

International Intelligence

Turkish press exposes Lord Avebury link to PKK

According to unidentified intelligence sources cited by the Turkish daily *Hurriyet* on July 15, British terrorist controller Lord Avebury is planning to meet Kurdish Workers Party (PKK) leader Abdullah Ocalan in Syria, in a bid to prevent the collapse of the drug-running terrorist group. According to the report, Kani Yilmaz, the PKK's chief political operative in Europe, has told Ocalan that Avebury, "the Chairman of the British Parliament Committee for Human Rights, has agreed to meet you. He will probably visit from Aug. 3-18. He has asked us to meet his expenses. So, we have paid him \$45,000. The amount is very high but he is a very important official. He wants you to discuss the visit with the Syrian government. He does not want to be seen as having arrived to hold talks only with you."

Lord Avebury and other British officials had earlier called for the creation of a Kurdish state in Iraq during the build-up for a new strike against Iraq last January, which provoked Turkish Deputy Prime Minister Bulent Ecevit to condemn Britain as the sole cause of every problem in the Mideast since World War I.

Sudanese Foreign Minister hits British 'bias'

Sudanese Foreign Minister Dr. Mustafa Othman, during a press conference on July 16 with Derek Fatchett, Britain's State Minister for Middle East and East Africa Affairs, asserted that the British cannot act as a fair mediator of peace in southern Sudan. "Britain is the country which bears most animosity to Sudan," he said, adding that "London does not qualify for being a neutral party for mediation in the southern Sudanese issue, because of its clear bias to the opposition and its continuous hosting of opposition elements and leaders of armed action, while it refuses to receive any government officials."

Fatchett has been posturing as the one who brought about the cease-fire in southern

Sudan in order to save the famine-stricken population. Othman, however, stated that the Sudanese government accepted the cease-fire "in response to the initiative of Kenyan President Daniel Arap Moi." Othman added that Britain "has been taking an extremist stance towards Khartoum, has been treating its government in a strange and brutal manner."

The three-month cease-fire with the Sudanese People's Liberation Army of John Garang began on July 14, in order to allow food and aid to get to famine-stricken populations in the areas he controls. As *EIR* documented last week, it has been Garang's forces, not the government, that have prevented aid from coming in, or have siphoned it off to supply SPLA troops.

Khmer Rouge, NGOs mar Cambodian elections

Cambodia's effort to hold general elections on July 26 has been flawed, but not by the government: The born-again democrats among the Khmer Rouge, Prince Norodom Ranariddh, and International Republican Institute darling Sam Rainsy have engaged in everything from race-baiting to armed attacks during the two-month election campaign. At the same time, the U.S. State Department, National Endowment for Democracy, and non-governmental organizations (NGOs), including Amnesty International and George Soros's Human Rights Watch, are loudly decrying the elections as "hopelessly flawed."

On July 18, suspected Khmer Rouge guerrillas, near the KR headquarters in Anglong Veng, opened fire on election officials, killing two and wounding one, and stole four ballot boxes. The campaign speeches of Ranariddh and Rainsy are peppered with racist references to Cambodia's ethnic Vietnamese minority, whom they derogate as *yuon*, a slur aimed to curry favor with demobilized Khmer Rouge troops. Rainsy, who heads the Sam Rainsy Party, and who is championed by the U.S. NGO apparatus and by France, used the term *yuon* 170 times during one rally in Pailin, a stronghold of former Khmer

Rouge leader Ieng Sari. Rainsy campaign leaflets proclaimed: "If you vote correctly, the *yuon* will go."

Jordan high court turns down Shubeilat appeal

Jordan's Court of Cassation, the nation's highest court, rejected the appeal presented by Islamic political figure Laith Shubeilat, to overturn his conviction for allegedly having instigated riots in the city of Ma'an earlier this year. In arguing its decision, the court said that Shubeilat had deliberately whipped up popular sentiment in a sermon at a mosque, prior to the riots; that he had sneaked into the mosque disguised; that he was accompanied by armed men, among other allegations. They said Shubeilat had spoken in his sermon, of Jordanian army mobilization on its borders with Iraq, as part of a U.S.-directed strike against Iraq.

Shubeilat's nine-month prison sentence was thus confirmed. He has been in jail since February, and therefore has little time left to serve. In addition, Jordanian sources say that they expect King Hussein to reiterate his pardon for Shubeilat. Shubeilat rejected the pardon in May, on grounds that it was unconstitutional, since the higher court had not yet ruled. Now, the pardon can be implemented, even against the will of the prisoner. King Hussein is currently at the Mayo Clinic in the United States, where he is undergoing treatment.

Flooding in East Europe compounds earlier damage

A new round of flooding has beset eastern Europe over mid-July, compounding the wide-spread damage from last summer, during heavy flooding in eastern Germany, Poland, and the Czech Republic. Although the floods then were extensive, the damage was actually the result of free-market "reforms" in the former communist countries, under which the state no longer maintained such services as flood-control infrastructure. Beginning in Romania in mid-June, several villages in the northwest were flooded, with

THAILAND has begun a program of sending young Thai military officers to China for 12 years of training. The plan was worked out by Thai Army Chief Chettha Thanajaro, who returned from an extended trip to China on June 27. The Thai officers will spend four years studying Chinese language, tradition, and culture with the Chinese army, one year at the Chinese Defense College, and seven years as military attachés at the Thai Embassy.

SPANISH ANTI-TERROR brigades struck at propaganda and fundraising fronts for the Basque separatist terror group, ETA, exposing a network of 200 "firms," posing as travel agencies, import and export firms, and publishing houses, in Spain, France, Cuba, Colombia, Mexico, Panama, and Venezuela. On July 15, Spanish police arrested 11 leaders of the publisher of ETA's mouthpiece, *Egin*, and closed four editorial offices and a printing shop.

JEFF KENNETT, premier of Victoria, Australia, whose Mont Pelerinite policies are destroying the state's economy, met for 30 minutes with Queen Elizabeth II at Buckingham Palace on July 16. He told press later that the Queen, who is the unelected Sovereign of Australia, is "a remarkable woman."

A EUROPEAN UNION delegation visited Iran on July 17-19 to move the relationship from "critical dialogue" to "constructive dialogue," according to the Iranian news service IRNA. The Austrian EU Presidency said that the talks are the "first substantive round of talks in the new process of dialogue with Iran," following the EU's decision to restore relations.

THE ROYAL ULSTER Constabulary and British Army in Northern Ireland have begun a crackdown on the Order of Orange and Loyalist paramilitaries, who were largely responsible for the 12-day-long violence that culminated in the bombing of a Protestant-Catholic household in Dumcree, which killed three boys.

several thousand inhabitants left homeless. In eastern Slovakia, very heavy and sudden rainfall destroyed an entire village, killing 17 people, and leaving 2,000 homeless. No improvements in flood control have been made in this region, which has been hit before.

In Poland, more than 2,000 hectares of land went under water when the Oder River swelled over its banks. None of the measures that were promised last year to improve flood control have been implemented. Even the dikes destroyed last year have not been restored, in many places. Many Poles in the farming villages have no money to rebuild their homes: The government doled out 3,000 zlotys to each family, which was not enough even for temporary repair of housing, never mind farm buildings. Roads remain unrepaired or washed out, and severe flood damage to electricity and freshwater supplies is unchanged from the last year in many parts of southwestern and southern Poland.

Chirac and Assad hail 'strategic partnership'

Syrian President Hafez al Assad, a long-time terrorist kingpin, made an unusual pilgrimage to Paris, on July 16, where his old friend, President Jacques Chirac, called for a "strategic partnership" between the two nations. Assad has not been to a European capital since 1976, when he met in Paris with then-Prime Minister Chirac. Syria's official press has placed great emphasis on Assad's trip, quoting Chirac, that the "relationship I established with Assad a long time ago is strong and confident." Since that time, Chirac has routinely used Assad to carry out various dirty jobs in the region.

Six weeks earlier, a Syrian military delegation was in Paris to arrange the possible purchase of non-offensive arms.

Meanwhile, two British warships made the first official port-of-call visit to Syria since 1950. The London *Times* quoted British Ambassador Basil Eastwood: "Our decision to send two of the most modern ships in the Royal Navy to visit Latakia is intended

to symbolize our determination to build a relationship of partnership between Syria and the United Kingdom." Britain broke relations with Syria in 1986, after discovering a Syrian-backed plot to blow up an Israeli civilian jet at Heathrow Airport. Relations were restored in 1990, when Syria agreed to join the Gulf War coalition against Iraq.

Cyprus-Russia missile deal aggravates area tensions

The announcement in Moscow on July 13, that Cypriot President Glafkos Clerides and Russian President Boris Yeltsin had reconfirmed plans to deploy S-300 surface-to-air missiles in Cyprus, could be used to heat up an already explosive situation. U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright had proposed that Clerides purchase short-range SA-15 missiles rather than the S-300s, to prevent a strong Turkish response, but Turkey rejected the idea.

Sources on Cyprus told *EIR* that Cypriots are greatly concerned that a Turkish-Greek conflict could break out, since Cyprus has a military treaty with Greece. Clerides, however, seems to be trying to maintain calm; he has postponed delivery of the missiles to November, in hopes that progress would be made toward reunification, through federation, or towards demilitarization, and has pledged he would give up the deal, if such progress were made. He is expected to continue postponing delivery, as long as possible.

According to the Turkish daily *Hurriyet*, Turkish military aircraft have been conducting attack exercises aimed at being able to knock out Russian S-300 anti-aircraft systems. And, although the Israeli government issued a denial, reports have appeared in the Israeli press, that Israel has made reconnaissance flights over Cyprus to photograph possible missile sites.

Further indicating the level of tension, Iran's Ambassador to Turkey Mohammad Hussein Lavasani on July 15 expressed his country's concern over the latest reports of suspicious movements on the part of Israel inside Turkey, near Iran's border.