

# International Intelligence

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## ***UN chief prepares for after East Timor vote***

UN Secretary General Kofi Annan proposed a beefed-up police presence in East Timor after it holds its autonomy vote on Aug. 30, in his latest report on East Timor submitted to the UN Security Council on Aug. 10. He is seeking a three-month extension of the UN Assessment Mission in East Timor (UNAMET), along with a larger deployment of the police contingent of UNAMET, so that the UN will have a presence in all 13 regencies of East Timor. The current 280-man police force would be increased to 410, whose function is strictly to advise Indonesian police. An additional 50-man police task force would be deployed for purposes of recruitment and training of a new East Timorese police force.

The current 50-man UN foreign military advisers task force would be increased to 300. Their function is to serve as a liaison to the Indonesian Armed Forces, the pro-integration militia, and the armed force of the pro-independence movement, Falintil. Specifically, this group would observe the disarmament of the militia and Falintil, and the withdrawal of Indonesian military forces. The current UN political deployment would be transformed into a civil affairs unit to monitor events affecting political stability, and to serve as a human rights watchdog. Indonesian authorities continue to have exclusive responsibility for maintaining law and order.

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## ***Brits clear Italian neo-fascist fugitive***

The British Charity authority has cleared Roberto Fiore, the Italian leader of an international neo-fascist network, who was convicted in the 1980 Bologna train station bombing, to resume his trusteeship of a British charity. The fact that deliberations surrounding the early-August decision will not be disclosed, strengthens suspicions that Fiore, whose extradition has repeatedly been requested by Italian authorities, is an MI6 agent.

In 1988, Fiore was one of 13 terrorists, including two Italian secret service agents belonging to the P-2 Freemasonic Lodge and P-2 Grand Master Licio Gelli, who were convicted in the bombing. Fiore and Massimo Morsello fled to London, where they have been running an international neo-fascist network under the cover of the "Meeting Point" travel agency, and two "charities," the St. George Educational Trust and the Trust of St. Michael the Archangel. In 1998, British and Italian media exposed how Fiore's organizations were running training camps for mercenaries, who would then deploy in Bosnia. The camps were disguised as summer schools under the patronage of the St. Michael Trust.

Italy renewed its requests for Fiore's extradition after the Blair government came to power. However, as the London *Guardian* wrote on Aug. 4, 1998, "Again it appears, promises were made months ago, according to reports in the Italian press during Blair's visit there. But, as in the '80s, nothing has happened."

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## ***London-based terrorist threatens Yemen again***

Egyptian-born British citizen Abu Hamza al-Masri told the Arabic-language daily *Al-Hayat* on Aug. 6 that he could not rule out "the start of a new series of reprisals" against Yemen, which handed down death sentences on Aug. 4 for the head of the Islamic Army of Aden-Abyan, Abul Hasan, and an accomplice, for the kidnapping of 16 Western tourists in Yemen in December 1998; four of the kidnap victims were murdered.

The day the death sentence was issued, seven men were arrested after a grenade and automatic weapon fire killed six people in a crowded market in the capital, Sanaa. On Aug. 9, an Aden court handed down fairly mild sentences of up to seven years against eight British nationals of Pakistani origin, and two Algerians, for "forming an armed gang intending to carry out murderous acts of sabotage and terrorism."

Back in January, shortly after the kidnappings and murders, Yemeni President

Ali Abdullah Saleh sent an official letter to British Prime Minister Tony Blair demanding that Abu Hamza be extradited for masterminding the group's activities, but the Blair government rejected the request.

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## ***Dominicans condemn U.K. for threat vs. LaRouche***

Several labor unions of the Dominican Republic have issued a public letter warning that they will hold "the British oligarchy and government responsible" if any harm were to come to U.S. Democratic Presidential pre-candidate Lyndon LaRouche. The warning comes in the aftermath of the death threat, "Shut This Man's Mouth," issued against LaRouche in the Aug. 5 issue of the British women's tabloid, *Take a Break*.

The unions made their warning in an open letter to LaRouche's campaign spokesman, Debra Hanania-Freeman. "Lyndon LaRouche's declarations are worthy of respect, because they are positions of principle," and his "sin," they write, is that he exposes the "bloodsucker or vampire of the British oligarchy."

"Our trade unions and all our social organizations condemn the threatening attitude of the British magazine, *Take a Break*, when they wrote: 'It is time to shut this man's mouth,'" the letter states.

"We hold the British oligarchy and the British government responsible for anything which could happen to our leader-candidate, Lyndon LaRouche, and [advise] that we international forces who organize our lives around the establishment of independent sovereign states, will not remain with our arms crossed; nor are we cowards, and our principles are sacred."

Among the signers are the United Workers Confederation (CUT), the National Federation of Construction Workers, the National Trade Union of Electrical Technicians, and the Family Education and Communitarian Action Movement.

In its Aug. 12 issue, *El Nuevo Diario* reported on the letter, under the headline "Demand Protection for Lyndon LaRouche":

"Various social organizations of the

**THE INDIAN SPACE** Research Organization (ISRO) has the capability of sending men to the Moon, space scientist U.R. Rao said, according to a report from Press Trust of India on Aug. 12. With the indigenously developed Geostationary Launch Vehicle (GSLV) technology, making a launch vehicle suitable for the lunar journey would not be a problem for ISRO, said Rao.

**YUGOSLAVIA'S** newly named vice premier, Tomislav Nikolic, appointed as part of a government reshuffle meant to strengthen President Slobodan Milosevic, called for Milosevic's resignation on Aug. 14 in Belgrade. The Serbian radical nationalist was quoted in the German weekly *Der Spiegel* as saying that Milosevic should resign "not because the West demands it, but rather because he capitulated in Kosovo." Five other members of Nikolic's Radical Party were also named ministers.

**TWO SUSPECTS** in the bombing of the U.S. embassies in Kenya and Tanzania last year, were remanded in Britain, following an extradition request by the United States. Ibrahim Eidarous and Adel Abdel al Bary appeared in a British court, but their case will not be heard until Sept. 9.

**THE NETHERLANDS** is considering a new bill to allow children as young as 12 to "request" euthanasia for so-called incurable diseases. According to the Aug. 11 London *Times*, euthanasia officially accounts for 3% of the deaths in the Netherlands, but the real figure is believed to be twice that number.

**NEW ZEALAND'S** Foreign Affairs Minister Don McKinnon is the front-runner to become the next Commonwealth Secretary General at the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) in November. If successful, this will mean New Zealanders will occupy the top posts at both the World Trade Organization, where former Prime Minister Mike Moore is set to become Director General, and the Commonwealth.

Dominican Republic demanded the U.S. government protect the life of Democratic Party Presidential pre-candidate Lyndon H. LaRouche, after he was given a death threat by a British magazine.

"In offering their support to the well-known U.S. politician and economist . . . [they] believe that LaRouche has a great moral importance for the underdeveloped countries, while being one of the few U.S. politicians who has always opposed the 'libertinism' of London and the looting of the poor countries."

In continuing protests against the *Take a Break* death threat, on Aug. 17, José Pichardo, head of the Authentic Nationalist Revolutionary Party (PRAN), delivered a letter to the British Ambassador to Santo Domingo, expressing his concerns. His party, he writes, "respectfully" requests that the British Ambassador have his government repudiate the *Take a Break* story, and make clear that it has nothing to do with *Take a Break's* threats against LaRouche, because the PRAN would hate to think that the British Crown is returning to the days of the pirates Drake and Cromwell.

## Malaysia's Dr. Mahathir visits Russia, China

Malaysian Prime Minister Dr. Mahathir bin Mohamad spent three days in Khabarovsk, an autonomous region in East Russia, on Aug. 15-17, where he was to visit the Russian aircraft manufacturing plant at Komсомolsk and the shipbuilding and timber center at Na Amur, according to an Aug. 13 preview of his trip from Bernama state wire service. His schedule was to take him to Beijing on Aug. 18-20, and then to Ulan Ude, capital of Buryatia, a state in Siberia that got its independence from Russia. There he will visit the aircraft and helicopter building facility.

Malaysia's Bernama draws parallels between this visit of Dr. Mahathir's, which marks the 25th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations with China, to the 1974 visit of Malaysia's second Prime Minister Tun Abdul Razak Hussein, who established those relations. Shortly after his

six-day visit, Tun Razak dissolved Parliament and called elections, which the ruling Barisan Nasional coalition won in a landslide, aided overwhelmingly by Chinese Malay support in four states that the Barisan Nasional had lost in the previous 1969 elections. Bernama points out, of course, that Dr. Mahathir has made five trips to China in his 18 years in office.

## China favors 'frank' talks on Kashmir

Chinese Ambassador to India Zhou Gang said on Aug. 15 that the Kashmir issue can only be resolved between India and Pakistan through peaceful means. "The Kashmir dispute is a complicated issue left over by history, which must be and can only be resolved through peaceful means," Zhou Gang said in an interview with the Press Trust of India. "We sincerely hope India and Pakistan will, proceeding from the overall interests of safeguarding peace and stability in the South Asian region, peacefully resolve some of their disputes through patient and frank talks, in accordance with the spirit of the Lahore Declaration."

He maintained that the prerequisite for development of Sino-Indian relations "must be that neither side regards the other as a threat, and the foundation for development must be the five principles of peaceful coexistence initiated by the Chinese and Indian leaders of the older generation. . . .

"It is our belief that the mechanism of security dialogue between China and India will dispense suspicion, build confidence, further the development of bilateral relations, and promote cooperation between the two countries in regional and international affairs," he said. Beijing and New Delhi had agreed in principle during the visit of the External Affairs Minister, Jaswant Singh, to China in June this year, to begin a security dialogue at an early date.

Asked if there were any proposal for Chinese Premier Zhu Rongji to visit India in the near future, he said that Singh had conveyed the invitation of Prime Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee to the Chinese leader, who had expressed his gratitude.