

International Intelligence

Russia called 'empire, not nation-state'

"The U.S.S.R. is not a nation-state, but an empire, contrary to what most people believe. It is an empire ruling over many different nationalities," said the commentator on French television A2, to introduce an hour-long program on repression in the U.S.S.R. May 11.

All the main conflict areas were shown, with devastating film footage smuggled out of the Soviet Union. Armenians were shown conducting mass demonstrations for civil rights; leaders were interviewed accusing Moscow of having masterminded this winter's Sumgait massacres. Soviet Communist Party "mediators" sent for negotiations were shown being accosted by a huge crowd, calling them "liars," "traitors," "good-for-nothings."

Estonian nationalist leaders, recently exiled to Stockholm, were interviewed. "We want to expose the fact that Estonia was given to the Soviet Union as part of the Ribbentrop-Molotov deal," i.e., the Hitler-Stalin Pact, they said. "We want to regain our independence."

The massive exodus of Hungarians out of Romania was shown. The Ceausescu regime wants to crush the Hungarian community, the television show reported. Living conditions in Romania are unbearable in any case. Hungarians cross the border into Hungary by the thousands every day.

East Germans still want to go West

Approximately 2.5 million East Germans want to emigrate to the West, according to Western intelligence sources—a hint of what would occur were the Berlin Wall ever torn down.

More than 900,000 applications for emigration have been filed with the East German authorities over recent years, in most cases by younger families. The motives remain the same as throughout the postwar

period: economic exploitation by the Soviet Union, bad working conditions, and political repression, which have all increased massively during the years of intensive Soviet war build-up in the post-Brezhnev era.

As elsewhere in the looted East bloc, growing unrest is reported in East Germany's industrial centers. Sources report intense agitation among the skilled workers of the big Buna and Leuna chemical plants, as well as the uranium-producing Wismut-Aue complex.

Rush for minerals to follow African genocide

A mad rush for Africa's mineral wealth is about to begin, in the wake of the imminent depopulation of the continent by the AIDS pandemic. That is the thrust of an article appearing in the April issue of the French *Revue Internationale de Défense*, penned by its South African correspondent, A.J. Venter.

"An article published in May 1987 in the *Washington Times*," wrote Venter, "predicted the disappearance of close to 70% of the inhabitants of black Africa by 1995. . . . The prestigious Panos Institute speaks of 50%. . . . According to information gathered in October 1987 from sources close to the American embassy in Nairobi [Kenya], satellite photos show a large extension of wild vegetation in the eastern part of Zaire. AIDS seems to be the cause of the disappearance of entire communities in those regions, previously densely populated."

After describing spread of AIDS through transportation links—the truck routes crisscrossing Africa—and possibly mosquitoes, the article continues, "The governments of several nations, South Africa, the U.S.A., France, India, and the U.S.S.R., are watching carefully the evolution of the depopulation of Africa, so as to 'fill in the void' that would result from the disappearance of 80 to 150 million blacks during the next decade."

The article also cites "endemic cerebral malaria in Uganda and Zaire, sleeping sick-

ness in Uganda, where all the patients die for lack of treatment, Nigeria and Ghana where yellow fever reappeared in force."

"The eventual depopulation of the greater part of black Africa would have incalculable consequences on the international level. The continent represents effectively the greatest world reservoir of natural resources, minerals (uranium, copper, gold), and vegetable resources (precious woods, corn, tropical products). . . .

"Some South Africans think that the threats against them would greatly diminish if the AIDS disease were to wipe out the population of Mozambique, Zambia, and Zimbabwe. . . . Castro might pull out his troops" from Angola because of the epidemic.

Venter's conclusion: "No one can say, yet, in what phase of the depopulation process there will occur a new rush of the developed countries toward its fabulous reserves of raw materials."

Europeans to produce new fighter aircraft

The defense ministers of Germany, Great Britain, and Italy, meeting in Bonn on May 16, signed an agreement to jointly finance the production of the European Fighter Aircraft (EFA).

Spain, which has signaled interest in the project as well, did not send its defense minister to the ceremony, because the Spanish parliament has not yet voted on the project.

The EFA, based on original European technology, is designed to significantly improve the air defense capability of Europe. It is designed as a high-speed, lightweight interceptor aircraft with high firepower. It is expected to come on-line in the late 1990s.

The "technological attrition rate" projected for the craft is 3:1. That is meant to indicate that, on the average, a single EFA could shoot down three of the most advanced Warsaw Pact fighter aircraft before being shot down itself.

The air forces of the three countries which have signed the accord have ordered 800

EFA's. The West German Air Force has ordered 200, with an option to order 50 more.

Will Savimbi survive superpower deal?

EIR's French sources have added their voice to a chorus of intelligence community warnings that Jonas Savimbi, leader of Angola's UNITA rebel organization, will be one of the first victims of a superpower deal over southern Africa. That deal is reflected in current negotiations between South Africa and Angola over the withdrawal of Cuban troops.

The sources consider that Washington is adamantly committed to doing the Soviets the same kind of favor in Africa they did for them in Afghanistan, allowing them to get out of this imbroglio at a minimum of expense. They said that the superpowers are committed to getting rid of Savimbi, and if necessary, will sponsor his assassination.

On May 13, another round of direct negotiations between South Africa and Angola took place in Brazzaville, after an attempt to meet in Abidjan (Ivory Coast) failed. Angola rejected the meeting place because of the Ivory Coast's too-close trade relations with both Israel and South Africa. Directly involved in these negotiations at the highest level is Gen. Vernon Walters, U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, who is touring Africa.

Arbatov gushes over 'reduced' U.S. role

The American population must accommodate itself to a reduced international role and the end of the notion of "America's special mission and rights in the world," wrote Georgii Arbatov, Moscow's top U.S. hand, in a recent article in *Kommunist*, magazine of the Communist Party.

The article was reprinted in the *International Herald Tribune* on May 18, under the headline, "America needs a dose of Per-

estroika." The Soviet leader insists that the United States, especially in the era following the October 1987 stock market crash, should seriously question the ingrained notion of "American exceptionalism," which he dates to the "landing of the first settlers in the New World."

The United States, he demands, must no longer hold to the belief that America is the biblical "shining city on the hill."

Arbatov sounds awfully like the American "school of decline" writers, typified by Harvard's Paul Kennedy.

British gov't warned on child-abuse cult

An outcry has been raised in Britain for an investigation into the Ordo Templis Orientis cult for abusing children as young as 8 years old in Satanic rituals. The cult was created early in this century by devil-worshipper Aleister Crowley.

According to London's *Sunday Express* May 15, Mrs. Dianne Core, coordinator of the Childwatch organization, has compiled "a catalogue of child abuse involving devil worship." Her reports include accounts of boys who were threatened with sacrifice in terrifying black magic ceremonies; sodomized by dozens of men over periods of years; given hallucinatory drugs; told they would meet the devil; and videoed in sex acts.

Core said that the cult is strongest in the United States, not Britain. However, very strong in Britain is a related black-magic group called Scorpio whose adherents include lawyers and businessmen. At least two senior political figures are known to be involved.

Tory parliamentarian Geoffrey Dickens told the *Sunday Express*, "Children's lives are being wrecked through acts of degradation that defy imagination. We must smash these networks now. I shall be asking Mr. [Interior Minister Douglas] Hurd to launch an immediate crackdown. Dickens said he has received death threats since launching a campaign in the House of Commons against witchcraft.

Briefly

● **SOUTH AFRICAN** police found a Soviet SAM-7 missile in a secret weapons depot of the outlawed African National Congress terrorists, in a raid west of Pretoria May 15. The depot was manned by four white ANC members, who also operated a coded telephone net connecting them with other ANC posts. Lists with names of leading South African military and police officers were found in the raid.

● **THE HONDURAN** ambassador to Panama, Rigoberto Regalado Lara, was arrested with 26 pounds of cocaine as he attempted to enter the United States in Miami May 16. "Sniffing eye" dogs smelled the cocaine in his suitcase. The case is sensitive because he is the half-brother of Gen. Humberto Regalado Hernández, the chief of the Honduran Armed Forces.

● **THE SOVIETS** have just created a new National Committee for Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation, because the "Asian-Pacific part of the Soviet Union cannot yet boast of sufficiently rapid, technologically-based economic development on a comparable scale" to other nations ringing the Pacific basin, said its chairman, Yevgeny Primakov, in the foreign-language *New Times* May 19. He specifically cited the "accelerated industrialization" of China.

● **IN PANAMA** these days, the most popular jokes begin, "How many U.S. Marines does it take . . ."

● **AN EXPLOSION** occurred in the industrial city of Pavlograd in the Ukraine in mid-May, destroying a plant that produced fuel for the Soviets' SS-24 missile, setting that program back six months, say Pentagon officials. The BBC noted that in April, a similar U.S. plant blew up in Nevada.