

# International Intelligence

## ***Sudanese bishop compares SPLA to Uganda's Amin***

In a highly unusual attack on the Sudanese People's Liberation Army (SPLA) in the country's south, Bishop Taban Paride of the Diocese of Torit accused the rebels of grave human rights violations, of rape and abductions. Their policy is driving masses of civilians out of the southern Sudanese regions, into either neighboring countries or the Islamic northern regions, the bishop charged.

Unless they change their methods, which resemble those of the barbarous Idi Amin regime in neighboring Uganda, Paride said, the rebels of the SPLA are doomed to fail, just as Amin failed. Bishop Paride also criticized the United Nations for its approach to relief supplies for the southern Sudanese emergency regions: Billions of dollars are wasted for air drops that are totally inefficient, while it is far more urgent to do some repair on the roads, at far less cost but more efficiency, so that relief goods could be brought in by the land routes, he said.

## ***Britain will forge new South African Army***

Great Britain has been chosen over France, the United States, and other countries "to advise and assist in the integration of the new South African defense force that will come into being after this month's elections," reported the London *Independent* on April 14.

According to Johannesburg correspondent John Carlin, originally, a joint foreign force had been mooted to provide international assistance in building the Armed Forces, "but it was unanimously decided in the end to call on Britain. British officers will arrive shortly after the elections and stay at least six months to help to forge the African National Congress' armed wing, Umkhonto we Sizwe (Spear of the Nation) and its traditional enemy the South African Defense Force into a united . . . entity."

Carlin wrote that there is no doubt the

British government will respond with "gusto and alacrity" to the request made by the South African Transitional Executive Council for the British to play this role. An ANC official told Carlin: "It's a bit of a feather in the cap for the good old Union Jack."

Carlin wrote that the French had been "particularly keen" on getting the contract for this effort, and that the United States, Egypt, and Malaysia had all been willing to participate. "The choice of Britain was due in large measure to the success of similar recent operations in southern Africa. The British Military Assistance Training Team (BMATT) oversaw the integration of the Zimbabwean and Namibian armies after independence, and has been involved in bringing together the factions in the Mozambique war, Frelimo and Renamo. South African leaders, black and white, also feel a sentimental bond with Britain, based on the colonial past."

BMATT has already been involved, over the past two months, in training South Africa's National Peace-Keeping Force, which is charged with maintaining public order during the elections.

## ***Peres: Terrorists can't stop us from making peace***

In response to the April 13 bombing of an Israeli bus by the Palestinian splinter group Hamas, Foreign Minister Shimon Peres declared that Israel will not be deterred from the peace process. "These terrorist organizations will not prevent us from achieving peace," he said. "We are stronger than they. It is very painful—the blood, the bereavement, the injuries. But we shall not hand over the destiny and the needs of the State of Israel to Hamas or those like them."

Asked whether there could be second thoughts on the peace policy if attacks continued, Peres replied: "Should anyone try and stop the peace process, we would see all these organizations, like snakes lifting their heads. This is the worst imaginable option. They committed murder before there was a peace process, and they will continue to try to do so when there is a peace process. We

shall not halt the peace process. We shall not gratify their evil desire."

When asked whether Israel would demand that Palestine Liberation Organization chairman Yasser Arafat condemn the attack as a precondition for continuing the peace process, Peres retorted: "We are not making peace for Arafat's sake. I do not need his condemnations, and I do not need his compliments. This is not my criterion for peace. We seek peace and are making peace for our people, for our children. He will not determine the outcome, and we will not continue to pursue peace because of any condemnation or praise. We are not serving anyone, but only our goals and our needs. We must stop begging Arafat for a condemnation. We are negotiating because we want to. We are seeking peace for our children."

## ***Fujimori refuses to meet Amnesty International***

Peru's President Alberto Fujimori refused to meet the secretary general of Amnesty International, and had his press secretary issue an official statement the week of April 11 announcing that he would not do so, because Amnesty International interferes in Peru's internal affairs.

Pierre Sane, secretary general of Amnesty International, had announced that he planned to discuss with Fujimori "the poor achievements of the government in the area of human rights."

The government communiqué stated that Amnesty International's arguments are "notorious and have been used by some members of the opposition in Peru to carry out a campaign to discredit the government."

## ***Pope proposes ecumenical meeting on Mount Sinai***

Pope John Paul II has proposed an ecumenical meeting on Mount Sinai on the occasion of the third millennium, according to the Italian press agency ADN-Kronos. The proposal is contained in a statement issued by

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the Vatican and authorized by the pope.

The paper proposes a "pan-Christian meeting" with Orthodox and Protestant leaders, and calls for a review of the behavior (in its entirety) of the church in its history: "It is necessary that the church, in light of what the Vatican II Council said, review through its own initiative the obscure sides of its history." The church, the paper says, "is holy but also a sinner, as it is a community formed by men who commit sins." Referring to the pope's review of the trial of Galileo, the document states: "A careful look at the history of the second millennium may allow the stressing of similar mistakes, or guilt, in matters of respecting the just autonomy of sciences." The paper mentions also mistakes made by the church in the past, such as "religious wars, courts of the Inquisition, and other forms of violation of human rights."

### **Turkish Islamist leader threatens bloody uprising**

The present Turkish government is a "lackey of the West" and must be replaced as soon as possible, said Necmettin Erbakan, chairman of the Islamic Welfare Party (Refah Partisi), in the Turkish Parliament on April 14. He said that early elections for a new Parliament should take place by no later than this autumn, or else there would be an "uprising of the people."

Erbakan defended the rioting on April 10 by followers of his party and other radical Islamicist groups, during protests against the offices of the U.N. and the U.S. Embassy in Ankara, as well as western and government offices in Istanbul, saying they were "an uprising against repression and exploitation, and against the policy of servility toward the West" which is the characteristic of Prime Minister Tansu Ciller's regime.

He declared, "We will come to power anyway, and we will establish a just order. . . . It is in the hands of the people now, to decide whether the imminent change will be smooth or drastic, sweet or bloody."

Following these statements, Ankara's chief public prosecutor told the Anatolian

news agency that his office and the State Security Court prosecutor had launched an investigation after Erbakan's remarks were carried by newspapers and television. Under Turkey's criminal code, "implicit incitement to crime" is punishable by a six-month to two-year jail sentence. Erbakan, a parliamentary deputy, cannot be tried unless the General Assembly lifts his immunity.

### **Venezuelan minister warns of separatist plot**

Venezuelan Interior Minister Ramón Escovar Salom warned on April 12 that "Venezuela is threatened with disintegration." Speaking at a conference organized by the Secretariat of the National Security Council, he said that "there are tendencies to include the recognition of ethnic pluralism, to let the indigenous have their own judges, to teach children bilingual culture, without understanding that in the long term these can affect national unity."

The speech reflects a growing realization among some continental military and political figures, since the Chiapas uprising in Mexico of Jan. 1, that separatism represents a mortal threat to the nation-state.

Escovar added: "That's the first threat to national security: disintegration and anarchy, which obviously affect national sovereignty." Escovar acknowledged that "new tribes" may be arising on the borders, and pointed out that certain international organizations are encouraging "fragmentation" and confrontations between the indigenous and the national government, so as to negotiate with local groups instead of with the nations of Brazil and Venezuela.

The purpose, he said, would be to declare the independence of zones that are rich in diamonds and other minerals, and for these newly "independent" countries to then hand over the exploitation rights to foreign concessionaires. Similarly, Pompeyo Márquez, minister of border affairs, expressed concern that Chase Manhattan Bank is handling information about mineral deposits on Venezuela's foreign frontiers. Chase estimates that there is \$30 billion worth of resources in the south of Venezuela.

● **BORIS YELTSIN** rejected western military intervention in Bosnia, saying that air strikes will prolong the war. Speaking in Madrid on April 11, he said that "questions like air strikes at Serbian positions must not be decided without preliminary consultations between the United States and Russia." He called for "talks" instead of military action.

● **THE CIVIL RIGHTS** Movement Solidarity, a political party in Germany founded by Helga Zepp-LaRouche with the support of international civil rights fighters, was officially granted ballot status on April 16 for the elections for the European Parliament, which will take place on June 12. The total number of parties running will be 31.

● **ABU NIDAL** has set up offices in Kuwait City and Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, according to the Jordanian publication *Shihab*. Functioning as a terrorist for hire, he has worked for various state intelligence agencies, and is now opposing the Israel-PLO accords. His new Kuwaiti sponsorship brings him into the orbit of British intelligence networks.

● **THE SYRIAN** puppet regime in Lebanon is asking for the extradition of Gen. Michel Aoun, the former prime minister of Lebanon who led an unsuccessful fight against the Syrian takeover of his country, and is now living in exile in France. The Lebanese minister of labor told the newspaper *El Hayat* that if France refuses the request, this will open up a very dark period in relations between the two countries.

● **CHINA'S** Prime Minister Li Peng will visit five central Asian countries in April to seek assurances they will not support the separatism and Islamic fundamentalism that is already spreading in China's far west. He will visit Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, and Mongolia.