

# International Intelligence

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## ***Japan exceeds postwar limit on defense budget***

The Japanese government of Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone on Dec. 30 organized an extraordinary session of the national security council, which formally decided to abandon the postwar policy which limited defense spending to 1% of GNP.

U.S. Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger welcomed the move, telling a Washington press conference: "We greet this with great pleasure from every point of view. . . . We're very pleased about it and that will enable all of us to do the job more of protecting freedom."

Negotiations with the finance ministry, which wanted to maintain the spending limit, involved top-level members of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) late into the night of Dec. 29. The Nakasone cabinet will work out a new policy on defense spending for the opening of the Diet session at the end of January, after Prime Minister Nakasone returns from a tour of Eastern Europe.

Foreign Minister Tadashi Kuranari announced on Dec. 30 that Japan would soon dispatch diplomats to South Korea, the People's Republic of China, and Southeast Asian nations, to explain to its Asian neighbors that the increase in defense spending does not mean that Japan intends to become a military "threat" to them.

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## ***Israeli 'Marshall Plan' stalled by Iran scandal***

Israeli Labor Party leader and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres has made a deal with an opposition group in the Israeli elite, and has agreed to accept Israel's current policy of arming Iran, according to informed U.S. sources. The deal reflects a decision to "close ranks," in the face of U.S. criticism of the Israeli role in gun-running to Iran.

Israeli sources emphasize that the deal has stalled action on crucial policy issues in Israel, notably on Peres's concept of a "Mar-

shall Plan" for Mideast development.

Under the terms of the deal, Peres brought former counterterror adviser Amiram Nir and former Foreign Ministry Director General David Kimche—a leading figure in "Irangate"—into his policy group. Sources report that one reason Peres and his associates have agreed to support the Kimche arms-trafficking policy, is that a U.S. intelligence group has targeted for attack any Israeli leader who advocates a policy of regional economic development. The group is led by Leo Cherne, vice-president of the President's Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board, who recently traveled to Israel.

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## ***Soviet hits SDI's role as a 'science driver'***

A senior Soviet space scientist has attacked the idea, widely identified with Lyndon LaRouche and often elaborated in *EIR*, that the Strategic Defense Initiative can act as a science-driver, promoting the high-technology growth of the whole economy. In *Izvestia* of Jan. 3, under the headline "Star Peace," Academician B. V. Raushenbakh advocated a program for "a number of flights to Mars" and the establishment of "a permanent base on the Moon, manned in shifts," for scientific exploration.

Raushenbakh added, "I would like to touch on another important question. The advocates of SDI—the American Star Wars program—assert that its implementation will provide a new impulse for the development of technology and the creation of new materials, and they give examples from the past, when wars advanced science and industry. There is nothing more monstrous than such arguments. To say that military preparations stimulate some area of science, achievements in which can subsequently be used for peaceful purposes, is just a banal argument. It is just as obvious, that the achievements of peaceful science can find use for military purposes. But the defenders of the SDI try to pose the question, as if this were virtually the main program for the development of science in the next five-year period, and they

talk about possible discoveries, which will then be used for peaceful purposes. This is absolute nonsense, and one could only argue in this way, out of impotence, being unable to find reasonable arguments in favor of SDI."

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## ***Nazi-communist army formed in Mexico***

Leaders of the "right-wing free enterprise" National Action Party (PAN) of Mexico announced on Jan. 3 that they have joined with Mexican communists to form a new "democratic army," to spread "civil disobedience" against the Mexican government.

This is not the first time the PAN has allied itself with the shock troops of the Soviet secret police: Back in 1940, when PAN leaders were backing Hitler, U.S. intelligence classified the party as a security threat under the rubric "Nazi-Communist." Mexican patriots charge that the goal of today's "PANSUM" coalition, as the PAN's alliance with the communist PSUM is dubbed, is not electoral reform, but the overthrow of the Mexican state.

According to the PANSUM's press bulletin, the new army is an outgrowth of the Forum for Democracy grouping founded on Nov. 24, 1986. United under the Forum's umbrella, are the Moscow-run PSUM, the PAN, and various Trotskyite parties and legal fronts used by terrorist groups.

Mexican businessman Rogelio Sada Zambrano, a leader of the Vitro business empire in Monterrey, now negotiating to hand over its assets to Western bankers in payment for its debts, will preside over the army, the PANSUM announced.

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## ***Moscow plugs Afghan 'national reconciliation'***

The communist chief of Afghanistan, Najibullah, marked the New Year and the seventh anniversary of Soviet occupation of the country, with a call for cease-fire and an

appeal to all forces in Afghanistan to enter into "national reconciliation" talks aimed at the formation of a new coalition government by mid-January. On Jan. 5, a top-level Soviet delegation, consisting of Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze and Central Committee Secretary Anatoli Dobrynin, arrived in Kabul to give the stamp of approval to Najibullah's overture.

By the next day, Radio Moscow claimed that "commissions of national reconciliation" were being formed "everywhere in Afghanistan," and that this was a demonstration that "the Afghan people have responded to the Revolutionary Council's declaration which calls for peace."

Several European-based observers, who have closely monitored Soviet signals about an impending pull-back of most of their forces from Afghanistan, believe that Moscow is preparing a new satrapy-status for its southern neighbor. Fewer Soviet forces would be committed in Afghanistan and, having undergone intense live-fire training in the war there, the units presently in Afghanistan would become available for use elsewhere—possibly in crises to explode in the Middle East and Africa.

On Jan. 6, Mohammad Nabi Mohammadi, chairman of the seven-party Afghan resistance alliance, expressed skepticism about talks with Najibullah, but interest in direct negotiations with the U.S.S.R.

## **Contras linked to Panamanian narcotics**

U.S. networks running the Nicaraguan Contras were caught in a new drug scandal on Jan. 8, when the *Wall Street Journal* blew the lid off the Contras' links to one of Panama's biggest drug-money launderers, Steven Samos.

Samos's role as a bagman for a marijuana syndicate run by leading members of Panama's "democratic opposition" movement, is documented in *EIR's White Paper on the Panama Crisis*, published in June 1986. Also reported there, is how that syn-

dicare, based out of *La Prensa* newspaper, repeatedly used a Panamanian bank, Banco de Iberoamerica, to launder some of the \$750 million in dope profits.

Samos's specialty was forming shell companies, a service he provided for a Colombo-Gambino family scam which robbed \$40 million in taxes. Apparently, the same services were provided for the Contras. According to the *Journal's* sources, a Panamanian registered company associated with the Samos empire, Amalgamated Commercial Enterprises, served as "an important link in the private network resupplying Nicaraguan insurgents." Amalgamated "helped administer an extensive airlift operation from [El Salvador's] Ilopango military base." Samos "also had extensive dealings with Banco de Iberoamerica, a Panama bank that sources believe may have been used in the Contra money trail," the *Journal* states.

The Ilopango resupply route, exposed when American pilot Eugene Hasenfus was shot down over Nicaragua on Oct. 6, 1986, was run by retired U.S. Air Force Maj. Gen. Richard Secord and several CIA agents, in conjunction with the now-fired National Security Council official Lt. Col. Oliver North.

## **India buys arms from U.S.S.R. and U.S.A.**

India received a shipment of MiG-29 jets on Jan. 3, in the first delivery of the U.S.S.R.'s most advanced fighter aircraft to a non-Warsaw Pact nation. New Delhi has said that it plans to establish two 20-plane squadrons of the aircraft. The armament includes eight medium-range air-to-air missiles, with a weapons configuration similar to that of the U.S. F-18 Hornet.

At the same time, India has announced its largest-ever purchase of American military technology: 11 U.S.-built F-404 jet engines for prototypes of an advanced combat aircraft. The engines will be used in prototypes of a light combat aircraft, which will be India's first domestically produced warplane.

## **Briefly**

● **THE TRILATERAL** Commission has chosen San Francisco as the site for its next international meeting, to take place in March.

● **RICHARD BURT**, the U.S. ambassador to Bonn, spent a day on the campaign train of Social Democratic Chancellor candidate Johannes Rau early in January. Burt recently proclaimed himself "a political left-winger."

● **DMITRI LIKHACHOV**, a Soviet academician and prominent member of Raisa Gorbachova's Soviet Culture Fund, received the Order of Lenin and the Golden Hammer and Sickle on Dec. 26, 1986. Likhachov, a member of the "Russian Party" of national chauvinists, is an expert on the pagan roots of Russian culture.

● **'A SOVIET OFFICIAL** revealed to a Western diplomat . . . that several people were killed and many injured in the Alma Ata riots" in Soviet Kazakhstan at the end of 1986, *Le Monde* reported on Dec. 21-22.

● **HOMOSEXUAL GROUPS** from across Europe will be meeting in Cologne, West Germany, Jan. 23-25, to discuss problems in launching a new homosexual-dominated European AIDS Foundation.

● **EUROPEAN NUCLEAR** Disarmament (END) leaders met confidentially in Brussels, Belgium, beginning Jan. 8, to map out plans for the seventh annual END conference, to take place in Coventry, Great Britain, July 15-19.

● **ANATOLI DOBRYNIN**, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, on Jan. 4 received in Moscow Laurence Tisch, chief executive officer of the Columbia Broadcasting System. They discussed Soviet-U.S. cooperation in mass media work, according to the Soviet news agency TASS.