

# International Intelligence

## **Weinberger wants Japan for regional security**

U.S. Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger told visiting Japanese Foreign Minister Masayoshi Ito that Japan should go beyond simple self-defense to take on a regional security role, according to Japanese press reports. All governments in Japan have officially viewed their post-war constitution as limiting Japan to self-defense.

Specifically, according to a March 28 Kyodo News report, confirmed to *EIR* by Pentagon sources, Ito told a Tokyo cabinet meeting that Weinberger urged Japan to take responsibility for the entire northwestern Pacific region including sea lane defense extending to Guam, northern Phillipines, and Taiwan.

Answering questions in Japan's Parliament, Ito denied the press accounts of his report to the cabinet and said Japan could not play a regional military role. Ito did admit Japan was requested to "improve its ability to guard the neighboring waters." At present Japan limits its sea lane defense to 1,000 miles, far short of the Weinberger request.

Japanese sources told *EIR* that despite Ito's public opposition, both Japan Defense Agency and Foreign Ministry officials have long studied and favor the regional sea lane protection role for Japan. They only fear it will be politically unacceptable to the Japanese people, so it is not discussed in public.

## **Haig cuts aid to Nicaragua**

The State Department announced April 1 that it would terminate all economic aid to Nicaragua on the basis of that nation's assistance to the Salvadorean guerrillas. The decision has fallen as a political bombshell in Central America and is clearly designed to drive ultraradical Sandinista elements in the Nicara-

guan government into a psychotic "anti-imperialist" mood. The Eastern Establishment liberal press such as the *New York Times* is pointing to the "strange" fact that the State Department did not have to do this, since only weeks ago, Alexander Haig's people had announced that Nicaragua was restricting its aid to the guerrillas.

Haig's provocations are already having the desired effect. A Sandinista leader called on April 2 for Nicaragua's popular militias to get themselves ready for war, arguing that the fact that the United States is cutting aid while Somocista exiles in Miami increase paramilitary training means that the U.S. is preparing to invade.

The decision not to give Nicaragua the last \$15 million aid package approved last year can only exacerbate the critical situation in Nicaragua's economy.

## **State to relaunch Namibia negotiations**

The Reagan administration is sending a fact-finding mission to Africa to relaunch efforts to reach a negotiated settlement for the independence of Namibia, the White House said on March 31.

By insisting on relaunching the negotiations conducted by the U.S., Canada, Britain, France, and West Germany for the independence of South African-controlled Namibia, the Reagan administration has dealt Secretary of State Haig a setback. Haig had been publicly advocating that the U.S. build up an insurrectionary movement in Angola to weaken that government before settling the Namibia independence issue.

Assistant Secretary of State designate for African Affairs Chester Crocker will conduct the mission, which will also visit Mozambique, Angola, Zimbabwe, and Nigeria.

Due to the Reagan administration's insistence on Namibia negotiations, State had to postpone for the second time in March a trip to the U.S. by South

African-supported Angolan rebel Jonas Savimbi. His trip was sponsored by the right-wing social democratic organization Freedom House to lobby in the U.S. for military support.

Haig, who had originally called for the U.S. to build up Savimbi for anti-Angolan operations, switched gears in his meeting with Nigerian Foreign Minister Audu May 27 and said that U.S. southern Africa policy was going to focus on negotiations for Namibian independence instead.

## **Berlinguer stumbles; will Italy fall?**

The Italian oligarchy, operating through its assets in the Christian Democracy, is setting Italy up for another government collapse, making the Communist Party the fall guy.

After announcing British-style austerity measures last month, the government is now threatening to directly challenge the PCI-dominated union movement with restrictions on the right to strike, slashes in the cost of living escalator, and similar measures, provoking the three trade union confederations to counter with a threatened general strike that would collapse the government.

The union decision to issue its threat was made only after an unprecedented delay, pending proposals for an alternative government coalition should the present one fall.

Such a proposal has finally been made by PCI head Enrico Berlinguer, previously a supporter of a progrowth PCI-DC "historical compromise" between the nation's two largest parties.

Berlinguer, in a volte-face, denounced the DC, saying that no new coalition should accept them. Instead, there should be a "left alternative": the PCI and Socialists. Later, another PCI spokesman said the Communists would accept PSI leader Bettino Craxi as premier. Bettino Craxi has, in the past, been resoundingly denounced for his role in

supporting austerity and running terrorism by the PCI.

The PCI's current proposal threatens it with a complete loss of credibility among its party base, which is thoroughly fed up with the corruption, austerity, and terrorism in Italian politics.

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### **Gaza administrator admits drug collaboration**

In an interview with the *New York Times* March 28, Israeli Gen. Yitzhak Segev, the military governor of occupied Gaza, revealed that the Israeli authorities freely collaborate with local drug traffickers and the extremist leaders of the Muslim Brotherhood.

The *Times* quotes Segev as saying, "Usually drugs and cooperation with intelligence go together," and then cites Palestinian contentions that "the Israeli military authorities do nothing to combat drugs, and may even be intentionally encouraging the problem through benign neglect."

*Times* reporter David K. Shipler next reveals that "the Islamic fundamentalists are also receiving some Israeli aid." Noting that Segev was military attaché at the Israeli embassy in Teheran just before the Khomeini upheaval there, Shipler avows that funding of fundamentalist-controlled mosques and religious schools is aimed at "strengthening a force that runs counter to the pro-PLO leftists."

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### **Spike' reviewer attacks EIR**

*Die Welt* columnist Harold Vocke attacked *EIR* as a conduit for Soviet intelligence disinformation in an April 2 review of *The Spike*, a novel by Robert Moss and Arnaud de Borchgrave, specifically citing *EIR*'s exposé of the British intelligence takeover of Iran as an example of "KGB disinformation."

The novel, a semifictional account of KGB efforts to mislead Western public opinion, was the leading propaganda cover for Secretary of State Alexander Haig's "the Russians run all terrorism" statements last month.

The original charges of Soviet terrorist control came through the Italian Socialist Party's Sandro Pertini, whose leading associates have been exposed as a controlling element in international drugs and terror in a line of command that stretches to the British intelligence connection of Moss in particular.

Vocke, who praises *The Spike*, called the *EIR* unveiling of British control over Khomeini "a pure case of madness," and referred to the Muslim Brotherhood as the "famous Islamic reformist movement." The combined efforts of de Borchgrave, Moss, and Vocke is aimed at breaking *EIR*'s longstanding credibility with the Iranian exile movement.

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### **Charris winds up ADC tour**

Fausto Charris Romero, president of the Colombian Antidrug Coalition, completed his European-wide speaking tour in France with a speech in Versailles.

During the course of his tour, Charris was widely covered by European newspapers and broadcast media, reaching an estimated tens of millions of Europeans with his appeals to stem the tide of drugs through international drug enforcement treaty arrangements.

In France, he was interviewed by the three government television stations.

At his March 28 Versailles speech, Charris made a special appeal to Europe to forge ahead with the European Monetary System. Only by instituting the second plank of the EMS, the European Monetary Fund, he said, could drug-producing nations like Colombia challenge the conditionalities of the IMF that force them to grow cocaine, marijuana, and opium for debt repayment cash. Charris now heads for the United States.

## Briefly

● **CHEVRON STANDARD**, Ltd. announced last week that development of the huge Hibernia oilfield on the Grand Banks off Newfoundland will not be economical because of Canadian government ownership and tax restrictions, although, "Hibernia will rank with the top fields of the world." For the same reasons, the Beaufort Sea Fields, termed a "small Middle East" by Dome Petroleum, may not be exploited.

● **MENACHEM BEGIN**, Israel's prime minister, made a secretive visit to the United States on April 2, informed Lebanese sources claimed. Begin's trip is linked to an imminent "heating up of the Lebanese crisis and the return of Lebanon to 1975-76 levels of civil war."

● **VILLA SERBELLONI**, the Rockefeller estate in Bellagio, Italy, was the site for a secretive meeting on "the resurgence and triumph of Islam" beginning April 1. Among the attendees was Egyptian diplomat Tahseen Basheer.

● **PRINCESS ASHRAF** Pahlavi, sister of the late Shah of Iran, gave a speech to the northern New Jersey chapter of the Association of the U.S. Army March 20 in which she charged that the Shah's overthrow was possible only with the assistance of "supposedly liberal western politicians." Princess Ashraf also stressed that Iran would soon be faced with the choice of "monarchy or communism" once Ayatollah Khomeini dies.

● **HELMUT SCHMIDT** denounced "Greenies" and radical "citizens action groups" who are trying to block construction of a highway between Berlin and Hamburg for "ecological" reasons. These actions are costing jobs, he stated; in addition, he will not hand the German Social Democratic Party over to a bunch of hippies, alluding to the party's pro-"Greenie" left.