

# International Intelligence

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## ***Russia's Kozyrev threatens Estonia***

Russian Foreign Minister Andrei Kozyrev issued a threat against Estonia, in a commentary in the *International Herald Tribune* on Aug. 14. He charged the Estonian authorities with "policies reminiscent of ethnic cleansing," and warned that the issue of autonomy for ethnic Russians in Narva, Estonia "symbolizes one of the most serious challenges to European stability."

The Russian government would not stand by idly, but would come to protect the Russians in Estonia, and this should not be taken lightly in the West, Kozyrev warned: "Europe should heed the message from Narva."

Kozyrev's column coincided with a decision by the Supreme Court of Estonia in Tallinn, which ruled that the result of the mid-July referendum of the Russians in Narva for autonomy be declared invalid, on grounds that it was against the Estonian Constitution.

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## ***Violence breaks out in Chad and Kenya***

Demonstrations by Islamic and tribal groups in both Chad and Kenya turned violent the weekend of Aug. 7. Both Chad and Kenya border Sudan, and the entire region is becoming a powderkeg.

In Chad on Aug. 8, a street protest in a N'Djamena suburb turned violent and the net result was that 66 people were killed and another 190 wounded. Gen. Wadel Abdelkader Kamougue, acting in the stead of Prime Minister Fidel Moungar who was out of the country, ordered an indefinite nighttime curfew. On Aug. 9, Kamougue banned "demonstrations of a tribal or religious character liable to disturb the public peace." The government has rushed troops to Abeche, capital of the eastern Ouaddai region, which borders Sudan.

In Kenya, President Daniel arap Moi said it is absurd for some opposition leaders now to be calling for the intervention of the

United Nations because of increasing tribal clashes, when they themselves have failed to play a responsible role in containing the situation. Moi also charged that certain civil servants had carried out activities that had tarnished the image of the government. He cited recent cases of leakage of government documents, the failure of banks, and the shooting of innocent people by policemen sent to maintain peace in areas of unrest.

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## ***Bolivian general hits drive to wreck military***

Gen. Oscar Vargas Lorenzetti, commander of the Bolivian Armed Forces, attacked those "who want the disappearance of the Armed Forces," in a speech on Aug. 7, during the military's traditional welcoming ceremony for Bolivia's new President Gonzalo Sanchez de Lozada.

The general also warned against the "temptation of 'political interference' with military institutions under a democratic regime." President Sanchez said that while his administration plans "new roles in accordance with the times" for the Armed Forces, the government will respect the law that regulates the Armed Forces and will not change any of the commanders appointed by the previous government, until the end of this year when their term expires.

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## ***Russian military paper rejects U.S. interference***

The Russian military daily *Krasnaya Zvezda* accused the United States of interference in the affairs of the former Soviet Union, in a commentary on Aug. 10. A well-informed observer of the Russian political scene told *EIR* that the commentary is intimately linked to the intensifying political warfare in Moscow.

The commentary was occasioned by reports that the U.S. official recently assassinated in Georgia, Fred Woodruff, was a CIA agent, and that the Clinton administration has prepared a policy directive outlining

modes of "preventive diplomacy" in conflict zones in the former U.S.S.R. *Krasnaya Zvezda* called alleged U.S. plans for greater involvement in the former U.S.S.R. a "direct and unceremonious interference in the internal affairs of Russia and neighboring countries." The paper accused Washington of trying to fuel, not reduce, tensions, and charged that Washington's real aim was to complete a policy pursued by Presidents Reagan and Bush, to undermine Russia's security.

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## ***Serbian police accused of repression in Kosova***

Serbian police have been engaged in "a wild campaign of repression and grand-scale terror" in the Republic of Kosova, Kosova President Ibrahim Rugova told a press conference in Pristina Aug. 6. "As a consequence," he said, "hundreds of persons have been arrested, maltreated, and searched, and a number of them have disappeared. Through repression, Serbia wants to produce terrorism aimed at discrediting the peaceful process of the Kosova leadership and Albanian parties. But we will stick to our peaceful way toward solving the Kosova problem."

Rugova also charged that Serbia was destroying Kosova's economy: "Following the ruining of the state-owned economy in Kosova, Serbia is engaged in destroying small, private, Albanian-owned businesses in Kosova. As a consequence, the economic and social situation in Kosova is alarming."

During the week of Aug. 2, Kosova Prime Minister Bujar Bukoshi issued a statement deploring punitive expeditions by the Serbian police in Kosova: "The republic of Kosova is deeply grieved by the escalation of tensions in its territory through falsified and concocted incidents. The fourth incident during the last two months occurred several days ago, in which a wounded policeman was used as a pretext for the massive beating up of the population of this region."

Bukoshi appealed to the international community to intervene to stop the further

## Briefly

● **U.N. MEDIATOR** Thorvald Stoltenberg "has lots of friends in Serbia," a Norwegian activist opposed to the U.N. policy of appeasing Serbia told *EIR*. "He did his early diplomatic training in Belgrade. He made a number of friends, some of whom took care of his kids. He developed lots of contacts in high places."

● **EGYPT** is planning to establish settlements in disputed territory on the Sudanese border, according to the journal *African Analysis*. Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak has approved plans for moving 15,000 Egyptian settlers into the Halaib territory. The move, according to diplomatic sources, could spark a war between Egypt and Sudan.

● **THE BOSNIAN** magazine *Ljiljan* is serializing an *EIR* Special Report, "Why U.N. Plans for World Government Must Be Stopped," beginning in its Aug. 4 issue. The report highlights the perfidy of the United Nations in the Balkans. The magazine plans to publish the whole report in book form in the future.

● **THE BRAZILIAN** Army Ministry requested a secret session of the congressional Defense Commission to allow military leaders to present evidence of how U.S. military forces are threatening Brazil, according to the Aug. 13 *Jornal do Brasil*. Two generals testified that the United States intends to build military bases ringing Brazilian territory.

● **ITALY'S** national police chief has charged that the Mafia's campaign of terrorist bombings has been aided by "extremist groups" in former Yugoslavia. He said that organized crime groups are exchanging weapons, "favors," and logistical support with former Yugoslavs.

● **RUSSIAN** Foreign Minister Andrei Kozyrev told reporters in Sweden on Aug. 15 that Moscow and Kiev are close to agreement on the scrapping of nuclear weapons on Ukrainian territory.

increase of tensions and so "avoid the worst, so that grief and revolt do not determine the future of the region." He warned that "we have so far managed to prevent a Bosnian-type of conflict, but this does not mean that we can bear this for much longer. With the passing of time, patience has limits."

### *Israel now openly negotiating with PLO*

Political deals are currently under way involving Israel and the Palestinians, which could have far-reaching consequences for the region. In the aftermath of the Israeli assault on Lebanon, Israel is publicly agreeing to talk with officials of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) for the first time.

Three Palestinian peace negotiators were named to a PLO leadership body after publicly threatening to resign due to what they say are concessions by the PLO executive. The three are Hanan Ashrawi, Saeb Erekat, and Faisal Husseini.

Despite the fact that the three have now openly emerged as official PLO leaders, the Israeli government of Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin reports that it will continue to negotiate with them in the Washington peace talks. "It's the same delegation," said Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres. "For us it doesn't matter."

The Rabin government had lifted the ban on PLO contacts in January; one week later, Gen. Moshe Dayan's daughter met with PLO leader Yasser Arafat in Tunis. In July, Environment Minister Yossi Sarid met with PLO representatives in Egypt, as did Cultural Minister Shulamit Aloni.

The conditions for the dramatic turnabout were prepared by the Israeli attack on Lebanon earlier this month, which neutralized the hardline Likud party, while also preparing the way for a deal with Syrian President Hafez al-Assad.

Despite claims to the contrary, Israel, like the United States, has engaged in official, if covert, talks with the PLO.

According to well-placed Palestinian sources, World Jewish Congress head Edgar Bronfman, as well as his brother

Charles, are the masterminds behind the move to establish public Israeli-PLO talks. Both have long patronized Rabin. The Bronfmans have frequently been called on to mediate PLO-Israeli relations since at least 1985. Their role in the recent developments is one of many reasons to suspect that the Israeli shift is not going to do anything to improve the lot of the Palestinians.

### *Swiss analyst sees world at 'turning point'*

The world is at a turning point, in which "instability, uncertainty, and risk" will characterize the international scene, and in which the prevailing political elites and governments in the West will be increasingly discredited, wrote senior commentator Ernst Kux in the Swiss daily *Neue Zürcher Zeitung* on Aug. 13.

Kux stressed that the institutions that have had predominance in past decades, including NATO, the European Community, and the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, are being rendered irrelevant and impotent by the pace and direction of events, as seen in the Balkans and in the Caucasus. The "growing tensions and profound changes in the western democracies" can be seen in the latest election results in Denmark, France, Canada, Italy, and Switzerland.

According to Kux, "the chasm between government and citizens, above all between the political elite and the society, is growing in all democracies alike. The contradiction between promises made and promises kept is noticed and *no longer accepted* by the better educated and informed citizens. The presumption of the political elite, that they understand things better and should lead, is put into question by what happens in practice, and is no longer acknowledged by the society." At the same time, corruption is undermining confidence in government in many countries.

Kux wrote that "the crisis of western democracy is linked, not least, with the weakness of leadership of politicians, who no longer call up the courage and will to show the way to fight for goals."