

# International Intelligence

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## **Howe demands end to SDI research**

British Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe told the International Institute of Strategic Studies in London Jan. 27, "Overconcentration on military technology, to the detriment of civilian research and development, is unhealthy to the economy as a whole."

"Howe Takes Issue with Weinberger on Space Weapons," headlined the Jan. 28 *Guardian*, commenting on Howe's speech. It called the speech "an urgent warning to the U.S. administration to take no precipitate actions over the deployment of space weapons."

Howe's speech stressed repeatedly that the West "can no longer afford a large-scale military-technology development program."

The former Chancellor of the Exchequer said: "We have to accept that not everything technically possible may be affordable or prudent. . . . Arms control holds out the hope of freeing resources in tight national budgets for other uses."

"In theory, the East or West could build weapons that go to the outer limits of technology," but "neither side has limitless resources. Somewhere the spending has to stop. . . . Economic realities are just as real in the military domain as they are in the marketplace."

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## **Call for Israeli policy reassessment**

"Recent developments in the Iran-Iraq war should lead Jerusalem to reconsider its attitude towards the two belligerents" in the Gulf War, writes Israeli commentator Arye Naor in the Jan. 23 *Jerusalem Post*. Iraq should be seen by Israel as the "better bet."

Until now, under the sway of the Ariel Sharon faction, Israel has been arming and supporting Iran.

Naor says that now is the "proper time, perhaps even a unique opportunity, for a

reassessment of our basic strategy. . . . Israel needs an innovative approach in its policy-making, which will use the peace with Egypt in order to broaden diplomatic horizons. . . . But time is short. A massive Iranian victory on the Basra front, could have grievous implications for the prospects of the peace process. . . .

".. The belief that once Khomeini dies, Khomeinism will vanish, is based on wishful thinking. . . . Iran has developed a Muslim identity, based on fundamentalist ideology according to which Israel is no less than the incarnation of Satan on earth."

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## **Genscher negotiates over German hostages**

The German foreign ministry has established direct contacts with the Iranian government, according to news reports in Bonn—allegedly in an attempt to free two German hostages in Beirut.

The German ambassador in Lebanon, Antonius Eitel, is reported to have met with Sheikh Mohamad Fadlallah, leader of the Shi'ite Hezbollah (Party of God) in Lebanon, in an effort to secure the release of Rudolf Cordes and Alfred Schmit.

Genscher first let it be known that the foreign ministry was "trying to establish" direct contact with the Iranian Revolutionary Guards in Teheran. Then, Iranian Speaker of the House Hashemi Rafsanjani announced that the German government had asked him personally to mediate in the affair.

It has now been admitted by Genscher that he sent a ranking ministry official, Middle East section head Reinhard Schlagintweit, to Teheran to meet with Rafsanjani.

Experts point out that Genscher has had a secret agreement with the Khomeini regime to permit the Iranian secret service to build up a terrorist apparatus in Germany, on condition that no assassinations occur on German soil. But, on Jan. 13, German authorities arrested Hezbollah terrorist Mohamad Ali Hamadei, wanted for the July 1985

TWA hijacking and murder of a U.S. Navy Seal. Only three days later, Ali Akbar Mo-hamadi, former personal pilot of Rafsanjani, was shot dead by two terrorists in Hamburg. On Jan. 17, Cordes was taken hostage in Beirut, and on Jan. 21, Schmit was seized.

What price is Genscher willing to pay? No doubt, the foreign minister would like to sweep the answer under a Persian carpet.

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## **U.S. aid cut-off halts Bolivian anti-drug war**

Bolivia's war on drugs ground to a halt Jan. 1, when the United States "inexplicably" cut off funding for the helicopters which the Bolivian Air Force was using against cocaine producers and traffickers, Army Commander Gen. Jorge Rodríguez and Foreign Minister Guillermo Bedregal told the press Jan. 27.

Bedregal said a "serious relationship" is needed between the two countries if the war on drugs is to be prosecuted. He denounced the U.S. action, saying that because of the aid cut-off, numerous actions planned by the Air Force against cocaine producers and traffickers did not take place.

General Rodríguez, commander of the Army, told the Bolivian daily *Hoy* that the United States halted aid for "inexplicable reasons." Because of it, the Air Force had been placed outside the anti-drug struggle.

Both spokesman stressed that the anti-drug fight remained a "high priority" for the Bolivian government, but the U.S. attitude could seriously hinder the policy.

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## **Push soap opera as population control**

Chicago's MacArthur Foundation has made a grant for the propagation of soap opera in the Third World, as the preferred medium to push "population control" policies, the *Daily Mail* of London reported Jan. 28. The

Foundation is giving 4 million pounds sterling-equivalent to promote "population control soap operas" in Africa, South America, and elsewhere.

Part of the grant is going to the New York-based Center for Population Communications, headed by David Poindexter, who told the *Mail*, "The Foundation wanted a new approach, something that might create a breakthrough."

Poindexter will be developing a television series, gathering writers and producers to test the concept of the "educational soap opera" in Kenya, Brazil, Nigeria, Zaire, Turkey, India, Indonesia, Egypt, the Philippines, and other countries "that together account for half the population growth of the Third World."

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### *Associate of Haig and Kissinger may spill beans*

"Now they will hear me, especially Haig. We will speak in front of the judges. We will speak about certain political assassinations committed abroad," declared Francesco Pazienza, an Italian associate of former U.S. secretaries of state Alexander Haig and Henry Kissinger.

Pazienza is under arrest and waiting to testify before a Bologna, Italy court in the trial of the terrorists accused of the massacre-bombing of the Bologna train station on Aug. 2, 1980. Reportedly, that atrocity, which killed 81 people, was planned by the Monte Carlo Freemasonic Lodge, a section of the notorious Propaganda-2 (P-2) lodge.

Run by former Mussolini-era torturer Licio Gelli, P-2 was broken up within a week of the first assassination attempt against the Pope in 1981. It was implicated in both "left" and "right" terrorism, drug- and gun-running, and illegal flight-capital operations. Numerous high-level political, business, military, and intelligence figures were sent to jail or became fugitives.

Both Henry Kissinger and Alexander Haig are said to be members of the Monte Carlo Lodge. After P-2's exposure, Haig

dispatched aid Michael Ledeen to Rome, a trip reportedly aimed at covering up as much of the scandal as possible.

Pazienza, thanks to the sponsorship of Gelli, Haig, Kissinger, and Italy's current foreign minister, Giulio Andreotti, became the behind-the-scenes boss of the Italian secret services during the early-1980s period of the bombing and exposure of P-2. He reportedly worked directly with Ledeen on the cover-up assignment.

Pazienza gave no indication of what "assassinations committed abroad" he had in mind. But after P-2's exposure, one member of the lodge, Banco Ambrosiano head Roberto Calvi, was murdered, Freemasonic-ritual style, his body found hanging under Blackfriars Bridge in London.

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### *García in India: 'Ignore the IMF'*

Peruvian President Alan García arrived in India on Jan. 23 for that nation's independence celebrations two days later. He hailed India for embodying "the will of a nation, which despite its limitations, advanced toward technological modernity, toward economic, agricultural, cybernetic, and nuclear independence."

He recalled Nehru's struggle against colonialism, and asked, "Will we obey those who set high interest rates on money? Will we obey those who give us norms of material consumption, who sell us arms and foment divisions among us? Let's tell them we will not obey their commandments, because they are unjust. We will tell them that from now on, we are going to disobey the rules of their system, because it is an irrational and inhuman system."

During a Jan. 25 press conference in New Delhi, García heaped scorn on the International Monetary Fund. "We will pay when we develop . . . have wealth, and when we have satisfied internal debts to our people." He closed with the dictum: "The best response to the IMF is to ignore it."

## Briefly

● **QUEEN ELIZABETH II** gave a royal medal Jan. 26 to Malcolm Williamson, her chapel-master and official court composer, only three days after Williamson had denounced Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher as a "stupid dog."

● **MICHEL FOUCAULT**, founder of the sociological school of "Structuralism," died last year, and the cause may have been AIDS. Pasteur Institute researchers have indicated to the media that "Foucault was one of the very first in France to die of AIDS." One foreign expert on Foucault's work commented: "Well, structuralism is a kind of safe sex. Obviously, it didn't help."

● **THE KREMLIN** has created a new foreign ministry department to deal with the Scandinavian countries and Great Britain as a single unit. This would correspond to a similar division within the Soviet KGB, in which one separate department deals with Scandinavia and Britain.

● **BORIS PANKIN**, Soviet ambassador to Sweden, will figure into a libel case in London dealing with matters of Soviet espionage. *To Ethnos*, a Soviet-funded paper in Greece, decided to sue *The Economist* "Foreign Reports" newsletter for claiming Pankin ran an international espionage network of which *To Ethnos* was part. Hearings in the case begin Feb. 9.

● **CENTRAL AMERICA** may be invaded through Honduras, according to the talk in Texas, say two political sources in Austin. Rumors are fairly widespread that the United States is preparing either an invasion of Nicaragua or a considerably increased military presence on the U.S. southern border and inside Honduras. Since it is expected Congress will kill aid to the Contras, such action might be the administration's response.