

International Intelligence

Cambodia charges U.N. with appeasement

The Cambodian government on Nov. 24 criticized the United Nations for its failure to impose sanctions on the Khmer Rouge. A high-level spokesman of the government in Phnom Penh, which includes both Prince Sihanouk as head of state and Prime Minister Hun Sen, stated in a press conference that sanctions are the only way to get the Khmer Rouge to drop its resistance to the U.N. peace plan.

The Khmer Rouge, backed by the Chinese communists, killed an estimated 3 million people during their brief rule (1975-79).

The Cambodian spokesman also attacked as "outrageous" the statement by U.N. Secretary General Boutros Boutros-Ghali, claiming that the Cambodian government, as well as the Khmer Rouge, is violating the cease-fire. As it does in former Yugoslavia, the U.N. is taking an "even-handed" approach, blaming both sides for the increasing violations of the cease-fire, rather than condemning the genocidal Khmer Rouge.

On Nov. 25, Yasushi Akashi, the head of the U.N. operations in Cambodia, warned of rising military tensions after touring several provinces of the country. He said these might lead to an outbreak of fighting when the dry season comes, and said that the situation is "particularly tense" in the three northern provinces.

U.N., Britain side with Serbia against Bosnia

The United Nations and British forces in the Tuzla area of northeastern Bosnia are refusing to open the Tuzla air base, because it would legitimize the Bosnian government's control over the Tuzla region, according to a report by Paul Jenkins in the London *Guardian* on Nov. 21. The facility is a huge, fully equipped military air base with a 10,000-foot runway, the second-largest in former Yugoslavia, near roads and rail lines. It has hardened shelters to protect

vehicles, fuel, and warehoused goods.

Among the lame excuses given by spokesmen for the U.N. and the British forces in Bosnia: The Serbians would shoot down any plane using the base; airlifting food to Bosnia would cost too much; the Iranians would deliver arms to the Bosnians; the U.N. has a policy of land convoys.

An American special forces expert, Giles Pace, said in a program prepared by Jenkins and shown in October on British television, that were Tuzla to be opened, relief would no longer have to snake through the arduous land route from Split. Pace told Jenkins that he met with the British ambassador in Zagreb to press him to open the Tuzla base, and was given "short shrift." "If they were to use the airport at Tuzla," said Pace, "it would change the whole complexion of the situation. They don't want the world to see a functioning Bosnian government."

Jenkins concludes his article: "Is it on the grounds of cost, or out of a desire to withhold legitimacy from the Bosnian government as anything more than a caretaker for refugees, that the U.N. persists in ignoring the Tuzla airport? . . . As winter closes in on the estimated 600,000 people stranded in the Tuzla region, the U.N. and the Ministry of Defense have an urgent case to answer."

Argentine officials implicated in drug trade

A scandal has erupted involving the head of the Argentine government office for combating drug trafficking, Alberto Lestelle. A "former" drug trafficker and informant, Mario Noguera Vega, who is now being held in Brazil, has charged Lestelle with involvement in drug trafficking and money laundering, and says that Lestelle sent him to Brazil to assassinate another Argentine drug trafficker, Sergio Di Fiore. Di Fiore allegedly stole documents in Buenos Aires which implicate several Argentine government officials in drug trafficking and money laundering. Noguera claims he was to have been paid up to \$50,000 for carrying out the "contract."

The revelations have caused panic and embarrassment in Buenos Aires, since Lestelle works closely with the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration and the U.S. embassy, and was named last year to the presidency of the regional anti-drug organization IDEC, with U.S. backing. While the Argentine government of President Carlos Menem claims that Noguera Vega is insane, Brazilian anti-drug authorities say they have found his information useful and coherent and have used it to make important drug arrests. Noguera told the daily *La Nacion* that he has only revealed "1% of what I know."

President Menem is said to be worried about the scandal and has ordered the state intelligence agency to carry out a thorough investigation.

Egyptian press signals shift toward Iraq

The Egyptian government-backed daily *Al Gamhuriya* has published a number of articles showing a shift in Cairo's anti-Iraq policy, according to the Palestinian daily *Al Quds* on Nov. 25.

In an editorial commentary, the Egyptian paper attacks the "anti-Iraq paranoia" of the Persian Gulf states, saying "it is no longer useful for Arab nations to continue the punishment of Iraq and the Iraqi people. . . . It is not true that Iraq is a danger to the Gulf states. The danger now comes from the eastern gate," i.e., Iran, "from the Turkish soldiers who are still staying in northern Iraq," and from the United Nations inspectors still in Baghdad. The commentary also warns of plans to cut off the southern part of Iraq, and asserts that "it is not enough to have a security agreement between Kuwait and the United States, Great Britain, and France in order to give protection from the fictional danger of Iraq. . . . It is time to open a new page in Arab relations."

The Egyptian daily gave favorable coverage to a recent speech by Jordan's King Hussein in which he called for Arab unity and attacked the Gulf states for their "high-handed" policies.

Spain seeks satellite to spy on Africa

Spain is interested in purchasing an American spy satellite, the *International Herald Tribune* reported on Nov. 24. European military sources have told *EIR* that Spain's interest in such technology is directed at North Africa.

Spain is one of several NATO countries, along with Italy and France, which have set up a special committee to monitor the political situation in North Africa in anticipation of North-South conflicts. An article in the Nov. 24 London daily the *Guardian* reports that "European intelligence agencies and U.S. analysts" fear that the Algerian military junta could fall to the Islamic fundamentalists and that European and American observers are "concerned about the potential impact on Morocco, Tunisia, and Egypt" as well as the Middle East.

European countries move to restrict immigration

European Community immigration ministers are planning to create a "fortress Europe policy" to restrict refugees and asylum-seekers coming into Europe, the London *Guardian* reported on Nov. 25, citing "confidential draft documents" that have been circulated to EC member-states. Immigration ministers were scheduled to meet in London on Nov. 30.

The drafts reportedly show that guidelines will be set up that will allow for classifying tens or even hundreds of thousands of applications as "manifestly unfounded," thereby expediting the ejection of asylum-seekers after a speedy review process.

The policy package is similar to the draconian immigration rules which Britain intends to accompany the Asylum Bill that is soon to come before the House of Commons. But under the new guidelines, such policies would be applied to Europe more generally. "When the new system is in place, it will establish a fortress Europe policy with a severe reduction in the number of

asylum seekers allowed to stay," according to the newspaper.

The document proclaims: "Individuals are not entitled to protection under the Geneva Convention merely because they come from countries in which levels of security, economic opportunity or individual liberty are below those of the (EC) member states.

. . . Those who genuinely feel compelled to leave their own countries should seek protection in the first safe country to which they come."

Applications can be deemed "manifestly unfounded" if there is "satisfactory protection for the applicant in another country," or "clearly no substance to the applicant's claim to fear of persecution," or if "the claim is based on deliberate deception or is an abuse of asylum procedure."

Australia in uproar over homosexuals in military

The Australian government's recent decision to allow homosexuals to serve in the Armed Forces has created a storm of controversy. The principal opposition party says it may overturn the decision, if it comes to power in the next election.

"I don't believe in general homosexuals should be discriminated against," Alexander Downer, the Liberal-National coalition's defense spokesman, told reporters. "But . . . if the service chiefs tell me that they want to reverse the decision . . . then we'll act on the advice of the service chiefs," he said.

Australia's defense chiefs had opposed lifting the ban on homosexuals, saying this would affect morale and threaten discipline. Labor Party Prime Minister Paul Keating called the move "in line with the tolerant attitudes of Australians generally."

Fred Nile, a leader of the Christian party Call to Australia, condemned "the disgusting, limp-wristed decision" of the Keating cabinet and predicted a voter backlash against Labor in the next general elections. "Homosexuals should receive counseling and help, not training on how to kill people," he said.

Briefly

● **THE ORGANIZATION** of the Islamic Conference, consisting of 47 Islamic countries, has vowed to put pressure on the U.N. Security Council to intervene militarily to end Serbian aggression against Bosnian Muslims. OIC foreign ministers met in Saudi Arabia on Dec. 1. According to the group's secretary general, they are requesting an end to the military embargo on Bosnia "so the Muslims can have weapons."

● **ISRAELI** soldiers were killed in a recent military exercise whose purpose was to plan the assassination of Hezbollah chief Sheikh Hassan Nasrallah, according to a report in the *Miami Herald* on Nov. 25. Although the death of the soldiers had been widely reported, this fact was never revealed.

● **NEO-NAZI** groups from around the world were scheduled to meet in secret near Stockholm, Sweden, during the last weekend in November, under the banner of the World Anti-Zionist Congress. After reports of the conference appeared in the German press, the place was abruptly changed to a secret location outside Sweden.

● **SPAIN'S** Catholic Church is organizing Spanish families to take Bosnian refugees into their homes, and 20,000 have done so, sources report. The church arranged for several trainloads of supplies to be dispatched to Bosnia and Croatia, and is holding parish meetings where families are solicited to take refugees into their homes.

● **COCOM**, the Coordinating Committee for Multilateral Export Controls, which was formed during the Cold War to deny advanced technology to communist countries, has been dissolved. In its place, a 42-nation COCOM Cooperation Forum has been created, to impose a regime of technological apartheid against Iran, Iraq, Libya, and other countries that are on the outs with the "new world order."