

International Intelligence

Soviets hail Bush's views on German reunification

The Soviet magazine *New Times*, in its Dec. 19-25, 1989 issue, praised the Bush administration for its reluctance to see a reunified Germany. Although "Washington has been advocating German reunification for decades," the article said, "at the same time the Bush administration is aware of the fact that the merger of the two Germanys will create serious problems for U.S. foreign policy."

Referring to the ouster of the Communist hardline leadership in the German Democratic Republic (East Germany), the article stated, "Rapid changes in the status of the G.D.R. could complicate and even jeopardize the conclusion of the treaty on radical reductions of armed forces in Europe. . . . The reunification of the two German states belonging to two opposing military-political blocs—in whatever form it might occur—could result in the prompt disintegration of the existing structures of European security. If this happens, a political vacuum could appear that it would take some time to fill. This course of development is difficult to predict and could potentially destabilize the situation in Europe."

Furthermore, according to *New Times*, Washington fears that rapid moves toward reunification could "provide additional arguments for the opponents of new political thinking inside the Soviet Union." And "disruption of the postwar status quo in Europe will raise the question of how unshakable the results of World War II are in the world at large."

North Korea worried about fate of communism

"Today's international situation is very serious and dangerous," warned North Korean dictator Kim Il-Sung's tightly controlled media outlets on Dec. 22. "The development of the overall situation is such that it is not a time when one can be lured by such remarks as détente or cooperation," contin-

ued Pyongyang Domestic Service.

At about the same time, according to Japan's Kyodo news service, North Korea recalled its envoys from abroad for an emergency meeting to discuss the turbulent situation in Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union. North Korean ambassadors to 30 countries, including Poland, Hungary, Red China, and the Soviet Union met with the Kim Il-Sung leadership from Dec. 20 through at least Dec. 27.

Japanese Diet members just back from the communist North's capital at Pyongyang are convinced that the North Korean leadership, like that of Red China, will fight to the last man to avert any changes in their dictatorships, and Japanese press are questioning the Western media analysis which says the hardline communist countries face imminent downfall.

As evidence against this "isolation" theme, the Japanese daily *Yomiuri Shimbun* reported Dec. 25, quoting intelligence sources, that Kim Il-Sung has indicated his intention to travel to the Soviet Union early this year.

Soviet experts in Europe told *EIR* that the reason the communist hardline countries in Asia, China in particular, are maintaining their anti-Gorbachov line is because of their connections to the hardline faction in Moscow, which they expect to prevail.

Behind East Germany's 'anti-fascist' campaign

The East German communists have revved up a campaign against "neo-fascism" in order to prepare a coup against the opposition parties and the will of the majority of the population, charged Friedrich Bohl of the West German parliamentary group of the Christian Democrats on Jan. 5.

"After 56 years of dictatorship on the soil of the G.D.R. (12 years of Nazi regime, 44 years of SED communist regime), the socialist SED is on its way to launch another socialist coup," declared Bohl in a press statement. He listed several methods of intimidation and repression against the opposition used by the SED in the past few weeks:

- The so-called roundtable talks are being provided with insufficient, or even false, information by the SED, rendering them increasingly meaningless.

- The press is still not free. The censorship by the state security service (Stasi) has not been abolished, but only replaced by politically motivated rationing of printing paper.

- The electronic media, television and radio, are largely under the firm control of SED party officials. The news coverage ignores important opposition groups.

- The opposition is still dependent on the state censorship board's go-ahead for each and every leaflet. The SED arrogantly claims the right to decide on what aspects of its own policy others are allowed to criticize.

U.S. did nothing against Col. Higgins's kidnapers

The United States knows the identity of the Arab kidnapers of Lt. Col. William Higgins, wrote Richard Owen in the *Times* of London on Jan. 9. Higgins was reportedly executed by the Iranian-backed Hezbollah terrorists last July, following an Israeli raid which captured Hezbollah leader Sheikh Obeid. Owen reported, quoting the Israeli daily *Ha'aretz*, that two of Higgins's kidnapers have been identified as "Mustafa Marwi" and "Mohammed Rihal."

The *Ha'aretz* article was based on the Jan. 6 story published in *Middle East Insider*, "Colonel Higgins's Murderers Released," which revealed that the two terrorists cited above had been arrested last Aug. 31 by Syrian intelligence and brought to Damascus for interrogation. However, both were released at the end of December.

Intelligence sources are asking why, given that Washington was made aware of the identities of Higgins's murderers, no action was taken to bring them to trial.

After having condemned the Israelis for the kidnaping of Sheikh Obeid, the U.S. administration made much public noise about the fact that it would do everything to bring Higgins's murderers to trial. This was

clearly not done, just as the Department of Justice refused an Israeli offer to extradite Obeid to the United States where he could stand trial, at least, as an accomplice in Higgins's kidnaping.

To have done so, would apparently have interfered with the ongoing secret negotiations between Washington and Teheran.

Cultural Revolution returns to China

Communist Chinese Vice President Wang Zhen announced an assault against Chinese intellectuals, reminiscent of Mao Zedong's infamous Cultural Revolution. He said in December that he wants to send 4,000 intellectuals to a "labor reform camp" in the remote northwestern province of Xinjiang, Asian sources report.

Wang, a close comrade of Mao, was commander of the Productive Construction Army in Xinjiang, long used by the Beijing government as a place of exile for political prisoners.

The announcement reportedly created an uproar among intellectuals in Beijing. The grand master of Chinese painting, Li Kou Yen, sources report, died of a heart attack on Dec. 5, after having been "invited" by the Cultural Ministry to explain what he did during the demonstrations of last spring and summer. Some 250 officials have had to "clarify" their activities in May and June seven times already, in a "double clearance" program instituted by the Communist regime.

Soviets were consulted on anti-Ceausescu coup

The Soviet Union was "sounded out" about military intervention to prevent the return of Nicolae Ceausescu from Iran, during December's bloody revolution, Romanian Prime Minister Petre Roman said on Jan. 7. Roman also revealed that two of the key figures in the revolution that swept Ceausescu from power, Ion Iliescu and Gen. Nicolae Militaru, now respectively President and

defense minister of Romania, met beforehand to discuss forming a national salvation committee.

"I found out after the revolution that Iliescu and Militaru met once in a park and considered forming a national salvation committee because the situation was getting so difficult," said Roman.

Roman rejected accusations that the Romanian Army had acted independently during the revolution. "The Army obeyed the decisions made by civilian authorities," he said, adding it was possible that secret police had donned Army uniforms to open fire on citizens in the city of Timisoara, where a massacre sparked the popular revolution.

Roman stressed that Romania would remain in the Warsaw Pact.

Thailand fears U.S. is losing the heroin war

"America Loses the Heroin War," was the title of an editorial in the Bangkok daily *Thai Rat*, commenting on a speech delivered Dec. 20, 1989 by U.S. Ambassador Daniel O'Donohue to the American Chamber of Commerce.

The editorial wrote that about 40-50% of the heroin sold in the United States comes from Thailand, and that 80-85% of the heroin distributed in New York City is delivered from Southeast Asia through Thailand, as major heroin production sites are located in nearby Burma. "The United States cannot retreat from drug suppression. Otherwise the world will feel that President Bush is surrendering to and allowing the vicious elements to dominate the world. . . .

"We feel that President George Bush has somewhat disappointed the world for not seriously helping Colombia fight against the major cocaine traders. . . . At a time when Colombia has nearly fallen because of these mafias, the United States announces it is being defeated in the heroin war in Southeast Asia. It is no wonder that the prestige of the United States is deteriorating so much in many regions that even the cocaine mafias have publicly announced an offer of \$750 million reward for the head of President George Bush," the editorial concludes.

Briefly

● **GORBACHOV** may visit Houston, Texas during the 1990 economic summit of top Western leaders, said Soviet arms control negotiator and chief English interpreter for the Soviet President, Pavel R. Palazhchenko, at a symposium in Houston on Jan. 5.

● **GEORGES MARCHAIS**, the French Communist Party chief, is facing unprecedented, open rebellion to his 17-year rule, with dissent fueled by charges he had close ties with executed Romanian dictator Nicolae Ceausescu. The Communist mayor of the Paris constituency of Pantin called Jan. 7 for his retirement.

● **SIR PERCY CRADDOCK**, British Prime Minister Thatcher's intelligence chief, secretly went to Beijing in early December and met Communist Party head Jiang Zemin, it has been revealed. Sir Percy's visit was supposed to help get the Chinese to accept Britain's policy of giving passports to 50,000 selected Hong Kong families. But Beijing later denounced British actions as a "gross violation" of the 1984 Sino-British accord on Hong Kong.

● **QADDAFI'S REGIME** in Libya executed eight students at the University of Tripoli, after they were accused of having AIDS. The Student Union charged that the students were actually killed for political reasons, with AIDS used as a pretense. The students were among the 6,000 persons arrested between January and March 1989. In October, Qaddafi compared those arrested to "people sick with the plague and AIDS," and told their relatives to forget them.

● **SHINTARO ABE**, former secretary general of Japan's ruling Liberal Democratic Party, was to meet Gorbachov on Jan. 15. Previously, Soviet officials had told British Labor Party leader Neil Kinnock that Gorbachov was canceling meetings with foreigners for the month, because of domestic problems.