by Gen. Pierre Steyn and ordered by former President F.W. de Klerk, were given to Nelson Mandela before he assumed the Presidency, but in 1994, Mandela refused to release the report, because he feared it would endanger South Africa's stability. He recently gave a copy of the report to Archbishop Desmond Tutu's Truth and Reconciliation Commission.

The report confirms that there was involvement of commando units in "random" violence, including terrorist massacres on trains; the use of poison by hit squads; and the supply of arms to the Zulu Inkatha movement. The report summary said that there was "a suggestion that there was close contact with the British SAS." The Steyn report declared that the violence was planned in order to create a pretext to "enable the military to step in credibly to create order."

Pressure rises on Algiers regime to end civil war

The Algerian regime of Liamine Zeroual is responding to the emergence of a debate in France over its policy toward the former colony, which is wracked by civil war. According to the Paris daily *Le Figaro* of Feb. 2, Zeroual is making a great show of being democratic, having held a planning meeting with the legal opposition (which he controls) on Feb. 11. These opposition parties were to

join a surveillance committee for the elections, which is to be expanded to include observers from the OAU, UN, and Arab League.

Both the Socialist Forces Front (FFS) of Hocine Ait-Ahmed and the MDA of former President Ahmed Ben Bella, favor the participation of the leading opposition group, Islamic Salvation Front (FIS), in any elections, but Zeroual rejects this. (It was FIS electoral victories in 1991 that led Zeroual to annul the elections.) The FFS and MDA parties have called for "concrete acts" for peace, among them, the freeing of political prisoners, the ending of martial law, and freedom of press.

Italy's Undersecretary of Foreign Affairs Rino Serri travelled to Washington in early February to meet with State Department and National Security Council representatives on Africa, with a focus on Algeria. "The elections, planned for three months from now, must be held according to regulations without any hesitation or limitation," he said, adding, "I believe that Zeroual and his government must enter a dialogue with the democratic forces, of whatever political tendency, and construct a political course which will open a new phase in Algerian history."

Hutus demand resignation of UNHCR chief Ogata

A group of Hutu intellectuals, who are refugees at a camp located south of Lubutu, in Zaire, now under siege by Laurent Kabila and Ugandan forces, called for the resignation of UN High Commissioner for Refugees Sadaka Ogata, because she has let "arms, hunger, and sickness claim the lives of hundreds of thousands of people." The statement, reported by Agence France Presse on Feb. 10, accused Ogata of conducting a policy "dictated by the Rwandan Patriotic Front to [obtain] military victory in Rwanda." The letter asked Ogata, "What have you done to obtain restrictive measures against the rebels from the UN Security Council?" The statement further affirmed that hundreds of thousands of refugees are trekking through Zaire, still unaided.

Meanwhile, Rwanda's envoy to the UN,

Ambassador Gideon Kayinamura, told a news conference that there are no more "genuine refugees" in eastern Zaire. "Zaire is claiming that there are more than 1 million Rwandan refugees inside Zaire. . . . We do not have any more refugees inside Zaire," he said, referring to a mass return late last year. He lied that "The [Hutu] soldiers walked into the forest with their arms to join the Zairean Army. These are the ones who the humanitarian agencies say need assistance. We hope they don't extend them refugee status.

"The former Rwanda government soldiers who are in Zaire range between 30-40,000 soldiers, and they have been now re-integrated into the Zairean regular army, with the support of the mercenaries from all over the world," he said.

BBC cheers on 'Uighur' separatists in China

The BBC, which otherwise sternly warns of a dangerous Western "clash of civilizations" with Islam, cheered on the outbreak of "serious unrest" by "ethnic Uighur indigenous youths" in the northwestern Chinese province of Xinjiang. Citing its "eyewitnesses," BBC's Feb. 10 broadcasts reported that rioting occurred in the Xinjiang capital, Yunnan, about 30 miles east of the border with Kazakhstan. BBC gloated that there has been an escalating pattern of "indigenous Uighur-Han Chinese" tensions. BBC also alleged that Chinese authorities are worried that "arms and money" are flowing to Uighur separatists from Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, and Tajikistan—an obvious attempt to stir up distrust between China and its Central Asian neighbors, with which relations have been excellent.

The Uighur separatist operation, called the "East Turkestan liberation movement," is more British than Uighur: One of the leading agents of the Unrepresented Peoples Organization (UNPO) in Holland is Erkin Alptekin, whose late father, Ira Yusef Alptekin, was famous for leading a Uighur anti-Chinese rebellion in Xinjiang. Erkin Alptekin is prominent in an organization set up by his father, called the "Allied Committee of the Peoples of Tibet, Inner Mongolia, and East Turkestan," which neatly dovetails

with the plans of London's International Institute of Strategic Studies agent Gerald Segal to break up China.

The Holland-based Alptekin receives support from the Society for Endangered Peoples; the circle around U.S. Sen. Jesse Helms; the Laogai Foundation of Chinese "dissident" Harry Wu; and Britain's Lord Avebury, who is very active in destabilizing Xinjiang. Until his recent death, Britain's Lord David Ennals was a chief patron of UNPO and the "Turkestanis."

Northern League congress pushes breakup of Italy

The secessionist Northern League congress, held over Feb. 15-16, pushed for the breakup of the Italian nation-state under the guise of what it called "consensual secession." In a speech on Feb. 15, League "duce" Umberto Bossi issued new demands, which he repeated in his concluding address the following day: Either Parliament makes concessions, or the Northern League will order its members to begin a "tax strike."

Making his intentions clear, Bossi also referred to the nation-state as "the Leviathan" and "the Devil," adding his insistence that Northern Italians (whom he called "Padani") are racially different from other Italians, because they have an alleged Celtic origin, and therefore, should separate from the south. Bossi's demagoguery was echoed by Giancarlo Pagliarini, head of the League's shadow government (called the "Sun government"), who shouted during his speech: "I am ready to go to jail!"

On the last day, the officially disbanded League militia, the Green Shirts, made their show at the Congress, although Bossi hastened to publicly reject them. A Green Shirt commander, identified only as Alfredo P., told *Corriere della Sera*, "It's not over yet: In Piedmont, where I am the League provincial deputy secretary, I am sending the kids for civil defense training."

Corriere was highly critical of other media, which passed the congress off as fringe ravings. "Tonight Bossi comes off like the head of the U.S. militias that are organizing rebellion against Washington, in the name of the 'individual.'" The Northern League

congress is being motivated by racial "hatred against Italians . . . [which to them means] everything that hinders the 'do your own thing' ideology."

There is accumulating evidence of involvement of the NATO secret government apparatus, Gladio, in the Italian secessionist activities, since Gladio documents include training scenarios for ethnic conflicts.

SPD Governor Schröder groomed to replace Kohl

The Social Democratic governor of Lower Saxony, Gerhard Schröder, is being systematically promoted inside the German political establishment, as a possible replacement for Chancellor Helmut Kohl, the Christian Democrat who has ruled now for 15 years. The buildup of a candidate from the opposition SPD runs parallel to moves from Kohl's own Christian Democratic Union, which is eyeing Wolfgang Schäuble and Edmund Stoiber for the chancellor's post. A flood of media profiles earlier this month, have presented the three as the future leaders of Germany, perhaps in a Grand Coalition of CDU and SPD, which is a reflection of the sharp drop in the CDU's popularity, since Kohl's government has turned the austerity screws, in part, to meet the Maastricht criteria.

Schäuble is chairman of the Christian Democratic caucus in Germany's Parliament, the Bundestag, making him number two in the party after Kohl. Stoiber is the governor of Bavaria, ruled by the CDU's partner, the Christian Social Union (CSU).

Social Democrat Schröder gained the endorsement of *Wirtschaftswoche*, the leading German business weekly, in two articles on Feb. 6. The same day, he held a special meeting with select senior banking and industry representatives in Germany's financial center of Frankfurt. He has also received endorsements from the London *Economist* and *Financial Times*. There is intense campaigning inside the SPD for Schröder to be tapped as the party's next chancellor candidate, especially among influential sections such as North Rhine-Westphalia, Hesse, Baden-Württemberg, and Bavaria.

LEE KUANYEW, Singapore's senior minister, advised Hongkong to "preserve the British system," when the Crown Colony reverts to China in July. This, he intoned, meant "the rule of law and the sanctity of contracts, fair commercial practices, a level playing field between all players whether they be well-connected insiders or unconnected outsiders, and transparency and accountability in all decision making."

POPE JOHN PAUL II will be joined by the Presidents of Poland, Germany, Hungary, Slovakia, and the Czech Republic in Poland in June for millennium celebrations of that country's second patron saint, St. Adalbert, a 10th century martyr. John Paul is to embark on a 12-city tour of Poland starting May 31 and ending June 10.

FRENCH MASON Eric Vanderberg, who is the Assistant of the Grand Master of the Grand Orient lodge, is slated to visit Warsaw, Poland, in order to set up the first Polish Grand Orient lodge in recent times, according to Polish radio reports on Feb. 7.

MYANMAR destroyed a record drug haul on Jan. 30, with international witnesses from the UN and diplomatic corps attending. Altogether, 766 kilos of opium and 164 kilos of marijuana were destroyed in the capital, Yangon. Police Maj. Gen. Soe Win said this was only a sample of the record seizure for 1996, which included 1.3 tons of opium, 505 kilos of heroin, 13 heroin refineries and large quantities of illegal chemicals. He also credited foreign cooperation with the record haul.

HAMBURG CITIZENS spontaneously occupied the St. Pauli district's harbor hospital on Feb. 4 to protest its planned shutdown, by the LBK management group, which is the largest employer in this German city.