

International Intelligence

Israel's Peres makes overture to Palestinians

Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres said on July 28 that he was ready to open peace talks with Palestinians who renounce violence. Peres was reporting to the Israeli Knesset on the content of his discussions the previous week with Moroccan King Hassan. "During the two days we were in Ifrane," he said, "we raised various proposals. . . . We said we were ready to meet immediately with authentic Palestinian representatives, representatives who would be seekers of peace and rejectors of violence."

"We share the same concern as to the future of the region," he said of the Moroccan leader. "What we primarily learned in Ifrane, is that our divergences are primarily in the formulation of our positions."

Recognizing the nature of the Palestinian problem, in a way which is extraordinary for an Israeli head of government, Peres declared, "There are in the territories, hundred of thousands of young Palestinians, born after the 1967 war. They have no memory of the past, no flag, no identity, and no state. But they have nationalist feelings. They speak their languages and yours. Their frustration could lead them to revolt and violence."

Uganda leader hits hypocrisy in Africa

Uganda's new President, Yoweri Museveni, declared in a speech July 29 that the indifference of black African nations to years of massacre and bloodshed in Uganda undermines the continent's moral authority to condemn the policies of the South African government.

In his first speech before the Organization of African Unity (OAU), Museveni said: "Over a period of 20 years, nearly three-quarters of a million Ugandans perished at the hands of governments that should have protected them. Ugandans feel a deep sense of betrayal that most of Africa kept silent while tyrants killed them." He attacked those

Africans who claim that to have condemned former Ugandan leaders Idi Amin and Milton Obote would have been interfering in Uganda's internal affairs. "Tyranny is color-blind, and is no less reprehensible when it is committed by one of our own kind," he said. "We hold this should never be used as a cloak for genocide."

Soviet, U.S. press attack Bolivia's anti-drug fight

The Soviet news agency TASS attacked the recent combined Bolivian-U.S. anti-drug raids, "Operation Blast Furnace," in a July 21 release. TASS quoted an unidentified spokesman for the Bolivian government, saying the effort "proved futile, as neither cocaine nor the equipment for its production were found." Another source said that it "caused unprecedented damage to the sovereignty and independence of the country."

The Soviet press was not alone in its criticism. Consider the following:

- The *New York Times*, July 18: "What of Bolivia's solvency? . . . Who will compensate the peasants who are fiercely attached to the growing of coca plants?"

- The *Washington Post*, July 27: "For now it appears that Bolivian President Victor Paz Estenssoro has gained an edge over cocaine traffickers in his daring decision to attack them and attempt to alter the economics of coca production here. But the triumph is only a first and tentative blow in what has become a two-front war for him. . . . The problem now for Paz Estenssoro is how to revive the legal sectors of the economy."

- The *Christian Science Monitor*, July 30: The cocaine economy is not considered "immoral" in Bolivia. At least 60,000 farmers are dependent on "the informal sector of the economy," and coca paste brings in \$600 million, "about a third more than the country's legal export earnings and as much as one third of Bolivia's gross national product."

- The U.S. ambassador in Bolivia: "What do you do tomorrow if they are successful at fighting the drug trade? The country will collapse."

Spanish parties to join forces against terrorism

Spain's Socialist Prime Minister Felipe González, in a speech on July 22 inaugurating the new parliament, proposed cooperation among all political parties against terrorism. He said that he would take into account the recent proposals of Manuel Fraga, the leader of the conservative opposition party Alianza Popular.

Fraga has proposed a 10-point program against terrorism, which includes outlawing those political parties which support terrorism, increasing the penalties for terrorists, and creating a special magistracy with responsibility for coordinating the anti-terrorist fight.

Fraga's proposal to ban all political parties which support terrorism, is most critical. It would apply to Herri Batasuna, the "legal" parliamentary arm of the Basque ETA terrorists, which regularly takes the side of the terrorists.

On July 28, the parliamentary group of González's Socialist Party (PSOE) announced that they are looking favorably at some of Fraga's proposals.

Collaboration between the Socialists and the conservative Alianza Popular to stop the threat of terrorism would be an important step toward ending the left-right polarization which perpetually destabilizes the Spanish nation, leaving it more and more vulnerable to terrorism.

OAU votes up sanctions against Great Britain

In a surprise move, the Organization of African Unity on July 27 called for a campaign of worldwide diplomatic and economic sanctions against Britain, in protest against London's refusal to impose economic sanctions against South Africa.

After an all-night session, delegates agreed to recommend that governments "exert pressure on the British government with concrete measures of their choice, including

sports boycotts, economic measures and the breaking of diplomatic relations."

The ministers from the 50 OAU member states and organizations also "vigorously condemned" the United States, Great Britain, France, West Germany, and Israel for their "economic and nuclear collaboration with the Pretoria regime."

They also called for an economic boycott of Pretoria, and pledged to increase aid for black guerrillas mounting an armed rebellion against South Africa.

Are the Soviets sending forced labor to Chernobyl?

The East European Solidarity Committee, based in Stockholm, has claimed that at least 1,000 people from Baltic countries have been sent to Chernobyl, the site of a Soviet nuclear accident, to work as forced labor, the Swedish daily *Aftonposten* reported on July 7.

The foreign ministry in Latvia is among those who have issued denials, but Solidarity Committee spokesman Ulo Ignats maintains that the Soviet Army carried out a large-scale mobilization on the night of May 6, a little over a week after the nuclear accident.

Around 300 people from the city of Parnu and around 700 from other places in southern Estonia were sent to Chernobyl to take part in the cleanup work. The same thing is said to have happened later in other Baltic regions.

Scientists discuss U.S.-Soviet Mars mission

Scientists and diplomats from the Soviet Union and the United States are discussing a "joint Russian-American expedition to Mars," the London *Daily Telegraph* reported on July 28.

"The Russians have indicated that they no longer regard continuing American Star Wars research as an obstacle to cooperation in civilian space projects," wrote *Telegraph*

science correspondent Adrian Berry. The director of the research institute of the Soviet Academy of Sciences, Roald Sagdeyev, "has approached several American scientists and officials, proposing some repetition of the joint Apollo-Soyuz earth orbital flight of 1975."

"In the plan now being considered, an unmanned Russian ship would fly to Phobos, one of the two tiny moons of Mars, carrying an American scout ship. The American craft would descend to the Martian surface and pick up rock and other samples. It would then return to the Russian mother ship, and the samples would be examined by analyzing machines. Neither ship would return from space, and data would be sent to earth by radio."

West Germans weigh moves to halt refugees

The Bonn government should consider economic measures against East Germany if it fails to halt a flood of refugees into the West, said the spokesman on inter-German affairs for the Christian Democratic Union party on July 28. According to Eduard Lintner, more than 43,000 refugees, mostly from Middle East and African

West Germany this year—half of them through East Berlin.

West Germany's interior minister, Friedrich Zimmerman of the Christian Social Union party, charged on July 30 that Moscow is using the mass influx of refugees in an effort to destabilize the Federal Republic.

Most are brought to East Berlin via East bloc airlines, and are then transported by bus to the West. Since there are no passport controls at the sector borders of the city of Berlin, more than 20,000 refugees from Lebanon, Iran, Ghana, Sri Lanka, and Pakistan have been able to enter the Western sectors since January 1986. Zimmermann charged that this was clearly aimed at the "political destabilization of the Federal Republic on a very sensitive issue such as the asylum question—a method which may have been taken from a KGB manual for destabilization."

Briefly

● **EAST GERMANY** has recalled its ambassador to Peru, the Lima daily *Expreso* reported on July 26, citing sources in the Peruvian foreign ministry. The move follows two official requests by the Peruvian government for an explanation of the role of two East German state-run companies in shipping 250 tons of Soviet-made weapons into Peruvian waters in June.

● **JACQUES CHIRAC**, the French premier, is too busy to accept Soviet leader Gorbachov's invitation to Moscow, he said in a speech July 21: "I received an official invitation from Mr. Gorbachov to go to Moscow and I have received many other invitations to go to many other capitals. In the current state of affairs, I have deferred these because, quite simply, I have lots of work to do."

● **U.S. AMBASSADOR** to Zambia Paul Hare met on July 30 with three senior officials of the Soviet-controlled terrorist organization of South Africa, the African National Congress, at the ANC's Lusaka headquarters. Neither side would comment on who asked for the meeting or what was discussed.

● **WILLY BRANDT**, chairman of West Germany's Social Democratic Party, in an interview published in the Soviet weekly *Literaturnaya Gazeta* on July 30, criticized the United States for waging "a crusade against communism." "Looking back," he said, "it is appropriate to recall the realism of a Nixon and a Kissinger," who had a positive approach on the Soviets.

● **CIA DIRECTOR** William Casey sent an American senator to Italy in the spring on 1983 to pressure the Italian government to drop investigations of the Bulgarian connection to the attempted assassination of Pope John Paul II, an informed source told *EIR*. Magistrate Ilario Martella reportedly refused, at first, but was then forced to "collaborate" with Bulgarian magistrates.