

International Intelligence

Pope will receive Austria's Waldheim

Pope John Paul II will receive Austrian President Kurt Waldheim for a state visit at the Vatican on June 25. The announcement was a clear signal that the Vatican opposes the U.S. Justice Department's attempted destabilization of Austria. Austrian Vice-Chancellor Alois Mock emphasized that "this is a very special gesture on the side of the Pope towards Austria and Austrian Catholics."

Waldheim was placed on the Justice Department's "watch list" and was refused entrance to the United States, on the grounds that he participated in Nazi war crimes as a lieutenant in the German Wehrmacht.

"Vienna comes out of its isolation" commented the Italian daily *La Repubblica* on June 18, adding that "accusations against Waldheim are very weak if not inconsistent."

Catholic bishop backs Bavarian AIDS measure

The Bavarian state measures to fight AIDS are "a step in the right direction," the Catholic Archbishop of Munich and Freising, Cardinale Friedrich Wetter stated at a press conference June 14. He asserted that AIDS can be transmitted by means other than sexual contact.

Bavaria's measures are the toughest in the world. They include AIDS testing for all applicants for government jobs, testing of male and female prostitutes every four months, testing of anyone suspected of having the disease, and quarantine of any infected person who does not obey restrictions placed upon them by health authorities.

Archbishop Netter stated that those reacting hysterically to the implemented measures are mostly those who have to change their behavior. The responsibility of the people who are infected with AIDS toward the healthy has to be awakened, especially because the virus can be transmitted without having sexual contact.

Brits to fill 'vacuum in the White House'?

British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher will fly to Washington on July 17, for talks with President Reagan on arms control and world economic problems. According to the *Daily Telegraph* on June 18, the visit "will also set the tone for Anglo-American relations over the final 18 months" of the Reagan presidency.

An editorial in the London *Financial Times* on June 18 called for "some new grouping," centered around Mrs. Thatcher, to fill the vacuum created by the disorientation of President Reagan. Entitled "Vacuum in the White House," the editorial warned that the U.S. President "seems to have lost all his previous drive, and along with it nearly all of his remarkable charisma."

"Mr. Reagan's political difficulties at home and the extraordinary administrative mess revealed in the Irangate hearings can only devalue his promises and disarm any threats he may make." He was not able to make his policies prevail at the Venice summit, and the European Community shows no ability to pick up the slack.

So, the paper said, "if the vacuum is to be filled, some new grouping will be required, and this should now surely be a major preoccupation of British foreign policy. Mrs. Thatcher is now in a more secure domestic position than any other leader in the industrialized world, and enjoys enhanced international prestige. . . . While this is certainly not an occasion for the visible leadership from the front at which the Prime Minister excels, the situation should be seen as an irresistible challenge to British diplomacy."

American hostages now in Iran?

Some American hostages kidnapped in Lebanon have been moved to Iran, according to *Ash Shiraa*, the Lebanese weekly magazine that broke the Irangate scandal. *Ash Shiraa*, quoting sources close to Hussein Ali

Montazeri, Khomeini's hand-picked successor, said Montazeri has been demanding that "the American hostages . . . be brought to trial, especially since some of them have been taken to Iran."

State Department spokesman Pete Martinez said the United States had no information to substantiate the *Ash Shiraa* report, but if true, the United States "would consider it a matter of utmost gravity and would hold the Iranian government directly responsible for the safety and well-being of the hostages."

Ash Shiraa editor Hassan Sabra told Reuter the American hostages "were transferred to Iran some months ago and definitely before the deployment of Syrian troops in West Beirut." He said the hostages were moved "as a means of pressure against the United States."

Socialists shuttle from Moscow to Washington

The International Disarmament Advisory Council of the Socialist International has recently concluded shuttle diplomacy between Washington and Moscow, to promote the Soviet campaign for the zero-option and against the Strategic Defense Initiative.

In Washington from May 26-27, the Council met with Vice-President Bush, Secretary of State Shultz, U.S. arms-control adviser Nitze, arms control agency head Adelman, U.S. arms negotiator Kampelman, and others.

From June 1-2, in Moscow, they met with President Andrei Gromyko, U.S.-Canada Institute head Georgi Arbatov, former Ambassador to the U.S. Anatoli Dobrynin, and Academy of Sciences influential Yevgeni Primaikov.

U.S. pressure delays Central American summit

U.S. pressure has forced a Central American summit meeting to be postponed. The summit of Central American heads of state,