

International Intelligence

British run simulated war games series

Britain's Ministry of Defense has been running a series of "future war simulation games," under the general title of "Year 2010," whose underlying assumption is best expressed by Samuel Huntington's "Clash of Civilizations" thesis. A senior British Trilateral Commission member told a journalist that the future scenarios, as elaborated at a series of private seminars, are based on "studies by the Army, Navy, and Air Force," combined with "political intelligence input." He said the studies "are very sobering and frightening. . . . The seminars dealing with these matters have been rather breath-taking occasions."

The speeches late last year by Defense Minister Michael Portillo, focussing on some 50 emerging war threats, are based on these studies, the source noted. "The message is: 'We've got to be prepared, we've got to be preparing for a world which may take us all by surprise. We in the democracies have got to find new ways to come together.'"

The reports discussed by the Defense Ministry included topics on "nuclear proliferation" and "fundamentalism in the Islamic world," overlapping the threats of "terrorism." The attendees are advised to think of the "Chinas, Irans, and Indonesias" as the main potential adversaries. "What we are told, is 'Don't worry about Russia, they will join us when the time comes,' " the source said.

Heroin production rising in Thailand and Laos

With supplies short and prices up, due to Myanmar's takeover of the Shan states from the narco armies, the Thailand hill tribes are again turning to opium, according to the *Nation* of Bangkok. Simultaneously, "ice" (methamphetamine) has reached epidemic proportions in Thailand, as in most of Southeast Asia, with production now extending beyond Bangkok into the provinces. There

are an estimated 200 million doses on the market in Thailand alone.

According to the *Bangkok Post*, the capital retains its attractiveness as a drug center, because "Bangkok can't be beat for its non-existent money-laundering laws, and otherwise lax and corrupt law enforcement, say the experts. Bangkok is still the center for deals lining up shipments to Hongkong, Taiwan, the U.S., and Australia."

In addition to the diversification of routes, Western narcotics officials say that other ethnic groups have moved to fill the void following the early 1996 surrender of Shan State drug lord Khun Sa to Myanmar's government. These officials say the biggest traffickers are the Wa and Kokang ethnic groups that straddle the Myanmar-China border, the Chinese Haw, and ragtag remnants of Khun Sa's Mong Thai Army. Last year's bumper crop in the Golden Triangle, the result of favorable weather, is estimated at 3,000 tons of opium. The price has stabilized at 200,000 baht per 700 grams, down from 500-600,000 baht, but still twice what it was during Khun Sa's reign.

Arafat wants E. Jerusalem as Palestine's capital

Speaking to cheering throngs in Hebron, the West Bank city from which the Israeli Defense Forces have redeployed, Palestinian Authority President Yasser Arafat said, "Hebron is a springboard for what comes after . . . so that we can establish our independent Palestinian state." Over the Jan. 18-19 weekend, Arafat had formulated a proposal for Jerusalem, which "should be divided, with East Jerusalem under Palestinian control." He explained, "A city can be the capital of two states, like the example of Rome, the capital of Italy where there is the Vatican compound."

Arafat pointed to the Israeli cabinet and Knesset (parliament) votes for the Hebron agreement, to show that the Palestinians were making peace "not only with the Labor Party, but with all Israelis."

Meanwhile, the outlawed Kach party of

the late terrorist Rabbi Meir Kahane has revived, now aiming its threats against Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu for signing the Hebron agreement. According to *Maariv* of Jan. 16, Kach is "alive and kicking under the guise of a new movement, Forefront of the Idea, and conducting an all-out campaign . . . under the slogan 'Netanyahu Is a Traitor.'" *Maariv* quoted a senior police officer, who said, "It is largely reminiscent of the incitement against Yitzhak Rabin. These are the same people with the same posters, images, and slogans."

Disease, hunger ravages Rwandan refugees

Despite column inches and video footage reporting happy Hutus returning to Rwanda, hundreds of thousands of refugees, many of them children under five, are dying or facing death by disease and starvation. Cholera has broken out among Rwandan Hutu refugees crowded round the Zairean forest village of Tingi-Tingi. Altogether, according to the Brussels newspaper *Le Soir*, 300,000 refugees have been located in Zaire.

Unicef official Philippe Duhamel told the daily: "Around the Walikale-Kisangani road there are two major concentrations of Rwandan refugees, plus a few Burundians from the Goma, Bukavu, and Uvira camps. . . . There are about 120,000 of them in Tingi-Tingi and 40,000 in Amisi. These refugees are in a dreadful state: They are very weak, in poor nutritional condition, and are suffering from malaria, diarrhea, and respiratory complaints. We have been recording 25 deaths a day in Tingi-Tingi, half of them children under five." There are 200 severely undernourished children in two nutrition centers, but when "they return to their families, their condition rapidly deteriorates, as they do not have enough food."

In Tanzania, over 6,000 refugees were arrested in the Ngara District, and handed over to Rwandan officials. District Commissioner Evans Balama said that the crackdown would continue until there were no illegal foreigners in Ngara District. Reflect-

ing what *EIR*'s Tanzanian sources have noted, that many Tanzanians have attempted to help the refugees, Balama stressed that it was illegal for any citizens to harbor or employ Rwandan refugees.

Venezuelan governor bars Playboy channel in state

Gov. Orlando Fernández Medina of Lara, Venezuela is bucking a ruling by that country's communications minister allowing Playboy and other pornographic material to be broadcast on television, and is saying he will bar the material from airing in his state. Playboy channel in Venezuela is owned by the notorious Cisneros family. Fernández said he bases the proscription on the Constitutional provision that "one of the fundamental duties of the state is to protect morals and good habits, as well as to elevate and preserve the family unit."

The governor made the announcement on Jan. 16, two days after an estimated 1 million people took part in a religious procession and mass honoring the Virgin Mary in the state's capital Barquisimeto, where the call went out to stop the broadcast of pornography.

Chief Palme investigator charged with tax evasion

Hans Ölvebro, chief investigator in the Feb. 28, 1986 murder of Swedish Prime Minister Olof Palme, was asked to take a leave of absence by the new National Police chief Lars Nylén in early January, after he was charged with tax evasion. In fact, Ölvebro has been in deep trouble since the "South African lead" into the Palme murder came to light in November 1996 (see *EIR Special Report*, "George Bush and the 12333 Serial Murder Ring"). For years, Ölvebro denied any possibility of a conspiracy behind the murder, preferring to hunt down the mythical "lone assassin." Before Christmas, Nylén announced a reorganization of the Palme murder investigation, and later indicated

that it would look again into the lead provided by Bofors' illegal arms sales.

The investigation may take even more turns. India has received secret bank documents linked to a Bofors weapons deal, which may track not only into investigations of the bribery of leading Indian politicians, but also the murders of Palme, and, in May 1991, of former Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi.

In the meantime, it has come to light that the chief criminal inspector for the Copenhagen, Denmark police, uses the Palme assassination as a model of how *not* to conduct an investigation, in his training of police cadets.

Serbian Supreme Court overturns local elections

Serbia's Supreme Court has continued to overturn rulings certifying that the opposition to dictator Slobodan Milosevic won municipal elections last November. On Jan. 21, the court ruled that his Socialist Party won elections in the town of Smederevska Palanka, and on Jan. 20, the court overruled the voters in Sabac, tapping the Socialists as the winners. The Serbian independent daily *Telegraf* revealed on Jan. 20 that Milosevic plans to hold new city elections in Belgrade in March, and, to impose martial law in the capital until then.

The opposition has continued mass demonstrations in Belgrade both day and night, with upwards of 50,000 participating. The Belgian newspaper *La Libre Belgique* interviewed opposition leader Vuk Draskovic, who was highly critical of western inertia toward Milosevic. Milosevic, he said, was convinced that the West would do nothing, after he had gotten away with refusing to cooperate with the war crimes tribunal in The Hague. Draskovic continued that Milosevic must have said to himself, "Look here, I refuse cooperation to the court in The Hague, and I'm not punished. So, why should I acknowledge the election results?" In the interview, Draskovic warned again, that if the "international community" doesn't put pressure on Milosevic, there will be a "new Balkan war."

Briefly

PAKISTANI Gen. Nur Khan (ret.) issued a call for peaceful and normal relations with India, in a speech in December that reflects a new turn among some sections of the military. Pakistan, he said, should stop shouting "Tiger! Tiger!" against India, because there is no reason for it to look upon India as a competing country. Khan said that instead of an arms race, peaceful economic relations should be Pakistan's policy toward India.

CANADA'S Gen. Lewis MacKenzie, the former UN Protection Forces commander in Sarajevo, whom Bosnia charged with participating in atrocities as a guest at Serbian rape camps, is planning to run for Canada's Parliament on the Conservative ticket, in the Ontario riding of Parry Sound-Muskoka.

NEPAL has become a safe haven for pedophiles, wrote the *Kathmandu Times*, after a British national, charged with child sexual abuse, was freed by police because it was his first offense and he had a good conduct sheet from his British firm operating in Nepal. Pedophiles are now seeking out Nepal, since the Philippines, Thailand, and Sri Lanka have instituted harsh laws against pedophilia, laws which don't exist in Nepal.

BURUNDI'S former President Jean-Baptiste Bagaza, who is of the same Tutsi tribe as military dictator Pierre Buyoya, was reported to have been arrested in mid-January. Bagaza was overthrown in 1987 by Buyoya, who ruled until 1993, when voters elected a Hutu, Sylvestre Ntibunganya, as President. He was later killed. Buyoya seized power again last July in a military coup.

TURKEY'S government is reported by the Islamist paper *Turkiye* of Jan. 14 to be preparing a diplomatic offensive around Greece's stationing of anti-aircraft missiles in Cyprus. Turkey will send representatives to the UN, European Union, and NATO, as well as to the United States and Britain, to argue that the Greek Cypriots are escalating tensions.