

International Intelligence

Pastrana clashes with McCaffrey on FARC

U.S. director of the Office of National Drug Control Policy Gen. Barry McCaffrey (ret.) stirred up a hornet's nest during his July 26-28 trip to Colombia, where he repeatedly denounced the FARC and ELN terrorists as a cartel of "narco-guerrillas," and insisted that they are using their control over the so-called "demilitarized zone" in Colombia's south to traffic in cocaine.

Immediately after McCaffrey left, President Andrés Pastrana told foreign media that the FARC are *not* narco-traffickers, because "I don't negotiate with drug traffickers." He temporized: "There is no evidence at this point that the FARC are drug traffickers. They collect fees from the narcos." He added later that "there are only 10,000 hectares of coca in the 42,000 square kilometers" of DMZ territory.

During a special briefing at the White House on Aug. 2, McCaffrey said that Secretary of State Madeleine Albright, Attorney General Janet Reno, Secretary of Defense William Cohen, "and all of us involved in this, will have to reevaluate a dynamic situation that is going in the wrong direction." It is important to "support the peace process," he said, and he acknowledged that Pastrana "has an economy with 20% unemployment." Then he quoted estimates that the narco-guerrillas are receiving between \$215-600 million in drug money annually, arguing that the "FARC and the ELN, the paramilitaries, have been there for the last ten years, but their money came from extortion, kidnapping, murders, bank robberies, blowing up the pipeline system. You throw in \$600 million in drug money, it *changes the equation*."

Asked about President Pastrana's insistence that the FARC are not narco-terrorists, McCaffrey replied, "The money is providing enormous amounts of lethal weaponry. . . . That's the problem, it's drug-related money, and it's tied directly to coca production and heroin. . . . Getting involved in a debate over whether we call them narco-guerrillas or whatever, is irrelevant to me. I think the police, the army, and judges and prosecutors are terrified that as many as

2,000 of these armed insurgents will show up in a *nationwide, coordinated offensive* against democratic institutions. That's a problem."

Polish journal on 'Candidate LaRouche'

Two major articles on Lyndon LaRouche appeared in *Kurier Zwiazkowy*, a weekly run by Poland's Sierpien '80 trade union. The first, "LaRouche's Critics Admit He Was Right," was based on the Schiller Institute's Polish-language newsletter, quoting "financial experts" who now acknowledge what LaRouche has been saying for years, that the whole global financial system is so fragile that it was brought to near-meltdown last September.

The second article, "Candidate Lyndon LaRouche," includes prominent Nebraska attorney and former state legislator John DeCamp's endorsement letter (published in *EIR*, June 25, 1999). *Kurier's* short introduction presents LaRouche's proposal to introduce a New Bretton Woods monetary system as an alternative to the International Monetary Fund system, which LaRouche, says *Kurier*, blames for the present financial crisis. The introduction underscores that many Americans think that a choice between Al Gore and George Bush is not a real choice, since the victory of either one will do nothing to solve the global crisis, making DeCamp's initiative in endorsing LaRouche all the more important, says the weekly.

Kurier Zwiazkowy is distributed free inside many companies all over the country, and delivered to all government institutions. It is also available on the Internet.

Italian terrorist ran weapons to Kosovo's UCK

Italian police have arrested an entire organized crime ring, one of whose leading members is "former" Prima Linea terrorist Francesco Gorla, according to a report in *Corriere della Sera* on July 28. In the last year, the gang has carried out violent robberies, killing policemen and civilians. Gorla,

who had belonged to Prima Linea, a bloody left-wing terrorist group that was active along with the Red Brigades in the 1970s and 1980s, was extradited from Spain in 1997, but was soon released from Italian prison on a legal technicality. A weapons cache used by the Gorla gang included machine guns, bazookas, and even land mines, which *Corriere* characterized as weapons belonging to "the same ring" that supplies the Kosovo Liberation Army (UCK) through Italy, Croatia, and Bosnia.

Gorla was arrested while leaving his safehouse, in the apartment of Rita Sanvittore, the Green environment commissioner for the city of Cusano Milanino. While wire-tapped conversations between the two show that they had an intimate relationship, it is not known whether Sanvittore was aware of all of Gorla's activities. A police photo from the 1970s shows Sanvittore taking part in an anti-missiles protest, which was, in fact, exposed by *EIR* as part of a NATO plan called "Operation Nightmare."

The red terrorism-UCK connection emerging from the arrests throws new light on the assassination of Italian government official Massimo D'Antona last April, which was claimed by the Red Brigades, in the midst of Italian government efforts to block the NATO war against Serbia.

Brits 'find' Mt. Sinai in Saudi Arabia

British intelligence has accelerated plans to destabilize Saudi Arabia through claims that Mount Sinai, where Moses received the Ten Commandments, is in Saudi territory, and that, therefore, the Saudi mountain is a Jewish religious site. While the claim has existed for a couple of years, it has suddenly resurfaced in *Biblical Review*, on the eve of King Fahd's formal abdication, and has added an element of instability in the Saudi Kingdom. *Biblical Review*, the British archeological monthly which first pushed the Temple Mount provocation against Islam's third holiest site in Jerusalem, features the "discovery" in its August issue.

According to coverage in the London *Daily Telegraph* on Aug. 1, the champion

GEORGE ROBERTSON, Britain's Defense Secretary, was confirmed as NATO Secretary General to replace Javier Solana on Aug. 4. He will take office in the fall. The post had been offered to German Defense Minister Rudolph Scharping who turned it down. Robertson was then nominated by Prime Minister Tony Blair, who hopes to consolidate British policy for NATO to take unilateral "out-of-area" actions, as well as provocative NATO area expansion.

TAJIKISTAN'S Defense Minister, Col. Gen. Sherali Khayrulloev, told the July 16 issue of the Russian military journal *Nezavisimoye Voyennoye*, that military cooperation among the Commonwealth of Independent States "is a necessary factor in maintaining security and stability both within the Commonwealth framework and throughout the world," because, "it can avert attempts on the part of one state or another or a certain military bloc to claim the right of dominance in the world."

MALANJE, ANGOLA has three to four people dying of starvation every day. This central highland city is under siege by Jonas Savimbi's UNITA rebels. In addition, some 130,000 people have come in from the countryside, which UNITA now controls. The city has been without regular relief supplies since January.

IRANIAN AZERI separatists, the National Liberation Front of Azerbaijan, issued an inflammatory statement from its headquarters in Baku, Azerbaijan on July 27 calling the 19th-century treaties that divided Azerbaijan "illegal, and foisted on us by force." The statement was part of the Front's efforts to increase tensions between Iran and Azerbaijan.

EAST TIMOR voter registration concluded successfully on Aug. 4, with roughly 380,000 people of an estimated 400,000 eligible voters registered under UN auspices. East Timorese are set to vote on Aug. 30 on its status with respect to Indonesia.

of the hoax is former Royal Air Force pilot Lawrence Kyl, who has the strong backing of the Canon of Chichester Cathedral, Roy Porter. According to Kyl and Porter, "Mount Sinai" is in northwestern Saudi Arabia, not in the Sinai Desert, as had been, by tradition, assumed. And, as it turns out, Mount Sinai is just a few miles from the headquarters of the Saudi air-defense system established to protect the Kingdom from Israeli attack.

Kyl has been conducting "covert archeology" at the site, with Anglican support. He says that he has been "warned off" continuing his covert studies by the Israeli Mossad.

Barak agrees to implement Wye accord

The pace of diplomatic activity to bring about peace in the Middle East region was intense in the last week of July. On July 29, Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak met with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak for the second time in that month, in Alexandria. Following the meeting, Barak announced that he planned to fully implement the Wye Plantation accords with the Palestinians. Earlier, Barak had proposed that the Wye talks be subsumed under final status negotiations, a position firmly rejected by the Palestinian Authority. Barak said that the Wye agreement would be implemented as soon as Israel and the Palestinian Authority created a joint commission that had been agreed to at the July 27 meeting between Barak and Palestinian Authority President Yasser Arafat.

Both Barak and Arafat then separately spoke by phone with President Clinton—Barak for 20 minutes and Arafat for 45 minutes, with Arafat urging the U.S. President to intercede to make sure that Israel honored the Wye deal. Arafat also spoke to Jordan's King Abdullah by phone, updating him on the meeting with Barak.

And, in another sign of peace opportunities for the region, the new express train linking Amman, Jordan to Damascus, Syria began its inaugural trip. On July 26, the Syria-Jordan joint commission met in Amman,

with Syrian Prime Minister Mahmud Zohbi heading the Syrian delegation. Syria also recently released the first group of Jordanian prisoners, another part of the political and commercial deals recently struck between the two neighbors.

Immediately after the July 26 funeral in Morocco for King Hassan II, Jordan's King Abdullah flew to Damascus, carrying a message from Israeli Prime Minister Barak, proposing that peace talks between the two countries commence. The head of the Syrian general staff has recently written that any peace between Israel and Syria must begin with the full withdrawal of Israeli forces from the Golan Heights.

India, Pakistan try to ease Kashmir tensions

India and Pakistan discussed steps to ease tension along the 740 kilometer Line of Control in Kashmir on July 27. The Directors General of Military Operations (DGMO) of the two sides discussed "confidence-building measures" which could be undertaken to de-escalate tension. Their interaction reportedly assumes importance in light of a recent Pakistani troop build-up of roughly two brigades in the area of Kargil, in Indian Kashmir, and the intermittent artillery exchanges between the two sides.

Briefing the media on July 26, the Indian DGMO, Lt. Gen. N.C. Vuj, indicated that the Pakistani refusal to abide by an understanding not to construct new defenses in a 1 kilometer band on either side of the Line, was mainly responsible for the continuing tensions after the months-long fighting in the Kargil area had died down. He said that the two sides required a fresh understanding to de-escalate military tensions.

On July 27, General Vuj declared that Indian territory is completely free from Pakistani intruders along the entire Line of Control. "These intruders have now been evicted, and the Indian territory is free from Pakistani presence," he declared. He pointed out that Pakistan had pulled out most of its remaining troops on July 17, but its forces had retained three pockets in the combat zone.