

International Intelligence

Pravda doesn't like Thatcher's Europe policy

British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher has been attacked for opposing the "Europe 1992" corporatist plan from a most unusual quarter: *Pravda*, the newspaper of the Soviet Communist Party. In a high-profile Nov. 8 article praising moves toward creation of a European Currency Unit in the context of steps toward "European integration," commentator Lev Strzhizhovsky criticizes Britain for standing in the way of closer monetary unity, on which closer political integration depends.

He says: "Mrs. Thatcher's words are often quoted. That is, 'there can and must not be a single European state.' . . . Britain joined the European Community later than others, and still avoids taking responsibility on itself for the monetary policy of the EC. Mrs. Thatcher gives preference to internal policies rather than international cooperation."

Strzhizhovsky writes in an exasperated tone: "Does one have to prove that the future of Great Britain is unthinkable outside the European home and that the U.K. like other states must be as interested as they are in stability and in the long-term interests of the common market?"

Bangkok warns of harm to U.S.-Thai relations

The Oct. 30 "leak" by the *Washington Post* charging that Thai military officers were siphoning off U.S. funds designated for the anti-communist Cambodian resistance—for which no substantiation has been forthcoming—may affect relations between the two countries, according to Parliament President Ukrit Monghonnawin.

"Thailand and the U.S. have a friendly relationship. Saying anything to affect the other should be very carefully considered. Since we are cooperating to keep peace in the region, such matters affecting the execution of such programs should not be dis-

closed," he stated Nov. 2.

The speculation in Bangkok is that the Reagan administration intentionally leaked classified documents to the *Post* to influence Thailand's foreign policy, although a U.S. official told that *Bangkok Post* that this is untrue.

The allegations of embezzlement of U.S. aid to Khmer fighters were probably aimed to discredit Army Commander-in-Chief Gen. Chavalit Yongchaiyudh, according to Prime Minister Chatichai Choonhavan's secretary, Panya Singhsakda. An Army source also commented on the fact that Chavalit is being seen as the target of the seemingly well-planned leak, "The Americans may not be happy that the Army commander-in-chief subscribes to the thought that Thailand should adjust its relations with superpowers by distancing itself from the United States."

There is also speculation in the Thai press that the leaks are designed to end U.S. funding of the anti-communist resistance.

The story was first leaked to Nayan Chanda, Washington correspondent of the *Far Eastern Economic Review*, which magazine has been on a "democratic" crusade against the Thai, Malaysian, and Singapore governments.

Russians accuse U.S., Pakistan of 'fraud'

Soviet ambassador to Kabul and First Deputy Foreign Minister Yuli Vorontsov blamed the suspension of Soviet troop withdrawals from Afghanistan on massive arms shipments to Afghan resistance fighters by the United States and Pakistan.

"We are facing fraud on the part of the United States and Pakistan. . . . Those who said they are interested in peace in Afghanistan started mass deliveries of modern weapons to the detachments of the opposition. . . . This is a very serious blow to the Geneva accords which almost torpedoed them."

He continued, "The time is ripe for a fresh international discussion of all aspects of the situation in Afghanistan and around it."

One day earlier, on Nov. 4, Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Aleksandr Bessmertnykh had told a news conference that Moscow still expects to meet the Feb. 15 deadline for total pullout of its troops. "It is possible that Feb. 15 may not be the final date" for all Soviet troops to be out of the country, the Soviet official said. But on the day Vorontsov spoke, another Soviet diplomat in Kabul was quoted by the *Washington Post* saying that Moscow is reconsidering its commitment to have all its troops out of the country by Feb. 15.

Pakistani Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan called the announcement of a suspension of the Soviet troop withdrawal "a matter of grave concern," raising serious doubts about Soviet pledges. Noting the recent deployment of new warplanes and SS-1 Scud missiles in Afghanistan and a Soviet statement that soldiers completing terms of duty there were being replaced, he said that the "developments are a violation of the letter and spirit of the Geneva agreements." He said this was also incompatible with "the understanding that the only military activities to be undertaken by Soviet forces would be in defense of their withdrawing troops."

Australia to test everybody for AIDS

A whole continent is to be tested for AIDS: Australia.

The plan has been drawn up, and is being closely studied by both the federal and local governments for approval. If this plan is passed, foreign visitors will also be tested, and will be denied entry if they test positive. No specific public health measures have been outlined. The testing is designed simply to determine the extent of the infection's spread.

To test 16.3 million Australians will cost an estimated \$150 million. About 1,000 people are known to have contracted AIDS in Australia to date. Half of them have died.

Meanwhile, the West German federal court appears to be liberalizing one of the only public health measures adopted against

Briefly

AIDS by most nations: criminal penalties for those who knowingly spread the disease.

A homosexual from the United States, living in Bavaria, was accused of having homosexual intercourse without informing his partner of his AIDS infection. A Nuremberg court sentenced him to two years in prison.

Now, the Supreme Federal Court has ruled that while the fellow was in fact guilty, the sentence was too harsh, and returned the case for new sentencing to Nuremberg.

China says U.S. is blocking reunification

Mainland China's *Weekly Outlook* magazine charged in its Nov. 4 issue that the United States had broken its pledge not to obstruct the reunification of Taiwan with mainland China, the U.S. Army's *Stars and Stripes* reported Nov. 7.

The Chinese article, written by Zhang Jingxu of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, said that the United States had told Taiwan not to negotiate with Beijing over reunification, and warned Taipei about suddenly "opening its door to the mainland."

"The Americans have repeatedly told the Taiwan authorities to guard against the united front work of the Chinese Communist Party concerning the relaxation of tensions across the Taiwan straits," the article said. It accused the United States of increasing political, military, and economic ties with Taiwan "in an attempt to raise obstacles to China's reunification."

"There has been no decrease in U.S. arms sales to Taiwan since the Reagan administration came into office eight years ago," *Weekly Outlook* charged.

Anti-Nazi 'evidence' found incompetent

Information supplied to the British government on "former Nazis living in Britain" by the Simon Wiesenthal Center and a top Israeli "Nazi-hunter," is not only based on

Soviet sources, but is ridiculously incompetent, the *Sunday Times* of London's chief investigative reporter, Barrie Penrose, charged Nov. 6.

Of the 17 men whose names were supplied to the British government as "Nazi war criminals" resident in Britain, Penrose reports, five are dead, and one of them died in London 16 years ago. Others are almost certainly innocent of the accusations.

This "has surprised Whitehall. . . . The Home Office says that in some cases, there is no evidence to link the men named with war crimes" at all.

Informed of the deaths of the listed men, Israeli "Nazi-hunter" Ephraim Zuroff commented, "In the circumstances, it was unfortunate, because some of these people would have made our case much easier." In another case, Zuroff claimed that individuals who fought alongside the Germans in the Latvian SS Legion against the Russians are legally liable to be deported or stripped of citizenship in the United States, and he urged that the same policy be applied in Britain.

But British historian Hugh Taylor has pointed out that the U.S. legislation specifically exempted the Latvian Legion. Said Taylor, "The act says very clearly that the Baltic Legions are not considered to be a movement hostile to the United States. The Wiesenthal Center's lack of professional research is disappointing and casts a shadow on how good their archival material is."

One Latvian Legion survivor now living in Britain, 76-year-old Fricis Kurseitis, stressed that he and many others joined the Legion to fight the Russians, who had occupied the Baltic states before the Germans took over. He said, "I was an army corporal and no war criminal." He and other Latvian Legion veterans charged that they are on the Wiesenthal list "because they are anti-communist and active in the Latvian community in Britain."

Ironically, even the Soviets' Novosti press agency in Moscow told the *Sunday Times*, "During the fascist occupation, there was no post of finance minister of Latvia. And there was no post of labor minister of Latvia." Yet, two of the accused are charged with having held these two posts!

● **PRINCE CHARLES**, visiting Paris Nov. 4, announced the creation of a French-British scholarship in memory of European federalist Jean Monnet, the founder of the Council of Europe.

● **THE SOVIETS** have been said for months to be preparing to admit their responsibility for the 1943 massacre of Polish officers at Katyn. But the Nov. 6 edition of *Izvestia* repeated the standard Soviet line, that the Nazis were responsible for the massacre.

● **SYRIA'S** defense minister, Maj. Gen. Mustafa Tlas, when he arrived at Moscow Airport on Oct. 28, was received by the entire Soviet military leadership. The unannounced visit came two weeks after a new Soviet-Syrian deal for the delivery of SU-24 jet fighter-bombers was made public.

● **MARGARET THATCHER** consulted Pope John Paul II for advice before her trip to Poland. The Pope sent a message to the British prime minister that he supported political and economic reform, and increasing freedom for the Poles.

● **SIKH** terrorists killed more than 50 people Nov. 4 in three separate incidents in the Indian state of Punjab in 24 hours, the bloodiest single day yet, police said.

● **IGNACIO CAPEGSAN**, guerrilla leader ranked number three in the Philippine communist hierarchy, was captured Nov. 5. Philippine Brig. Gen. Alexander Aguirre said Capegsan was carrying a passport with an assumed name and was bound for the United States.

● **THE KHMER ROUGE**, militarily the most powerful faction in the Kampuchean resistance, have unexpectedly agreed to join Prince Sihanouk in peace talks with the Phnom Penh government.