

International Intelligence

The NZZ blasts Fyodor Burlatskii article

The Swiss daily *Neue Zürcher Zeitung*, as the first major Western news service aside from NSIPS and its associated news services, published an extensive article Aug. 25 on the *Literaturnaya Gazeta* article of Aug. 10 by Fyodor Burlatskii, which had termed the U.S. beam-weapons defense policy a "casus belli."

"Moscow considers the real challenge to be the end of March speech by President Reagan [declaring that] America would mobilize all of its scientific and technological capabilities to catch up with the Soviet lead in space, and, in addition to modern satellite defense systems, in the future would also deploy anti-missile systems based on laser defenses. Soviet marshals, scientists, and propagandists were called upon en masse to portray President Reagan's plan as irresponsible or even crazy, and also to prove that the Soviet Union would do the same."

The Burlatskii article was written shortly before Andropov "offered" to ban space weapons, writes the *NZZ*, where "the party philosopher Burlatskii claimed in the Soviet intelligence sheet *Literaturnaya Gazeta* that 'cosmic weapons' are provocative and represent a 'casus belli.'" "In his discussion with U.S. senators," writes the *NZZ*, "Andropov obviously took up the arguments of his advisor Burlatskii, whose 'War Games' article will clearly play an important role in the outer-space diplomacy of the party boss . . . the space initiative of Andropov reveals itself thus to be a propagandistic tool to move Washington to give in and accept discussions, where it is clear that Andropov would like to prescribe his own rules for such discussions."

Place in the sun for Italy's new Mussolini

While financiers operating out of Switzerland have poured tens if not hundreds of millions of dollars worth of flight capital into Italy since the appointment of Bettino Craxi as prime minister in June, an international press campaign is hyping Craxi as a model Western statesman. The Aug. 20 lead

editorial of the *New York Times*, "The New Opening in Italy," goes so far as to credit Craxi with having brought to success "a 20-year effort to lift the Communist mortgage" on Italy's "political life." Craxi's victory is described as "deliverance"—not just for Italy, but potentially also for the entire West.

On Aug. 19, Switzerland's leading financial daily, *Neue Zürcher Zeitung*, reported that since June there has emerged an inexplicable surplus of more than \$1 billion every month in Italy's balance of payments. The article notes that this sum is too large to be accounted for by the tourist industry. While the *NZZ* leaves to the reader to guess where these funds are coming from, Swiss bankers admit off the record that private investment sources have since June been cashing in U.S. dollar investments to rush funds to Italy to help Craxi out. On Thursday, the Italian stock market suddenly upticked 2 percent—amid reports in the Italian press that in September a larger, sustained stock market pickup is expected.

BVS chief: 'East Germans funding peace movement'

The head of the West German agency for internal security, Heribert Hellenbroich, has issued a blast—rare for a public official—at Communist control of his country's peace movement. The Bundesverfassungsschutz (State Security Bureau) chief was interviewed on the TV program "Report" on Aug. 24 (see *EIR*, Aug. 16, for earlier remarks by Hellenbroich on the Greens).

Hellenbroich said that the 150,000 orthodox communists, represented by the West German Communist Party (DKP) and its front organizations and the 10,000 autonomous peaceniks, make up the core of the peace movement, and that they control strategic leadership positions in its organizational structure. He also stated unequivocally that his agency had information about preparations by the autonomous groups for violent attacks on U.S. ammunition transports. The *Kommittee gegen Bombentransporte* (Committee Against Munitions Shipments), for example, is heavily infiltrated by pro-terrorist elements.

When asked about the financial sources of the movement Hellenbroich answered:

"In the coordinating committees, the German Communist Party and its front organizations are the main force, and we have confirmed information that the DKP brings into the movement its financial power, which it does not and cannot receive through membership fees, but it is very massively financially supported by the Socialist Unity Party (SED) [communist party] of the DDR [East Germany]. For this we have hard proof."

The interview triggered an outcry from the Social Democrats, led by former justice minister Jürgen Schmude, and parliamentarian Freimut Duve from Hamburg, who also sits on the interior commission in the federal parliament.

Why London sees an Iran 'south of the border'

The dire prognostications of all those who want to shake the United States through the destruction of the Mexican republic were aired in the Aug. 13 lead editorial of the *Times* of London:

"American suspicion of Mexican stability is long standing and well-founded in view of recent Mexican developments—the scale of its problems and the unpredictable and mysterious nature of its politics. The collapse of Mexican stability, leading to insurrection, revolution, or just a prolonged period of economic and social disintegration cannot feature in any exchange of courtesies between the presidents, but it features in the minds of American policy-makers.

"The effect on the United States of such a collapse in Mexico would be very serious. The two countries share a common frontier of 1600 miles. . . .

"Social disintegration in El Salvador and Nicaragua has now created a new exodus of refugees to Southern Mexico and the United States. Today's difficulties would be tiny compared to the massive upheaval across the U.S.-Mexican border should Mexico's indecipherable polity start to disintegrate under the pressure of Cuban-inspired subversions spreading from Central America, and the strain of economic austerity at home. . . .

"The border is not controllable. Moreover, a Mexican government dedicated to mischief-making could aggravate its relations with the United States by laying claim

to territory beyond its border with as legitimate a basis for the claim as the Argentine one to the Falklands—in other words juridically questionable, but rhetorically popular in Latin America.

"It is symptomatic of the Mexican unwillingness to share Washington's concern for these matters that the Mexican government prefers to maintain the status quo on the border even though it festers in their bilateral relations. . . .

"The trouble with Mexico is that the presidential system introduced with the 1917 Constitution does not provide for any real popular participation in presidential politics other than in the most formal sense of regular elections. . . . It is true that Mexico has avoided the military intervention that has characterized the rest of Latin America, but the health of this secretive, unpredictable and inherently arbitrary system of leadership cannot be taken for granted in the face of the sustained instability of most other countries in the region. . . .

"[T]he nightmare for some Washington officials is that Mexico's technocrats will discover that they are as out of touch with the scale of disaffection in the rural areas of their country as were the Shah's managers in Iran. It cannot be pleasant for Washington policy makers to visualize a future for the United States sharing a common frontier with a neighbour of 73 million inhabitants vulnerable to such political volatility."

Beam weapons termed 'the end of the line'

"If the U.S. deployed a directed energy weapon system, a complete one, the Russians take the view that it's the end of the line: it would be war. I don't disagree with them," said a leading British strategist Aug. 24, who usually acts as a liaison between the Mountbatten-Carrington groupings of Britain and the Soviet General Staff. "They're worried about a strategic ambush. They know that if the U.S. really gets started on that path, its technological skill is such that they cannot match.

"The Burlatskii article [in *Literaturnaya Gazeta*, threatening war if the U.S. attempts to develop beam-weapon missile-defense systems] can be said to sum up six months

of a major debate: there has been considerable attention to the problem of beam weapons in the whole range of Soviet military publications, about space warfare. They're in the middle of a crash program. Especially the fact that the U.S. has the Shuttle and it's damn good. The U.S. is making great progress in lasers and beams, and developing six or seven systems. . . . The March 23 speech jolted them quite badly. It has made Soviet strategic planning a nightmare."

Elaborating on the history of the question, the think tanker added: "I had a long conversation with Marshall Sokolovskii in 1963. He told me: 'I'll lecture you on space weapons. This is the key and vital area, the battleground of the future. Do you know about the economics of space technology?' So, the Soviets are looking for a retaliation-proof capability. I don't think they'd deliver a first strike . . . but of course they may, since they know that if there is a race they are going to lose it. But it's a very serious warning."

Soviet space military capabilities assessed

With respect to the ability of the Soviet space program to put an anti-ballistic missile system in orbit, expert on Soviet space efforts James Oberg told EIR: "Yes, the Soviets have shown that they are capable of breakthroughs. Their Salyut space stations have demonstrated their ability to do maintenance of orbital facilities. They would use this manned capability to overcome technical problems they have had in long-duration autonomous systems," for a space-based ABM system. Oberg estimated that the soonest the Soviets would demonstrate this capability would be in five years.

A sustained Soviet effort over the past twenty years has produced the first Intercontinental Ballistic Missile (ICBM), the first anti-satellite system, and the only space nuclear bomb capability. After the first test launch of NASA's Space Shuttle in April 1981, Soviet party chief Leonid Brezhnev felt obliged to declare "May the shoreless cosmic ocean be pure and free of weapons of any kind." To this day, only the U.S.S.R. has developed the capability to put weapons in space.

Briefly

● **AVRAHAM AHITUV**, the former head of Israel's Shin Beth internal security service, has issued a denunciation of Jewish settlements in the West Bank as a "psychological hothouse for Jewish terror" against Arabs in the region.

● **EUROPEAN COMMUNITY** top brass in Brussels, Belgium, are reported furious with Greek President Andreas Papandreou's attempts to transform the December 1983 EC ministerial meeting into a sounding-board for protest against the installation of Pershing and Cruise missiles on European soil.

● **GENGHIS KHAN** has been re-habilitated as a national hero by the Chinese government, it announced in August.

● **THE WIFE** of Muammar Qaddafi has arrived for a stay in Wiesbaden, West Germany, according to the Aug. 20 *Wiesbadener Kurier*.

● **EGYPT AND TUNISIA** have announced security crackdowns against Al-Tahrir, an Islamic fundamentalist-terrorist group linked to the Swiss-based Nazi International.

● **CHARLES HERNU**, France's defense minister, announced that a contingent of French military personnel was being dispatched Aug. 24 to Argentina in order to receive training from the Argentine air force on use of Exocet missiles. An angry spokesman at the Quai d'Orsay complained that Foreign Minister Claude Cheysson had not been consulted.

● **A CHIEF AIDE** to PLO chairman Arafat, Lt. Col. Mahmoud Muraish, was shot to death in Athens while driving in a car with his family, by one or two males on a motorcycle on Aug. 21. Muraish's bodyguard, Mustafa Ali, and one son were wounded.

● **RUDOLF BAHRO**, a leader of the West German Green Party, turned up at the "International University" of the Rajneesh Bagwan cult in Oregon towards the end of August.