

International Intelligence

Russians Blast Missile Plan for Eastern Europe

Gen. Yevgeni Buzhinsky, head of the Russian Defense Ministry's international military cooperation department, warned on Oct. 17 that Moscow would view the deployment of U.S. missile defense elements in Eastern and Central Europe as a threat to its security. "The deployment of missile defense near the Russian borders could pose a real threat to our deterrent forces," Buzhinsky wrote in an article in *Izvestia*. "We would view that as an unfriendly gesture on behalf of the United States, some eastern European nations, and NATO as a whole. Such actions would require taking adequate retaliatory measures of military and political character."

Another *Izvestia* commentary warned, "Today, a new missile crisis is emerging before our very eyes." The author debunked the claim that the deployment of interceptor missiles in Eastern Europe is actually aimed at Iran, noting: "The U.S. version about defense against Iran on the Polish-Belarusian border does not withstand criticism. After all, the Iranian 'Shahab-3' missiles, with a range of 3,500 kilometers, may reach only Europe, but certainly not the U.S.A. The shortest and most direct path from Iran to Europe lies over the Caucasus, the Black Sea, and Ukraine, and not through Russia."

China To Proceed With Fusion Development

Welcoming the 21st Fusion Energy Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) at Chengdu, China, Chinese Vice Premier Zang Peiyan called for expanded interest in nuclear fusion development, and assured the scientists that China expects to join the international community in this field. Zang said that fusion will be an efficient way for people to generate infinite and clean energy, the *People's Daily* reported on Oct. 18. A total of 830 scientists from China and abroad are attending the six-day conference that began Oct. 17.

China became the first developing nation to host the IAEA's fusion conference. The most likely reason that Chengdu was chosen as the venue, is the recent successes achieved in the Southwestern Research Institute of Physics, located in Chengdu, in the areas of controlled fusion and plasma physics research.

In September, China's other major facility, Experimental Advanced Superconducting Tokamak (EAST), located at the Institute of Plasma Physics under the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS) in Hefei, Anhui Province, reported achieving fusion of hydrogen isotopes reaching a temperature of 50 million degrees Celsius.

Abkhazia's Parliament Seeks Independence

Abkhazia's parliament on Oct. 18 asked Russia to recognize its independence, and to establish relations with it as an associated member in the Russian Federation. More than 90% of Abkhazia's residents have Russian citizenship, while the territory remains officially part of Georgia. Abkhazia will conduct a military exercise on Oct. 23-26 to practice repelling an enemy attack.

On Oct. 13, the UN Security Council passed a Russian-sponsored resolution expressing concern about Georgia's recent actions in Abkhazia, and reminding Georgia of its obligations under the 1994 cease-fire agreement. RTV called it a "diplomatic victory" for Russia, and Russian UN Ambassador Vitali Churkin said that the UN had recognized "the destructive, dangerous, and provocative" actions of Georgia in the Kodori Gorge.

On Oct. 17, the foreign ministers of the European Union adopted their own resolution, strongly critical of Russia on other points of the Russia-Georgia relationship. The EU ministers demanded that Russia "not pursue measures targetting Georgians in the Russian Federation." Russia has been deporting hundreds of ethnic Georgians, found to be lacking legal documents, after raids on Georgian-run businesses in Moscow. This escalation followed the arrest

of Russian officers in Georgia on espionage charges.

The EU statement, which also called for an end to Russian economic sanctions against Tbilisi, was officially welcomed by the Georgian government. "It means that the EU will not leave such events without attention," said Prime Minister Zurab Noghaideli. On Oct. 18, U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Daniel Fried visited President Mikhail Saakashvili and Noghaideli in Tbilisi, saying that "we are supporting Georgia in its stage-by-stage advancement toward European and Euro-Atlantic institutions." Saakashvili said he was prepared to send his foreign minister to the Nov. 1 Moscow summit on Black Sea economic cooperation, with a brief to restart talks with Russia on all points.

Call for Racial Profiling On British Campuses

In an example of the creation of campus gestapos, like that being organized in the United States by "Big Sister" Lynne Cheney, the British Department of Education is circulating an 18-page document with proposals for university lecturers and staff to spy on "Asian-looking" students who could be suspected of involvement in Islamic extremism and supporting terrorist violence, the *Guardian* reported Oct. 16.

The paper acknowledges that there will be "concerns about police targeting certain sections of the student population." The document has been circulating for the last month.

News of this document is causing outrage among students. Gemma Tumelty, president of the National Union of Students, said; "They are going to treat everyone Muslim with suspicion on the basis of their faith. It's bearing on the side of McCarthyism."

The document calls for teachers and staff to turn over information to the Special Branch of the police, while acknowledging that there were "a number of concerns about working closely with Special Branch. Some common concerns are that institutions will

be seen to be collaborating with the 'secret police.' ” The document tries to reassure the department, saying that the “Special Branch are not the secret police and are accountable.”

Princess Diana Murder Investigation Reopened

The Royal Coroner, Lady Butler-Sloss, will start forensic hearings into the 1997 death in Paris of Princess Diana: a process that is expected to lead to several leaks harmful to Queen Elizabeth, Prince Philip, and the foreign intelligence agency MI6. Meanwhile, Paris authorities reopened their investigation, following leads published years earlier by *EIR*. The crash was originally blamed on drunken driving.

It is not known at this time what else the Paris investigation is probing, but the British former Commissioner of Police, Lord Stevens, has had to postpone his report to the Royal Coroner due to many new leads pointing to a conspiracy to murder Princess Diana, who had become a leading adversary of the royal family. As *EIR* noted at the time, the authorship of Diana's death could have been enemies of the British royal family, who hoped to embarrass it on the basis of *cui bono*?

U.S. Gestapo Methods Provoke Outcry in Germany

For the first time, the case of Murat Kurnaz, who was kept a U.S. prisoner for almost five years in Afghanistan and then at Guantanamo, was presented to a broad audience in Germany, on the prime-time television show “Beckmann” on Oct. 16. Kurnaz, a German citizen from a Turkish family living in Bremen, was abducted and arrested during a visit to Pakistan, on Dec. 1, 2001, and released from Guantanamo on Aug. 24, 2006.

Kurnaz told the TV audience about the tortures he had suffered, from being hung by his feet, beaten, denied sleep, food, and clothing, interrogated for days without in-

terruption, being moved from one camp to another, and often worse, during his five years in U.S. imprisonment.

The case of Kurnaz brings disgrace not only to the Bush Administration: He said he was beaten and interrogated by two Germans, probably soldiers, in Afghanistan in December 2001; he was repeatedly interrogated by German anti-terrorism interviewers at Guantanamo as well; the Americans are even reported to have offered his release to Germany in November 2002, but the German government at that time refused, urging the Americans to transfer Kurnaz to Turkey instead.

Kurnaz's reports have so far been denied as “absurd” by German officials. His case, however, will be on the agenda of a parliamentary investigation committee, which will also deal with the cases of Khaled el-Masri (a Lebanon-born German abducted by the CIA in Macedonia, in 2001, since released) and Mohamad Zamar (a Syrian-born German, abducted by CIA, transferred to Syria, still a prisoner in Damascus).

Lebanese Shi'ite Backs Saudi Peace Initiative

The Speaker of the Lebanese Parliament, Nabih Berri, has called for the resumption of peace talks with Israel based on the Saudi peace initiative of 2002.

“Now is the time to raise the issue of returning to peace negotiations,” he told the al-Arabiyyah network from Paris. He was also quoted in the London-based *Asharq al-Awat* daily. He made similar statements at a conference of the Inter-Parliamentary Union in Geneva, where he said that now that Hezbollah had triumphed over Israel, the time for holding comprehensive talks had come. He was not referring to bilateral talks with Israel, but comprehensive talks, based on the Saudi peace initiative of 2002, which is supported by all the nations of the Arab League.

Berri is leader of the Shi'ite-based Amal Movement, which is a rival of Hezbollah, although the two are working together politically.

COLOMBIAN PRESIDENT Alvaro Uribe cancelled all plans to negotiate a humanitarian exchange of jailed terrorists for hostages held by the narco-terrorist FARC, after the FARC car-bombed the country's largest military complex.

RUSSIA SUSPENDED the activities of more than 90 non-governmental organizations on Oct. 20, including Human Rights Watch, Amnesty International, the International Republican Institute, the National Democratic Institute, and many others. The action followed the failure of these organizations to register under a new law, which requires, among other things, that they get most of their funding from domestic sources.

ISRAEL IS PLANNING a massive military operation in the Gaza Strip, according to the Israeli daily *Ha'aretz*. In addition, senior Israeli officers told the *Jerusalem Post* that they have been given an order from the “diplomatic echelon” to begin drawing up plans for a widespread operation in Gaza, to pressure Hamas to release Israeli captive soldier Gilad Shalit.

MIKHAIL GORBACHOV, the former Soviet President, said in Berlin on Oct. 13, that the big chance to make the world a better place, after the fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989, was missed, because Western politicians opted for geopolitics. Most of the big problems in the world today, he said, have to do with that missed chance. The statement comes as a late corroboration of what Helga Zepp-LaRouche wrote several years ago in her book, *The Missed Chance of 1989*.

MEXICO'S LEGITIMATE President, Andrés Manuel López Obrador, will announce his Cabinet on Nov. 3, as the kick-off for a 28-city, 10-state national tour. Illegitimate President Felipe Calderón will meet President Bush on Nov. 9.