

International Intelligence

Threats against British officials multiply

A bizarre series of security-related incidents has recently targeted British government officials.

- The wife of former Northern Ireland Secretary James Prior was mugged, and her personal diary stolen, which contained secret telephone numbers of many members of the British Cabinet, according to the Sept. 18 *Daily Mail*. Scotland Yard's Special Branch is now investigating the case, including what threat the robbery poses to government officials. Prior himself had been frequently threatened by the Irish Republican Army.

- Earlier in September, the chauffeur of Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe was slashed in the throat as he waited for the minister outside a restaurant in West London.

- Northern Ireland Secretary Tom King was recently the target of a murder plot uncovered by security forces.

- British sources tell *EIR* that the security threat to Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher is reaching an unprecedented level, as threats against her life multiply.

Iran seeking arms, Israel obliging

Despite the virtual state of war that now exists between Iran and the Western powers, Israel is continuing to sell arms to Iran, according to the *Turkish Daily News* of Ankara. The newspaper says that most negotiations between Israeli arms merchants and the Iranians have been held through Iran's ambassador to Turkey, Manushehr Mottaki, who has been traveling back and forth to Israel.

In exchange for Israeli arms shipments, Teheran is reported promising to allow up to 30,000 Iranian Jews to leave Iran. A reception center for the promised emigrés has been established in Istanbul by a leading Jewish businessman in Turkey.

The report, if true, places Israel squarely against efforts by Western intelligence services to prevent Iran's resupply. Italy's Borletti and Sweden's Bofors-Nobel scandals, like the U.S. Irangate, were intentionally sprung to prevent Iran from resupplying itself for a major ground offensive in November, according to U.S. intelligence sources. As a result of the scandals, believed to have been triggered by National Security Adviser Frank Carlucci's recent European trip, it is expected that Iranian President Ali Khomeini will use his current U.N. trip to buy time, and to prepare new arms channels for heavy military equipment.

Among the steps afoot, Iran's new ambassador to Switzerland, Hussein Malayek, has created several companies there in the last eight months to buy weapons in Europe, reports the Sept. 14 issue of *al Qabas*. A Teheran-based businessman named Reda Rahimzadeh, director of Tri-C, Ltd. in Iran, has been made the director of two of the new Switzerland-based firms, Three M-D-Export, Ltd. in Zurich, and Maya and Partners Cie. in Lausanne.

On Sept. 2, the *Saudi Gazette* pointed to Malayek as a member of Teheran's International Council of the Islamic Revolution. He was to become ambassador to Britain, but the British government refused to accredit him. One of his assistants in Berne is reportedly Manuchur Manola, a nephew of Iranian Attorney General Mohammed Gilani.

Lord Rothschild pushed back into the news

Somebody in Britain is trying to push the matter of Lord Victor Rothschild's Russian connections back into the news in Britain. The humor magazine *Private Eye*, which, as its name indicates, has more than passing connections to the intelligence community, wryly comments that the British government's attempts to suppress a book by a former intelligence officer contrast unfavorably with the refusal to investigate the suspect aristocrat.

Peter Wright's *Spycatcher* book reveals

things the government doesn't want known. The "major anomaly" in this, says the magazine, is "the curious non-prosecution of Lord Rothschild."

Rothschild had arranged for "revelations" to come out about Soviet agents in British intelligence, precisely to focus attention away from himself. However, the magazine adds, the real question with Rothschild is not whether he was a Russian agent, but that he was an "open champion" of closer British collaboration with Russia, especially in the field of information-sharing, during World War II. After World War II, Rothschild kept up his Russophile attitudes, and worked with key individuals in the pro-Soviet faction of the British Labour Party.

Despite all this, the British authorities don't seem to have "remotely the same outrage against a blue-blooded and beloved Establishment figure" like Rothschild, as they do with former MI-5 officer Wright.

Baltic issue isn't dying down

The issue of the sovereignty of captive Baltic nations and Soviet defense of the Hitler-Stalin Pact which permitted their invasion in 1939, remains a hot issue in Europe.

A resolution introduced in the European Parliament, denouncing the Hitler-Stalin Pact and the Soviet occupation and annexation of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania, was voted down through the joint efforts of Socialist and Communist deputies in Brussels Sept. 21.

The resolution, which lost by only one vote, 90-89, called on the foreign ministers of the 12 European Community nations to raise the issue of Baltic sovereignty with the Kremlin.

Had the resolution not been defeated, an upcoming visit of an official Soviet delegation to the community's headquarters at Brussels, would no doubt have been canceled by the Russians.

Meanwhile, in Paris, a leaflet signed by the "House of the Baltic Countries and International Resisters" depicts a the Hitler-Stalin Pact by a swastika next to a hammer

Briefly

● **THE TURKISH** Foreign Ministry Sept. 17 protested the firing on and sinking of a small Turkish fishing boat by a Bulgarian coastal patrol boat Sept. 14. Turkey says the incident occurred in Turkish territorial waters, near the Bulgarian border. There were no casualties, but three Turkish fishermen were taken captive. Bulgaria has not responded.

● **THE PANAMANIAN** Foreign Ministry has justified its arrest of U.S. commercial attaché David Miller for trying to incite a riot, saying that it "regrets" the arrest, but was justified under the Vienna Convention governing foreign diplomats' interference in a nation's internal affairs. Miller and two other U.S. embassy officials, John Maisto and Visa Williamson, make up a "triumvirate of destabilizers," added Panama's *Critica* Sept. 18. The three were in the Philippines to unseat Marcos, then went to Haiti to overthrow Jean-Claude Duvalier.

● **DUNHILL** is the latest distinguished British name, "joining Guinness, Channon, Macmillan, Blandford, Tennant, and Parkinson, on the list of top families tarnished by the drug scourge," reports the British *Daily Mail*. The heir to the Dunhill tobacco fortune, Christopher, was sentenced to two years in jail for dealing in cocaine and handling stolen property. Dunhill, 32, had a \$250-a-week cocaine habit.

● **THE SEIZURE** of the Lebanese ship *Boustany*, which was carrying illegal weapons and drugs, at the Italian port of Bari on Sept. 2, was the result of cooperation between French and American intelligence sources, *EIR* has learned. An unnamed diplomatic source told Italy's *La Repubblica* that the cargo was destined for France. As reported in *EIR*'s Sept. 18 issue, page 46, the raid opened up the European side of the "Irangate" scandal.

and sickle. The text quotes Hitler: "We feel ourselves to be linked to Bolshevism more than separated from it."

U.S. jets turn back Russian fighters

Two U.S. jet fighters Sept. 18 intercepted and turned back a rarely encountered Soviet Ilyushin IL-20 spy plane in the Chukchi Sea 70 miles southwest of Cape Lisburne on Alaska's northwest coast, according to a Sept. 22 UPI wire.

It was the 23rd time this year that Air Force jet fighters have intercepted Soviet aircraft in international air space around the perimeter of Alaska. A total of 42 Soviet planes were involved in the incidents, but this was only the second time this year that an Ilyushin IL-20 had been encountered—and only the fourth time since 1980 that these planes have been caught flying near Alaska.

The Soviet planes have never penetrated U.S. airspace, but have remained in international airspace.

Soviets keep up slanders of LaRouche, despite trial

The Soviet weekly *New Times*, currently facing judgment in France in a libel suit brought by Lyndon LaRouche and the Parti Ouvrier Européen (European Labor Party), has again leveled slanderous charges against LaRouche's European co-thinkers.

New Times, distributed in nine foreign languages including English and French, was taken to court in July for its September 1986 article which defamed LaRouche and the European Labor Party as "Nazis without swastika," and "capable of being used for the assassination of progressive personalities," such as the late Swedish Premier Olof Palme.

In issue No. 37, dated Sept. 21, 1987, the magazine's new Stockholm correspondent, Alexander Polyukhov, links the European Labor Party with the assassination of

Swedish Prime Minister Olof Palme—a charge that first surfaced through Soviet assets in the West shortly after the Palme murder in February 1986. The allegation was subsequently determined to be strictly Soviet disinformation directed against the Soviet's main opposition in the West, and was discredited by Swedish police.

Nevertheless *New Times*'s Polyukhov now writes: "The nation [of Sweden] learned with a shudder not only of the murder and the inability of the police to find the criminal, but of the previously unknown [sic] extremist groups and organizations revealed during the course of the investigation. Among them were the European Working Party [sic] and the Swedish Party, which take a racist stand and have links with fascist groups abroad. Some police officers and civil servants have also proved to be right-wing extremists."

Rumors of Gorbachov assassination attempt

August 7 was the last time Mikhail Gorbachov was seen in public—the longest period of time the Russian leader has been out of the public eye since he became Communist Party leader in March 1985—fueling speculation on his health, including rumors of a murder attempt.

New York Gov. Mario Cuomo, on tour in the Soviet Union, has not seen Gorbachov, being told a meeting could not be arranged—despite the well known Russian practice of treating liberal American presidential prospects like royalty. Gorbachov has also missed several public events that he would normally be expected to attend.

The West German daily *Bild Zeitung* reported Sept. 21 an unconfirmed rumor that the Soviet leader fell ill from food poisoning while vacationing in the Crimea and was hospitalized briefly. The paper also said that Russian authorities were investigating whether the food poisoning was an attempted assassination.

Soviet Foreign Ministry press spokesman Boris Pyadyshev said only that Gorbachov was "still on vacation."