

## Editorial

# Appeasement is suicide

The crumbling of the southern flank of NATO after the June 2 Greek election catastrophe, has manifested itself sooner than wishful thinkers would have predicted. In the week of June 10, three major terrorist hijackings took place in the Mediterranean region. On June 14, a band from the "Islamic Jihad" seized a TWA airliner bound from Athens to New York, and took all of the passengers hostage. A U.S. Marine was killed in cold blood, much in the way that a few months earlier, Warsaw Pact soldiers cold-bloodedly shot U.S. Maj.-Gen. Arthur Nicholson in Berlin.

As we write, this tragedy is still unfolding, its final outcome unknown. But the incident has shown to any doubters that there is no "business as usual" in the world in which we live, and that any effort to "buy time" in the face of the Russian drive for world supremacy will be met with ever-escalating acts of barbarism, up to the threshold of World War III.

The TWA hijacking should be read as part of Moscow's scornful response to President Reagan's offer to "go the extra mile" and continue compliance with the never-ratified SALT II treaty. Reagan's announcement came, in turn, on the heels of the meeting of NATO foreign ministers in Portugal, where they signed documents vowing to repudiate the Strategic Defense Initiative and to force Reagan into the so-called compliance with SALT II.

It is notable that on the afternoon of June 15, the Islamic Jihad proclaimed its gratitude to the Greek government of Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou for the deal by which the eight Greeks aboard the jetliner were released, and only approximately 40 American citizens were left on board, as hostages for an outrageous series of demands against the United States government, tantamount to total capitulation to the Islamic Jihad savages internationally.

We did tell you so. In the very last issue of *EIR*, we wrote that Papandreou's June 2 reelection, conducted in the most lawless and tyrannical way, had turned Greece into a "Trojan horse of Moscow within NATO's citadel," and that Prime Minister Papandreou is a Soviet puppet.

The hijackers in fact boarded the plane in Greece, which is ruled by Igor Andropov, deceased Soviet KGB chief and President Yuri Andropov's son, the Soviet ambassador to Greece.

Moreover, since the late 1970s when the State Department under Cyrus Vance, and Zbigniew Brzezinski as national security adviser, decided that it would be clever to play the "Islamic card" against the Soviet Union in the Middle East, *EIR* alone has warned that the "Islamic Jihad" is an asset of the Soviet Union. Last year, we made this connection the subject of a lengthy *Special Report*, one of *EIR's* unique series on the alliances behind world terrorism.

Forget about the drivel pouring out of the U.S. major media about the "sociological" roots of terrorism. The Soviet Union is in a state of war with the United States, by its own doctrine. It has mobilized its economy to a full-scale war economy, as Gorbachov underlined on June 10. It is mobilizing its population for a "holy war" against the United States and its allies. It is engaged in massive maneuvers to develop the total-warfare capabilities, consistent with the maximum military option of the Ogarkov Plan. It is deploying strategic actions in Scandinavia, the Balkans, the Middle East, and elsewhere, to adjust the correlation of forces in Moscow's favor.

And, it has begun to deploy assassination and sabotage forces and actions against categories of personalities and institutions of the NATO countries, a spectrum of actions consistent with preparation for war-fighting.

The June 14 hijacking should give President Reagan the impetus to say that "time's up" for the SALT II—that the Soviets have shown what they think of such offers—and to sweep the State Department and Executive Branch clean of all those who advised him to continue compliance. Nothing less than a full mobilization of the Western Alliance around the SDI, backed by radical shifts in economic and monetary policies to revive the collapsing NATO economies, can give the West the ability to resist conquest by the barbarous Empire behind the Athens hijacking.