

# International Intelligence

## ***Peking backs Third World against the West***

Chinese Premier Zhao Ziyang, in a meeting in Peking this month with a minister from the West African country of Upper Volta, emphasized in his remarks an attack on the Western nation's policy toward the Third World. Only a few months ago Zhao would have highlighted "Soviet hegemonism" in such a meeting, but now in China's international diplomacy, as well as in its internal press articles, the Dengists in Peking are clearly communicating they have turned away from the "China Card."

"The present struggle of Third World countries is to strengthen unity and strive for the new international economic order," Zhao said, which he explained, "is a continuation of the struggles that various countries fought to win political independence in the 1950s."

China recently sent three economic experts to the Soviet Union to "study Soviet economic management methods," the first such delegation in almost 20 years. There is little speculation that these actions are a prelude to a re-creation of the original Sino-Soviet alliance, but they do mark a significant downgrading of China's previous anti-Soviet foreign policy.

## ***Hussein: 'American interests in jeopardy'***

King Hussein of Jordan warned in an interview March 18 in the *New York Times* that the Middle East is facing a new war and that American interests in the area are seriously threatened.

"We are passing through one of the most critical stages we have witnessed in our time," he said. "It is far more serious than it has ever been." He derided the failure of the United States to adopt an aggressive diplomatic strategy to compel Israel to get out of the occupied territories, saying that the U.S. role has eroded

"to the point where it has now adopted the role of postman, a carrier of messages."

"We are threatened by fragmentation," Hussein said. "We are fast reaching the point at which hope is lost. Would you like to see the entire area erupt, which could have a devastating effect on the rest of the world and possibly endanger world peace?"

He described Israel as "bellicose" and almost out of control, and noted that Israel is aiding Iran to undermine the Arab Gulf states and Iraq. "If Iraq falls there will be all sorts of dangers," said Hussein, who also criticized Syria for helping the Khomeini regime.

## ***Soviet military visits India; message to U.S.?***

Soviet Defense Minister Marshal Dimitri P. Ustinov led an unprecedentedly large, 40-member military delegation to India for a five-day visit which began March 15. New Delhi sources interpret the move as Moscow demonstrating to the United States and Pakistan its concern over U.S. arm supplies to Pakistan and providing Pakistan with military bases—which the Soviets have emphasized could lead to Pakistani "adventurism" toward India.

In addition to Ustinov, other high-ranking officials in the delegation included Naval Commander Admiral Gorshkov and the deputy chief of staff of the entire armed forces.

Contrary to U.S. press reports, the Soviet leaders, who met with Prime Minister Indira Gandhi and Defense Minister Venkatarama, supported the idea of India continuing dialogue with both Pakistan and China, according to New Delhi sources. The Soviets apparently believe this would give these nations a second option other than direct military collaboration with Washington.

The Soviet officials told Indian leaders that Moscow is prepared to make available new arms deals to match the Pakistani build-up, such as the latest T-

82 tanks and MIG jets. However, Delhi sources said India is not interested in new arms deals at this time.

## ***Club of Rome routed at its Paris conference***

The Club of Rome's two-day public conference in Paris March 10-11 ended as an embarrassment for its founder and chief ideologue, Aurelio Peccei, the man who claims that genocide 100 times worse than that carried out by Adolf Hitler, is a new form of humanism.

Peccei and his fellow Club of Rome leaders had designed the conference to co-op one of the remaining bastions of pro-industrial development forces in France, the engineering profession. But intervention by the European Labor Party (POE) and its collaborators within the French Right to Life movement undercut the Club's aims significantly and Club of Rome members were forced to publicly deny the Club's Malthusian policies.

A letter written in the name of Cambodian butcher Pol Pot politely thanking Peccei for the ideas that enabled Pol Pot to murder more than 3 million Cambodians in the late 1970s circulated among the 6,000 targeted engineering students. Forewarned, only 200 of the students showed up for the occasion.

Club of Rome leader André Danzin, head of the computer science department of UNESCO in Paris, claimed that the Club of Rome was being wrongly accused of being Malthusian, and that he himself was definitely pro-nuclear development—while standing on the podium next to Club founder Peccei. Peccei attempted to intervene, but did not succeed before Danzin continued to dissociate himself from the theories outlined in the Club-commissioned manual for its envisioned post-industrial society, *Limits to Growth*. "One must be realistic about the exponential population growth which must be relatively curbed," he said, and noted that he had not been a member of the organization when the document was published in 1972.

By the second day, Danzin dropped his arguments on population completely and tried to appeal to his audience, now less than 80 persons with an "anti-ecologist" advocacy of developing the Third World. He went so far as to label the membership of the Club's American organization as irresponsible environmentalists.

### **Sharon launches new crusade on West Bank**

Israeli military authorities on the West Bank under Israeli Defense Minister Ariel Sharon and Col. Menachem Milson March 18 suspended and dissolved the municipal council of the city of El-Bireh, ousted the lawfully elected Mayor, and installed an Israeli army junta to run the town. It is the first time in 15 years of Israeli occupation that such an action has been taken.

In response, mayors of large West Bank cities, including Nablus, Bethlehem, Hebron, and Ramallah, joined a call for a general strike. Israel denounced the strike call and threatened to dissolve the municipal authorities throughout the territory.

The Israeli action against El-Bireh was taken after the town's Mayor refused to meet with Col. Milson, the Sharon-appointed West Bank Governor. Under Milson's direction, a crackdown on political and civil liberties has been launched that has driven thousands of West Bank Arabs out of the country.

In Lebanon, the PLO has issued a call to the United Nations Security Council for immediate action to stop Israel's escalation.

According to Israeli sources, Sharon is consolidating power in Israel—despite opposition to his extremism and reputed ties with organized crime—by establishing an alliance with Israeli Chief of Staff Rafael Eytan and Yehoshua Saguy, chief of military intelligence. Inside the Israeli armed forces, however, many generals are said to be working against the Defense Minister, and are seeking to have him ousted.

### **Last minute turn in Colombian elections**

Congressional elections in Colombia March 14, which also served as a presidential primary, broke the mold of voter apathy which has characterized successive elections for years in that Latin American country. The majority of the seats were seized by the forces of "official" Liberal presidential candidate Alfonso López Michelsen—strongly backed by Colombia's drug Mafias. The politically critical capital city of Bogotá, however, was unexpectedly swept by the slate of dissident Liberal Party challenger Luis Carlos Galán.

Galán, the underdog going into the elections, adopted a populist campaign of attacking the mass corruption plaguing Colombian political life, and the drug problem. Toward the end of his campaign he mouthed the urgency of reversing the economic collapse. Though he did not win the election, the massive turnout in Bogotá for Galán on the basis of that program surprised everyone—including Galán's political forecasters.

López Michelson's winnings were centered, not surprisingly, along the Mafia-ridden Atlantic Coast, as well as in the provinces best known for growing the marijuana and coca whose illegal revenues lubricated the López electoral machine. The Conservative Party machine, unified for the first time in decades, tailed López's 2.1 million votes with 2 million of their own. The 650,000 votes garnered nationally by the Galán forces, insufficient to make Galán a serious presidential challenger, were significant not in numbers but as an indication of a changing political tide within the Colombian population.

Significantly, Cardinal Munoz Duque took the opportunity of Sunday Mass on election day to appeal to the Colombian electorate to vote against the "candidates of abortion and divorce." This public intervention by the powerful Catholic Church helped to define the election issue around the question of morality, inseparable from drugs.

## **Briefly**

● **CLAUDE ALBERT** of the European Labor Party won 4 percent of the vote in a March 14 local election in the city of Hayagne, near Metz in France's industrial Lorraine region. Her campaign had become a focal point for local opposition to the European Community steel plan that has thrown thousands of Lorraine steelworkers out of work. Provided her Gaullist opponent takes up her program for the reindustrialization of the region, she has called on her 4 percent of the electorate to vote for the Gaullist candidate in the run-off election.

● **WEST GERMANY** politely told an American delegation visiting Bonn that it is not interested in U.S. proposals for new economic sanctions against the Soviet Union. The delegation, led by Under Secretary of State James Buckley, met with German officials on the first leg of its European tour to convince allies to further sever trade with the East. A spokesman for the German Foreign Ministry said the talks "were without any results or practical implications."

● **JAPAN'S** Prime Minister Suzuki charged the International Whaling Commission March 17 with trying to impose an "unscientific policy" with its proposed moratorium on the killing of whales. It has been scientifically proven that the world's whale population will increase, he said.

● **MICHAEL LEDEEN**, Alexander Haig's European affairs adviser made famous for his role in the neofascist "P-2" conspiracy, held a little-publicized meeting with West German Development Minister Rainer Offergeld March 10. Offergeld had stopped at Dulles airport in Washington on his way to Nicaragua to meet with Sandinista leaders. Ledeen reportedly showed Offergeld photographs purporting to show Soviet-style facilities in Nicaragua.