

International Intelligence

Behind the near-coup in Colombia

A 17-point memorandum establishing the "red line" beyond which the Colombian military was prepared to seize power in January was published in the pro-government Bogota daily *El Espectador* Feb. 9, revealing the extent to which would-be coup maker and former Defense Minister Fernando Landazabal Reyes was prepared to take his challenge to President Belisario Betancur.

The 17-point ultimatum, which was read by the sociologist-general Landazabal in the Security Council, constituted the "final straw" which led to Landazabal's forced retirement and an eyeball-to-eyeball confrontation between Betancur and the military. Betancur won that round.

Among the points Landazabal defined as unacceptable for the military were a truce or cease-fire with the guerrilla movements (which Betancur is negotiating), demilitarization of the countryside (also part of the government's negotiations with the guerrillas), deterioration of the political parties, and "Marxist-Leninist advances." Landazabal produced a chart which showed Colombia in the fifth stage of a seven-stage collapse leading to either "Communist slavery" or a military coup d'état.

While the publishing of the memorandum is intended to demonstrate the openly pro-coup nature of Landazabal's challenge to the presidency and to justify the president's actions against his defense minister, it also makes clear that the coup threat against the Betancur government is far from over.

Sweden: We'd shoot down U.S. cruise missiles

Sweden would use U.S.-supplied mobile radar equipment to shoot down U.S. cruise missiles flying over its territory, Swedish Rear Admiral Bror Stefenson said in an interview in *The Observer* of London Feb. 5.

"We would consider any cruise missile

entering Swedish air space as violating our neutrality just as much as if a foreign army were to march across our territory," Admiral Stefenson said. "There is no doubt that cruise missiles would be shot down."

Since U.S. cruise missiles stationed in Greenham Common, England would have to fly over Swedish air space to reach targets in the Soviet Union, it was clear that the Swedish admiral was referring to American cruise missiles.

The Swedish government has also allocated funds over the next five-year period to build the PS-870 mobile radar system, which could locate U.S. cruises targeted on Soviet submarine bases, SS-20 complexes, and military airfields in the northern Kola peninsula.

Radio Moscow lost no time in praising the new move by "neutral" Sweden, which had been getting rough treatment for not being more like Finland. The Finns have an assistance treaty with the Soviets, and have already agreed to shoot down U.S. cruise missiles.

Japanese leaders reaffirm U.S. ties

Japanese leaders Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone and Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe delivered speeches that should make Western European leaders sit up and pay attention. In speeches on the convening of the 101st Japanese Parliament (Diet) Feb. 6, Nakasone and Abe renewed Japan's unflinching commitment to becoming a full partner of the United States in securing peace and stability in Asia and the world in the face of Soviet aggression. That commitment, the leaders stressed, will be realized through firming up Japan's regional defense/security arrangement with the United States, and in Japan's emerging role as a bridge between the North and South.

Nakasone set the tone by reiterating the need for Japan "to become an international state," calling for peace and disarmament, the improvement of Japan's defense capability and the maintenance of its security

arrangements with the United States."

Foreign Minister Abe bluntly blamed Moscow for the "state of chill" between the United States and the Soviet Union, referring to Soviet military moves into Third World countries, the downing of the KAL airliner, the Soviet walkout from the INF talks, and its military buildup along the Asian perimeter.

Faced with that situation, Abe places Japan squarely in the camp of the "Western industrialized democracies," who must rally behind a policy of "maintaining sufficient deterrence to secure peace and promoting dialogue and negotiations with the Soviet Union."

In that light, Abe continues, the cornerstone of Japanese foreign policy and the key to peace and stability in Asia and the world is "friendly and cooperative relations with the United States grounded in our security arrangements." He reviewed Japan's improving ties with nations in Western Europe, Asia—particularly Korea, China and the ASEAN nations—the Middle East, Latin America and Africa. Abe also expressed Japan's urgent hope for the restoration of national sovereignty in Lebanon and endorses the efforts of the Contadora group in seeking a resolution of the Central America conflict.

German court enjoins slander of LaRouche

The Frankfurt state court issued a preliminary restraining order Feb. 2 against the anarchist *tageszeitung* journal, forbidding it from printing slanders against the European Labor Party (EAP), which is led by Helga Zepp-LaRouche, wife of U.S. political leader Lyndon LaRouche.

The Dec. 22 *taz* slanders were based on a Nov. 30 broadcast by Westdeutsche Rundfunk radio (WDR). They maintained that:

- The EAP is in contact with Hitler's weapons' experts;
- The EAP organization is anti-Semitic;
- LaRouche and the EAP consider the "final solution" to the "Jewish question," namely the murder of millions of Jews, as a

Zionist swindle;

● LaRouche and his colleagues have threatened the world by working on a nuclear bomb.

Taz was treated similarly by a West German court last September after calling the LaRouche organization "neo-Nazi."

Italian Christian Democrat calls for neutron bomb

On the eve of the national congress of Italy's largest party, the Christian Democracy (DC), a noted party strategic analyst called for defending Western Europe, and Italy in particular, with neutron bombs. The statements were made in an interview to *Fusion* magazine by Hon. Filippo De Jorio, a Christian Democratic member of the ruling council of the Lazio region (region of the capital city, Rome).

De Jorio is president of the National Institute of Ecology and teaches at the "Alcide De Gasperi" Free University of Social Studies. He speaks for pro-Western forces in the DC which are expected to contest the peace movement-linked pro-neutralists at the upcoming party congress Feb. 26. This meeting will be key for determining the future of the Italian government.

"In 1980," De Jorio said, "the Italian government, as well as the governments of other European countries refused to adopt the neutron bomb. I always said that the neutron bomb is a defensive weapon. According to the proven evidence presented by the experts, it can be used only against an invading enemy. . . . It would be extremely difficult, if not impossible, to use it offensively. . . . After all, this is not simply my opinion, this is the opinion of renowned experts such as Marc Geneste and Sam Cohen who demonstrated clearly, in their famous book *Echec à la guerre*, the defensive character of the weapon.

"The neutron shells shot against the enemy tanks are able to block every offensive without major harm to the defending armies. For the first time, by using neutron bombs every attacking enemy can be stopped by a

relatively small group of defenders. And this is the best way to prevent a war."

Asked if Europe could play a positive role to carry out President Reagan's anti-ballistic missile defense policy, which has been attacked by such figures as German Foreign Minister Genscher, De Jorio replied, "I not only think so, but maintain that it is downright necessary."

Thai military hears beam-defense experts

Over 200 leaders of Thailand's military heard Fusion Energy Foundation Director of Research Uwe Henke-Parpart, Robert Budwine of Lawrence Livermore Laboratories, and Friedwardt Winterberg of the Desert Research Institute of the University of Nevada speak on beam weapons in a two-day conference in Bangkok. The conference was sponsored by the Supreme Commander's office of the Thai Armed Forces.

In the first session on Feb. 8, Dr. Budwine, speaking in a private capacity, addressed high-ranking military officers and leading representatives of over 13 ministries at the National Defense College on the subject of overturning the doctrine of Mutually Assured Destruction and the development of directed-energy anti-missile defense systems. Parpart then addressed the conference on the strategic, military, and economic implications of beam weapons, with special emphasis on the role the Thai Armed Forces must play in providing the institutional context for high-technology economic development.

Dr. Winterberg led the Feb. 9 session with an address on "The Technologies of Beam Weapons," given at the Joint Operations Center of the Thai Armed Forces. He was followed by Dr. Parpart. At the end of the session, the Deputy Supreme Commander of the Thai Armed Forces, Air Marshal Aruj Pronthep, gave a summary of the day's deliberations, and thanked Lyndon LaRouche for helping to facilitate such lectures and for playing a most important role in advancing the concept of high-technology development for Thailand.

Briefly

● **ARMAND HAMMER** is reported in the Feb. 9 *Platt's Oilgram* as looking among Austrian, Finnish, and Swedish interests for purchasers of part of Occidental Petroleum's Libyan oil properties.

● **CARL HAGEN**, the leader of the Norwegian Framskridtsparti (Progressive Party), said Feb. 7 that his party will officially demand that Norway acquire the American-built Patriot ground-to-air missile system as part of a program to counter the threat of a Soviet attack on NATO's Northern Flank. Party leaders are also said to be formulating a number of parliamentary questions to the Norwegian government regarding the immediate threat of a Soviet "surgical strike" into Western Europe.

● **ASIA DEFENSE JOURNAL**, based in Malaysia, and Southeast Asia's only military magazine, has published an article by scientist Jonathan Tennebaum, director of the Fusion Energy Foundation in Europe, on the role of Lyndon LaRouche and *EIR* in shaping the Mutually Assured Survival missile-defense strategy internationally.

● **HERMANN KLENNER**, the new East German representative to the U.N. Human Rights Commission, was a card-carrying Nazi before 1945, and in his later communist incarnation wrote that "there is no self-realization of human rights: Realizing human rights means class struggle." *EIR* will present its findings on Nazi-communist collaboration after 1945 at seminars in Paris (Feb. 15) and in Bonn (Feb. 16).

● **IGNATIUS IV**, the Greek Orthodox Patriarch, thinks that the destiny of Greek Orthodox Christians lies with the Druzes and Shi'ites, according to the Feb. 8 *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*. The Patriarch is being widely condemned in the Lebanese Maronite and other Christian communities as a traitor to Christianity.