

International Intelligence

Will France deploy the neutron bomb?

The neutron bomb, which has been developed but not deployed by France, may well be deployed, given the possibility that NATO will accept Mikhail Gorbachov's "zero option" proposal—the removal of U.S. missiles from Europe—and that U.S. troops may also be pulled out.

The RPR Party ("Gaullist") of Premier Jacques Chirac is now supporting the neutron bomb's deployment, according to party spokesman Frank Borotra. Speaking to the press in Paris on March 6, he stressed the importance of the Western countries reinforcing their military potential in case of a U.S. withdrawal. "The neutron bomb is one of the conventional rebalancing elements," he said.

The neutron bomb is an anti-personnel weapon, capable of being fired in conventional artillery shells. It has been described as doing on the ground what the American Strategic Defense Initiative and related European programs are projected to do in the air against Soviet missiles. No ground forces could withstand the effects of neutron bombardment. As a defensive weapon, it would provide European nations with a means of halting a Soviet armored assault dead in its tracks.

Prove French-German terrorist coordination

French and German terrorists coordinated assassination and bomb attacks, say French police who seized documents during the late February raid on a safehouse of the Direct Action group near Orleans, France. The documents confirm that Direct Action worked with the West German RAF group in the assassination of French Gen. René Audran and German industrialist Ernst Zimmermann in January 1985.

Direct Action and RAF also coordinated the bomb attack on the Rhine-Main U.S. Air

Base in Frankfurt, on Aug. 7, 1985.

Radio station Europe 1 reported that police also secured terrorist letters "explaining" the murder of Siemens Corporation manager Karl-Heinz Beckurts and Bonn government official Gerold von Braunmühl in the summer of 1986.

Swedish arms merchant resigns

Martin Adabo, managing director of Sweden's biggest munitions maker, Bofors, resigned March 7, near the end of an investigation into whether the company had smuggled arms to Iran.

Officials at the Iranian Embassy in Stockholm told a news conference that no Swedish weapons had entered Iran since a ban was imposed in 1978. The London-based Institute for Strategic Studies, *Jane's Defence Weekly*, and the journal *Military Balance* have all begged to differ. All say that Swedish arms are being used by Iran in the Persian Gulf war.

Prime Minister Ingvar Carlsson has denied any knowledge of arms trade with Iran. *Svenska Dagbladet*, Sweden's leading daily, questioned whether Swedish politicians could have been ignorant of the deals: "Some government minister at some time must have wondered why Singapore needed so many missiles for its own use."

A recent *New York Times* article linked Sweden's arms sales to Iran and the murder of Prime Minister Olof Palme in February 1986.

South African minister warns of explosion

Willem de Klerk, South African minister of national education, warned that "the pot would explode" if government apartheid and electoral policies were not changed.

Speaking in mid-March at a closed National Party meeting in Pretoria, he is reported to have said that it was no longer

tenable for a white minority to rule over a black majority. A more conservative government, de Klerk said, might "possibly keep the lid on the pot for another five years. But after that, the pot will explode and blow us and our future into the air."

According to the Afrikaans newspaper *Beeld*, de Klerk also said that he had made an "earnest acknowledgement that that old system that had served well over decades no longer worked," and that decisive changes were required if "big trouble" was to be avoided. By the "old system," Klerk means the system whereby blacks were given the right to vote only in elections in the various homelands.

"After 14 years in Parliament, 9 of these years as a minister, I can tell you that we have tried hard to make this work. But we have now come to the realization that it cannot work. Our theory is on the rocks. People want a vote where they live."

Sweden airs Soviet propaganda film

At 11 p.m. the evening of March 6, Swedish national television broadcast a 55-minute Soviet "docu-drama" on the February 1986 assassination of Swedish Premier Olof Palme. Television officials devoted five introductory minutes to telling viewers that the film is obvious Soviet propaganda and an example of how the Soviets try to use the Palme murder for their own propaganda purposes. They also said that the film reflects the new *glasnost* (openness) policy of the Gorbachov regime.

The film portrays *EIR* founder and presidential candidate Lyndon LaRouche as responsible for the assassination.

Its broadcast was delayed seven days and put on non-prime hours following a major flap over its airing, including U.S. Embassy "concern" that the propaganda nature of the film be made clear.

LaRouche had written Swedish television urging that it be shown, with a suitable "Soviet propaganda" disclaimer.

The broadcast was produced on orders

Briefly

from the Soviet KGB, charged Soviet exile Stanislas Levchenko later, in an interview with Stockholm's leading Social Democrat daily, *Aftonbladet*. He said the Russians are using the assassination of Palme as an opportunity to spread disinformation.

Japanese armed forces expanding rapidly

U.S. Assistant Defense Secretary Richard Armitage told a congressional panel Feb. 25 that the Soviet Pacific military build-up faces an expanding and sophisticated deterrent in Japan. The idea that "Japan is enjoying a free ride in defense," has become inaccurate, Armitage told the House Asia-Pacific Committee.

By 1990, undercurrent plans, Japan will have 200 F-15s, and 100 F-4 jets, "more aircraft than the U.S. Air Force has in Japan, Korea, and the Philippines combined, and about as many tactical aircraft as we have in the continental United States," Armitage said.

The Japanese Maritime Self-Defense Force expects to have 60 destroyers and 100 P-3 anti-submarine planes "nearly three and five times as many as in the entire U.S. 7th Fleet" in the Pacific, he said.

"This increasingly sophisticated Japanese air defense and anti-submarine self-defense network, coupled with a credible U.S. nuclear umbrella, severely complicates Soviet military adventurism in the Pacific."

Fear guerrilla, dope mob links

Officials in Guatemala and Ecuador fear a growing link between drug traffickers and guerrilla groups in their countries, according to a report released March 7 by a delegation of the U.S. House Foreign Affairs Committee that visited the two nations.

"There is increasing concern among host government officials in the countries visited at the links between narcotics traffickers and

insurgent groups," the report said.

Guatemalan military officials believe trafficking via neighboring Belize is helped by guerrillas, who are also guarding plantations and growing marijuana, the report said.

In Ecuador, officials are concerned over possible links between a guerrilla group, Alfaro Vive, and the narcotics trade, although substantive proof of this connection is not yet available, the report said. The officials said the Alfaro Vive has strong links to Colombia's leftist M-19 group, which is heavily involved in the drug trade.

Colombian war on drugs suffers reverse

The March 5 decision of the Colombian Supreme Court to invalidate an executive decree placing drug trafficking cases in military courts is being denounced as a major set back to that country's war on drugs. Unidentified magistrates of the Superior Military Tribunal responded: "The position of this respectable tribunal surprises us, because the country, after 40 years, has lived under the rule of state of siege, and the governments have helped military penal justice."

More to the point was the secretary general of the Latin American Episcopal Conference, Bishop Dario Castrillón: "The Supreme Court is afraid." The Bogota daily *El Espectador* editorially lamented: "Now neither of the two justices [civilian or military] can punish the traffickers. . . . We are moving towards disintegration with our eyes open."

The Barco government had authorized military jurisdiction after civilian courts had clearly been bribed and terrorized into inaction against the drug mob.

One day after the Supreme Court ruling, leading "Medellín Cartel" cocaine trafficker Evaristo Porras was released by a civilian judge—for "lack of evidence." A military court had held him for two months awaiting extradition to Peru. An extradition petition was filed—but Porras was released.

● **BOTH FRANCE** and Chad are accusing the Sudanese government of allowing some 1,500 Libyan troops to use the Sudan's Darfour province to prepare a new offensive against Eastern Chad.

● **KEN KESEY'S** *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest* will be published in the Soviet Union this summer, and the film based on the novel has been purchased by a Soviet agency. A play based on the novel has already premiered in Kiev.

● **CARDINAL JOSEF GLEMP** said March 8 that Poland and the Vatican will establish diplomatic ties soon—the first since World War II's end. Work to establish diplomatic ties "is advanced," Glomp said, on returning from a trip to Belgium, the Vatican, Germany, and the Ivory Coast. The Pope will arrive in Poland June 8 for an eight-city tour.

● **PIERRE MESSMER**, a national assemblyman and once France's defense minister under de Gaulle, is organizing a classical music festival in 1988 in Lorraine, he announced March 5. The festival will include German and French musicians: Paul Badura-Skoda will play Beethoven's "Emperor" concerto, and Germans will perform Mozart's *Requiem*, Bach, Haydn, and Bellini. "This festival," he winked, "could well overshadow the presidential elections. . . ."

● **'ZBIGNIEW BRZEZINSKI** . . . was given treatment usually accorded only a Politburo member when the *Moscow News* published a full-scale interview with him," reported columnists Evans & Novak March 7. Although he "takes a hard line on the Soviet Union and its territorial and ideological depredations," say the columnists, "there was no censoring in the *Moscow News*."