International Intelligence

Yeltsin creates new intelligence service

A decree issued by Russian President Boris Yeltsin on Dec. 21 officially dissolved the Security Ministry, creating in its stead a Federal Counterintelligence Service.

The move is a further consolidation in the direction pointed to by Lt. Col. Vitali Urazhtsev, in an interview published in *EIR* on Dec. 10, 1993. Urazhtsev showed how the forces behind the Yeltsin dictatorship were constructing, out of the apparat of the Security and Interior Ministries, a modern version of Ivan the Terrible's *oprichnina* secret police apparatus.

Yeltsin motivated the dissolution of the Security Ministry as follows: "At the present time, there is a lack of a strategic concept for the state security of the Russian Federation, and the Ministry of Security's counterintelligence activity was weakened." In other words, the reform is intended to strengthen the security apparatus—regardless of what its propagandists may claim.

Yeltsin named Nikolai Golushko to head the Federal Counterintelligence Service. Golushko was, in Soviet times, the KGB boss for Ukraine, whom Yeltsin had brought in as security minister, replacing Viktor Barannikov, whom he had fired in July.

World league is formed against death penalty

The founding conference of the International League for the Abolition of the Death Penalty by 2000 took place on Dec. 9 at the European Parliament in Brussels. It was attended by 50 parliamentarians and jurists from all over the world, including the United States, many eastern European countries, Russia, Brazil, Israel, and the Palestine Liberation Organization.

Among those in attendance were Gail Billington and Liliana Celani, members of the international Schiller Institute and associates of American political prisoner and physical economist Lyndon LaRouche.

One of the founding members of the league is Alma Agata Cappiello, a member of the Italian Senate and its Justice Committee. She told the audience that she is confident that by building international pressure on the United States, the death penalty will be abolished even there. She said that her experience in fighting to free "Lyndon LaRouche, who after five years was granted parole," showed her that such political pressure can succeed.

Gail Billington introduced herself as "wife of political prisoner Mike Billington, who was sentenced to 77 years for political reasons, since he is an associate of LaRouche and his political movement, and is among six other associates who were incarcerated for the same political reasons." She pointed out that "the Supreme Court ruling establishing the death penalty even in cases where there is the possibility of innocence shows that the U.S. Justice Department is ripping up the Bill of Rights, and that Bush's Justice Department was the most corrupt in the history of the United States, as Congressman Henry Gonzalez recently said."

Senior Anglican cleric: Prince Charles must go

Prince Charles's unsuitability to become king of England was raised for the first time by a senior official of the Church of England, George Austin, the Archdeacon of York, on a BBC radio program on Dec. 7 and in a commentary in the *Times* of London the following day.

The issue of the succession to the throne is creating a controversy, after Princess Diana of Wales announced the previous week that she was withdrawing from public life. Press reports have alleged that Queen Elizabeth wants Prince William, her grandson, to succeed her, and that the archbishop of Canterbury would not be able to accept Charles as Supreme Governor of the Church of England. Both allegations originated in a discussion the archbishop held with press

executives last summer in which he "aired options and possibilities."

In his commentary in the Times, Austin states that Charles's adultery with Camilla Parker-Bowles (which was never officially denied) broke the "solemn vows before God" made at his marriage to Diana Spencer. There is certainly nothing new about adultery in the royal family, Austin wrote, but "the question certainly needs to be asked" whether Charles can be trusted. when he makes a second set of solemn vows before God in his future coronation oath. Trust, once broken, is hard to restore, Austin wrote; although all Christians have the possibility of repentance and forgiveness, "it may be that Prince Charles has gone too far."

Charles's behavior, according to Austin, "raises questions not only about his own role, but also about the monarchy's very survival."

Russian officers are killed in Crimea

A wave of assassinations of high-ranking Russian officers of the Black Sea Fleet may signal a "brutal escalation" of the quarrel between Russia and Ukraine over the status of Crimea, wrote Catherine Cote in the French daily *Libération* on Dec. 23. Cote's article is the first of any in the West to publicize an ominous pattern of developments preceding the Jan. 16 presidential elections in Crimea.

According to Cote, on Dec. 15 Capt. Andrei Lazebnikov, a Russian, was shot to death outside his house in the port city of Sebastopol. This was "the latest in a series of murders of officers and politicians that has occurred in Sebastopol, base of the Black Sea Fleet in Crimea." Lazebnikov was an intimate of both the current head of the Black Sea Fleet, Admiral Baltin, and the former head of the fleet, Admiral Kasatonov. He was also a senior member of the campaign staff of Ivan Yermakov, one of the candidates for the presidency.

The elections are amounting to a refer-

Briefly

endum on the status of Crimea, which has been an "autonomous republic" of Ukraine since 1954. Seventy percent of the population of Crimea is Russian, and the mood favoring "economic union" or even closer alignment with Russia is very strong.

One night before the killing of Lazebnikov, a bomb exploded at the home of Iskander Memetov, a Crimean deputy and collaborator of Nikolai Bagrov, another candidate for the Crimean presidency.

The chief surgeon of the hospital in Sebastopol says that there is a "veritable hunting down" of Russian officers now in the city, which is largely populated by military men and their families.

The explosiveness of the situation is underscored by the fact that the majority of sailors who voted in the Russian elections on Dec. 12, voted for Third Rome ideologue Vladimir Zhirinovsky.

Lost Haydn piano sonatas are found in Germany

Six lost piano sonatas of Josef Haydn have been found in Germany, Reuters reported on Dec. 14. The sonatas came to light when an elderly woman in Münster showed the manuscripts, which she had owned for some time without realizing their importance, to a local music teacher, who handed them over to Haydn experts.

Reuters reports that scholars have long known that sonatas, dating from the middle of Haydn's life, probably from 1766-69, were missing, because Haydn had compiled a catalogue that listed the incipits (first few bars) of each piece. They are believed to have been among the first sonatas written by Haydn specifically for the fortepiano.

H.C. Robbins Landon, a Haydn scholar and musicologist who authenticated the sonatas, hailed the discovery at a London news conference. He later told Reuters it was "the greatest musicological coup of the 20th century."

"All pianists, from Richter to Brendel, have revered and loved Haydn's stormy C minor sonata of 1771. Now we have the six preceding it to explain how the composer

arrived at this standard of excellence and passion," Robbins Landon said.

Pianist Paul Badura-Skoda is to give the first modern performance of the sonatas at Harvard University on Feb. 12. They will be published in April.

In another happy musical development ushering in the New Year, Handel's "Messiah" was performed in Zulu in Natal Province, South Africa on Dec. 23. National Public Radio (NPR) reported that Sam Shabalala, who runs a local music institute for Zulus in the city of Durban, spent the last three years translating the entirety of the "Messiah" into Zulu. The work was performed by a black chorus and a white orchestra.

The NPR interviewer asked Shabalala why he hadn't translated the work into Zulu rhythms and used Zulu instruments also. Shabalala laughed and said that the point was to convey the tremendous power of the music by having it performed in Zulu, not to change the music itself.

Labor and student unrest hits Romania

Mass protests and calls for a change of government are becoming more and more frequent in Romania, with an anti-government rally of 10,000 protesters in Bucharest and the beginning of a national boycott of university lectures by about 100,000 students on Dec. 17.

The labor unions, organized in different federations, have meanwhile reached a level of cooperation that enables them to mobilize close to 200,000 workers for national protest actions. There is talk about conducting a general strike against the government.

The unrest is fueled by a 300% inflation rate, a chronic undersupply of basic food categories and gasoline, severe energy shortages, and the fact that almost 50% of the Romanian population are, according to the government's own statistics, forced to live below the official poverty line. It cannot be ruled out that the social protests might lead to a vote of no-confidence in the Parliament and early elections this year.

- FORMER BRITISH Prime Minister Sir Edward Heath called on Dec. 12 for Britain to resume diplomatic ties with Iraq. "We are not thinking about medicine for the regime," he told the BBC. "We are thinking about medicine for the nearly 20 million people who are in Iraq."
- THE BEIRUT headquarters of the Lebanese Christian Phalange Party was bombed on Dec. 20, killing 3 people and wounding 130. Although no group claimed responsibility, some say that the Syrians were behind it, as the Phalange party opposes the Syrian occupation. There is now widespread fear that the attack could spark sectarian violence between Muslims and Christians.
- MALAYSIA'S Prime Minister Dr. Mahathir Mohammed raised a question about his country's defense pact with Britain, in a speech on Dec. 21. Speaking at a ceremony on the departure of Malaysian soldiers to Bosnia-Hercegovina, he said: "We cannot trust anyone to come to our defense. . . . Therefore we do not believe in pacts with the strong nations in the hope that they will help us if we are attacked."
- INDIAN Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao said that "the whole world must be lit with the glow of literacy," in a speech Dec. 16 in New Delhi to education officials from nine Third World countries. Rao, Indonesia's President Suharto, and the education ministers of Bangladesh, Brazil, Egypt, Mexico, Nigeria, and Pakistan pledged to get all their children into school by the year 2000.
- PAKISTAN'S Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto on Dec. 7 expressed her commitment to maintain the country's nuclear program, in response to charges made by opposition leader Nawaz Sharif that she was attempting to roll it back. "As long as there is no threat to our security, the program will remain peaceful," she said.