

# International anti-nuclear mafia targets Japan

by Alberto Sábato

*Mr. Sábato is a South American analyst on nuclear policy.*

There is no doubt about it. Japan has been chosen as the next victim to be sacrificed by the high priests of the international anti-nuclear cult on the altar of non-proliferation.

This is what the Jan. 30, 1994 issue of the London *Sunday Times* demonstrated in its alarmist headline, "Japan to Go Nuclear in Asian Arms Race." According to the report, the British defense minister leaked a "highly secret" report affirming that "the Japanese could have acquired all the expertise for imploding a weapon." The *Sunday Times* reported that the Defense Ministry report was sent last December to the Joint Intelligence Committee, Britain's primary intelligence entity, as a warning to Prime Minister John Major that Japan could soon violate the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT).

The *Sunday Times* stated: "The crisis over North Korea's nuclear and missile programs is threatening to force Japan to abandon its non-nuclear stance." The following day, Japanese Deputy Foreign Minister Kunihiko Saito vehemently denied the British report, charging that it was "contrary to the facts." Saito affirmed that Japan's foreign minister would "discuss the matter with the British Defense Ministry."

## Why attack Japan?

What's clear from this sudden and absurd attack on Japan is that Anglo-American power centers are reacting to Japan's independent policy vis-à-vis international disarmament and the peaceful use of nuclear energy. Japan's policy was recently expressed through two positions made known to the international community:

First, Japan has made clear it will not refrain from full energy utilization of the plutonium generated by its nuclear reactors; it also defends the peaceful commercial utilization of plutonium originating from the deactivation of those nuclear warheads belonging to the nuclear weapons-possessing states.

Second, Japan is not willing to agree to an indefinite extension of the NPT in 1995, if current internal and external conditionalities persist. "Why should Britain and China be allowed to continue a nuclear weapons buildup?" one Japanese diplomat asked *EIR*. "As long as the NPT turns a blind eye to that, we can't give it blanket endorsement."

These two determinations are intimately linked and reflect Japan's firm decision to develop nuclear energy for peaceful purposes as the preferential option for the country's energy and technological development.

Obviously, this policy is not in the interests of the oligarchies of the Anglo-American power axis. According to a confidential report made available to *EIR* by a researcher at the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI)—an entity which maintains strong ties with London's Tavistock Institute—British intelligence may have leaked the report on Japan's nuclear program to the *Sunday Times* for the purpose of killing any possibility of the country's developing a nuclear weapons program in the future. That is, to launch an anti-nuclear movement which would at the same time annihilate Japan's program for the peaceful uses of the atom.

The analyst who spoke with *EIR* is convinced that Japan is not involved in the development of nuclear weapons. "I would start with the mindset," he said, "that there's a lot less in the story than the *Times* says. But were some think-tanks playing around with studies? . . . And if there is something going on in Japan and British intelligence picked up on it, then the answer is: They want to 'kill' the study and embarrass the Japanese at the same time."

According to the researcher, this maneuver could threaten the entirety of Japan's peaceful nuclear program, just as these same Anglo-American intelligence circles killed Germany's nuclear program: "Certainly, one of the things you saw happen in Germany . . . was the charge of the Greens in the 1980s that Germany had a nuclear weapons program, and they saw the strongest evidence in the German insistence on pursuing breeder reactors and plutonium light water reactors. . . . Then, they were finding studies—secret studies which the German government claimed didn't exist—and that would just activate them further. And it just played out over 2-3 years and the result was . . . that it certainly undermined the whole nuclear industry."

## Japan's fight for peaceful use of plutonium

Japan's political and business elite considers the issue of the peaceful use of the atom to be the most important item on the country's strategic agenda in coming years. This is shown, for example, in the following statement by Takao

Ishiwatari, president of the Power Reactor and Nuclear Fuel Development Corp.: "With the improvement of living conditions and the increase of population, world energy consumption is expected to double in 30 to 40 years. From this point of view, I would think that serious consideration should be given now to the fact that fossil fuel resources are limited. Coal, oil, and natural gas could be replaced by plutonium, with as much potential as the fossil fuels have. Plutonium is an outstanding energy source which resource-poor countries like Japan cannot possibly overlook. *If plutonium is to be thrown away, it will theoretically leave energy resources with only one-sixtieth of their potential.* . . . I believe that a national policy line should be set for plutonium's further development and use for peaceful purposes" (emphasis added).

That statement was published in the August 1993 issue of *Plutonium* magazine, a new publication put out by Japan's Council for the Nuclear Fuel Cycle, a recently created organization of professors, business leaders, diplomats, congressmen, and senators, whose purpose is to defend—nationally and internationally—Japan's policy for the peaceful use of nuclear energy.

Clearly this Japanese elite understands something of the enormous international pressures to which they will be subjected, coming primarily from those same power centers responsible for the terrorist headlines in the *Sunday Times*. The October 1993 issue of *Plutonium* published a debate among various members of this Japanese elite on its country's position regarding extending the NPT in 1995. One of the participants in that debate, Yugi Tsushima, a member of the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) in the Japanese House of Representatives, stated that "in any case, the treaty should not be extended without attaching to it the condition that nuclear weapons should be eliminated. That is the way for Japan to go in this matter."

Ishiwatari replied, "What I am concerned about is that there is some kind of maneuvering for getting the proposed elimination of nuclear weapons mixed up with nuclear power and plutonium recycling. I feel this could eventually put Japan in a very weak position."

Ryukichi Imai, former ambassador to the Geneva Disarmament Conference, agreed with Ishiwatari: "The once widespread anti-nuclear movement in Germany is a good example of events leading up to the case where opposition to armaments is spread to include nuclear power." Masao Hori, a former LDP member of the House of Representatives and founder of the Council for the Nuclear Fuel Cycle, closed the discussion: "I believe that the development of nuclear power, as a whole, has come to the point where we can no longer retrace its way."

### **Japan resists NPT extension**

Japanese society is firmly resisting the indefinite extension of the NPT, demanded by the Anglo-American oligar-

chies which seek to create a world government by 1995.

On June 30, 1993, several representatives of organizations based in the cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, led by the president of the Hiroshima-Nagasaki Peace Foundation, Naomi Shohnno, handed to then-Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa a declaration asking that at the Tokyo summit, the Japanese government reject all proposals for a joint declaration supporting the NPT's indefinite extension in 1995. "Speaking from our position as citizens of the atom-bombed city of Hiroshima," the statement reads, "we can never allow it to be extended indefinitely. That is because an indefinite extension of the NPT also recognizes that five countries (the United States, Russia, the U.K, France, and China) would be able to have nuclear weapons indefinitely. . . . The Japanese government . . . is advised not to recognize an indefinite extension of the NPT as such, but to play a leading role in moving toward the elimination of nuclear weapons."

The Tokyo summit, which took place one week after this manifesto was issued, made no mention in its final communiqué of anything relating to the NPT's extension. Just a few days later, Prime Minister Miyazawa resigned his post as head of the LDP, which had lost an absolute majority in the Parliament in the July 18 elections. The LDP had ruled Japan since 1955, but in the months which preceded the 1993 elections, it had experienced a profound crisis based on charges of corruption as well as defections of important members to other parties.

The new prime minister, Morihiro Hosokawa, took office on Aug. 6, heading up an unstable coalition of seven parties which, for the first time since 1955, excluded the LDP. Hosokawa had left the LDP one year earlier to found his Japan New Party (JNP), whose program basically consisted of "fighting corruption."

The new cabinet included individuals with strong Anglo-American ties such as spokesman Takako Doi of the Socialist Party (SDP), linked to the State Department, and Ichiro Ozawa, former LDP secretary general who now controls the Japan Renewal Party (JRP), responsible for naming Foreign Minister Tsutomu Hata and other cabinet members. Ozawa is known for his ties to Henry Kissinger, with whom he cooperated in formulating the State Department's policies toward Japan.

The possibility that the LDP's crisis may have been manipulated by those same power centers which seek the destruction of Japan's nuclear development shouldn't be ruled out. It is well known that many members of that party maintain an intransigent position in defense of an independent Japanese nuclear policy. This is particularly true of its members in the House of Councillors who fiercely opposed Japan's ratification of the NPT in the 1970s.

It shouldn't have come as a big surprise, therefore, when Hosokawa announced on Aug. 23, 1993 that Tokyo was "supporting" the NPT's indefinite extension. According to the Aug. 26, 1993 issue of *Nucleonics Week*, "senior energy

officials of Japan speculated that Hosokawa's government will modify Japan's long-standing policies on plutonium use and fast-breeder reactor development."

Admittedly influenced by British intelligence, *Nucleonics Week* then reported: "Meanwhile, the nuclear community is still skeptical that Hosokawa's administration will continue unchanged the nuclear energy policies of the unseated LDP, as the new coalition pronounced before election." *Nucleonics Week* mentions the statement made by "leading policy planner" Toyooki Ikuta, president of the Institute of Energy Economics, who asserted, "It's very doubtful that [the former policy] will continue in the future."

It's likely that Ikuta has had the wool pulled over his eyes. Japan's nuclear policy elite has mobilized with great efficiency in defense of the country's nuclear program. Several organizations, such as the Council for the Nuclear Fuel Cycle and the Women's Energy Network (WEN), an entity whose primary purpose is to publicize the facts about nuclear energy among Japan's female population, were recently created as part of this campaign.

Japanese authorities embarked on the most ambitious public information program in recent years on nuclear energy. Beyond those groups and civic associations set up to strengthen pro-nuclear groups, an enormous information campaign has been launched, to prepare educational brochures, videos, pamphlets, etc. This program reached its peak in April of this year, when the Monyu plant, Japan's first fast-breeder reactor, went into operation.

On the other hand, Japan's nuclear elite is firmly committed to fighting against the NPT's extension. In a statement published in the January 1994 issue of *Atom in Japan* magazine, Dr. Naomi Shohno said that Prime Minister Hosokawa's speech supporting the NPT's indefinite extension at the U.N. General Assembly in September 1993 "fell short of the Japanese people's expectations. An indefinite extension of the NPT would perpetuate the existence of nuclear-weapon states with international endorsement. . . . And for the future of the NPT, it is essential that a majority of non-nuclear-weapon states stand united against indefinite extension."

Shohno, who is also a professor emeritus of Hiroshima Jogakuin College (address: 4-13-1 Ushita, Higashi-ku, Hiroshima 732, Japan) said that her organization "will cooperate and exchange information with other international peace organizations and make appeals to the U.N., the nuclear-weapon states, the Japanese government, and all other states."

Following continuing destabilizations of Japan, Hosokawa was forced to resign, the Socialists left the coalition, and now Hata is prime minister, operating publicly as the puppet of Ozawa. Hata could fall at any moment and the situation remains in flux.

### Anglo-American plans

With these activities in defense of its nuclear program, Japan has become the world's greatest hope for a return to

the path of international peaceful development of nuclear energy. Japan's elites should therefore expect a strong reaction from Anglo-American power centers to this attitude of independence and good sense.

The artificially created crisis revolving around North Korea's alleged nuclear weapons program will be further intensified to keep up U.N. International Atomic Energy Agency pressure against all plutonium use. Japan will have to actively seek closer ties with the governments of North and South Korea to avoid greater manipulation of this crisis. The other possible focus of counterintelligence and disinformation will be the intensified activities of the non-governmental organizations (NGOs), denouncing nonexistent "studies," "intentions," and "proposals," and demanding "controls" and limitations on Japanese government entities involved in the nuclear field.

In this regard, the activities of the internationally powerful multinational entity Greenpeace, in the form of an anti-nuclear campaign directed at the Japanese state, would come as no surprise. Greenpeace already played a prominent role in pursuing the ship *Akatsuki Maru*, at the end of 1992, when it was transporting a load of plutonium from France to be burned in Japanese nuclear reactors. At that time, there were rumors that Greenpeace's ship obtained information from spy satellites which were constantly mapping the *Akatsuki Maru*'s coordinates as it travelled toward Japan.

Greenpeace also recently denounced an operation to dump radioactive waste from Russia into the Sea of Japan. According to western sources, this was an extremely suspicious action because it would have been practically impossible for Greenpeace to access that type of normally secret operation unless Russian information was leaked or it obtained information from western spy satellites. Greenpeace is known to have a "friendly relationship" with Anglo-American intelligence agencies and also maintains strong ties to sectors of the former Soviet Union's *nomenklatura*.

Japan, beware! The Anglo-American oligarchies which seek to control the world are desperate about Japanese nuclear plans. The United States is determined to annihilate any possibility anywhere in the world of the peaceful use of plutonium. According to the Nov. 11, 1993 issue of *Nucleonics Week*, the U.S. Department of Energy "spoke of" trying to prevent Belgium from sending, through its Center for Nuclear Research in Mol, a shipment of fuel elements used at its Test Materials Reactor (BR2) for reprocessing in England.

In recent decades, a radical change has occurred in the United States' policies regarding the peaceful use of nuclear energy, whose medium-term goal is probably to ban any use of the atom from the face of the planet. According to Hiroto Ishida, the director general of Japan's Atomic Energy Bureau (*Plutonium*, August 1993), "The Americans had once been enthusiastic for recycling. . . . Seldom, if ever, would they supply [enriched uranium] to Japan, without advising the Japanese to make efficient use of plutonium, as it could be

found in the residues of burnt uranium. The Americans would say to us that they might not offer their uranium enrichment services unless we promised to use plutonium.”

Perhaps the Japanese have realized that the world has changed and that today, insanity reigns among those who hold world power.

By not using plutonium as one of the largest reserves of safe and cheap energy, the world will be sabotaging the peaceful use of nuclear energy, making it uneconomical by limiting its energy efficiency and by favoring an unnecessary increase in radioactive waste represented by these spent and un-recycled fuel elements.

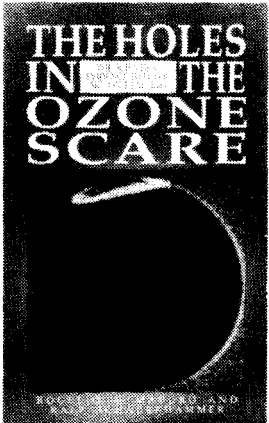
This is apparently the goal of those obscurantist “druids” of the international anti-nuclear cult, such as Franz Berkhout et al., who authored an article in the November 1992 issue of the *Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists* stating that “the first priority is not to figure out ways to make weapons plutonium work in the civilian power cycle. Rather, the first priority must be to keep plutonium, weapons-grade and reactor-grade, out of the hands of would-be bomb makers. . . . An obvious alternative . . . is to mix plutonium back into the high-level waste that was generated when the plutonium was originally separated. . . . Mixing plutonium with high-level waste glass would make plutonium recovery impossible.”

U.S. environmental groups were given millions of dollars in the past five years to spread scare stories about a man-made ozone hole that would cause cancer on Earth.

Now, for only \$15, you can learn the truth about the ozone scare.

**THE HOLES IN THE OZONE SCARE**

The Scientific Evidence That the Sky Isn't Falling



Send checks or money orders (U.S. currency only) to  
**21st Century** Dept E  
P.O. Box 16285, Washington, D.C., 20041. **\$15** plus \$3 shipping and handling

## Dr. Ray: Plutonium is a valuable resource

by Marjorie Mazel Hecht

In the Atoms for Peace days of the 1960s, it was taken for granted that the nuclear fuel cycle would be completed, so that spent fuel from nuclear reactors would be reprocessed to be used again as fuel. This would turn 96% of the so-called nuclear waste into a valuable resource, at the same time eliminating the need to store or bury radioactive spent fuel. Plutonium was considered an essential part of the fuel cycle in these optimistic days of the nuclear age; it would ensure an endless, renewable source of energy because breeder reactors could be designed to produce more plutonium than they burned.

Over the course of the last 30 years, however, plutonium developed an “image problem,” to quote Dr. Dixy Lee Ray, who devoted the last several years to fighting for science-based policies regarding energy and the environment. Ray frequently discussed the plutonium question in the months before her death in January 1994, and she was working on a feature article on the subject for *21st Century Science & Technology* magazine. Her view was unequivocal: With appropriate safeguards, the best way to dispose of plutonium was to use it! Ray advocated the development of advanced reactors that could burn plutonium and the use of existing light water reactors to burn mixed oxide fuel.

Ray did not live to complete the plutonium article, but *21st Century* was able to publish an earlier piece Ray wrote on plutonium in its Summer 1994 issue. Ray had written the earlier article in 1988 as the keynote address for a meeting of the International Nuclear Materials Management organization in Las Vegas. As the head of the U.S. Atomic Energy Agency from 1973-75, Ray knew the nuclear issue inside out. Equally important, she had the courage to stand up and fight for nuclear science and technology against both the misguided environmentalists and the misguided members of the nuclear community who preferred to accommodate to the anti-nuclear forces, no matter how irrational their demands.

### Putting toxicity into perspective

Ray discusses the properties of plutonium, the history of its use, and the process of political fighting and fear that led President Carter to stop reprocessing of spent nuclear fuel, thus stopping the use of plutonium.

She wrote: “Plutonium is often called ‘the most toxic