

International Intelligence

Colombia ushers in U.S.-style 'sex ed'

The new National Plan for Sexual Education being promoted by the Colombian government of President César Gaviria includes the following precepts, which rival the most radical pornographic programs in use in U.S. schools:

- Sex education must question archaic values and beliefs, myths, and prejudices; must not repress or inhibit; must question discrimination or subordination based on gender.

- The individual must seek his own particular form of expressing, feeling, wanting. Sex education must not reduce erotic exercises to legally married couples; being married is merely one option among alternative forms of union, and free union and different modalities of union must be respected, and not be discriminated against or be forced into clandestinity or be subject to blame.

- Sex education must promote recognition and respect for the sexuality of the infant, the adolescent, and the old person, stages of life in which sexuality is normally denied or repressed.

- Sex education must generate new attitudes. Pleasure and enjoyment must be put forward as an inalienable right of the human being.

Peres: Israel made peace for moral reasons

Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres said on Sept. 27 that Israel made peace with the Palestinians because its rule over Gaza was "a moral shame." In a speech to the Conference of Presidents of Major Jewish Organizations in New York City, Peres complained that in the Knesset debate that approved the peace accords, each member of parliament spoke of everything except the current situation in which 4 million Jews are presiding over the destiny of 3 million Arabs.

"I don't believe that a Jewish [state] can achieve permanence by overlooking a moral

shame," he said. "The fact that we were running Gaza was a moral shame, to see our best boys half-heartedly running after Palestinian youngsters is a moral shame. When people say 'Gaza is ours,' what do they mean? Is the starvation ours? The oppression ours? What is really ours?"

Peres said that Israel had thought it might first achieve an accord with Syria over the Golan Heights. "You can respect [Syrian President Hafez] Assad, but you can't accept his norms. He doesn't want to meet and talk and appear in the open." Not being able to deal with Assad led Israel to concentrate on its secret talks in Norway with the Palestine Liberation Organization, Peres said. He added that the public peace talks in Washington had become an endless press conference filled with posturing. "It is a fight of two people for the same land, two renaissances that should complement each other, but don't. The most complicated part of negotiation is the existence of the other side. An agreement is not made in heaven among angels, but made of compromises between people," he said.

Peres underlined that Jerusalem would remain the "eternal capital" of the Jewish people and never be divided with the Arabs. "It will not be 'Berlinized,'" he insisted.

Turkey wants greater role at United Nations

Turkish Foreign Minister Hikmet Cetin, in a speech to the United Nations General Assembly on Oct. 2, said that his government wanted a semi-permanent seat on the U.N. Security Council.

"Turkey firmly believes that an enlargement of the Security Council membership would enhance its effectiveness," he said. This should be accompanied by the creation of a new category of semi-permanent membership, which would rotate among a specific number of states on the basis of certain objective criteria such as population, geopolitical posture, economic potential, record of contribution to the maintenance of international peace and security, and equitable geographical distribution. He did not ex-

plain what he meant by "geopolitical posture," nor who would decide what countries qualified under this unusual provision.

"Since Turkey fully corresponds to these criteria, she considers herself qualified as a candidate to that new category of membership," Cetin said.

Bosnian Parliament rejects partition plan

The Bosnian Parliament voted on Sept. 29 against the infamous plan of European Community negotiator Lord David Owen and U.N. negotiator Thorvald Stoltenberg, for partition of Bosnia into three ethnic states. The parliamentarians voted in favor of a "peace settlement," but insisted that the terms of the settlement include a provision that all land conquered by aggression should be returned.

This vote was similar to the overwhelming vote the day before in a special assembly of Bosnian Muslim political, military, and cultural leaders. At that gathering, 62.5% voted for the same preconditions, before the settlement could be accepted. Of the 300 delegates to the parliamentary session, half had participated in the special assembly.

China lashes out at U.S. as 'world cop'

In a speech to the United Nations General Assembly on Sept. 29, Chinese Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Qian Qichen lashed out at "the malpractice of indiscriminate use of sanctions or force in the name of the United Nations. . . . We oppose the all-too-frequent arbitrary use of sanctions by one country to bring pressure to bear on another under the pretext of controlling arms transfers while engaging in massive arms sales of one's own."

"We also denounce the hegemonistic conduct of a self-styled 'world cop' who tramples upon international law and norms of international relations by endangering another country's navigation safety and normal trading on the excuse of enforcing the

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ban on chemical weapons," he said, in reference to the United States. Chinese-U.S. relations have been at a low point recently, since U.S. naval vessels pursued the Chinese ship *Yinhe* on the high seas, accusing it of transporting chemical weapons to Iran. The accusations turned out to be false.

According to Reuters, Qian also said that arrangements designed to control transfer of missile technology should take into account such elements as the arbitrary use of missiles for attacks on other countries.

"Otherwise, such an arrangement will become a means by which certain powers can maintain military superiority or play power politics. That is morally unjustifiable," he said.

Premier says Left may bring Greece into war

Greek Prime Minister Constantine Mitsotakis said on Oct. 2 that Greece could get embroiled in a Balkan war if the opposition Socialists won power in the Oct. 10 elections.

"I shiver at the thought of Greece falling into [Socialist leader Andreas] Papandreou's irresponsible hands," Mitsotakis told thousands of supporters in a pre-election speech in the northern city of Salonika, near the Greek-Macedonian border. "What does Mr. Papandreou propose? To invade Skopje [the capital of the republic of Macedonia] and create a new crisis in the southern Balkans?" he said.

Mitsotakis's warning is partly based on political considerations, since he is trailing in the election polls. All three candidates, Mitsotakis included, are pro-Serbian and want Greece to get a chunk of Macedonia. All of their policies could thus bring Greece into a Balkan war, sooner or later.

Papandreou is against direct talks with Macedonia. Party officials have said he may go as far as closing Greece's borders to economically strangle the landlocked republic, to force it to change its name.

Reuters reported that a nationwide poll released on Oct. 1 showed Mitsotakis's New Democracy party closing the gap separating

it from the Socialists, but analysts doubted it could overtake them before the elections. The poll gave the Socialist PASOK a narrowing, but still comfortable seven-point lead over the New Democracy. The new nationalist party under Mitsotakis's former foreign minister, Antonis Samaras, was third with 5.1%.

Russia moves to breach conventional force pact

The Russian government informed the Turkish government at the end of September that it wants to modify the Conventional Forces in Europe (CFE) treaty that was signed in 1990, in order to allow greater Russian military deployment on its two wings: its borders with Norway and Turkey. A letter from President Boris Yeltsin making this demand was sent to Prime Minister Tansu Ciller and also to the NATO command. It was then leaked to the Turkish press.

In evaluating this demand, one Turkish government source noted: "Clearly, Russia will be returning to the Caucasus, having successfully played the Armenia card. Armenia's recent military victories were sponsored by Moscow in order to sufficiently discredit [former Azerbaijan President Abulfaz] Elcibey, such that Moscow could put Gaidar Aliyev into power. Soon, Russian troops will police the Azeri territory that Armenia has seized, but will now abandon, under Russian pressure. And that is just the beginning, as the threat to abrogate the treaty shows. Yet in Washington, everyone is flying high."

Referring to statements by President Clinton and other U.S. officials, supporting Yeltsin in his showdown with the Russian parliament, the source added: "Unfortunately, Americans, unlike Turks, do not understand the Russian mentality. Yeltsin is finished as a result of the events of the last few days; Americans don't seem to understand that. Whoever will emerge to replace him will be a puppet of the Army and KGB. Whatever occurs, Russia's drive south and west will resume."

● **NATO** Secretary General Manfred Wörner told reporters that NATO would help the former Soviet republic of Turkmenistan build "democratic and defensive" armed forces and that the region's stability was in NATO's interest. Wörner had met with Turkmenistan President Saparmurad Niyazov, who said that his country would stick to a policy of neutrality. Turkmenistan did not seek to become a NATO member, according to Wörner.

● **THE SUDANESE** Assembly's legal committee head, Hassan Ismail al-Beilli, denounced a report released by Amnesty International on Sept. 29 as "full of lies," part of an unjust campaign to blacken Sudan's reputation. "If there are human rights violations or ethnic cleansing in this country, why do southerners flee [rebel-held areas] to northern Sudan?" he asked.

● **A BOMB** exploded on Sept. 28 at the American Embassy in the Estonian capital of Tallinn. According to Russian radio, the bomb destroyed the embassy's satellite communication connections, but otherwise there was no significant damage to the building, and no injuries. There is no indication of who was responsible for this act.

● **THE BALKANS** today remind one of the scene shortly before World War I broke out in 1914, wrote commentator Carl G. Stroehm in the German daily *Die Welt* on Oct. 4. The really big war in the region is yet to come, and it will begin with a new conflict between Serbs and Croats, he wrote.

● **CROATIAN** President Franjo Tudjman told the U.N. Security Council on Sept. 28 that he wants United Nations forces out of Croatia by Nov. 20, unless they disarm the Krajina Serbs, stop the flow of arms and ammunition from neighboring Serbian-controlled areas of Bosnia, and allow refugees to return home or help the Croats regain control of adjacent Serbian-controlled areas.