

International Intelligence

Israeli minister says Syria will go to war

"It is not a question of whether, but of *when* Syria will go to war," said Israeli Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin during a Jerusalem seminar of the Washington Institute for Near East Policy.

During the week-long seminar the second week of July, participants discussed the likelihood that Syria would begin a war by deploying its SS-21 missiles against Israeli air bases, while deploying its seven divisions against the Golan Heights. Syria expects to re-control the Golan before the United States or the Soviet Union imposes a ceasefire 36-48 hours after the beginning of the conflict.

Rabin warned Syria that Israel will not abide by appeals from either Washington or Moscow for a ceasefire, until it believes that "it has struck back enough."

Cardinal Ratzinger backs Peru's García

The five-day visit to Peru of Joseph Cardinal Ratzinger, the most trusted adviser of Pope John Paul II, was a dramatic expression of solidarity with Peruvian President Alan García, in his battle against narco-terrorism and for a just world economic order.

On July 18, the two met for an hour and a half in Lima, emerging as the band played the triumphal march from Verdi's *Aida* and the crowd cheered. They then walked together over to the cathedral, where García joked to Cardinal Landazuri, "Pardon us, Cardinal, for having invaded your properties." Landazuri replied, "What a wonderful surprise. This is your cathedral, Mr. President."

García has been denounced by leftists at home and abroad for his war against the

Shining Path terrorist gang, while rightists have attempted to tar him as a godless communist.

Ratzinger, as the prefect of the Vatican's Sacred Congregation of the Doctrine of the Faith, is responsible for combatting "liberation theology," and brought with him a forceful message from the Pope to those Peruvian bishops who have become infected with the leftist-terrorist ideology. "The authentic road to liberation is that taken by Christ the Redeemer," the Pontiff said. "This gives real meaning to the necessary efforts for social and economic liberation, preventing them from falling into new servitudes."

Ratzinger, in a speech on July 19 on the Church's concept of freedom, accused the liberation theologians of using Marxism to fraudulently interpret the Bible, thereby justifying violence as an instrument to smash the nation. They "seek Jesus Christ to be made into a mere revolutionary symbol," he charged.

Britons complain of 'a glut of royals'

The *Sunday Times* of London, in a full-page spread published July 20, questioned whether the "mystique" of the royal household is really worth the money. Titled "Flush with Royals—Will Windsor Dynasty's Popularity Be Diluted?" the article reported: "If the royals' prodigious breeding habits hold true, the immediate royal family could swell from 13 to 58 by 2011. The result could be, quite simply, a glut of royals. It raises the problem of how to maintain the mystique of royalty, and keep the burgeoning family in the expensive style to which it has been accustomed. The Queen gets nearly £6 million a year tax-free from the Civil List and the Duchy of Lancaster. . . ."

Other commentators expressed their annoyance with the lascivious life-styles of the younger generation of royals. Sir John Junor, a journalist close to Prime Minister Thatcher, wrote a commentary on July 20

declaring it appalling that the former live-in lover of Prince Andrew's bride, Sarah Ferguson, was invited to the royal wedding. He denounced Fergie and Princess Diana, who, at the suggestion of comedian Billy Connolly, dressed up as policewomen the week before and sat drinking at Annabel's nightclub on Andrew's "stag night":

"How do people like Mr. Connolly come to be such intimate friends of Prince Andrew, Miss Ferguson, and the Princess of Wales? Is this the new royal scene? Did the Prince of Wales, who must surely be conscious of the fact that the whole strength of the royal family depends on the feeling they are different from, and better than, the rest of us, approve of this in advance?"

Nakasone sworn in as Japan's prime minister

Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone was re-elected at a special session of the Japanese parliament on July 22, then was officially sworn in by Emperor Hirohito. The move follows the landslide victory of his Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) in the national elections of July 6, which gave a strong mandate to his policies, which include alliance with the United States and a commitment to increasing Japan's role in world affairs.

"The people's support for the difficult problems we face both at home and abroad is reflected in the high number of seats we won," Nakasone said in an address after the special session of parliament.

Nakasone's reinstatement reflects the growing consensus within the LDP to support an extension of his second two-year term in office, past its Oct. 31 expiration date. It is possible that Nakasone could stay on for a year past the end of his present term.

The prime minister announced the replacement of all but one member of his cabinet, including the appointment of Tadashi Kuranari, a close political associate, as foreign minister; Kiichi Miyazawa as finance

minister; Yuko Kurihara as director general of the Defense Agency; Hajime Tamura as the new minister of International Trade and Industry. Miyazawa, the chairman of the LDP executive board, is the chief policy opponent of Nakasone; his appointment to the "hot seat" finance ministry position, in which he will have to defend government policies, may enable Nakasone to keep his criticisms under control.

Arms-trafficker Hashemi dies in London hospital

Cyrus Hashemi, the Iranian banker indicted for illegal arms-trafficking and involvement in Iranian terrorism, died suddenly on July 21 at Cromwell Hospital in London, after a short illness. At the time of his death, he was waiting to testify in the case of Israeli arms-smuggler Gen. Yitzhak Bar-Am, as a U.S. government witness.

Hashemi's body will undergo autopsy by Scotland Yard and then by U.S. officials.

Comments on the death were diverse. Said an Iranian monarchist: "Don't think he was killed because of the Bar-Am case. He had many enemies." A Justice Department official, commenting on Scotland Yard's control of the first autopsy, noted, "Well, I guess we're out of luck." An Iranian close to the Islamo-Marxist *Mujahedeen* declared, "It was the Israelis who killed Hashemi." An Israeli journalist, speaking for the Mossad, stated, "It was the British."

Hashemi unsuccessfully sued *EIR* in 1980, for identifying his role in financing Iranian terrorism in the United States. One of his lawyers was former Justice Department official Stanley Pottinger, who was later named as an unindicted co-conspirator in the 1984 Hashemi indictments.

A spokesman for *EIR*'s counterintelligence bureau noted with dismay that Hashemi's death will now make it impossible for the magazine to collect damages from him, under a lawsuit alleging that his libel case was a frivolous one. In his original suit, Hashemi refused to be deposed, to pro-

vide financial records, or to cooperate with the courts.

Bonn debates new anti-terror measures

The West German government discussed measures against riots and terrorism at its weekly cabinet meeting on July 23. Law-enforcement authorities have been hamstrung in the face of recent violence, by rules and regulations preventing them from making arrests and taking other anti-terror actions.

Chancellor Helmut Kohl and his Christian Democratic colleagues are calling for a return to the anti-riot laws of 1970 and a national police information system on the rioters, but their liberal Free Democratic coalition partners are opposing this. The cabinet discussed a change in anti-terror legislation, which would enable the office of the federal attorney to search and arrest foreign terrorists operating on German territory. Under the present law, the federal attorney is not permitted to investigate activities of foreign groups like the IRA, ETA, or Direct Action, although such groups cooperate with the Red Army Faction and other German groups.

While the cabinet debates, terrorism continues. On July 24, a double bomb blast shook a laser technology research institute in Aachen, near the French-German border. One woman was injured and extensive damage reported.

A Munich court has rejected police protests and given the go-ahead for a huge rock-music festival near Wackersdorf, Bavaria, the site of bloody demonstrations at a nuclear facility in May. As a result, 60,000-100,000 anti-nuclear "rock fans" are expected to gather on the weekend of July 26. Police maintain that the principal purpose of the festival is to raise money for the anti-nuclear movement, and that the gathering could easily become the scene of another round of violent confrontations. During the May riots, nearly 200 police were injured.

Briefly

● **THE SOVIETS** will be the winners if terrorism paralyzes the German democracy, warned Bavarian Gov. Franz-Josef Strauss in a speech in July. Terrorists and anti-nuclear extremists are trying to destabilize the country, he said, and to force the police "to defend our country as the military has to defend it." The Soviet Union will certainly rule Europe if the destabilization of Germany by terrorism and riots succeeds, he said.

● **COLOMBIAN PRESIDENT** Belisario Betancur and his Defense Minister Gen. Miguel Vega Uribe acted lawfully in handling the siege of the Justice Palace by M-19 terrorists last year, a parliamentary committee ruled on July 20. Nearly 100 people—including terrorists and government officials—were killed in a shootout at the Justice Palace in November 1985.

● **FRANCE** announced a national campaign against narcotics on July 20. Minister of Justice Albin Chalandon warned that drugs have become a "major disease" and efforts have to be intensified to curb them.

● **A PRO-EUTHANASIA** law was rejected on July 17 by the Dutch State Council, the highest advisory body of the government. The Council ruled that the legislation "raised too many uncertainties," and that this is "not the right time to present such a law." It advised the government of Premier Ruud Lubbers to freeze the draft bill, which would legalize active euthanasia.

● **PAKISTAN** and the United States have agreed to strengthen cooperation against narcotics, with the first step a possible aerial spraying program to destroy opium poppies, the two countries announced on July 19, at the end of a Washington visit by Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo. President Reagan has accepted an invitation to visit Pakistan "at a convenient date."