

International Intelligence

Moscow diplomacy is worrying Israel

The new Israeli ambassador to Moscow, Aliza Shenhar, said Israel is extremely worried about Russia's apparent growing closeness with Iraq and Iran. Israel is concerned since both regimes are hostile to Israel and "may possess the nuclear weapon," she said in her first press conference in Moscow Feb. 8. Statements by Russia that a nuclear power station being built in Iran was solely to produce electricity "do not really assure us," she said, according to reports in the Indian press.

On Feb. 6, Russia repeated that it planned to finish construction of the power station which Germany was building in Bushehr, Iran, when the Khomeini revolution of 1979 brought the project to a halt.

Red-Green coalition keeps power in Hesse

In elections held Feb. 19, the incumbent coalition of the German Social Democratic Party (or SPD, popularly dubbed "reds") and the Greens (environmentalists) won reelection in the state of Hesse, where the major German financial center of Frankfurt is located. These were the first state elections since the federal legislative vote last October, which narrowly returned the Christian Democratic Union/Free Democratic coalition to power in Bonn.

The elections witnessed a further decline in voter participation, to a level of 66.5% of all registered voters.

Given the high unemployment rate in Germany, working people were expected to turn heavily to the SPD, which is traditionally tied to the unions. However, the SPD's alliance with the Greens in implementing environmental lunacy, including the rejection of nuclear energy, has so discredited them that the SPD vote fell by 2%. The Greens on the other hand, picked up support from the upper middle-class financial sectors of Frankfurt to increase their vote by 3% over the last state elections.

The Civil Rights Movement Solidarity

(BBS) party, led by Helga Zepp-LaRouche, ran 12 candidates in the Hesse race. Michael Weissbach spoke for the LaRouche program on a live TV debate among the small parties.

In response to the question of a program for the state, he underlined "that we are in the worst crisis of the world economy in this century, with the danger of a collapse of the international financial system. . . ."

"If we force a correction of the course of financial and economic policies, away from speculation and toward productive investments, e.g., into the economic reconstruction of central and eastern Europe or into the economic buildup of the Middle East region, in order to stabilize the peace process . . . then the problem of unemployment and the economic crisis can be solved."

'Kissinger's Kissinger' in Peru-Ecuador talks

On Feb. 16, in the middle of the final stages of negotiations on a cease-fire between the Peru and Ecuador nations in Brasilia, the U.S. ambassador to Brazil, Melvin Levitsky, who had been heading the U.S. negotiating team for the previous two weeks-plus, was suddenly replaced by senior State Department adviser and geopolitician Luigi Einaudi.

The Italian-born Einaudi, known as "Kissinger's Kissinger for Latin America," quickly mooted pulling the Organization of American States (OAS) into the conflict, telling the press that, "as the highest regional body, [the OAS] can always help with our efforts."

Previously, the Clinton administration had been firm that neither the OAS nor the United Nations was required to settle the conflict. The U.S. had maintained that negotiations were better handled by the four countries which signed the 1942 Rio Protocol as Guarantors (U.S., Argentina, Brazil, and Chile).

An expert on the Brazilian and Peruvian militaries, Einaudi has specialized in fomenting border wars in Ibero-America, since he "studied" them at the RAND Corporation in the 1970s.

Airborne commander rips Moscow regime

The commander of Russian airborne forces, General Yevgeni Podkolzin, has told the Yeltsin regime that since it doesn't properly fund the Armed Forces, it shouldn't send them into combat, as in Chechnya. On Feb. 20 he said: "If the state wants to use force, the state must provide for it."

Podkolzin said that the blunders made in Chechnya, for which the military was excoriated by President Yeltsin in his state of the nation address Feb. 19, "stem especially from the worthless information supplied by the FSK," the Federal Counterintelligence Service, as the army had no reliable information on the strength, armaments, and morale of the Chechen fighters. Podkolzin trained his sights on Sergei Stepashin, the head of the FSK. "The head of the FSK told us there are gangs of criminals there. Instead, it turned out there was a professional army," as well trained as Russia's forces, and armed with even more grenade-launchers and better communications equipment.

Belgian Socialists rocked by scandals

Early general elections in Belgium have been proposed for May 21 by Prime Minister Jean-Luc Dehaene, as the only way out of a political crisis that includes the fact that the entire leadership stratum of his coalition partner, the Socialist Party (SP), is being probed for complicity in the 1988 "Agusta" corruption affair.

Investigations in the case, which involves the purchase of 46 helicopters produced by the Italian firm Agusta, and some \$1-2 million in bribery payments by that firm, got hotter in mid-February, when the SP offices were raided by police. Earlier, two leading party members, the former party manager and the director of the party cadre school section, were arrested.

The Agusta scandal will also hit Belgian Socialists of international rank, like Willy Claes, now the secretary general of NATO,

who was defense minister in 1988, and Karel Miert, now a member of the European Commission who in 1988 was SP chairman in Flanders. Both had endorsed the purchase of the Italian helicopters.

Italian politician wooed by Rees-Mogg group

Gianfranco Fini, leader of Italy's National Alliance party, visited London in late February on the first leg of an electoral tour to Britain, France, and the United States. His trip to London was organized by former British ambassador to Italy Sir Derek Thomas, an adviser to the Rothschild Bank, and British intelligence spokesman Lord William Rees-Mogg. Fini's public appearances included a speech at the Royal Institute for International Affairs where he promised that his party will not oppose privatization in Italy.

National Alliance was part of the Berlusconi government which collapsed in December. Some members of the conservative party had strongly opposed British-steered privatization schemes. Last September, National Alliance member Antonio Parlato, Undersecretary of the Budget, called a press conference in Milan to denounce the "Britannia plot" against Italian economic sovereignty, which was first exposed by *EIR*.

Colombian cardinal blasts British royals

Speaking to a post-Cairo conference on the family held Feb. 10 at the University of Sabana in Bogotá, Colombia, Cardinal Alfonso López Trujillo, president of the Vatican's Commission on the Family, described Britain's "Prince Charles and his father" Prince Philip of Edinburgh, as "the worst demographic terrorists in the world." According to a journalist at the event, Cardinal López went on to say that while man has a mouth, he also has two hands, two ears, a brain and the capacity to create, and he prayed that God would grant these faculties

to Prince Charles.

The cardinal, a native of Medellín, Colombia, went on to describe the "battle between the forces of good and evil" being fought today, and referred to the "social sickness" plaguing today's culture, in which there exists an "Orwellian language" which equates good with evil, and freedom with slavery. Thus, said the Vatican's top spokesman on family issues, we have the so-called pro-choice movement, an "exercise in the freedom to choose," through which the most precious gift of life is liquidated by means of 50 million abortions annually.

His attacks on the British royals echoed *EIR*'s Oct. 28, 1994 widely circulated *Special Report*, "The Coming Fall of the House of Windsor."

Croats, Bosnians affirm partnership

On Feb. 13, at a joint press conference at the National Press Club in Washington, D.C., Croatian Ambassador Petar Sarcevic and Bosnian Ambassador Sven Alkalaj both affirmed that a strong relationship between Croatia and Bosnia-Herzegovina is the foundation for future peace in the region. Sarcevic said, however, that the Bosnian-Croat federation agreed to in Washington in 1994 "can only succeed with the assistance of the international community in the form of political support, and additional financial resources." He also said that "because the problem is the Serbs, Croatia knows well that a solid federation between Bosnian Croats and Bosnian Muslims now and a solid confederation between Croatia and the Federation of Bosnia-Herzegovina now is the essence of the balance of power that is an absolute must to gain and to maintain a lasting peace in our region."

"Unprofor in Croatia has become a stumbling block to reintegration of Croatia's internationally recognized borders," Sarcevic added. "Croatia's role in terminating Unprofor's mandate in Croatia is not to widen the war as has been reported by the media but the very opposite."

Briefly

● **TURKEY** arrested 35 anti-nuclear protesters, including seven Greenpeace foreign nationals, on Feb. 18 for protesting against the construction of the country's first nuclear power plant. If convicted they could receive prison sentences of three years.

● **NELSON MANDELA** in a hard-line speech promised South Africa a crackdown on crime, corruption, and industrial anarchy on Feb. 18. He emphasized his commitment to fiscal discipline, the reduction of the budget deficit, and cutting the government's share of the national budget. Having been a political prisoner for 27 years, Mandela warned against taking revenge against those who are responsible for the apartheid system.

● **YELTSIN** should quit, said Russian Gen. Aleksandr Lebed in an interview with the German picture daily *Bild Zeitung* on Feb. 21. The popular general denied any ambitions to become President himself.

● **U.N. TROOPS** in Angola will have to deal with 20 million land mines. The United Nations authorized 7,000 peacekeepers in February to supposedly police settlement of the 20-year civil war, in which 450,000 people died.

● **THE BEIJING** government said on Feb. 14 it would oppose sanctions against Libya for refusing to hand over two men allegedly responsible for the bombing of a U.S. airliner over Lockerbie, Scotland in 1988. In 1991, Britain and the U.S. issued warrants for the two Libyans. Tough U.N. sanctions have been imposed.

● **AZIMBABWEAN** human rights group, Zimrights, criticized President Mugabe for supporting the export of arms on Feb. 18. Mugabe attended the opening ceremony of two arms factories. After independence in 1980, the outgoing Rhodesian government destroyed weapons and many arms experts fled the country.