

# International Intelligence

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## Weinberger: No moderate elements in Iran

"I did not and still do not believe there is any 'moderate' element in Iran that is still alive," U.S. Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger testified to the congressional Iran-Contra committee on July 31, explaining his long-standing opposition to the sale of arms to Iran.

Weinberger explained that the intelligence assessment presented to him first in May 1985, justifying an overture toward "moderate" elements in the Iranian government, contradicted numerous intelligence readings he had received up to that time from both the CIA and the Defense Intelligence Agency. He said he had argued against the initiative on numerous occasions.

Weinberger added that the late CIA director William Casey was motivated to support the initiative out of concern for his kidnapped Lebanese station chief, William Buckley, and because he felt the initiative would achieve "intelligence gains" inside Iran.

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## 'Nazi-hunters' now target Britain

The Simon Wiesenthal Center (SWC) in Los Angeles has declared war against Britain as part of an alleged quest for Nazi war criminals. According to *Jerusalem Post* correspondent David Horowitz, "There has never been a Nazi war crimes trial in Britain, and no alleged Nazi has ever been investigated by the British government."

The SWC last year compiled a list of 17 alleged war criminals in Britain. Simultaneously—some believe by no accident—the Soviet Union has named 34 other "Nazi criminals" it says are in Britain. The Polish government claims that as many as 5,200 alleged Nazis fled to Britain after the war.

Among those being sought for extradition to Israel is the Lithuanian Antanas Gecas. According to *Jerusalem Post* writer Efraim Zuroff, the British government will now launch its own investigation of Gecas, a retired mining engineer living in Edinburgh.

The *Jerusalem Post* says that Israel has formally requested his extradition, after submitting to the British government a hefty dossier on Gecas, accused of murdering Lithuanian Jews during the war. A delegation from the SWC is scheduled to visit Israel soon to discuss the case.

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## General Galvin hails zero option

NATO'S new supreme commander in Europe, Gen. John Galvin, arrived in Bonn for an official visit on July 28, to confer with Defense Minister Manfred Wörner and the inspector-general of the West German Armed Forces, Adm. Dieter Wellershoff.

The trip to Bonn, the first official act by Galvin in his new function, was officially intended to underline that NATO considers West Germany its most important ally in Europe.

But General Galvin's first statement was to announce his support for the zero-option arms-control treaty, which his predecessor, Gen. Bernard Rogers, had so vociferously opposed. NATO strategy will not be jeopardized by a treaty to withdraw intermediate-range nuclear missiles, he said. The threat to Western Europe posed by the Soviet SS-20s and other missiles would be reduced, and the West should take "compensatory measures"—principally conventional weapons—to fill the void left by the elimination of the Pershing II and cruise missiles, he added.

The German government is particularly concerned that the withdrawal of American missiles will leave Germany defenseless in the face of overwhelming Soviet conventional superiority.

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## Germany's Genscher intercedes for Iranian

West German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher has personally interceded with a court in Dusseldorf to have an outstanding arrest warrant against Iranian drug-runner and terrorist controller Sadegh Tabatabai dropped.

Tabatabai, a son-in-law of the Ayatollah Khomeini, was arrested with illegal drugs in his "diplomatic pouch" at Dusseldorf Airport in January 1983, but was permitted to leave the country without trial, at the insistence of the foreign ministry. But despite Genscher's protection for him then, the warrant for his arrest had he re-entered Germany had remained in effect until now.

In having the warrant dropped, Genscher, who has been heavily criticized for his pro-Iranian policy, argued that Tabatabai must be able to move freely in and out of Germany to help mediate negotiations over German hostages in Lebanon. The foreign ministry and the mullahcracy in Teheran recently agreed to make Tabatabai a special envoy for this purpose.

German citizens Rudolf Cordes and Alfred Schmidt are currently being held hostage by Iranian-controlled Hezbollah terrorists in Lebanon.

Tabatabai was named in the Tower Commission's April report on the Iran-Contra affair as a go-between for many surreptitious dealings between Iran, Germany, Switzerland, and the United States.

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## Demjanjuk denies he is 'Ivan the Terrible'

John Demjanjuk, the retired Detroit auto-worker on trial in Israel as Nazi war criminal "Ivan the Terrible," solely on the basis of Soviet-supplied evidence, took the stand July 26 for the first time.

Demjanjuk testified that he was not the "Ivan" of the Treblinka death camp, and that he had never been at Treblinka during the war.

Demjanjuk's Israeli attorney, Yoram Sheftel, denounced the charges against his client as being solely based on a fraudulent ID card manufactured by the Soviet KGB. Sheftel also denounced the U.S. Justice Department's Office of Special Investigations as willfully suppressing evidence proving that the evidence against Demjanjuk is a KGB fraud.

The OSI was also responsible for the deportation to the Soviet Union of U.S. citizen Karl Linnas, without any judicial due

## Briefly

● A 'MOST WANTED' West German terrorist is living in Damascus, Syria, according to a leak from the German Federal Prosecutor's office. Susanne Albrecht is wanted in the assassination of Jürgen Ponto, President of Dresdner Bank, on July 30, 1977. She now works with an Islamic terrorist group.

● INDIAN POLICE went on full alert July 30 in anticipation of more communal violence, after the assassination of two leaders of the right-wing Hindu chauvinist RSS organization in New Delhi. The murders are being attributed to Sikh extremists.

● AN AIDS DRUG is being tested in space by the Soviet Union, according to *Jane's Space Flight Directory*. Work on producing "super-pure" medicines is being conducted aboard the Mir permanent space station. Many drugs, including Thymosin, with application to treatment of the immune system for AIDS, can only be produced on Earth with impurities.

● LOTHAR SPAETH, the Minister President of Baden-Württemberg, is acting like he will be the next Chancellor of West Germany. He met with Czech Foreign Minister Chnoupek and party officials in Prague July 27, before official meetings in Budapest. Earlier, Spaeth toured East Germany "privately." On Aug. 25-26, Spaeth will host India's Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi. Gandhi will see Spaeth before he sees Chancellor Helmut Kohl.

● EUGENE METHVEN, the author of a slander of Lyndon LaRouche which appeared in the *Readers' Digest* last summer, is reported to have been in Peru for the past month, working on plans to destabilize the government of President Alan García. Methven, an associate of High Frontier's Lt. Gen. (ret.) Danny Graham, is a co-director of the Nathan Hale Institute.

process in the United States, solely on Soviet insistence that he was war criminal.

Sheftel's charges against the OSI have received wide play in Israel, as have the rantings of former OSI director Allan Ryan, now in Israel, defending the integrity of the OSI.

### **IBM's Watson in dealings with Moscow**

Thomas Watson, the former head of IBM who was Jimmy Carter's ambassador to Moscow, has worked out an agreement for collaboration between Brown University's Center for Foreign Policy Development and Georgi Arbatov's U.S.A.-Canada Institute in Moscow. Watson serves as chairman of the Brown think tank.

Under the agreement with top Soviet "America handler" Arbatov, the two institutions will co-sponsor two conferences a year focusing on relations between the superpowers. They may also sponsor a TV satellite hookup.

Watson visited the Soviet capital on July 10 to sign the agreement, and was received by Soviet President Andrei Gromyko, with Arbatov present.

The visit was part of a special plane flight Watson was making to "remind the public of cooperation with the Soviet Union in defeating fascism during World War II". Watson helped organize the transport of military and other cargoes from the United States to the Soviet Union via Alaska during the war. His current flight will take him across Siberia to Alaska.

Gromyko wished him well, said *Pravda*.

### **Nicaraguan delegation visits Teheran**

A large delegation from the Nicaraguan Council of State (parliament) arrived in Teheran, Iran on July 23, beginning a tour of the Middle East. The delegation was led by Carlos Nuñez Tellez, president of the council.

Talks were held with Iran President

Khamenei and Speaker of Parliament Hashemi Rafsanjani, and reportedly focused on the Iran-Contra affair. A joint statement described the scandal as a "miserable American plot which has backfired and irreparably damaged the Reagan administration."

Rafsanjani claimed that when he found out that the money Iran was paying for U.S. arms went to the Contras, some \$15 million in payments due was withheld.

Among the Nicaraguan delegation was "Padre" Ernesto Cardenal, who announced that "revolutionary Muslims and Christians have to integrate under the leadership of Imam Khomeini and "inflict a heavy blow on imperialism and reactionaries here and there, throughout the world."

Cardenal was a Jesuit priest until the Vatican defrocked him for refusing to resign from the Nicaraguan government.

### **Germany won't send ships to Gulf, but. . .**

West Germany will not dispatch any of its naval fleet to the Persian Gulf, but it will may act to make that task easier for the United States, France, and Britain, all of whom have deployed task forces into the Gulf to protect shipping against Iranian attacks.

"It can be ruled out that German vessels will be deployed to the Persian Gulf," said Horst Prayon, spokesman for the West German defense ministry. He had been asked at a press conference about the possible deployment of German minesweepers to Middle East waters.

But neither Prayon nor Kurt Würzbach, undersecretary of defense, would rule out a different kind of useful role for the German navy. Germany may, they indicated, deploy vessels into the North Atlantic, for example, to relieve the United States and Britain of tasks there, thus enabling the allies to send more vessels to the Gulf.

"There is no decision on that question yet," said Würzbach.

Defense Minister Manfred Wörner is expected to discuss this matter with U.S. Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger during his visit to the United States in early August.