

# International Intelligence

---

## ***East Timor Rebels Confess Past Atrocities***

One of the three surviving founders of the East Timor guerrilla group Fretelin, Mari Alkatiri, is releasing a report admitting to the systematic murder of at least several hundred pro-integration East Timorese after the 1975 Indonesian Army intervened against the Maoist Fretelin's violent takeover of the Portuguese colony. Alkatiri's report is covered in the May 15 issue of the *Sydney Morning Herald*.

In 1975, Indonesia moved in only after the Portuguese colonial army abandoned the province, leaving most of its weapons to Fretelin and its allies. In December 1975, Fretelin executed 150 political prisoners from the pro-independence UDT and pro-integration Apodeti, including government and police officials.

Questioned about the claim that Fretelin had murdered over 1,000 political opponents from East Timor, Alkatiri shot back, "This is nonsense! We were not the Khmer Rouge." In fact, earlier this year, the *Phnom Penh Post* carried an interview with British academic Peter Carey, who showed that Fretelin had indeed received "fraternal support," including training, from the Khmer Rouge, which had seized power seven months earlier.

While Fretelin wants to "apologize" and be done with this episode, they are still demanding maximum prosecution of Indonesian Army officials for the post-referendum violence last fall, and are still refusing to let pro-integration East Timorese participate in government.

---

## ***Euro Parliament: Ban Tamil Tigers in Europe***

A European Parliament meeting on May 19 adopted a resolution put forward by several groups favorable to the Sri Lankan government, recommending several steps to neutralize the growing influence of the terrorist Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, including banning it from Europe.

According to several news reports, a spokesman for the members of the Euro-

pean Parliament who sponsored the resolution, said, "We want to see an immediate cessation of hostilities on a basis agreed to by all parties. There should be urgent international mediation of the situation in Sri Lanka to bring about an acceptable political situation. At the same time, it is unacceptable that organizations which support terrorism should have a major fundraising capability in Britain and continental countries leaning on the Tamil diaspora. The LTTE should be proscribed in Britain under the prevention of terrorism legislation."

Britain, meanwhile, has indicated that it will bring up the Sri Lankan conflict for discussion in the UN Security Council. Russia and China have "positively" responded to the Sri Lankan government's request to veto any such move by Britain.

---

## ***Brit Calls Pakistan Threat to World Peace***

Britain's Foreign Office Minister Peter Hain accused Pakistan of rapidly becoming a "threat to world peace," claiming that there is a link between Pakistan's export of nuclear capability and terrorism, in an opinion piece for the London *Sunday Mirror* on May 28. Hain's article was accompanied by a news item that Pakistani tribal warlords were offering to sell nuclear bombs to an undercover British weapons expert. Hain imperiously demanded that Pakistan immediately act to halt this threat to world peace: "It is no good for their government to say they have no control over third parties or private companies who sell nuclear materials. If they were determined to put a stop to this, they could. . . ."

"The export of nuclear capacity from Pakistan is a deadly threat to the region and the world. . . . I will investigate this matter and take action to alert the international community, the United Nations, and other bodies as to what is going on in Pakistan."

The statement is all the more remarkable, since most of the world's leading terrorists have headquarters or fundraising centers in Britain, which the U.K. has refused to disband, calling their activities "politically protected free speech."

The *Mirror* claimed that the Soviet

Army had stocked nuclear weapons in Afghanistan, during their occupation, and had not removed them in the 1988 retreat. These weapons are "now in the hands of Afghan Muslim extremists and Pakistani tribal warlords with close links to black market arms dealers in Britain." Apart from the nuclear material, these warlords, who have been identified as Waheed Malik Khan and Kamal Akir, the paper claimed, offered to sell sarin nerve gas shells for £15,000 each, and mustard gas phosgene grenades for £5,000 each.

The Islamabad government has declined to comment, pending receipt of an official statement from the Foreign Office.

---

## ***ANC: Mobilize S. Africa To Help Dying Angola***

According to the Pan-African News Agency on May 25, South Africa's ruling African National Congress (ANC) party has called on all segments of society to mobilize financial and material assistance for the millions of Angolans who find themselves in the midst of a humanitarian disaster. The ANC will be mobilizing its structures in the coming weeks to publicize the government's "Humanitarian Assistance to the People of Angola Fund." The ANC will be educating about the situation in Angola, and working with churches, non-governmental organizations, businesses, and social groups to collect blankets, clothes, food, and other necessities for displaced Angolans.

Noting that two generations of Angolans have grown up knowing nothing but war, ANC spokesman Smuts Ngonyama called on South Africans to make a personal commitment to the neighboring country: "As we fought against apartheid, the people of Angola stood by our side, gave us shelter, and shared with us their food."

The ANC statement quoted UN estimates, that 200 Angolans are dying every day from hunger and sickness, that at least one-third of the inhabitants of Huanan are malnourished, and 90% of the population in the capital, Luanda, live below the poverty line.

The ANC statement urged: "We need to

**KAZAK POLICE** on May 23 discovered large amounts of heroin in the garage and in an apartment rented by the Tajikistan Trade Representative to Kazakstan, just one day after Kazak officials found 62 kilograms of heroin hidden in two Tajik Embassy cars. Kazak security officials have arrested five Tajik citizens, including the Tajik Trade Representative, and Kazakstan has declared that the Tajik diplomats will not be able to count on diplomatic immunity in drug-related offenses.

**POLAND'S** Freedom Union pulled out of the government coalition on May 28, throwing into question the future of Prime Minister Jerzy Buzek's government. The government will remain in place at least until the two sides hold talks (Buzek is from the Solidarity bloc). The head of the Freedom Union is Finance Minister Leszek Balcerowicz, a rabid monetarist, who, in that same post in the 1990s, imposed "shock therapy" on the country. The Freedom Union was upset because "maverick" Solidarity deputies had voted against the government's own economic "reforms."

**INDIAN PRESIDENT** K.R. Narayanan and Chinese President Jiang Zemin asserted that there can be no justification for using terrorism as a political tool. The two met after the Indian President, who was India's envoy to China during the mid-1970s, was accorded a formal welcome in Beijing.

**THREE KOSOVO** Serbs, including a four-year-old boy, were killed on May 28, when a man, believed to be a Kosovo Albanian, opened fire on a group of Serbs who were standing in front of a store in the eastern Kosovo village of Cernica, in the U.S. zone.

**THE ULSTER UNIONIST** Party executive voted on May 27 to return to the self-rule government of Northern Ireland. Ulster Union Party head David Trimble called for the vote, after the Irish Republican Army had announced its decision to put its weapons "beyond use."

work towards greater economic integration and social development across the continent. A sensitive response to HIV/AIDS and other preventable diseases and improve access to basic health care. We need to prioritize education, protection, and development of Africa's children. These tasks need to be tackled as we address the very immediate needs of people who find themselves in desperate situations."

## ***CIS Security Partners May Move Against Taliban***

The six member governments of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) Security System met in Minsk, Belarus on May 24, and passed a resolution that provides for collective preventive strikes against any active or potential aggressor of any of the system's members—Russia, Armenia, Belarus, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and Kazakstan. An aggression, or threat of an aggression, will be answered by all military means at the disposal of the six-member alliance, to either repulse or prevent an attack. The new Russian doctrine of national security permits such strikes, Voice of Russia radio reported, May 24.

The Minsk session focussed on the "changed geopolitical situation," reported Voice of Russia, and next to the war in Chechnya, the members saw the greatest threat from the Taliban-run government in Afghanistan. "The biggest threat comes from Central Asia and the Caucasus region, where the situation may slip out of control at any moment," VOR summed up the deliberations.

Russia has made clear that it is considering air strikes against Afghanistan, and, according to *Nezavisimaya Gazeta* on May 24, may launch strikes from air bases in Kazakstan and Uzbekistan. It has already obtained permission to cross Kazak airspace, should it go for strikes.

Russian long-range aircraft may also use bases in Uzbekistan, which is a CIS member, but not part of the CIS collective security agreement. However, Uzbek President Islam Karimov just recently met with Russian President Vladimir Putin to discuss the grave threat of a bigger offensive of Taliban-

backed forces into the strategic Fergana Valley this summer. Because control over the valley is important for the security of all Central Asian states, Karimov may permit Russia and other CIS members to use Uzbek bases for military operations against this threat.

Interfax reported that the commander of the Russian intervention forces in Chechnya, General Kasantsev, confirmed on May 25 that everything has been prepared for Russian aircraft to make strikes against Taliban strongholds.

## ***Barak Nominates Peres for Israeli President***

Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak announced on May 29, that he will nominate Regional Development Minister Shimon Peres to replace Ezer Weizman as Israel's President. Weizman stated a few days earlier that he planned to resign effective July 10. His term would have ended in 2003. The Knesset (parliament) must now vote on Barak's nomination, or that from the opposition Likud party, Moshe Katzav.

Weizman, a strong proponent of the peace process, was forced to resign after Attorney General Eliyachim Rubinstein began what many believe was a politically motivated investigation into cash gifts that Weizman accepted. Rubinstein announced that he was closing his investigation of Weizman, on charges that the Israeli President accepted \$300,000 in gifts from a French millionaire between 1988 and 1993. Rubinstein said that the statute of limitations on bribery charges had run out, and that police didn't find enough evidence to indict Weizman for malfeasance in office.

In making his choice for President, Barak said that Peres—who, as Yitzhak Rabin's Foreign Minister, was one of the central architects of the peace process, and who succeeded him briefly when Rabin was slain in 1995—"is the only candidate for me."

There is speculation that the religious Shas party, which is in Barak's Labour-led coalition government, might vote for Katzav, which would set off another government crisis.