

International Intelligence

Tudjman tries to discredit opposition

Following the recent mayoral elections in Zagreb, on Feb. 27 the Croatian Presidency issued, 48 hours beyond the deadline, a communiqué stating that President Franjo Tudjman would refuse to confirm the election of Jozo Rados, chairman of the HSLs opposition party, as mayor of Zagreb and head of Zagreb County. Tudjman also refused to confirm Eduard Kunjko, a member of HND (Independent Democrats), which is a dissident party.

As a result, the co-chairmen of the opposition coalition sent a letter to Tudjman, in which they stated that he has the constitutional right to refuse to confirm a mayor, but not to accuse the opposition, as he has, of "trying to win foreign circles, and to discredit, destabilize, and replace a democratically elected government." The matter of these elections was raised by German Foreign Minister Klaus Kinkel with Tudjman in the third week of February.

Payoffs flow to enemies of Sudan

Financial concessions—ranging from debt write-offs to hard cash—are coming into those countries which have lined up with London to isolate and break Sudan. Ethiopia has now racked up pledges of \$1.1 billion in grants and loans to renovate roads. The money is coming from the U.N. Development Program, the World Bank, European Union, Japan, Germany, Italy, Sweden, and the Netherlands, according to Feb. 15 wire reports from Addis Abeba, Ethiopia.

Egypt is hoping for a \$4 billion write-off of its debt in an imminent deal with the International Monetary Fund (IMF). In addition to its duties on the Sudan front, Egypt is going full steam ahead with plans for privatizing one-quarter of its State companies, and is also setting up special export zones (SEZs) at Port Said, Suez, and Domyat. Egypt is also studying barter plans under which joint investments and exports to creditor nations

would be used to offset its \$33 billion debt.

Uganda is also looking for additional debt write-offs. A visiting IMF team in Kampala hailed Uganda for its aggressive reform campaign since 1987. Uganda receives \$800 million in aid each year. It's not all roses though. IMF representative Robert Sharer said that the next step for Uganda is to increase its taxes to at least 20% of GDP, as opposed to the current 11%. However, even British news outlets admit that in Uganda, the IMF success story, annual per capita income is \$230, with more than half of the labor force earning under \$72 a year. Uganda's debt, most of it accrued under the present dictator, Yoweri Museveni, now equals 80% of GDP, and Uganda uses 75% of its export earnings annually to service the debt.

Bushhackers muddy Thai drug investigation

Thailand newspapers reported at the end of January that three Bush-era United States officials testified before the Commission of Inquiry set up by the Thai government to investigate the allegations by the United States against two leading Thai politicians, claiming that one of them, Narong Wongwan, was "framed by the CIA." The three were identified as Scott Thompson, assistant secretary of defense under Reagan and now a visiting senior fellow at Chulalongkorn University in Bangkok; Daniel Arnold, a former CIA station chief in Bangkok in the 1970s; and Samuel Hoskinson, who said he retired 15 months ago as vice chairman of the U.S. National Intelligence Council.

Their testimony was reported to be "not nonsensical, but reasonable," although they are said to have provided no evidence of their charges. The head of the Commission of Inquiry (until recently), Thanat Khoman, reported last year that while visiting the United States he had met unnamed ex-CIA officials who had told him that the CIA and the Drug Enforcement Administration knew that both Narong and the other Thai, Wattana Atsawahem, were innocent, and had been set up.

In a related development, *The Nation* reported on Feb. 7 that there were reports that

Narong had been invited two weeks earlier by the U.S. Republican Party to attend a Republican function in Washington in February. The United States has not lifted its ban on visas for the two Thais.

Gorbachov, Philip form joint New Age project

A well-informed British "ecologist" source said on Feb. 27 that the Alliance for Religion and Conservation (ARC) has set up a project with the Gorbachov Foundation, to draft a "Charter on Human Responsibilities," that will be "complementary" to the United Nations Declaration on Human Rights. This is intended to correct the "flaw" in leading world faiths, which speak of "rights" but ignore "responsibilities," to nature and in other domains.

ARC is a pet project of Britain's Prince Philip, and is linked to the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF), which Philip heads.

The Gorbachov Foundation operatives working on this, out of the United States, include Jim Garrison, a leading figure at Aldous Huxley's Esalen Institute in California, who is characterized as a "Jesuit New Age man, of the Teilhard de Chardin type"; and Jim Balback, described as a former State Department coordinator of aid to the Afghan mujahideen guerrillas, who supposedly realized that the mujahideen were a bunch of murderous thugs, and left the State Department.

Russian scientists protest budget debacle

Russian scientists started a nationwide protest on Feb. 14. A letter of the council of the Russian Science Academy (RAN) trade union to Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin, published in *Pravda* on Feb. 23, explains reasons for this action, and states that due to the fact that only 75% of the budget obligation toward the RAN was fulfilled, the situation in the majority of the RAN departments is catastrophic. Salaries of scientists working in RAN institutes are three to four

times lower than those of construction workers. A cleaning lady in an average firm gets twice as much as a professor in a State institute.

During the last three years alone, 630,000 people left science research, and 20,500 young biologists, physicists, mathematicians, and chemists departed for the United States, Germany, and Great Britain.

In Pushino-na-Oke (Podmoskovie), half of the research has been closed, and 40% of scientists have been laid off. The same is going on in other centers near Moscow: Dubno, Chernogolovka, and Protvino, which were established in order to conduct research in physics, nuclear energy, and other important branches of science.

In constant prices, spending on science in Russia has declined 17 times since 1985. In 1991, 1.03% of GNP was allocated to science, and 3.87% of budget expenditure. In 1995, scientists received 0.4% of GNP, and 2.59% of budget expenditure. According to a government document, "On the Support for Russian Science," in 1996, the government decided to give 3% of budget expenditure to science, which means 13.1 trillion rubles. However, in a bill, "On the Federal Budget for 1996," the sum allocated to science is 11 trillion rubles.

U.N. blacked out RPF massacres in Rwanda

The United Nations has covered up the massacre of more than 100,000 ethnic Hutus by the Rwandan Patriotic Front, the which is dominated by ethnic Tutsis, according to the lead article in the French daily *Libération* on Feb. 27. The RPF's main backer is Ugandan dictator Yoweri Museveni, a puppet of Britain's colonial minister, Baroness Lynda Chalker. *Libération's* five-page exposé, however, declines to mention Museveni's role.

In one article, author Stephen Smith writes: "If Brittany were patrolled by several thousand Blue Helmets, if a hundred or so human rights observers were deployed, and more than 150 humanitarian organizations working on site, would one believe that tens,

perhaps more than a hundred thousand civilians could be killed, without the world learning about it? From the evidence, no." But precisely this is happening in Rwanda, which is about the same size and shape as Brittany, with "no reaction" from the international community. First, nearly a million Hutus were killed, and now, "under the shadow of genocide, the RPF had perpetrated massacres, had imposed their rule through terror, and continue to kill." The "soldiers of peace and the guardians of the rights of man . . . have not considered it politically correct to denounce this."

Smith writes that in October 1994, Robert Gersony, an American consultant to the High Commissioner for Refugees, accused the new regime of having killed at least 30,000 Hutus. But when he presented the results of his investigation, carried out during three weeks in the east of Rwanda and for one week in the refugee camps in Tanzania, it was placed "under embargo" by the U.N. secretary general "while awaiting a more thorough investigation." This "thorough investigation" lasted *one day*, carried out by a "mixed commission," composed of the Rwandan interior minister and the delegates of the U.N. Mission for Aid to Rwanda. Finding nothing, the U.N. group decided to stop its work.

Thatcher invited to fulminate in Fulton

On March 9 at Westminster College in Fulton, Missouri, Lady Margaret Thatcher will give a 50th Anniversary address commemorating former British Prime Minister Winston Churchill's hysterical "Iron Curtain" speech. James Traer, the college president, described the worldview of Thatcher, herself a former British prime minister, as parallel with Churchill's, and said: "This speaking opportunity could be an historic one—for Lady Thatcher, for the college, and for the world."

As an escort in 1946, Churchill had the Anglophile President Harry S Truman. This time around, Westminster College asked President Bill Clinton to appear with Thatcher, but he declined.

IN GERMANY, the Civil Rights Movement-Solidarity (which uses the acronym: "BüSo") is running candidates in several state elections. The BüSo is led by Helga Zepp LaRouche, wife of U.S. Presidential candidate Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr. Its electoral slogan calls for "more productive jobs instead of Maastricht and speculation," and the campaign poster sports a picture of the Transrapid, Germany's maglev train.

TWO BRITISH nationals and one Malaysian have been charged in the biggest drug bust in Philippines history, along with two others still at large. Kwoh Wong Keung and Chik Chi Ping, both of Hongkong, and Malaysian Choo Yeh Xeong were charged Feb. 16 with trafficking in methamphetamine hydrochloride. Drug trafficking in the Philippines is now punishable by death.

THE VATICAN has established diplomatic relations with Belgrade, capital of Yugoslavia (Serbia)—before the United States, and before most European countries.

SAM RANGSI, the deposed finance minister of Cambodia, has called on the U.S. to refuse Most Favored Nation status to Cambodia. He is a special favorite of the International Monetary Fund and has smeared the Phnom Penh government and Army as drug runners—ignoring the well-known role of the Khmer Rouge in utilizing drugs to finance their war against the government after the loss of their Chinese backing several years ago.

HUNDREDS of parliamentarians, trade unionists, religious institutions, and humanitarian organizations in Germany, France, Italy, Sweden, and Denmark are being asked to sign the call of the Committee to Save the Children in Bosnia, issued in Washington on Feb. 20. One endorser is Italian parliamentarian Roberto Formigoni, governor of the Lombardy Region, and deputy secretary of the United Christian Democrats.