

International Intelligence

Cambodian parties agree to meet with Sihanouk

Thai Deputy Foreign Minister MR Sukhumbhand Paribatra reported on Sept. 14 that the three winners in Cambodia's July 26 elections—Second Prime Minister Hun Sen, Prince Norodom Ranariddh, and Sam Rainsy—have agreed to a summit meeting with King Norodom Sihanouk to hash out the terms of a new coalition government. All parties have agreed to withhold support from further demonstrations and protests in Phnom Penh, which they agreed is “not a constructive path” under the circumstances. An earlier round of talks, of Hun Sen's Cambodian People's Party, Prince Ranariddh's Funcinpec, and Sam Rainsy, on Sept. 5-7, made no headway.

The renewed negotiations were initiated by UN Special Representative to Cambodia Lakhan Merohta, followed by a meeting between Sihanouk and UN Secretary General Kofi Annan's special envoy, Frances Vendrell, on Sept. 13. MR Sukhumbhand delivered a personal message to Sihanouk from Thailand's Prime Minister Chuan Leekpai on Sept. 13. Thailand is one of the three members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations assigned to assist Cambodia. The “MR” prefix to Sukhumbhand's name also suggests that he is a member of the Thai royal family, which may give added weight to his message.

On Sept. 21, Thai Foreign Minister Surin Pitsuwan told reporters in Washington, D.C., that his country has been pursuing a policy of encouraging national reconciliation among the three Cambodian parties, in order to allow the re-opening of the National Assembly, which had been set for Sept. 24.

Thai daily: ‘Soros’s tears can’t wash away guilt’

The Sept. 17 editorial in Thailand's *The Nation* blasted George Soros for his self-serving testimony before the U.S. House Committee on Banking and the Financial System on Sept. 15, calling it “twisted irony” that this leading “financial marauder” should ex-

press “sentimental . . . tender loving care for the countries affected by the crisis of capitalism now that the system is ‘coming apart at the seams.’ ”

The editorial continues: “Let's take a look at Soros, the feared speculator and financier whose influence and power in currency speculative trading and bettor was a real terror and much despised in the Asian markets. Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad, in particular, has no love lost for the Hungarian-born billionaire.” Since Soros lost \$2 billion speculating in Russia, “millions of Asians, Russians and Latin Americans might lose their sleep . . . over a growing worry that Soros might not have enough money to buy bread and butter for his breakfast. . . . Now he probably realizes that the monster he and fellow speculators had created is running amok and getting out of control.” But given the opportunity, “Soros and other speculators would find the next targets soon enough.”

The Nation pointedly notes that, while he admitted there are flaws in the international system, “Soros, true to his nature, said nothing about a much-needed body, or regulations, to deal effectively with financial activities which subvert and destabilize national economies.”

Khatami at UN calls for action in Afghan crisis

During his address to the UN General Assembly (UNGA) on Sept. 21, Iranian President Seyyed Mohammad Khatami said that the Afghan people, like all peoples, have the right to determine their own destiny, and therefore have a right to “enjoy a broad-based government representing all ethnic groups, communities, and tendencies in that country.” He said that this would require resolute international cooperation, also to rid the country of drugs, weapons, smuggling, etc.

He called on the UN, “in cooperation with the Organization of Islamic Conference” (OIC), of which Iran is the current president, and all concerned nations, to bring the warring parties to the negotiating table. He said that “backed by solemn, global support,” they could “bring the rogue elements

[i.e., the Taliban] into compliance with the will of the international community.” He also said the UN “should simultaneously engage in planning for the mobilization of requisite international assistance for reconstruction of Afghanistan, once the necessary political conditions are in place.”

On the sidelines of the UNGA, representatives of the United States, Russia, and Afghanistan's six neighbors—China, Pakistan, Iran, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, and Turkmenistan—met. UN Secretary General Kofi Annan plans to send a mission to the region, led by his special envoy Lakhdar Brahimi, and by the OIC. They apparently called for an investigation into the murder of Iranian diplomats and an Iranian journalist, at the hands of Taliban, as well as into reported massacres and ethnic cleansing.

‘BJP Today’: Brits killed Mahatma Gandhi

British intelligence may have had a hand in the 1948 assassination of Mahatma Gandhi, according to *BJP Today*, the publication of India's ruling Bharatiya Janata Party. The article states that convicted killer Nathuram Godse could only have been a British intelligence puppet.

The article's author, R. Chandrachudan, was a journalist with the *Hindustan Times* in the 1940s, and described as the “right-hand man” of its managing editor, Devadas Gandhi, the Mahatma's son. After Mohandas K. Gandhi's assassination on Jan. 30, 1948, Devadas Gandhi was flooded with requests for the Mahatma's portrait. Unable to meet the heavy demand, he decided to bring out a low-price pictorial album, which was to include “about 250 pictures right from Gandhi's school days, ending with the funeral and *asthi* [ashes] immersion at Prayag. I needed a picture of the evening of Jan. 30,” Chandrachudan writes.

He contacted one Mr. Narsingh, a Navy commander and a camera enthusiast, who regularly attended the Mahatma's prayer meetings. “Sorry, that evening I did not bring my camera to the office. . . . Otherwise I would have with me a picture of Godse shooting at Gandhi,” Narsingh told him.

However, Narsingh did say that “two British consular men were there, with their cameras active.”

Chandrachudan’s efforts to trace the two drew a blank, with the British High Commission maintaining that none of its representatives was present at the prayer meeting. “Later, we learned that two of the High Commission staff left by a midnight BOAC flight for London. When we again enquired about the two, the High Commission denied that anybody from the High Commission had left that night for London,” he writes.

Chandrachudan concludes his article by listing the world leaders whom British intelligence has tried to eliminate. There is “nothing too diabolical for” for British intelligence, he writes. “And to get round Godse through their friends would be child’s play for them.”

Jean Gahururu addresses BüSo election forum

Jean Gahururu, human rights spokesman for Rwanda’s Assembly for the Return of Refugees (RDR), briefed a campaign event of Germany’s Civil Rights Movement Solidarity party (BüSo) in Bonn. The forum also heard Uwe Frießecke, a candidate for parliament, who has reported on Africa for *EIR*. The BüSo slate is headed by Helga Zepp-LaRouche.

Gahururu began by demonstrating how deeply embedded German and Western culture is in Africa. As a student, he said, he learned the poetry and dramas of Friedrich Schiller; he added that his generation dislikes defining people on the basis of ethnicity, and that he sees himself as a world-historic human being. “I always tell my brothers and sisters, as we call ourselves in Africa, that, if [President Alberto] Fujimori of Peru fights drugs, or German coal miners protest to defend their jobs, this is also our fight. The question is: Do we get a republic as Abraham Lincoln put it—a government by, for, and of the people, or will the oligarchy continue to govern our countries?”

He outlined the imperial aims of Uganda’s Yoweri Museveni, using the infamous quote where Museveni praises Hitler as his model in empire-building. Museveni’s goal,

he stressed, dovetails with the financial oligarchy’s plan to grab Africa’s raw materials, and secure their position in the international financial crisis. “Therefore everything that happened in Great Lakes region last year and what happens now has to do with this aim of Museveni and the financial oligarchy.” He also debunked the line that Africans are anti-American, saying that Central Africa, especially, has a very strong anti-slavery tradition, similar to Lincoln’s. Burundi and Rwanda both rejected their monarchies, in favor of constitutions based on Lincoln’s principles for the nation-state. Congo, as well, he said, has a very strong tradition of the concept of nation-state. Further, he stressed, the idea that man is in the image of God is commonplace. The oligarchy wants to destroy this spirit in Africa, he concluded.

Albania threatened with civil war, again

The beleaguered nation of Albania exploded, following the Sept. 12 assassination of Azem Ajdari, the number-two man of the opposition Democratic Party, which is headed by former President Sali Berisha. Masses of armed demonstrators broke into government offices, including the office of Socialist Prime Minister Fatos Nano. Berisha accused the government, the Prime Minister, and Police Minister Perikli Teta, of having ordered the murder.

Nano has further inflamed the situation by asking Parliament to indict Berisha for an attempted coup d’état. On Sept. 16, Berisha told a Democratic Party crowd that he was willing to surrender his parliamentary immunity “in this lawless state.” He then called for a national protest on Sept. 18, one year after Ajdari had been attacked and wounded in Parliament by a member of Nano’s Socialists.

One source told *EIR*, that “the same forces that have given the green light” to Serbian dictator Slobodan Milosevic “to carry out his genocide [in Kosova], have now decided to explode Albania. If this happens, no diplomacy can stop the overflow into Macedonia, Bulgaria, Romania, Greece.”

A CHINESE DELEGATION attended the congress of the Communist Party of India in early September. The visit of the delegation, headed by Vice-Minister in charge of the International Liaison of the Central Committee, Ma Wenpu, marks the first contact, at the level of political parties, since India’s nuclear tests.

LAMBERTO DINI, Italy’s Foreign Minister, signed a protocol on Sept. 9 that upgrades political relationships between Italy and Egypt, during a visit to Cairo. According to press reports, the two countries signed a memorandum of understanding, on the basis of which “all issues—from terrorism to the conflicts in the Horn of Africa—can be discussed at the top level.”

LICIO GELLI, former Grand Master of the Italy-based Propaganda-2 masonic lodge, was arrested in Cannes, France on Sept. 10. He fled Italy in May, after being sentenced to a brief prison term in connection with the Banco Ambrosiano bankruptcy. Italian press hinted that he was “handed over” by his former protectors in the Montecarlo Lodge.

LYNDON LAROCHE was mentioned as a prominent political dissident in Poland’s weekly *Mysl Polska* on Sept. 6. “LaRouche promotes Christian physical economy, which is rejected by liberal economists [and] enthusiasts of the invisible hand of the market.” *Mysl Polska* describes both LaRouche’s judicial frameup and international efforts to seek his exoneration.

INDONESIA continues to experience protests and looting, especially among urban poor, many of whom already can only afford a single daily meal. Prospects could worsen by the time of the next rice harvest, in January. Meteorologists are now predicting possibly the worst floods in Jakarta’s history, dwarfing those of 1996, which displaced 175,000 people.