

# International Intelligence

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## ***Kohl warns, Kosova facing winter disaster***

German Chancellor Helmut Kohl told a German television interviewer on Aug. 23, that winter could bring a humanitarian catastrophe to Kosova, on a scale that could force foreign intervention even without a UN mandate. "Winter in that part of the world can start as early as mid-October, while maybe more than 100,000 people are still seeking refuge in the forests and mountains, and a humanitarian catastrophe looms," he told ZDF television.

"We must therefore act as quickly as possible—first and foremost the UN Security Council."

Meanwhile, journalists near the Kosova capital of Pristina reported that Serbian shelling had sent four villages up in flames, to the south and west of the capital. Other journalists saw hundreds of Kosovars on the move on tractor or by foot, to escape shelling around Ribari. The Kosova Information Center also reported shelling of villages in Stimlje, farther south. The reporters said the shelling seemed intended to drive people from their homes, since there was virtually none of the small-arms and machine-gun fire that usually accompanies combat.

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## ***Wiranto outlines reform of Indonesian military***

Indonesian Armed Forces (Abri) commander General Wiranto held a press conference at the headquarters in Cilangkap on Aug. 21, to outline the military service's plan to reform its "dual function" as a defense and security force, and a political force, as prescribed in the constitution. Referring to past abuses, General Wiranto said, "What Abri did in the past is a part of what the government did . . . and the politics of the time. It's not true that all the mistakes and violations which happened within the country, even the economic crisis, were caused by Abri's dual function role." Acknowledging excesses in the provinces of Aceh, East Timor, and Irian Jaya, where secessionist movements still fester from the colonial era, he said that the decision to turn

them into "military operations areas" was political. As for Abri, "We did our national duty. It is not objective to say that the nation has not benefitted from what Abri did in the past." It is also not logical to assess that past performance "viewing it through the new paradigm" of reform, he said.

Wiranto's remarks echo views expressed in President Habibie's Independence Day address on Aug. 17. Wiranto said that, in addition to ending "occupying" the troubled provinces, Abri would increase "political role-sharing with non-military partners." Wiranto added, "Abri is committed to saving the national life. We are aware of the problems which have to be solved soon. Our priorities are: to recover from the economic crisis, engage in and control the reformation process, to guarantee the continuity of development." In late August, Abri began withdrawing 1,000 regular and special forces (Kopassus) troops from Aceh, following similar moves in East Timor.

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## ***MSIA holds three forums in Baja California***

Some 350 people attended conferences on Lyndon LaRouche's proposal for a New Bretton Woods system, sponsored by the Ibero-American Solidarity Movement (MSIA) in the Mexican state of Baja California. Carlos Cota Meza addressed the need for the New Bretton Woods, the global financial disintegration, and what is required for a fight for real human rights and the creation of a new Non-Aligned Movement. Cota, a frequent contributor to *EIR*, spoke to audiences in Mexicali, Ensenada, and Tijuana on Aug. 11, 12, and 13, respectively.

There was heated discussion over Cota's denunciation of free trade, and the *maquiladora* economy, based on cheap-labor plants on the border with the United States. The state government of Baja is led by the National Action Party (PAN), which boasts that Baja is the number-one job generator, because of the *maquiladoras*. Far from being a boost to a crisis-wracked Mexico, polemicized Cota, Baja is also "number one" in drug consumption, in transport of drugs to the United States, in murders, and

in incidence of AIDS.

Cota explained in detail that the *maquiladoras* are a product of globalization, which has fuelled the disappearance of national industry. He used graphs to demonstrate how industry had been destroyed, unemployment increased, and how thousands of Mexicans had been driven out of productive employment and forced to migrate to other parts of the country, because of the North American Free Trade Agreement, which had spawned the *maquiladoras*. But, he stressed, even the *maquiladoras* cannot escape the ravages of the world monetary crisis.

In all three forums, Mexicans expressed their concern over the assault on the U.S. Presidency, and welcomed the interventions of the LaRouche movement, as exemplified by the victory on the McDade-Murtha vote to rein in the Justice Department permanent bureaucracy.

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## ***King Hussein passes most powers to Crown Prince***

Jordan's King Hussein, undergoing chemotherapy at the Mayo Clinic in the United States for a B-cell lymphoma, issued a decree on Aug. 12, in which he handed over certain royal powers to his brother Crown Prince Hassan. This has led several political analysts to say that the succession process has begun in earnest. The Royal Decree lifted, for the first time in Jordan's history, one of the limits to the Regent's authority, which is "that of accepting or demanding the resignations of ministers and the prime minister," wrote the *Jordan Times* on Aug. 18. It is assumed that the Crown Prince has the right to appoint ministers. Thus, the paper added, "the only powers that remain outside the scope of the Regent's authority, as specified by this week's decree, are entering into treaties and amending the Constitution."

As far as domestic politics is concerned, the decree means that Prince Hassan can proceed to reshuffle the Majali government, which is evidently the King's wish. The government, in power since March 1997, has come under attack because of a crisis over contaminated water in the capital, and,

**CHINA'S** Foreign Ministry called on India to take the initiative to normalize relations, in a statement on Aug. 19. Spokesman Zhu Bangzao said, "It is the set policy of the Chinese government to develop good-neighborly and friendly relations with India on the basis of the five principles of peaceful coexistence." Zhu was responding to Indian President K.R. Narayanan's remarks that problems in Sino-Indian relations were "temporary."

**THE PALESTINIAN** Authority has rejected an Israeli proposal to turn 3% of the West Bank into a nature preserve under Israeli security control, according to the Palestinian daily *Al Quds* on Aug. 23.

**EZER WEIZMAN**, Israel's President, was verbally attacked by Baruch Marzel, a leader of the violent right-wing Kach party. Labor Party leader Ehud Barak said that "Marzel's shocking remarks against Weizman, the country's President and one of the architects of Israel's security and peace, represent a grave phenomenon that must be uprooted." Referring to the earlier threats against Yitzhak Rabin, Barak added that the Netanyahu government "may be encouraging this kind of vicious incitement, as we have already seen where it can lead."

**QUOTABLE QUOTE:** Cambodian Second Prime Minister Hun Sen, when asked by a reporter recently what he thought of the legacy of the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia over the past seven years, responded promptly: "AIDS."

**BELARUS PRESIDENT** Alyaksandr Lukashenka has announced that he is too busy to attend the 53rd session of the UN General Assembly in New York, which will open on Sept. 9, according to ITAR-TASS. He also said he will not participate in a conference of the Non-Aligned Movement scheduled for Durban, South Africa on Aug. 29-Sept. 3.

for reportedly falsifying statistics on the economy. "Figures disclosed during a World Bank team's visit showed a growth rate of 0.8 and 2.7% for 1996 and 1997, respectively, while government estimates had previously placed economic growth at 5.2 and 5%," wrote the *Jordan Times*.

The government has also been attacked for alleged violations of human rights, limiting public freedoms, and in particular, promoting legislation to muzzle the press. The arrest, detention, and conviction of opposition figure Laith Shubeilat, allegedly for inciting to riot, was conducted under the Majali government.

In addition to public discontent, the King reportedly expressed his dissatisfaction with the Majali cabinet, in a letter to Crown Prince Hassan, in which he cited hitherto undisclosed cases of negligence: a near-collision of jumbo jets in the national airspace, and a near-explosion at a power plant in Aqaba.

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## **British are accused of killing Dag Hammarskjold**

Archbishop Desmond Tutu, of the South African Truth and Reconciliation Commission, has released documents indicating that British intelligence plotted to kill United Nations Secretary General Dag Hammarskjold. Hammarskjold, who was mediating the crisis in the former Belgian Congo, died in a suspicious plane crash in Africa on Sept. 20, 1961. The documents (which are being reviewed by *EIR*) point to the direct role of MI5, which at the time was responsible for intelligence operations in the colonies (including the Union of South Africa), and relations to the Special Operations Executive and the U.S. CIA. The documents consist of some brief notes between an unnamed director of a military intelligence front operation, called the South African Institute for Marine Research (SAIMR), and a field operative who is conducting operations in the Congo. This comes during the attempt by Katanga province to secede from the former Congo, an operation backed by the Belgian mining company Union Minière.

Included is a note reading: "At a meeting between MI5, Special Ops Executive, and

SAIMR, the following emerged:

"Dag . . . is becoming troublesome and it is felt that Hammarskjold should be removed. . . . [CIA director] Allen Dulles agrees and has promised full cooperation of his people. He tells us that Dag will be in Leopoldville on or about the 12/9/1961. . . . Please see that Leo airport as well as Elisabethville is covered by your people, as I want this removal to be handled more efficiently than was Patrice [Lumumba]. . . . Operation to be known as Celeste." The plan called for a bomb to be put on the plane. Although the crash was declared an accident, the only survivor, an American, said there had been an explosion.

A researcher for a South African think-tank pointed out to *EIR* that in 1961, the intelligence services of the Union of South Africa were still part of the British Empire's intelligence service. Therefore, if these documents are valid, the researcher said, then they constitute the proof that the "dirty tricks" of the South African intelligence services have their origin with British intelligence.

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## **Jiang postpones overseas summits due to flooding**

Chinese President Jiang Zemin has had to postpone his visits to both Russia and Japan due to the "immensity of flood control and disaster relief efforts in China," Xinhua news agency reported on Aug. 22. Jiang was to have visited Moscow and Tokyo on Sept. 4-11. "It is necessary for President Jiang to remain in the country to supervise the pressing flood-fighting and disaster-relief efforts," Foreign Minister Tang Jiaxuan said.

Jiang's trip to Moscow was to be part of the regular annual exchange of visits between the Chinese and Russian top leaders. Boris Yeltsin said that he hoped that the trip would be rescheduled as soon as possible. The trip to Japan was to be the first by a Chinese President, and mark celebrations of the 20th anniversary of the signing of the Sino-Japanese Peace and Friendship Treaty. Japanese Prime Minister Keizo Obuchi called on President Jiang to visit Japan "at the earliest possible time."