

International Intelligence

Schmidt rejects RDF for Mideast

West German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt said in an interview published in Saudi Arabian newspapers April 24 that Bonn does not believe a Rapid Deployment Force for the Middle East is feasible, since it is rejected by the Arab countries. This is the first time the West German leader has openly rejected the RDF concept, although he has previously made it clear that his country would not participate in any such force.

Amidst signs that domestic opposition to a Saudi-German arms deal may ease, a leading think tank, the Near and Middle East Society, has issued a study endorsing the sale of Germany's Leopard tanks to Saudi Arabia, and stressing that the Saudis have put their trust in the Germans. The study was prepared with the help of Schmidt's Social Democratic ally Hans-Jürgen Wischnewski, a Mideast expert.

Yamani says Begin creates Soviet openings

In a major policy statement April 23 before the Foreign Policy Association in New York, Saudi Oil Minister Zaki Yamani stated that "the educated among the Saudis are fully alive to the fact that Israel is the opening through which the Russians slip into the Arab world; and the more support the United States gives to Israel, the better is the climate for the Russians in the region. This is fully borne out by the pattern of Arab-Russian relations during the last three years.

"Given this, we in Saudi Arabia find it very strange to hear that the Communist threat is the justification for the special relationship between the U.S. and Israel. We believe that Russia stands to gain from the present situation and that Israeli policies, particularly those of the current government, are at one with Russian policies."

Yamani cited Saudi scholars who believe that "American Jews themselves will gradually want to bring pressure to bear upon Israel to make it accept peace on the basis of the U.N. Security Council's resolution, which the U.S. voted for. They argue that the American Jews are very intelligent people and therefore must realize that this opportunity for peace may not repeat itself and time is not necessarily in Israel's favor."

Yamani urged the U.S. to make an "energetic contribution to the peace effort" in large part by aligning itself with "the international moves being initiated by Europe and America's other allies."

Leading scientist defuses Iraqi nuclear bomb scare

Alfred Kastler, a leading French-Jewish scientist and Nobel Prize winner, wrote a letter to the French newspaper *Le Monde* April 16 disclaiming the possibilities that French shipments of enriched uranium to Iraq, and French support of the Iraqi nuclear program, would lead to the development of an Iraqi nuclear bomb capability threatening Israel's security.

According to Kastler, "the French delivery to Iraq of a research reactor and of its combustible material has been made in accord with the treaties that submit nuclear operations to international controls. . . . It is very improbable that Iraq can utilize the delivered uranium to produce an atomic bomb."

Kastler noted that he had been asked by the French Zionist organization, *Renouveau Juif* (Jewish Renewal), a co-thinker of the U.S. Jewish Defense League, to do a study on Iraq's program. *Renouveau Juif* has been the leading proponent in France of the notion that the French-Iraqi relationship constitutes a major threat to Israeli security. But, says Kastler, his contacts with the international scientific community did not lead him to that conclusion.

The Jewish Telegraphic Agency noted April 16 that the Kastler letter had caused a "small sensation" in French

Zionist circles, since Kastler has long been active on behalf of Israeli projects and French-Israeli scientific cooperation.

Agee targets U.S. advisers in Salvador

"The scenario seems clear," states the April issue of the *Covert Action Information Bulletin*, featuring El Salvador. "A few hundred 'advisers' will be in place by May, and when the first one is shot, hundreds more will be sent in to protect the first group. Before anyone can discuss the War Powers Act . . . we will be in a full-scale shooting war again."

The bulletin is associated with Philip Agee, the former CIA agent who now functions as a joint British-KGB asset in Socialist International circles. Agee's scenario was first announced by Yippie leader Abbie Hoffman at the Yippies' National Resistance Conference in New York City on March 2. If a U.S. military adviser were killed in El Salvador, Hoffman said, U.S. involvement would greatly increase, and a "1968" climate could be created for recruitment to extremism and "youth movements."

Soviet official hits West's 'linkage'

Delivering the annual Lenin's birthday speech April 22, Soviet Politburo member Konstantin Chernenko rejected the principle of "linking" East-West relations to what happens in specific crisis spots, especially Poland. The speech contained the harshest criticism of the Reagan administration to date delivered by a Politburo member, but Chernenko, who is one of President Brezhnev's closest associates in the Politburo, also reiterated Brezhnev's proposals for East-West contacts on a number of issues.

Chernenko gave "the fuss about so-

cialist Poland" as the main example of linkage that was unacceptable to Moscow. To make détente dependent on events in Poland is part of a policy intended "to depart from negotiations on strategic arms, to heat up conflict situations, to interfere directly or indirectly in the affairs of other countries," he said. The same people who link détente to Poland, Chernenko charged, are trying to destabilize Poland. He also criticized U.S. administration policy on El Salvador and Afghanistan.

No decision on U.S. uranium fuel to India

Contrary to earlier reports, no decision has yet been reached in talks between the Reagan administration and senior Indian advisers on whether the U.S. will resume nuclear fuel shipments to the U.S.-built nuclear plant in Tarapur. The two sides have agreed to continue talks at a later date and the issue remains under consideration by the Reagan administration.

The U.S. has yet to ship nearly 40 tons of enriched uranium applied for last year by the Indian government, an obligation on which the antinuclear Carter administration stonewalled, and then dumped into the lap of President Reagan. The agreement signed by the two countries in 1963 called for nuclear fuel deliveries to be made until 1993.

The *Times of India* cites Indian Foreign Ministry official Eric Gonsalves, who met with the State Department officials, stating that the U.S. position is "flexible." Both sides agreed they did not want to make Tarapur an issue of contention, according to the *Times* report.

There were initially contradictory reports that the State Department told the Indians they would make one shipment only. It is likely that a battle is taking place within the administration on this question, as Secretary of State Haig and others at the State Department are known to oppose nuclear energy for the Third World and for India in particular.

Bhutto daughter may face death

Pakistani sources in London report that the military regime of Gen. Zia ul-Haq has put Benazir Bhutto, daughter of the murdered Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto and leader of the Pakistan People's Party, under conditions that could lead to her death. According to the sources, Miss Bhutto was operated on in a Karachi hospital for internal bleeding, which may have been caused by torture. She was returned to her jail cell within hours of the operation.

The Pakistani community outside the country believes that the regime is intent on eliminating the entire Bhutto family, whose continued leadership of the political opposition threatens Zia's military dictatorship.

This took place as Pakistan Foreign Minister Aga Shahi met with Secretary of State Alexander Haig to discuss large-scale arms supplies from the U.S. to the Pakistani regime. Shahi told reporters that "the Reagan administration has put forward a five-year plan" for such supplies.

The Zia regime, installed by Henry Kissinger after Z. A. Bhutto's overthrow, is viewed by the State Department and London geopoliticians as a tool for re-establishing Pakistan's 1950s role as guardian of the western end of the Persian Gulf, and an aggressive instrument, in alliance with China, against India. As part of this policy, attempts to construct an indigenous national leadership in Pakistan have been consistently undermined.

Writing in the Indian weekly *New Wave*, Satchit Anand comments that the strategy is to involve the U.S.S.R. in skirmishes with China and Pakistan. The latter are unable to fully take on the Soviet Union, but "because of their inherent instability and growing opposition to their respective regimes," both seek "an external adventure to divert the attention of their people. India provides them with a ready target singly as well as in concert"; new arms will be used "against India or their own people."

Briefly

● **THE SOCIALIST PARTY** of Italy, holding its congress in Palermo, has played up party general secretary Bettino Craxi as the new Duce for the 1980s. *Corriere della Sera*, the Italian newspaper of record, reinforced the drive on April 23 with an article titled "The Craxi Phenomenon," which plays up Craxi's "extraordinary physical capabilities" and "brilliant intellect" in a manner recalling Mussolini to any Italian reader.

● **DAVID ROCKEFELLER** told the *Journal of Commerce* April 20 that U.S. policy in the Caribbean should center on Jamaica. Rockefeller heads the new U.S. Business Committee for Jamaica. Unlike Prime Minister Seaga, he has not yet endorsed marijuana exports.

● **JACQUES CHIRAC**, the neo-Gaullist French presidential candidate suspected of backing from Libya, was acclaimed on the eve of the first-round elections by international press outlets as the man who will dominate the next government, whatever happens at the polls.

● **FERNANDO LANDAZABAL**, the Colombian army chief who recently threatened President Turbay with a coup, attributes Third World violence and terrorism to overpopulation and envy of advanced-sector science and technology in his book, *Subversion and Social Conflict*.

● **JEANE KIRKPATRICK**, U.S. Permanent Representative to the United Nations, will attend a meeting of the Bilderberg Society next month. Kirkpatrick told *EIR* that she will give a major address on North-South relations to the group, which she described as "the supersecret, inner, inner elite of the NATO countries."