

# International Intelligence

## **Bangladesh conference backs nuclear power**

The International Conference on Physics and Energy for Development, co-sponsored by the Bangladesh Physical Society, the Bangladesh Atomic Energy Commission, and others, opened on Jan. 26 in Dhaka. Centerstage from the start of the four-day proceedings, in which 175 scientists—140 Bangladeshi delegates and 33 foreign participants—are involved, is a fight between the advocates of a high technology path for developing nations and the proponents of “appropriate technology,” solar energy, and the rest of the Malthusian litany.

Bangladesh President Lt. Gen. Ershad inaugurated the conference with a strong statement for advanced science and technology as a priority part of Bangladesh’s next Five Year Plan now being formulated. Ershad stated his government’s commitment to build a nuclear power plant, the country’s first, in the western part of the nation—a project for which Bangladesh Atomic Energy Commission Chairman (and Fusion Asia Advisory Board member) Dr. Anwar Hossain has been fighting for years.

Prof. Shamsul Huq, Vice Chancellor of Dhaka University, laid the ground for conference deliberations in an opening speech declaring “appropriate technologies” most inappropriate. “The slogan of ‘appropriate technology’ was created a few years ago as a euphemism for updated tradition technology,” he said. “The concept was probably well-intended, but it was based on the unacceptable premise that the technology gap cannot be bridged.”

## **IMF policies cause starvation in Argentina**

Argentina’s Health and Social Action minister reported on Jan. 27 that 40% of all children under two years of age in the country suffer from malnutrition. “This is shameful in a food-producing country,” he said. In the province of El Chaco, the IMF austerity measures have forced the cutting

of the school lunch program this year, which will leave more than 60,000 children without food, the children of very poor families whose only meal has been that at school.

The food situation is so critical in Argentina, one of the world’s largest exporters of food, that President Alfonsín has been forced to start an emergency food distribution program—the Pan—which has reportedly reached 700,000 families.

At the same time, the government has begun a program of teaching poor families how to grow food on small plots of land, obviously for subsistence agriculture. The health minister also reports that there is now a housing deficit of 2.5 million units in country. In the northern province of Chaco, it is reported that over 30% of the population suffers from Chagas disease. Chaco is one of the poorest of Argentina’s provinces, characterized as a zone where Chagas is endemic due to the proliferation of vinchuca bugs which are carriers of the disease.

## **Panamanian labor leader wants debt moratorium**

Panamanian labor leader Eduardo Rios, a member of the Schiller Institute’s Labor Commission, has created an uproar in his country by coming up with a magnificent solution for the budget crisis.

At present, Panama has a budget of \$2.7 billion, of which \$839 million—one-third—is to go for debt service. The budget deficit will be \$190 million, and to trim it back, the government was planning to implement the IMF program—firing 20,000 state-sector employees, shutting down industries, and increasing taxes.

Rios, after reading a section of the newly released Spanish-language version of *Dope Inc. (Narcotrafic, S.A.)*, proposed on his nightly radio show that if Panama were to subtract \$200 million from the \$839 million in debt service, the problem could be solved. No one would have to be fired, taxes would not have to go up, and the banks would be getting \$639 million, which should make them happy.

The simplicity of this solution has made

it immediately popular, and Rios has been invited by the National Assembly and the Budget Commission to make presentations on the subject. He has also been featured in many radio programs to debate his thesis, and it has been widely covered in the press.

The influence of the Schiller Institute, founded by Helga Zepp-LaRouche and now leading a campaign to reorganize the world monetary system, has become so extensive in Panama, that in order to stop it, Lane Kirkland’s AIFLD institute has deployed the Interamerican Regional Labor Organization (ORIT) to sponsor a conference of labor leaders in Panama. Every single labor leader in Panama was invited except Rios—who happens to be the official head of Panama’s labor movement!

## **Syria, Libya, and Iran meet to ‘fight imperialism’**

Over the Jan. 26-27 weekend, the foreign ministers of Syria, Iran and Libya gathered in Teheran to “coordinate policies against the United States and Israel” and develop “joint actions against imperialism and Zionism,” according to press reports which leave little doubt as to what was actually discussed between government representatives at Shariar, Ali Treiki and Ali Akbar Velkayati. Such a gathering occurs as Syria and Iran have strengthened their policy coordination in recent weeks, and as Syria has stepped in as an intermediary to strengthen relations between Iran and the Soviets. On Jan. 21, the Iranian deputy foreign minister, Sheikh Islamzadeh, met in Damascus with Akal Valimov of the government of Uzbekistan.

Many Iranians have recently entered Europe—France in particular—with Syrian passports. This apparently includes many of the same Iranians who were expelled from Paris in December 1983, now returning as “Syrians.” The French government of President François Mitterrand, however, is perfectly aware of the Syrian deployment, but is doing nothing about it.

For example, in December French police shut down a Syrian-owned printing shop in Paris through which 2,800 North African

workers had been recruited over the last 18 months and sent to Iran and Syria for terrorist training. The shop was closed down. But, as revealed by the weekly *Minute* on Jan. 19, not only was no one arrested, but the owner, a Tunisian Muslim fundamentalist, went to Lille in northern France to continue his operations close to the Belgian border. Meanwhile, the very same shop, whose printing equipment is used for clandestine and opposition magazines in North Africa, was reopened elsewhere in Paris and functions just as before.

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### ***East Germans: Bonn plans attack on Poland***

The East German government has used the recent writings of a 21-year-old West German offspring of Silesian refugees to back-up a charge that the West German government has a military plan to invade Poland. An article that appeared in the official party paper as well as all other East German dailies during the last week of January charged that the 21-year-old's written description of a West German Army conquest—"liberation" of Eastern Europe was actually based on another article written by Colonel Hubatschek of the West German General Staff in the military magazine, *Europäische Wehrkunde*.

The East Germans charge that "confidantes of Defense Minister Manfred Woerner" are responsible for this "concept of aggression." "The author [referring to the 21-year-old] . . . got the recipe to change the European postwar order and to recreate the German Reich within its 1937 borders, a recipe which openly calculates the option of war, from West German Army Colonel Hubatschek. . . ."

For all of East Berlin's pious concern for the "borders of Poland," the East Germans never signed any agreement recognizing their own border with Poland. The 1950 "Goerlitz Agreement" signed by East Germany and Poland, which hailed "the border of peace" on the Oder-Neisse between East Germany and Poland, refused to place the word "German Democratic Republic" in the text, defining the Oder-Neisse only as the

"border between Germany and Poland." If Poland should ever get out of hand, from Moscow's standpoint, perhaps East Berlin and Moscow are the ones contemplating "revanchist" border changes?

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### ***FEF beam book unveiled in Bonn***

The Fusion Energy Foundation (FEF) held a press conference on Jan. 31 in Bonn to present the first book written in German on the Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI), which was published by the prestigious Verlag fuer Wehrwissenschaften, a military publisher in Munich. Editors Michael Liebig (*EIR*) Heinz Horeis (FEF), and George Gregory (*EIR*), one of the authors, discussed the book.

The audience included representatives of the Bundeswehr, the defense ministry, Chancellor Kohl's office, journalists from the Finnish radio, the Finnish paper *Sanomat*, the *New York Tribune*, the German daily *Die Welt*, the German weeklies *Die Zeit* and *Bunte Illustrierte*, the German military publication *Soldat und Technik*, the office of a journalist working for several German regional papers, and the Chinese news agency Xinhua. Embassies represented were Japan, Yugoslavia, Algeria, and Ivory Coast. Four private military consultants also attended.

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### ***Amnesty International report attacked in Peru***

The Amnesty International report on Peru's human rights abuses, released the week of Jan. 22, has come under intense attack in Peru. The Bishop of Ayacucho, Msgr. Federico Richter Prada, who hosted the Pope during his current tour, attacked the report, saying, "I have been able to observe, with all the bishops, the image that Peru is receiving in other countries, and that pains me very much, because it does not fit reality."

The report characterized Shining Path—the savage terrorist group—as carrying on justifiable "guerrilla" actions against an oppressive regime.

## *Briefly*

● **IL GIORNALE**, the Italian daily, described the "brown [fascist] ingredients" of the German Green Party in an article by its Bonn correspondent Michel Topa on Jan. 30. The recent expulsion of neo-Nazis from the Green Party in Berlin, he writes, means nothing, for it then "became clear that the Berlin Green Party was full of neo-Nazis." The expulsion of some . . . is not at all sufficient. . . . Under the Green label, there are Nazi nostalgics who live together with Marxists."

● **THE SOVIET UNION** is behind the killing of Fr. Jerzy Popieluszko, a prosecuting lawyer for the Roman Catholic Church implied at the murder trial of security officials in Torun, Poland on Jan. 30. "No group in Poland could have wanted such a provocation. Someone wanted to poison the home country," said lawyer Jan Olszewski. He said that the four accused were acting "in the interests of a foreign power. . . . Every child who has been taught history thoroughly in Poland knows who is interested in weakening this country."

● **LORD CARRINGTON**, business partner of Henry Kissinger and secretary-general of NATO, told a Cambridge University audience on Jan. 31 that he is skeptical about President Reagan's Strategic Defense Initiative. Carrington cannot understand, he said, how a system that merely protects can maintain deterrence at the same time.

● **THE ORGANIZER**, a major New Delhi weekly, reported in late January that the Soviet deputy military attaché in New Delhi was implicated in the current espionage scandal. The attaché was able to leave India because discovery of his involvement was leaked to the Soviets before being made public.