

# International Intelligence

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## ***Soviets sponsor North Korean military buildup***

President Chun of South Korea accused North Korea of an unprecedented military buildup along the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ) on Oct. 2.

Speaking on South Korean Armed Forces Day President Chun said: "The cold war between the superpowers has made the military confrontation around us more acute, threatening war in this region at any time." He added, "Lately, moreover, there have been unusual movements in the North, as they have deployed large tank units, long-range guns and guided weapons in the forward areas along the truce line and have intensified training of their 100,000 commando troops."

The Japanese newspaper *Sankei Shimbun*, reported on September 23 that North Korea had apparently deployed three new armored corps around the town of Kaesong, near the DMZ—the old invasion corridor opposite Seoul, the South Korean capital. The U.S. armed forces, it is reported, are studying satellite photographs of the reported armored build-up.

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## ***Syria threatens Hussein with 'Sadat treatment'***

Reacting quickly to the re-establishment of diplomatic relations between Egypt and Jordan, the Syrian leadership has found no better answer than to announce that Jordan's King Hussein will "meet Sadat's fate!" This was announced on Sept. 30 by Syria's second vice-president Zuhair Masharka in a mass public rally of the Baath Party where he called on Hussein to "remember what happened to Sadat." On Oct. 1, both Syria's daily *Ath Thawra* as well as vice-president Khaddam announced that "Syria will not allow another Sadat on its borders." Khaddam immediately flew to South Yemen to organize support for what amounts to a state sponsored political murder.

*Ath Thawra* denounced the move as an

"American plot," saying that Iraq would be next to restore diplomatic relations with Egypt. Indeed 80% of non-Iraqi volunteers fighting against Iran are Egyptian and Iranian. Iranian President Kamenei recently urged Syria to open a second front against Iraq.

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## ***Soviets ready for Mars trip***

With the return on Oct. 2 of the three Soviet cosmonauts who made history's longest space flight, Radio Moscow announced that the next space flight in the accelerating Soviet program will be to Mars.

This was the first time that Soviet readiness for a Mars trip had been publicly stated. Both the radio and the Communist Party daily *Pravda* reported that the record-breaking mission—237 days in space—had produced important scientific and technical research. The three Soviet cosmonauts completed "over 500 scientific and technical experiments" on board the Soviet space station Salyut-7, Radio Moscow said.

The military emphasis of the Soviet Union's space missions and satellite launches has been noted by the just-published *Jane's Spaceflight Directory*. The *Spaceflight Directory* says that the Soviets are developing a laser ASAT satellite which is expected to have six operational units in orbit within the next several years. The *Directory* also notes that the cosmonauts on Salyut 6 and 7 have been carrying out tests, e.g., pointing and tracking, "similar to those planned for the U.S. space-based high-energy laser weapon system."

The magnitude of Soviet space-based military programs has been noted even by SIPRI, the pro-disarmament Pugwash-linked think tank in Stockholm, which admits that 75% of Soviet satellites are "purely military" in nature.

This whole Soviet defense push is occurring amidst the highest concentration of war propaganda since the end of World War II. The Russian-language radio is daily playing up in the most melodramatic way

the Soviet people's personal past war experiences—war songs, sufferings, and heroism—while calling Reagan "a new Hitler" and accusing West Germany of staging a "Nazi revival."

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## ***Mexican Falangists fête wrong independence***

The "Falanges Tradicionalistas Mexicanas" (FTM) took to the streets of Mexico City on Oct. 1 in full Nazi brown-shirt regalia to celebrate the 163rd anniversary of Mexico's independence. The problem is that Mexico declared its independence from Spain 174 years ago. What the Falangists celebrate is the deal whereby Spanish royalist general Agustín de Iturbide "joined" the independence movement headed by Vicente Guerrero, only to usurp nascent republican power in the midst of the subsequent disorder and set himself up as "Emperor" of a backward, inquisitorial regime remembered by republicans to this day as one of Mexico's darkest periods.

This traditional Nazi ritual celebrated yearly by Mexico's far right kook fringe, a kind of "black mass" version of actual independence, involves khaki uniforms, neckties and armbands with crosses (not quite swastikas), and includes a mass for the eternal rest of the soul of Emperor Iturbide in the chapel of St. Felipe de Jesús, named after the only Mexican Jesuit ever to become a saint. He was crucified in Japan for stirring up local "Pugachev"-like uprisings that were similar to the work of today's Latin American Liberation Theologians.

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## ***Soviets declared war alert on Aug. 15***

The Japanese daily *Yomiuri* reported on Oct. 1 that forces of the Soviet Far East command were placed on full alert for 30 minutes on Aug. 15, 1984. According to the report, monitors in Tokyo picked up and deciphered a coded message transmitted from Vladivostok, where the Soviet Pacific Fleet is

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headquartered, to a special troop unit in nearby Ussuriisk; it said that Soviet Far East forces were going into a state of war with the United States. *Yomiuri* further reported, which neither U.S. nor Japanese authorities would comment on, that American and Japanese units went into a state of high alert in response.

The Soviet Far East command is a recently upgraded theater command center, designed to function autonomously in the event of nuclear war. The reported Soviet alert in that area took place in the midst of heightened Soviet global deployments: the Aug. 16 announcement that Shield-84 maneuvers would soon begin in Eastern Europe, the Aug. 8-18 test firings of Soviet missiles in the Pacific, and sharply increased Soviet naval deployments, including a spy ship's approach to the Trident submarine construction area in Washington State on Aug. 15, and the observed passage of a Soviet submarine through the English channel on Aug. 14. It occurred four days after President Reagan's remark about "ordering the bombing of Russia," which the Soviets, Walter Mondale, and other KGB Democrats loudly protested.

### *Soviets, Socialists seek out same Iranian exile*

The Socialist International of François Mitterrand and Andreas Papandreu seems to share an interest with the Soviet Union in cultivating Admiral Madani, the former governor of Iran's Khuzestan province and later defense minister of Iran, now living in Paris, as an "asset" for the post-Khomeini era.

Madani, who went into exile in 1981, two years after Khomeini's seizure of power, recently received a three-man Iranian delegation which asked him to come back to Teheran to mediate a settlement of the war with Iraq. The proposal was being made on behalf of the so-called moderate mullahs such as former Prime Minister Ayatollah Madhavi-Kani who makes no secret of his desire to succeed Khomeini in place of the desig-

nated choice, Montazeri.

Though in exile, Madani has never repudiated the Islamic Republic but only condemned some of its excesses such as the war with Iraq. He is thought to maintain contacts with many officers within Iran. Since he arrived in Paris, the Socialist government of President Mitterrand and Prime Minister Papandreu of Greece have begun to cultivate him as their "asset" for Iran's future. The Soviets have begun asking his advice on the situation as the internal factional fight within Iran is reaching a climax.

### *Gavin spurs tourism boycott of Mexico*

U.S. ambassador to Mexico John Gavin told a forum in Palo Alto, California on Oct. 4, that the embassy is considering putting out a "travel advisory" to U.S. citizens visiting Mexico. He said, "People should be careful when driving in Mexico. Travelers should avoid driving at night, especially alone. They should never sleep in their vehicles along the road."

U.S. businessmen in Mexico warned a few days ago that such alarms are likely to cause a sharp reduction in tourism, which Mexico had expected to increase by 10% this year. There was no legitimate reason for the ambassador to make these statements.

Mexico depends on U.S. tourism for \$2-\$3 billion annually in earnings. According to the World Bank, this is the critical difference which would enable Mexico to weather its debt crisis without a social explosion. While the damage from some economic warfare can be repaired rapidly, harming the tourist industry could take years to reverse.

Gavin also attacked Mexican foreign investment laws as "cumbersome, complicated and conflictive," and said that Mexico "should enter GATT and try to change it from within."

Gavin then reiterated his standard line, "We do not intervene in Mexico's internal affairs. People who make such false statements either do not know the facts or twist the truth."

● **LETTRE D'AFRIQUE**, a confidential Paris-based newsletter, predicts increased rivalry between France and the United States in the wake of the French-Libyan deal and the shameful French withdrawal from Chad. The newsletter says that while Libyan troops may be withdrawing from northern Chad, Libya is actively supporting anti-government commandos in the south, and is sending weapons as well as members of Libya's Islamic Legion into the region to support the rebels against the government. According to the newsletter, Qaddafi has three immediate African targets: Chad, the Central African Republic, and the Sudan.

● **ARAB LEADERS** appealed to Israel's president and prime minister on Oct. 2 to keep militant Rabbi Meir Kahane from entering the Arab village of Taiba to persuade Jewish women to leave their Palestinian husbands. The Arab leaders said Kahane's planned visit to Taiba on Oct. 9 will be "a clear provocation" that would hurt their national feelings.

● **TERRORISTS** in Belgium exploded a bomb that damaged the offices of a division of the U.S. firm Litton Industries on Oct. 2. The firm is involved in defense contracts and development of weapons systems. A group calling itself the "Select Communist Combatants" claimed responsibility for the blast. They claim that Litton is involved in the manufacture of systems like those in the U.S.-made cruise and Pershing-2 missiles that were recently deployed in Western Europe.

● **RADIO MOSCOW** says that the Laotian government has charged Thailand with big "military provocations" against Laos, in a report broadcast on Oct. 5. The Laotians are accusing Thailand of occupying three neighboring towns near the border between the two countries.