

International Intelligence

Philippines military to call up reservists

Some 45,000 military reservists in the Philippines will be called for active duty this year to form new community self-defense groups called Citizens Armed Force Geographical Units (CAFGU), which will replace the Civilian Home Defense Forces (CHDF). This was reported in the *Philippines Daily Globe* on Feb. 8.

Sources at Camp Aguinaldo said that many more reservists will have to be activated, because the program requires the deployment of at least one 600-man CAFGU battalion in each of the 75 provinces.

Brig. Gen. Honesto Isleta, Armed Forces deputy chief of staff for civilian-military operations, said that preparations were being made for the organization of one or two squads of 12 men each in every district, and two platoons of 32 men each or a company-size force of three platoons in every town or city.

While the military tries to deal with the communist insurgency, the Philippines House of Representatives was split in a vote Feb. 4, on whether or not to retain the U.S. military bases in the country.

According to the *Manila Bulletin*, Speaker Ramon V. Mitra, Jr. led the group of pro-administration congressmen in urging the ouster of the bases, while Minority Floor Leader Rodolfo Abano (KBL) and many independents moved for their retention. But both leaders stressed that the Philippines should get what it deserves in rental and other forms of compensation, comparable to amounts received by other nations hosting U.S. bases.

Europeans condemn plan for U.S. withdrawal

European officials have "unanimously condemned the views advanced by Mr. Iklé," concerning the withdrawal of the U.S. nuclear umbrella from Western Europe, the British newspaper the *Independent* reported

on Feb. 12.

Fred Iklé, U.S. assistant secretary of defense for policy, was the co-chairman, with Prof. Albert Wohlstetter, of the U.S. Commission on Integrated Long-Term Strategy, which on Jan. 12 released its report, "Discriminate Deterrence," which concluded that it would be suicidal for the United States to go to nuclear war with the Soviet Union, in order to defend Europe.

The *Independent* cites a West German Army source, that Iklé went on a "damage-control tour" of Europe, following the initial stunned reaction to the report. But, says defense correspondent John Eisenhammer, Iklé "failed to ease West European worries." One unnamed senior adviser at the French foreign ministry is quoted, saying the report is "bad," and provides further evidence of the "unreliability" of American thinking on European defense.

Comments Eisenhammer: "At the recent Wehrkunde meeting on defense in Munich, West German delegates expressed the hope to U.S. Defense Secretary Frank Carlucci, that the report would never become official policy. In Europe, Mr. Iklé said that he expected some of it would. . . . The suggestion that NATO could fight and even win a conventional war in Europe, with the benefit of new high-technology weaponry, is seen in European NATO capitals as impossible."

Left-right polarization takes off in Argentina

As Argentina's economic and political crisis intensifies, radical groups on the left and right are mobilizing to further destabilize the nation.

In the aftermath of an unsuccessful military coup attempt in January, three Army officers have announced that they are going "underground . . . to fight Marxism." One has said he recognizes only Col. Aldo Rico, the imprisoned leader of the mutiny, as head of the Army.

The model for the move is the Secret Army Organization (OAS) of the 1950s, which spearheaded French atrocities in Al-

geria and then tried to assassinate President Charles de Gaulle on numerous occasions. The scenario is to try to draw in as much of the military as possible, especially its more nationalist wing, around the issues of the continuing collapse of Army prestige under the Alfonsín government, the constant cutting of the military budget, and other grievances.

The other half of the operation is to create a leftist movement, which has already been launched in the form of a coalition called "Movimientos Todos Por la Patria" (MTP) (Movement of Everyone for the Fatherland), which includes elements of the Montoneros guerrillas and Communist Party-ecologist groups.

French strategist exposes Soviet designs on Europe

Mikhail Gorbachov is "on the verge of a major diplomatic offensive toward Western Europe," warned Pierre Lellouche, deputy director of the French Institute for International Relations, in a commentary in the *International Herald Tribune* Feb. 12, under the heading, "Architect Gorbachov Has Designs on Europe." He compared Gorbachov's actions to the Stalin Note of 1952.

"After the new Cold War of the early 1980s, we are now back in the golden days of 1970s-style 'détente,'" Lellouche wrote. "Meanwhile, the Soviets have pocketed key strategic advantages: elimination of Pershing and cruise missiles will weaken, perhaps irreversibly, America's nuclear commitment to Europe; the much-feared Strategic Defense Initiative is unlikely to fly in any big way, given the compromise reached on the 1972 ABM treaty and cuts in defense funding by the U.S. Senate; East-West trade is picking up again, and even CoCom rules are being relaxed. . . ."

"The catch phrase for this new Soviet drive is 'common European home'. . . . To its potential European tenants, the architecture of the common European home will look quite familiar—not much different in fact from the *dacha* originally proposed by

Stalin and Rapacki in the 1950s. Basically, Western Europe would be denuclearized and quasi-demilitarized, U.S. troops would have gone home and the 'blocs' would have been dismantled. . . .

"The Soviets would have the largest room in the house, and of course the yard as well—meaning the rest of Soviet possessions around the world. . . .

"The Soviets have their building schedule ready. With the INF treaty ratified and the START treaty signed, the next step will be the opening this year of a Europe-wide disarmament conference, combined in one way or another with talks on the reduction of tactical nuclear arms. . . .

"Like it or not, the battle opened by the INF affair is by no means over. The big test of European and alliance unity is still to come."

Did spetsnaz 'invade' island near Alaska?

Under the headline, "Russian Commandos 'Invade' U.S. Isle," the *Daily Mail* of London reported on Feb. 12 that "startling evidence of a Soviet commando 'invasion' of the U.S." has been found on St. Lawrence Island, near Siberia. Pieces of Soviet uniforms, a half-buried life raft, a gas mask, and fresh footprints were discovered.

"U.S. officials suspect," according to the paper, "that a unit of Soviet spetsnaz commandos landed on the island to conduct some sort of exercise. They were probably landed from a submarine after an aircraft circled the island photographing suitable beach landing areas."

Maj. Gen. John Schaeffer, commander of the Alaska National Guard, is quoted, "The circumstantial evidence is that the Soviets are conducting some sort of activity on the island. They are doing it around the world—in Scandinavia and the Philippines—so why not here?"

Sgt. Renard Nichols is also quoted, on the sighting of frogmen in the area. "When we hear about frogmen and there aren't any fishing boats around, that sets the alarm bells ringing."

In a related development, two U.S. Air Force F-15 jet fighters intercepted a Soviet short-range transport plane off the southwest coast of Alaska on Feb. 14. The F-15s escorted the Soviet aircraft for about an hour. So far this year, six Soviet planes have been intercepted in four separate incidents in the region, according to a spokesman for the Alaskan Air Command.

Kohl tells U.S. Senate: Ratify INF treaty

West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl, during a visit to Washington, D.C. on Feb. 19, met with numerous U.S. senators to lobby for ratification of the U.S.-Soviet treaty on withdrawing nuclear missiles from Europe. He also addressed the House and Senate Foreign Relations Committees. Kohl met privately with Sens. Robert Byrd (D-WV), Robert Dole (R-Kans.), and Jesse Helms (R-N.C.). Helms, a critic of the treaty, was "deeply impressed by the German chancellor's arguments for the INF treaty," according to news reports in Germany.

At a press conference on Feb. 19, Kohl was asked by *EIR*'s Nicholas F. Benton to comment on the "Discriminate Deterrence" report of the U.S. Commission on Long-Term Integrated Strategy—a report which advocates the lifting of the U.S. nuclear umbrella from Europe. He replied that it was "not his purpose here" to discuss the report, since it was prepared by persons out of political office. But he added that "there must be no zones of different security in NATO. . . . We must see defense as one whole—indivisible."

Kohl said that NATO was a "community of shared risks; this is particularly true of West Germany, because, in geopolitical terms, we are the forefront." He pointed out that the Federal Republic has mandatory conscription to the armed forces, which has been extended from 15 to 18 months for all 19-year-olds, and which allows the country to provide 500,000 troops for the defense of the alliance. This policy, he said, has affected "an entire generation of our sons."

Briefly

● **THE WEST** is misevaluating Gorbachov's intentions. Gen. Harald Wust (ret.), former inspector-general of the Bundeswehr, said in a speech in Munich on Feb. 12. "Gorbachov is constantly strengthening the armed forces and orienting their tasks along the principles of unaltered Marxist-Leninist objectives," he said. Wust criticized politicians who "have apparently subscribed to a détente euphoria."

● **BORIS PANKIN**, Soviet ambassador to Sweden, declared in a speech on Feb. 11, "I would not be surprised if the Pope would be invited for the celebration of the millennium [of the Christianization of Russia] in June. I would not be against such an invitation. That is my personal opinion."

● **'YOU'LL NEVER FIND** an SS-20! the Soviets are gloating. In *Lit'eraturnaya Gazeta* of Feb. 3, Soviet KGB writer Iona Andronov drew attention to a *Pravda* article of Dec. 17, describing an SS-20 unit: "The missile division moved through the night. . . . Military nomads. . . amid endless fields and forests, changing location, unbeknownst to the enemy. It is futile to search for them from space, to feel for them with radar beams." Max Kampelman, take note!

● **JIMMY SWAGGART**, the television evangelist, was given the red carpet treatment in Nicaragua, in a mid-February visit. His "analysis" of the crisis: "Half the world blames the Sandinistas, but the fault is not with the Sandinistas. Half the world blames the Contras, but the fault is not with the Contras. Satan is at fault. Satan is the cause of the problems here."

● **A BRITISH NUCLEAR** physicist has been found dead, the latest in a series of such mysterious deaths. Dr. Colin Fisher had worked at Ruthersford Laboratories, near the top-secret Harwell Atomic Energy research base.