

# International Intelligence

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## **Mexican journal mocks Bush's new world order**

The Mexico City magazine *Cambio 7* published a bitter attack by Washington correspondent Palomino Arriaga on Jan. 21, on the double standards being applied to Iraq in pursuit of President Bush's "New World Order."

"Napalm was not an example of barbarism when the U.S. used it in Vietnam. . . . Then, that was an example of sophistication," he writes. "The atomic bomb, however, continues being, so far, the maximum. Therefore, barbarous and underdeveloped countries cannot have access to it. It is a terrain reserved for the elect who dominate the planet."

If the new order takes over after an Iraqi defeat, "It will be paradise on Earth. A happy world. Armies will disappear in the destroyed countries, and they will never be able to kill like civilized men. Concepts as backward as national sovereignty will be finished, and others will be perfected, such as national security in which the 'backyards' will be fully and securely watched over by the masters of the house. The international organizations will again become the great ceremonial centers in which the future of humanity is decided."

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## **Yeltsin under fire from Soviet military chiefs**

Soviet Marshal Nikolai Ogarkov and other Russian military figures and Great Russian chauvinists have opened a propaganda campaign against Russian Federation President Boris Yeltsin. On Jan. 18, the newspaper of the Soviet Armed Forces, *Krasnaya Zvezda*, published a series of "open letters" to Yeltsin, condemning his call for the creation of an independent Russian Army, and his backing for Lithuanian independence.

One of the letters was signed by four retired marshals, including Ogarkov; two admirals; and ten generals. The other was

signed by a group of Soviet parliamentary deputies, including several members of the hardline Soyuz movement. In their open letter, the marshals and generals expressed "bitterness" that anybody should try to use the "tragedy" in Lithuania "to gain political capital for himself."

The other letter complained of political persecution of Soviet troops in Lithuania "sponsored" by President Vytautas Landsbergis and the Lithuanian Parliament. The deputies accused Yeltsin of failing to protect the interests of the ethnic Russian population of the Baltic republics. They charged: "People have been brought to despair by the inhumane policies of V. Landsbergis and his close associates, who declared on Jan. 12 that Lithuania was at war with the U.S.S.R."

The newspaper also published a condemnation of Yeltsin which it said was signed by more than 500 students at the Lenin Military Political Academy in Moscow.

On the same day, the newspaper *Sovetskaya Rossiya* published two columns of letters attacking Yeltsin for "political ambition," "neglecting the interests of ethnic Russians living outside the Russian Federation," and other sins. Many of the signatories were identified as Army veterans.

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## **El Salvador gets no more help from U.S.**

Because President Bush is willing to "go the extra mile" to keep negotiations going with the Cuban-allied Farabundo Marti Liberation Front (FMLN) in El Salvador, his administration will continue withholding \$42.5 million in U.S. military aid to the government of El Salvador for another 60 days, White House spokesman Marlin Fitzwater announced on Jan. 16.

FMLN terrorists, who have engaged in a military offensive since Nov. 20, 1990, shot down a U.S. military helicopter in El Salvador on Jan. 2, and then executed two servicemen who survived the crash. FMLN spokesmen continue to justify their offensive, in which more than 400 have died, as

"necessary" to negotiations.

When it comes to Soviet-allied irregular forces in the Americas, the Bush administration apparently accepts this argument. The administration had promised that, at any point that the FMLN returned to the military offensive, it would restore \$42.5 million in aid which was cut in October 1990. Despite the FMLN offensive, that commitment was ignored entirely until the FMLN's execution of the two U.S. servicemen.

On Jan. 15, President Bush did "release" the money for the Salvadoran government—but ordered the delivery of the funds postponed in order to give peace a chance. "If the FMLN takes a serious and constructive approach to the peace talks so that they result in a political settlement and a United Nations-supervised ceasefire within 60 days, these funds will not need to be released," Fitzwater announced the next day. "We must give the peace negotiations under the U.N. mediation every possible chance to succeed."

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## **Schiller Institute backs Lithuanian independence**

The Schiller Institute and the Lithuanian community held a joint demonstration in front of the Soviet consulate in Rome on Jan. 15, calling for freedom for Lithuania.

The demonstrators chose this particular site because the consulate building had been the embassy of the free Lithuanian government until 1941. Some Estonian representatives also joined the demonstration.

The chairman of all Lithuanian exile communities, Vytautas Bielauskas, urged all Lithuanians to mobilize to make the governments of the countries where they are living to recognize Lithuania as an independent state.

The chairman of the Schiller Institute in Italy, Fiorella Operto, sent a telegram to Italian Prime Minister Giulio Andreotti, calling on him to recognize the independence of Lithuania, Estonia, and Latvia, together with that of the other non-Russian

republics seeking independence from Moscow, and to push for their recognition by the European Community.

### **Indian admiral sees U.N. repeat past blunders**

The U.N. Security Council resolution demanding full and unconditional surrender from Iraq threatens to re-enact the "similar tragedy of 46 years ago when Allied powers dutifully fell in behind the U.S. President" who then demanded "unconditional surrender" from Germany and Japan, Indian Vice Adm. S.C. Chopra wrote in a commentary in the *Hindustan Times* on Jan. 7.

The 1944 Casablanca Conference, nicknamed the "Unconditional Surrender Conference," prolonged World War II unnecessarily by a full year, and, the admiral states, "although hailed by the media and the general public, it was one of the great mistakes of Anglo-American war policy. Are we not about to repeat a similar mistake on a proud Arab nation?"

The admiral wrote that the Arab countries could surely negotiate the withdrawal of Iraq from Kuwait, and that a destroyed Iraq is totally against Arab interests, because then either a "rejuvenated" Iran or a greatly emboldened Israel could threaten the entire region.

### **What are Gorbachov and Bronfman cooking up?**

On Jan. 8, Seagram's magnate Edgar Bronfman, at the head of a World Jewish Congress delegation, met Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachov in Moscow, the first such meeting between a Soviet leader and a WJC president since the 1967 Arab-Israeli war.

Officially, the subjects discussed included "the international situation, the Middle East and Gulf crises, Soviet Jewish emigration to Israel, and business support for perestroika." Bronfman aide Elon Steinberg was quoted in the *Jerusalem Post* on Jan. 9 to the effect that

they had discussed formulas for "an international conference [on the Middle East] that isn't an international conference."

Gorbachov reportedly affirmed "the complete continuity of Soviet policy on the Persian Gulf," despite the resignation of Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze and other shifts occurring in the Soviet Union.

Bronfman surfaced on Jan. 14 with a letter to the Hollinger Corporation's *Daily Telegraph* of London, calling on Israel to open up talks with the Palestinians.

### **Turkish military at odds with President Özal**

Turkey's Chief of the General Staff, Gen. Dogan Ozgunes, publicly attacked President Turgut Özal on Jan. 18 for allowing the United States to use Turkish air bases for bombing missions against Iraq. "I am sick and tired of learning about these things from the president, not by direct consultations, but through the television," he said.

Ozgunes is an opponent of Özal's pro-Bush policy, and took the post of Chief of the General Staff only in early December, replacing Gen. Necip Toruntay, who had resigned in protest against that policy.

Özal, in a televised address on Jan. 18 announcing his decision to let the U.S. use the Turkish bases, countered his domestic critics with the argument that "it is beyond doubt that the Turkish nation will emerge from this war as a stronger power in the region than ever before."

He added that he had pursued a "cautious policy," but could have ordered the deployment of Turkish troops to join the multinational strike force in the Gulf, "which would have been useful, because our soldiers could have gotten used to modern warfare techniques there."

Özal dismissed fears among his people of Iraqi missile attacks, saying that he had learned during a recent visit to Teheran, that even 22 missiles hitting one city at the same time, as happened in Iran during its war with Iraq, "doesn't cause much damage."

## Briefly

● **HASSAN HUSSEIN**, a representative of the Iraqi opposition to Saddam Hussein, denounced the U.S. bombing of his country as "brutal aggression" that has nothing to do with the issue of Kuwait. Speaking on German television Jan. 17, he said, "It is hard to understand why Bush is punishing an entire nation collectively for a dictator that sits in Baghdad."

● **THE SOVIETS** vetoed a formal Austrian bid to convene an extraordinary session of the Conference on European Security and Cooperation (CSCE) to discuss the crisis in the Baltic republics. The idea came from an initiative of Poland, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, and the Nordic countries, warning that Soviet actions in the Baltic are a violation of the European charter agreed to in November 1990, which the Soviets endorsed.

● **YEVGENY PRIMAKOV**, the Soviet Mideast specialist, affirmed in an interview to the Soviet daily *Komsomolskaya Pravda* on Jan. 15 that Saddam Hussein was willing to withdraw from Kuwait, but that ongoing diplomatic efforts toward that end were sabotaged by the U.S. and British commitment to destroy him. "I am a realist, I know that I will have to withdraw," Saddam Hussein reportedly told Primakov.

● **ONTARIO PREMIER** Bob Rae on Jan. 20 supported self-government for the Mohawk Indians on the Awkesasne Reserve, which straddles the Ontario-Quebec-New York border area. The reserve is a smugglers' transfer point between the United States and Canada, according to some published accounts.

● **BORIS PANKIN**, the man who was Soviet ambassador to Sweden at the time of the assassination of Prime Minister Olof Palme in 1986, has now been named ambassador to Czechoslovakia. Pankin is known as a top KGB operative, close to the left wing of the Socialist International.