

International Intelligence

China reaffirms right to sovereign defense

Chinese Defense Minister Chi Haotian used the opportunity to underline the role of the People's Liberation Army in defending Chinese sovereignty, at an Aug. 1 reception, celebrating the 72nd anniversary of the PLA's founding, to which all the diplomatic military attachés in Beijing had been invited. "The PLA stands ready and prepared to defend the country's sovereignty and territorial integrity at any time and will firmly smash any attempts to split the motherland," Chi said. History has proven that "the PLA is an ever-victorious, invincible revolutionary army and the iron and steel Great Wall loyal to the party, the people, and the socialist country." He warned Taiwan's lame-duck President Lee Teng-hui "not to underestimate our firm resolution to safeguard state sovereignty and territorial integrity, and not to underestimate our courage and strength against separation and Taiwan's independence."

Regarding China's international relations, Chi said that, although peace and development remain the main themes, hegemonism and power politics still exist and have resulted in new manifestations. "We should always prepare ourselves for any possible danger even in times of peace," he said. "We should strengthen national defense and stand ready to perform our sacred duty of defending state sovereignty, unity and security, and maintaining national dignity at any time."

'Caprivi' insurgency racks southern Africa

The so-called Caprivi Liberation Army has renewed its insurgency in Namibia. The CLA infiltrated the city of Katima Mulilo and launched attacks on Aug. 2, leaving 15 dead. Namibia's Caprivi strip borders Angola, Zambia, Botswana, and Zimbabwe. The attacks come at a time when Namibia, Zimbabwe, and Angola have troops helping to defend the Democratic Republic of Congo against the invasion of forces controlled by Uganda and Rwanda.

The CLA is led by Mishake Muyongo,

who split from the Namibian government of President Sam Nujoma last year, just at the time that Uganda and Rwanda began their attack on the Congo. Soon after Muyongo's first revolt last year, he was driven out of the country and fled to Botswana, and is now based in Denmark. His troops have regrouped inside Caprivi, and they are most likely being supported clandestinely by elements in Botswana, Zambia, and by Angolan rebel Jonas Savimbi, who has thrown his lot in with Uganda marcher-lord Yoweri Museveni. Clandestine and not-so-clandestine elements in both Botswana and Zambia are also supporting Savimbi as well.

Meanwhile, the so-called Barotse Patriotic Front, based in Zambia, has joined forces with the CLA on the basis that they are the same "nation."

On Aug. 4, Zimbabwe's Defense Minister Moven Mahachi warned the CLA that Zimbabwe will not stand idly by while its ally, Namibia, is threatened.

A South African military intelligence source has pointed out to *EIR* that the insurgency is connected directly to the civil war in Angola and represents a move by Savimbi's UNITA against Namibia, and its alliance with Angola. This source expects renewed fighting to erupt in Angola before the month is out.

As for Caprivi, the source hoped that Botswana would not choose now to reactivate its border dispute with Namibia in that area. The source pointed out that Botswana, the largest diamond producer in the area, has a well-equipped military force that trains every year with the British, who helped build a huge, state-of-the-art strategic airbase in the late 1980s. There have been reports that secret arms shipments have been made from this airbase to Ugandan-backed forces in the Great Lakes.

No royal commemoration of Diana this year

The royal family will not hold a special commemorative service for Princess Diana on Aug. 31, the second anniversary of her death. According to the Aug. 8 London *Times*, "Palace insiders say that senior members of the royal family are not deliberately ignoring the anniversary and are sensitive to the needs

of Diana's sons. They believe, however, that a line has to be drawn on public displays of grief." The *Times* quoted an unnamed member of the royal family: "If either of the boys ever wants to talk about his mother, I am ready to listen and recall her many qualities. I am sure their father helps them to recall her and honor her memory. There is no deliberate attempt to eradicate her memory—that can never be."

Plausible denial aside, a recent poll revealed that more British subjects today believe that Diana was the victim of foul play, than they did in the days immediately following the Paris crash two years ago. And that's very bad news for Prince Philip, who was accused by Mohamed Al Fayed, in an interview with the new U.S. magazine *Talk*, of ordering the hit on the Princess and Dodi Fayed.

Wimmer alarmed by new NATO head Robertson

In an Aug. 5 interview with Germany's Deutschlandfunk radio, Willi Wimmer, vice chairman of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) commented on the appointment of British Defense Secretary George Robertson as NATO General Secretary. "There are members in NATO, who pursue colonialist and nationalistic aims," Wimmer said. "We experienced that in the bombing of Iraq, which was done without a mandate of the UN Security Council, out of strictly nationalist reasons and aims. Robertson supports this policy.

"Robertson doesn't recognize the notion of defense, but rather intends to take offensive actions to achieve national interests. He must be seen as different from all the NATO General Secretaries that we have had so far. The NATO treaty, in which the concept of defense was unambiguously uppermost, should put before the public again, if the intention is to change it. . . ."

"I think we have cause to see the world in a sober way, as it really is. There is no point running after the rogue states on one side, while we whip up our own rogue states—as we have just seen in this context with Kashmir and Pakistan. These are all things which our own population recognizes, and here we are coming to a credibility gap. . . ."