International Intelligence

Blair's Kashmir policy in Mountbatten tradition

A spokesman for Queen Elizabeth confirmed to EIR on Oct. 24, that she supported the statements of Foreign Secretary Robin Cook stating his readiness to "mediate" the disputed status of Kashmir between India and Pakistan, which he uttered just before she travelled to both countries on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of their independence. Further, the Palace spokesman confirmed that Cook's repeated offers of British meddling in Kashmir were a continuation of the policies of Lord Louis Mountbatten, the last Viceroy of India. "The Queen has been entirely satisfied with the advice of the foreign secretary during her trip," said the spokesman.

Mountbatten, as Viceroy of India under George VI, had originally arranged for the bloody partition of the subcontinent into India and Pakistan. In order to create permanent instability between the two countries, Mountbatten left Kashmir's status unresolved, playing on the fact that Kashmir's Hindu royal family chose to join India, while its predominantly Muslim population wished to join Pakistan. It was also Mountbatten who arranged for the Dalai Lama, when he and his feudal theocracy were ousted from Tibet by China, to establish a headquarters in India, which has been a source of tension between India and China.

UN splits vote for more sanctions against Iraq

At a vote taken on Oct. 24 in the United Nations Security Council, threatening Iraq with further sanctions in case of "repeated violations" of UN resolutions, Russia, China, France, Egypt, and Kenya broke ranks, and abstained. This is the first time since 1990, that such a break in the anti-Iraq front has been manifest.

The resolution, No. 1134, which passed with 10 votes, would prevent "all Iraqi officials and members of the Armed Forces" from moving outside the country. It also includes a paragraph which says that the Secu-

rity Council can draw up a list of which persons would be involved. This is one of the items the Russians reacted to most strongly. Given the threat by Russia, as a permanent member of the Security Council, to use its veto, the United States and Britain did not press for immediate sanctions, but for their implementation on April 12, 1998.

The inspiration for the resolution is British, leading British Ambassador John Weston to fume: "For certain countries, oil seems to be more valuable than blood." Weston abandoned the hall, when the French delegate rose to speak.

Iran presses to end Afghan civil war

Iran's special envoy on Afghanistan, Alaeddin Boroujerdi, held a press conference in New Delhi, India on Oct. 16, where he acknowledged that "Iran has held talks with the officials" of Pakistan's Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI) regarding the Taliban in Afghanistan. Boroujerdi held the press conference following meetings with Indian Prime Minister I.K. Gujral and Foreign Secretary K. Raghunath. Iran has also had direct contacts with Taliban leaders, he said, in "Teheran, Afghanistan, and Pakistan." Boroujerdi expressed optimism that Pakistan would support efforts toward a political solution to Afghanistan's war, saying, "If I was not optimistic about this, I would not have mentioned it."

The Indian daily *The Hindu* pointed out that the revelation that Iran had talked with the ISI is important, because the ISI could shift the situation in Afghanistan. "While the Pakistani government may not be averse to unhinging itself from the Afghan civil war, the other two legs of the power triad in Islamabad, the army and the ISI, have so far been ardent supporters" of Taliban, the paper said.

Boroujerdi also reported on his talks with Uzbekistan President Islam Karimov. He said that Tashkent had proposed the creation of a new contact group of countries in the region. Referring to his visit to Uzbekistan and Russia, he said the regional countries agreed with efforts made by the UN

and the Organization of Islamic Conference (OIC), to end the war. Boroujerdi told the Iranian press, that his views and those of the Indian government leaders he had met, were strikingly similar. Indian Foreign Minister Raghunath reportedly praised Iran's efforts, and expressed India's willingness to support a peace initiative for Afghanistan.

London's 'dogs of war' make millions in Africa

The Sunday Times of London on Oct. 27 detailed the role of the mercenary army from Defence Systems Ltd., in supplying more than 1,000 well-paid soldiers to the Angolan government, to wage the civil war against Jonas Savimbi's UNITA, and to back up Gen. Sassou Nguesso's recent takeover of nearby Congo Brazzaville. The Times wrote: "The so-called dogs of war, many of whom have earned a tax-free £100,000 or more in the last year, are critical to the fortunes of the rival factions . . . in Angola's 'wild east,' where the diamonds are concentrated. Among the most highly prized soldiers are the former SAS men."

"We are engaged in corporate colonialism," one DSL manager told the *Times*. The article singled out Richard Bethell, son of Lord Nicholas Bethell, as the DSL man in charge of the mercenary operations in Angola, working with another former Special Air Services man, Peter Williams. One DSL mercenary, who had conducted SAS covert operations in Northern Ireland and Bosnia, before "retiring" to join DSL, commented cynically, "These people cannot seem to get enough of war, but it doesn't bother us. The more trouble there is, the more money we make."

Arco sets Australian mining town on edge

The central Queensland town of Emerald is on a knife-edge, following the revelations that mining giant Arco, the Australian subsidiary of Atlantic Richfield Co., has brought in up to 70 armed security officers., ostensibly to protect its Gordonstone coal

46 International EIR November 7, 1997

mine. This follows Arco's decision to close down the mine, sack more than 300 unionized employees, and reopen it with only non-union labor. The Gordonstone employees represented 10% of Emerald's workforce.

Arco claimed it hired the extra security, because one unionist had blurted out that he would "blow up the bridges first," if the company reopened the mine with non-union workers. The man admitted the outburst, but said it was just that, made during a heated meeting between miners and management.

The miners charge that Arco security are carrying concealed handguns loaded with 9mm Hydra-Shok rounds, reportedly the most deadly small arms ammunition legally available. As well, an ex-SAS source says that some of the imported officers have extremely sophisticated training, and include U.S. Green Berets. On Oct. 21, the secretary of the Queensland Police Union, Merv Bainbridge, claimed that the Arco security guards were associated with a British mercenary operation, Sandline International.

Politiken: LaRouche is a top anti-ecologist

The Copenhagen daily *Politiken* identified Lyndon LaRouche, his wife Helga Zepp LaRouche, and associate Rogelio Maduro as leading personalities in the increasing opposition to environmentalism. The identification appears in an Oct. 21 article on the local resistance against plans cooked up by the European Union and Prince Philip's World Wide Fund for Nature, to turn Denmark's North Sea coastline into a protected nature park.

In an accompanying article, headlined "On the Road to an Anti-Movement," author Lars Thomas writes: "Other important backing comes from the ultra-right-wing [sic] politician Lyndon LaRouche, who sees environmentalists as terrorists and environmental problems as invented scare stories. In an interview in the magazine *EIR*, he has called organizations like Greenpeace 'madmen who are determined to . . . destroy industrial society.' Together with his wife,

LaRouche runs the economic and cultural Schiller Institute, which has a large section in Copenhagen. They are working here for the implementation of a new world economic order, in which increased growth and more technology is the way forward."

Thomas, while failing to mention that Maduro is a close associate of LaRouche's, nonetheless writes: "In the U.S., the initiator of the campaign against the Biodiversity Treaty, journalist Roger Maduro, claimed that the U.S. population would end up being ruled by the UN, if the government ratified the treaty."

New Polish government is old, foul compromise

In its first plenary session after the Sept. 21 elections, Poland's newly elected national parliament, the Sejm, was presented with AWS (Solidarity) nominee for prime minister, Jerzy Buzek, who had been given the mandate to form a cabinet by President Aleksander Kwasniewski. The full list of cabinet members has not yet been prepared, but it seems that AWS has been forced to make major concessions to its minor coalition partner, Freedom Union (UW), headed by the International Monetary Fund's darling, former Finance Minister Leszek Balcerowicz, who expected to become finance minister, again, and as well as Buzek's vice premier.

Candidates for foreign minister and justice minister are reported to be, respectively, Bronislaw Geremek, and former Prime Minister Hanna Suchocka (who also has a record of being a pro-IMF "reformer"), both of the UW. If the Defense Ministry is handed to UW as well, all cabinet posts dealing with international relations will be in the hands of the Thatcherite liberals.

AWS is expected to get the portfolios that will carry out deregulation and budget-cutting, such as labor, social welfare, health, and agriculture. Given the explosive nature of enforcing even worse austerity, there are already signs of profound discontent within AWS over the way the new government coalition was formed.

Briefly

UGANDAN President Yoweri Museveni's tax collection administration is reportedly run almost entirely by Pentecostalists, according to Germany's SAT-1 TV network, on Oct. 24. Almost half of the employees are Pentecostalists, who justify the fact that tax receipts have soared in impoverished Uganda by 500%, by intoning their gospel about "rendering unto Caesar."

DOW JONES'S Far Eastern Economic Review continues to cover for the Khmer Rouge genocide of the 1970s with an exclusive interview with Pol Pot. Interviewer Nate Thayer seeks to exonerate Gen. Ta Mok ("The Butcher") and KR political leader Khieu Samphan, who say they will turn Pol Pot over to an international tribunal on one condition: that Cambodia's Second Prime Minister Hun Sen be put on trial for foiling their attempted coup with Prince Ranariddh last July.

CITIZENS ELECTORAL Council candidates Craig Isherwood and Robert Barwick launched their campaigns for the Australian Senate from the state of Victoria on Oct. 13, with a press release blasting Victoria Prime Minister Jeff Kennett's health care "reforms" as "a Nazi crime against humanity." CEC, co-thinkers of Lyndon LaRouche in Australia, is also running its chairman, Maurice Hetherington, for the Federal Senate from Queensland in the 1998 elections.

TORY MEMBERS of the British Parliament attended a two-day "bonding" session on Oct. 21-22, organized by the new party leader, William Hague. Participants in the touchyfeely sessions were advised to take a page from the late Princess Diana and Labour's Tony Blair, who had "mass appeal because the public felt they were in touch with their emotions."

RESIDENTS of Ardatov, in the Russian region of Nizhnii Novgorod, are circulating a petition, protesting against plans to establish a special prison colony for convicts with the HIV virus, Radio Free Europe reports.

EIR November 7, 1997 International 47