

# International Intelligence

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## ***No threat from Iraqi 'nuclear bomb'***

A delegation of inspectors from the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) returned from a tour of Iraq at the end of November, announcing that there is "no evidence" that the nuclear fuel that Iraq has for civilian purposes is being diverted to build an atomic bomb.

The announcement, reported by the BBC on Nov. 27, flies in the face of claims by U.S. Secretary of State James Baker about "extraordinary efforts" by Iraq to develop a nuclear bomb.

Two IAEA inspectors said that Iraq is, at the very minimum, at least two years away from having such a capability, and might be as many as 10 years away. The inspectors said that all fissionable material has been accounted for.

Iraq is a signer of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty. Israel is not.

The *Financial Times* of London commented that the Bush administration is deliberately "exaggerating the immediate dangers" posed by an Iraqi nuclear threat, because that "threat" is the "most acceptable" explanation for the American public as to why there should be a military conflict with Iraq, according to new opinion polls released in the United States.

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## ***Walesa says Tyminski has ties to KGB***

Solidarnosc leader and Polish presidential candidate Lech Walesa blasted his opponent Stanislaw Tyminski for "working together with members of the former secret police" to destabilize Poland. In a press conference on Dec. 3, Walesa termed the outcome of the first round of voting on Nov. 25, where Tyminski unexpectedly came in second, beating Prime Minister Tadeusz Mazowiecki, "an accident on the way to democracy." Walesa came in first but without a majority, and the two will face a runoff election on Dec. 9.

Also speaking at the press conference,

Tyminski said that he possesses "a lot of secret personal material" on Walesa, thus giving credence to Walesa's charge that he is collaborating with intelligence services against Poland's national interests.

The Walesa camp, the Center Alliance, had already started the week before to mount a well-targeted broadside against Tyminski, calling him a "Trojan Horse for discredited communists." This was elaborated on in a statement by Center Alliance head Jaroslaw Kaczynski: "The faces around Tyminski are the faces of the old system. The genuine threat to democracy comes from the remnants of communism, and it is in precisely these waters that Tyminski is fishing."

Tyminski, an emigré stalwart of the Canadian Libertarian Party, claims to have made millions in business activities in Toronto and the jungles of Peru. According to Polish reports, his businesses were set up for intelligence purposes by Urząd Bezpieczeństwa (UB), until recently the Polish adjunct of the KGB. Tyminski is known to have frequently traveled to Libya, where he reportedly met with Gen. Tadeusz Chupałowski, a special envoy of President Wojciech Jaruzelski. His business partner in Peru, in the center of the Amazon's cocaine smuggling region, was the former Mexico City correspondent of the Polish communist daily, *Trybuna Ludu*.

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## ***Japan sends medical supplies to Iraq***

Japan will send nearly \$2 million worth of medical supplies to Iraq, it was announced at the end of November. The move continues the recent trend on the part of Japan to play a more active international foreign policy role, not always at the behest of the Anglo-Americans.

The decision to allow Japanese companies to ship the medical supplies—for which Iraq had already paid \$1.9 million—came in response to requests from Iraq going back to September. "We formed our own interpretations of U.N. resolutions," said a spokesman for the Japanese Foreign Ministry.

Japan's ruling Liberal Democratic Party

(LDP) also invited Iraqi legislators to Tokyo in December to discuss a peaceful resolution of the Gulf crisis. The invitation represents the first by any government since Iraq invaded Kuwait on Aug. 2. Japanese media quoted LDP sources as saying the invitation was intended to find a way to free the 233 Japanese civilians who remain trapped in Iraq.

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## ***Colombian pleads for amnesty for narcos***

One of 10 Colombian journalists presumably held captive by the Medellín cocaine cartel as "bargaining chips" in their negotiations for an amnesty from the César Gaviria government was released Nov. 26, and immediately called on the government to meet the drug traffickers' demands, including giving them amnesty.

In a letter to former Medellín mayor and amnesty advocate Juan Gómez Méndez, *Hoy por Hoy* magazine reporter Juan Vitta expressed his gratitude for the mayor's mediation in winning his release, urged his intervention with President Gaviria to force a positive response from the government, and said, "I am certain that the Extraditables [drug lords] are prepared to continue demonstrating to Colombia their ready willingness to crown the global peace process with success."

Vitta called on the journalists still being held to get from drug chieftain Pablo Escobar the documentation of his charges that his human rights have been violated by the Colombian police and military, so that they can be published in full. It is the "human rights" appeal of these, the most brutal drug traffickers in the world, which has served to disarm the Colombian anti-narcotics police in what had previously been a successful campaign of repression against the drug traffickers.

In a nationally televised interview following his release, Vitta revealed that during his captivity, he spent most of his time discussing the satanic practice of "Santería" with one of the kidnapers. Vitta claims to be an expert in Santería, stemming from his

knowledge of the practice as an employee of the Colombian Embassy in Cuba. Colombia's drug traffickers regularly employ the worship of Satan and black magic in hope of winning "protection" for their multibillion-dollar smuggling operations.

## **British Gulf commander sees heavy casualties**

The commander of Britain's armored brigade in Saudi Arabia broke from the "quick and clean" war propaganda of Her Majesty's Government and told the British population to prepare for heavy casualties if conflict ensues.

"It is going to be the sort of warfare people never realized, or could have expected," said Brig. Patrick Cordingley. "Modern equipment and the effect it has are much more powerful than in any previous war. The results are going to be fairly terrific when they are used, and I have no doubts they will be used." Cordingley told reporters in Jubail, Saudi Arabia that "the public is not prepared for what is about to happen out here."

His chief of staff added that a head-on attack against Iraqi defensive positions in Kuwait would produce casualties of 15% in his estimate. The figures were confirmed by officials in London.

## **Gulf war would be 'crime against humanity'**

"To unleash a war today means to commit a crime against humanity," wrote the official Jesuit magazine *Civiltà Cattolica*, in an editorial published on Nov. 17. The magazine's editorials are approved by the Vatican.

The U.S. military deployment gives the impression, the editorial charged, that Washington wants to eliminate the Iraqi regime, in part because Iraq is the biggest military threat to Israel.

In recent years, "there have been very serious violations of international rights and

ethics with the invasion of independent countries by other countries," including the cases of Tibet, Afghanistan, Panama, Lebanon, and the West Bank. In these cases, there have been no massive military mobilizations to correct the situation, and U.N. declarations have not been observed.

"All this leads one to believe that the Western intervention in the Gulf, supported by some Arab countries, may indeed have a juridical and ethical motive but most of all has an economic and political one."

## **Romania's leaders join fascist at mass rally**

The Romanian government of President Ion Iliescu is giving open support to the mass fascist movement known as *Vatra Romanesca*. Both Iliescu and Prime Minister Petre Roman, who are backed by the Soviet Union, joined national chauvinist leader Radu Ciontea at the podium in a mass rally on Dec. 1.

The occasion was Romania's new national holiday, which commemorates Dec. 1, 1918, when Transylvania, Bessarabia (currently Soviet Moldavia), and Bukovina (the northern part of which was annexed by Moscow in 1940) became part of Romania.

For the occasion, a rally of 50,000 in the Transylvanian city of Alba Iulia was addressed by Iliescu, Roman, and Radu Ciontea.

Iliescu played the role of "conciliator," appealing to Romanians to overcome "ethnic, social, and political strife," but then gave the cue for the fascist-chauvinist harangue that followed from Ciontea, by stressing that "history will find a way of correcting the unjust loss of Romanian territories."

Ciontea called for a "Greater Romania": "We all carry in our hearts two Romanias—a smaller one, that is present-day Romania—and a Greater Romania, which must be the Romania of tomorrow." Ciontea got the biggest applause of any speaker, followed by chants of "Iliescu, Roman, concern yourselves with Transylvania, and don't forget that your country goes to the Dniestr River."

● **BULGARIA'S** socialist government resigned on Nov. 29, following a wave of protests that included a four-day general strike and demonstrations by tens of thousands of people in the capital city, Sofia. The demonstrators were protesting against food and energy shortages, and against the socialist ties of Prime Minister Andrei Lukanov.

● **SCANDALS** are going to be unleashed soon by the Bush administration against German leaders, intelligence sources report, in retaliation for what Bush regards as his humiliation by Chancellor Helmut Kohl, when Kohl insisted on a peaceful solution to the Gulf crisis during Bush's Nov. 18 stopover in Germany. These sources say that the CIA is picking up lot of juicy stories about German politicians from "former" operatives of the Stasi, East Germany's secret service.

● **CARDINAL CASAROLI** resigned as the Vatican secretary of state on Dec. 1 and will be replaced by Msgr. Angelo Sodano.

● **YUGOSLAV** Defense Minister Veljko Kadijevic said on Dec. 2 that there was a "real possibility" that civil war could break out, and warned that the Army would use force if necessary to prevent the breakup of the federation.

● **THE NEW ZEALAND** government of National Party leader Jim Bolger, elected in October, will send two transport aircraft and a medical team to the Gulf, reversing the policy of the previous Labour government.

● **TURKISH** Armed Forces chief Gen. Necip Torumtay resigned on Dec. 3. Speculation in Ankara has it that the resignation reflected displeasure with President Turgut Özal's support for the U.S. deployment in the Gulf, and the belief that Turkey acted too hastily in joining the U.S. against Iraq.