

International Intelligence

Israeli security chiefs oppose Har Homa

The chiefs of all the Israeli defense and intelligence agencies gave a detailed briefing at an early-March cabinet meeting, during which, according to Israeli TV, they warned against constructing the so-called Har Homa settlement in East Jerusalem. "The defense establishment—Deputy Chief of Staff Matan Vilnai; Shin Bet chief Ami Ayalon; Moshe Yaalon, IDF [Israeli Defense Forces] Intelligence Branch chief; and Mossad chief Dani Yatom—delivered detailed, in-depth briefings to prevent the ministers from saying later that they did not know and to avoid a repetition of the Western Wall tunnel affair," the report said.

"The Har Homa construction will exact a price, they said, and the government should be aware of it. Their analysis presented several high-probability Palestinian reactions," Israeli TV reported, including rioting, terrorism, undermining Arafat's popularity, and "the worst-case scenario: a combination of riots, terrorist attacks, and a drastic downturn of the peace process."

IDF Intelligence chief Moshe Yaalon is quoted as adding: "The Har Homa construction may exact a heavy political price in the form of the erosion of international achievements, including the recall of ambassadors, international pressure, and global isolation." Despite these warnings, however, the cabinet voted in favor of constructing the settlement.

Despite Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's claim that more settlements are needed to provide housing, data released by the Central Bureau of Statistics on March 18 shows that Jewish settlements in the occupied territories have over twice the vacancy rate as housing in Israel proper.

Xinhua rips 'Coming Conflict with China' book

The *China Daily* published a Xinhua release denouncing the defamatory book *The Coming Conflict with China*, by Ross Munro and

Richard Bernstein, on March 15. The authors, whom Xinhua describes as "extremely domineering and conceited," have "defamed China's socialist system because it did not collapse as they wished after the collapse in the Soviet Union and East Europe." Bernstein and Munro entertain "imaginary fears" that Sino-U.S. confrontation "is inevitable," Xinhua wrote. "Refuting this prediction, Chinese . . . Foreign Minister Qian Qichen said unless the United States violates China's territorial integrity and sovereignty, there would be no possibility of any occurrence of the so-called conflicts between the two countries.

"The United States and China were allies in World War II, and there are no fundamental conflict of interests between the peoples of the two countries," stated Xinhua. The Xinhua release then condemns the United States for "acting like a villain who sues his victim before he himself is prosecuted. The absurd arguments fabricated by the authors, in essence, are a revised version of the 'China threat' theory created earlier by the U.S."

Velayati refutes lie that Iran is a regional threat

Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati, visiting Kuwait on March 17-18, dismissed remarks by Deputy U.S. Defense Secretary John White that Iran is a threat to the Persian Gulf region. Velayati characterized White's claim, that the United States is concerned over "Iran arming itself . . . especially because Iran exports terrorism," as being "uncalculated statements by him in this very sensitive area." White made his comments the day before while in Qatar, and was in Kuwait the same day as Velayati.

According to the Pakistani daily *The Dawn*, Velayati added that, if the United States were to say, "Okay, we are very happy to see that Iran and these countries are trying to make more confidence building, have more cooperation," there is no justification for [the U.S.] selling more arms to the people in this region." Iran is not looking for "conflict" or "superiority" but for "more cooperation" in the region, he said, adding:

"We do believe that this [regional cooperation] is the only natural way to have real security in this part of the world."

Velayati's tour, which included Oman, Saudi Arabia, and Qatar, was to prepare for the December meeting of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, which is being hosted by Teheran.

Imam Kechat's mosque hit by bomb attack in Paris

The Paris Adda'wa mosque of Imam Larbi Kechat, a leading figure in the dialogue among the Abrahamic religions, was the target of a powerful bomb which exploded in the early hours of March 17, an hour before the day's first prayers, which regularly draw 500 worshippers. Rather than seek suspects, Paris police sealed off and searched the mosque, where they seized 60,000 francs in cash, which was the mosque's prayer offering. They then proceeded to seal off and search the home of the mosque's treasurer, seizing more cash, and what they claimed were false ID cards and other documents.

Kechat, who worked for years for an ecumenical dialogue between Islam, Judaism, and Christianity, was one of the guests at Sudan's Conference on Religions, in April 1993, as was Father Michel Lelong. The lying media have recently drawn a bead on both men: On Feb. 27, the national network Antenne 2 aired a broadcast on "Islamic fundamentalism" which tried to implicate Imam Kechat, by including an interview with him. Since then, the daily *Libération* pulled a similar stunt with Father Lelong by publishing a photograph of him standing in front of a "Catholic" fundamentalist center.

Dalai Lama's brother brokering Taiwan trip

Gyalo Thondup, the older brother of the Dalai Lama, served as the go-between to organize the Dalai Lama's trip to Taiwan in March, according to a March 20 report in the *Asian Age*. The visit of the Dalai Lama, a British asset, has stirred up tensions between

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the mainland and Taiwan, as part of the "ring around China" geopolitical strategy.

The Dalai Lama documents in his 1991 autobiography *Freedom in Exile*, that Gyalo Thondup was also the "go-between" in bringing the Central Intelligence Agency into the 15-year-long Tibetan guerrilla warfare against China between the mid-1950s and early 1970s. These guerrilla operations were run from bases in Nepal and India, creating a strain in Indian-Chinese relations, even during the most friendly period of the Non-Aligned Movement. According to *Freedom in Exile*, Thondup and another older brother, Taktser Rinpoche, began contacting the CIA in 1956 from India, and CIA-trained Tibetans were part of the Dalai Lama's escape party in 1959.

Thondup demurred that the Dalai Lama's trip was only to "promote religious exchanges" with Taiwan, and said he had informed Beijing about the trip, *Asian Age* reported. On March 19, however, the *China Daily* editorialized that both the Dalai Lama and Taiwan President Lee Teng-hui "are struggling for the same goal, which is splitting China."

Running propaganda cover for Britain's Tibetan independence operation is Hollywood, where the wife of heart-throb Harrison Ford is writing the screenplay for an upcoming film about the "spiritual" Dalai Lama.

Australia called pillar of British Empire

British Commonwealth Secretary General Emeka Anyaoku, referring to Australia as "one of the props on which I lean," was reported by Australian Associated Press to want "to strengthen Australia's input into the Commonwealth's priorities, helping member countries to consolidate democracy and good governance," during his visit there over March 23-27. In the Empire-speak of Australia's Queen Elizabeth, "democracy and good governance" usually means the "destabilization and looting" of any country resisting Her Majesty's sovereignty.

The AAP report made clear that An-

yaoku expected Prime Minister John Howard and Australia to play a much bigger role in destabilizations in Africa, among other places, and quoted Anyaoku as saying, "Australia's support for Commonwealth activities in South Africa in the course of consolidating its transition was also very significant." Anyaoku said that, earlier, Prime Minister Paul Keating had helped spearhead Commonwealth efforts to open up Asia for free-trade looting, in the course of "trade negotiations in which the Commonwealth was involved." He is seeking to line up Australia's support for the "special theme" of the Commonwealth's Heads of Government meeting in Edinburgh in October: "trade, investment and development."

Goldhagen associate rips his 'web of fantasies'

A war crimes expert, whose work was acknowledged by Daniel Goldhagen in his anti-German slander, *Hitler's Willing Executioners*, shredded his thesis as a "web of fantasies that reads like a 'bad historical novel,'" in an article in the *Cambridge Historical Journal*. The author, Ruth Bettina Birn, chief historian for the Canadian government's war crimes section, worked since the late 1970s in the Ludwigsburg archives in Germany, which Goldhagen claimed proved that Germans were "naturally" predisposed to persecute Jews. Birn told the *Daily Telegraph* that she has long known Goldhagen, and finds it "very painful" to attack his book, "but there is an obligation to the truth."

Birn found that out of the "tons and tons" of material at Ludwigsburg, his argument rested on only 166 statements from war crimes trials. "Using Goldhagen's methods of handling evidence one could easily find enough citations from the Ludwigsburg material, to prove the exact opposite of what Goldhagen maintains," she charged. "The greatest shortcoming of the book, is that he uses such a small sample of the investigations and sources available. He takes selected parts, and blows them up out of proportion."

THE TRILATERAL Commission held its annual meeting on March 22-24 in Tokyo. Among the British geopolitical movers and shakers were Sir Michael Jenkins, a senior Foreign Office official now with Kleinwort Benson investment bank; the notorious Lord David "Dr. Death" Owen; Lord Eric Roll of Warburg and Kissinger Associates; and senior Foreign Office official Tristan Garel-Jones.

PRINCE PHILIP, president emeritus of the World Wide Fund for Nature, migrated through his wildlife empire over March, hitting Alaska, Hungary, the U.A.E., Oman, Mongolia, Japan, and Russia, checking out the WWF projects.

INDIAN Prime Minister H.D. Deve Gowda of India arrived in Moscow on March 24 for three days of talks on economic cooperation and trade. He was scheduled to meet with President Boris Yeltsin and Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin, according to the Kremlin.

BELARUS detained and expelled the executive director of the Belarus Soros Foundation, Peter Bern, when he returned to Minsk on March 16 from a meeting with other Soros Foundation chiefs in Budapest. Minsk charged that, under Bern's leadership, the Belarus Soros Foundation funneled \$6 million of its \$13 million in grants to opposition organizations and media networks.

AUSTRALIA'S Senate has voted up a national bill, passed earlier by the House, to make it illegal for territories to legalize euthanasia. The Northern Territories became the first government in the world to make "physician-assisted suicide" legal. At least four victims have already lost their lives, being given lethal injections by a ghoulish laptop computer, which prompts them to administer the injection.