

International Intelligence

Turkish opposition hits Özal's policy

Turkey has not emerged as a big power after the Gulf war, but is losing control over developments, charged opposition leaders Erdal Inonu, chairman of the Turkish Social Democratic party, and Bulent Ecevit, former prime minister of Turkey. They spoke on May 2 concerning the tense situation created by the Kurdish refugee problem and the frictions that have developed between Turkey and other coalition troops.

"Our fears at the beginning of this crisis that Turkey would emerge as a loser, rather than a winner, have been proven right, unfortunately," declared Inonu, attacking President Turgut Özal for having driven Turkey into this situation by supporting the U.S.-led war against Iraq, in hopes of expanding Turkish power and influence.

Taiwan renounces use of force against P.R.C.

The government of the Republic of China on Taiwan announced that "the period of Communist rebellion" on mainland China is now officially at an end. "We formally confirm unequivocally that we will not use force to achieve national unification," President Lee Teng-hui said at a press conference on May 1, after an extraordinary session of the Taiwan National Assembly.

"We must work together to usher in a new era for the entire Chinese nation," he said. This does not mean that Taipei has recognized the legitimacy of the Communist government in Beijing, but its existence has been acknowledged. "The mainland area is now being controlled by Chinese Communists. This is a fact we must face," President Lee said. From now on, mainland China will be recognized as a "political entity" and the Beijing government will now be referred to as "the mainland authorities."

Lee not only announced that the "rebellion" was a thing of the past, but also that the

emergency measures in Taiwan to keep order during the rebellion are also rescinded. The Assembly, still dominated by the "mainland deputies" elected on the mainland 40 years ago, voted to reduce the Assembly in size and have it elected locally. All the mainland deputies will retire by the end of this year. In addition, mainland Chinese will now be able to travel freely to Taiwan.

Red Cross expert blames U.N. for deaths in Iraq

Air attacks by the U.S.-led coalition and the U.N. embargo are to blame if 5-6 million civilians in southern Iraq don't survive the postwar destruction of infrastructure and fall victim to epidemics, exhaustion, and famine. This was the evaluation given on May 1 by German relief expert Peter Fuchs, who was in Iraq with the "Task Force Gulf" of the International Red Cross recently.

Fuchs charged the U.N. Security Council with having delayed relief missions during the most critical phase, by not responding to alarming reports from the Red Cross. The several hundred tons of aid the Red Cross was able to bring to southern Iraq came too late.

"Between 5 and 6 million people in southern Iraq are virtually struggling for mere survival," said Fuchs, who also attacked the Western media for disinterest in any coverage of the dramatic situation there.

Europe debates an FBI-style police force

The creation of a European police force modeled on the U.S. Federal Bureau of Investigation would violate the principle of national sovereignty, according to Swedish government officials cited by the Stockholm daily *Dagens Nyheter* on April 30.

Plans to establish such a police force are being discussed by the 12 European Community countries which belong to the TREVİ (Terrorism, Radicalism, Violence

International), a forum for police collaboration among the EC countries. Sweden is not yet a member of the EC, but can participate in the discussion as a "like-minded" nation.

The Nordic National Police Associations (including Finland, Sweden, Denmark, Norway, and Iceland) have unambiguously rejected the concepts of "hot pursuit" (police crossing borders to hunt criminals in another country) and the abolition of border controls.

After five years of negotiations, Germany, France, Italy, and the Benelux countries have signed the so-called Schengen Agreement, which allows "hot pursuit," a unified drugs and weapons policy, as well as a common policy for refugees. Its computer register, when fully developed, will contain 1 million names of "undesireable" persons like accused criminals, refugees, and terrorists.

Will Algeria be next target for 'new order'?

"Are we going to be next after Iraq?" That question was asked by the Algerian weekly *L'Observateur* of April 17-24, and sums up the reaction in Algerian political circles to a recent article in the *Washington Times* alleging that Algeria is trying to build a nuclear bomb.

The *Washington Times*, "a daily very close to the CIA," says *L'Observateur*, "whose special field is that of disinformation and destabilization," is now revealing that "Algeria is about to launch a nuclear military program with the support of China." The Algerian paper points out that such disinformation was used to shape the political climate around Iraq before the Gulf war.

Statements coming out of France tend to confirm Algeria's fears in this regard. The daily *Quotidien de Paris* on May 2 went so far as to hint at a "solution" to the problem along the lines of Israel's bombing of an Iraqi nuclear power plant: "Nobody has yet answered the question of what would have happened to Kuwait if the Israelis had not in 1981 bombed the Iraqi Tammouz nuclear power station. . . . The Iraqi example

would be enough to make one suspicious about the real intentions of Algeria, a country so rich in natural gas that one wonders what interest it would have in exploiting other raw materials than those nature has provided it with. But even if one were to admit to the good faith of the Algerians . . . one cannot ignore that the country is unstable, and therefore dangerous. . . . There is a priority here that the international community must take into account as fast as possible, before it is too late."

Algeria tried to prevent the war against Iraq, and its foreign minister declared that Algeria would never tolerate the starvation and destruction of Iraq. Furthermore, Algeria is opposed to the population control policy of George Bush's "new world order."

Peruvian churchmen blast crimes against children

Catholic Church officials in Peru have pledged to investigate reports that Ibero-American children were being sold, murdered, and disemboweled, so that their body organs could be sold for transplants.

The archbishop of Chimbote, Peru, Msgr. Luis Bambarén, charged on May 2: "There is a network that buys children in order to later kill them and sell their organs. This is verified." He said the Latin American Bishops Conference, representing the Church in 22 Latin American countries, was committed to investigating at least 20 cases of child murder and organ theft. The Peruvian Senate Judiciary Committee expressed shock at the report and said it would pursue its own investigation.

Bambarén also said the Church would put a spotlight on cases of lawyers and "pseudo-lawyers" buying and selling Peruvian children for adoption abroad, "as if they were small, rare animals. We cannot permit this trade," he said.

Bambarén said that impoverished "street children" throughout the region were also being targeted for murder by vigilante groups. In the name of curbing petty crime, thousands

of street children have been murdered in Brazil. In the coastal city of Salvador, capital of Bahia state in Brazil, a child is killed every three days, said Bambarén, and in São Paulo, the largest city in South America, more than 1,400 children were killed between January and April. He denounced this killing of children as showing a descent to "incredible levels of degeneracy and inhumanity."

The archbishop did not mention the regular practice of the cocaine cartels throughout the region of recruiting poor and homeless children, addicting them to drugs, and training them as *mulas* (drug carriers) or *sicarios* (assassins).

Moscow turns the screws against Armenia

The Soviet leadership's campaign to force Armenia to rescind its intent to formally declare independence this autumn, shows that a crackdown against the smaller republics was embedded in the April 23 agreement between U.S.S.R. President Mikhail Gorbachov and Russian President Boris Yeltsin.

Dozens of Armenians in the region of Azerbaidzhan bordering on Armenia were killed during the first week in May, in a military operation led by U.S.S.R. Interior Troops. The German newspaper *Tageszeitung* on May 8 quoted an Armenian parliamentary deputy, attributing the following statement to Soviet Interior Ministry troops' head, Gen. Yuri Shatalin: "My officers are ready to raze Armenia to the ground. Keep in mind, we control the nuclear power plant. Are you aware of this?"

According to that newspaper's report, Gorbachov told Azerbaidzhani leader Mutalibov, that Moscow fully backed the Azeris against Armenia. This would be part of the "secret accords" of the Union Treaty worked out on April 23, which Azerbaidzhan signed. The secret part establishes that those republics which would be unwilling to sign the Union Treaty, would be treated as foreign countries, with the all the consequences that implies.

● **MARGARET THATCHER** will visit Moscow starting on May 27, at the personal invitation of President Mikhail Gorbachov and his wife Raisa, Soviet presidential spokesman Vitaly Ignatenko announced on May 7. Thatcher played an important role in promoting Gorbachov's rise to power and international influence.

● **THE TURKISH** magazine *Zaman*, which has an Islamic fundamentalist bent, charged on May 2 that the U.S. intervention forces were misusing the airlift into eastern Anatolia to provide weapons to the PKK, a Kurdish guerrilla group. The Kurdish separatists are fighting against the Turkish government.

● **GABONESE SOURCES** report that French First Lady Danièle Mitterrand's France Liberté association is supporting the hated dictator, President Bongo. The group organized a trip by South Africa's Nelson Mandela's to Gabon in an effort to promote President Bongo's new "democratic face," amidst stronger and stronger popular revolt against his brutal regime.

● **THE MEDELLIN CARTEL** plans to assassinate Colombian diplomats in Europe, the Bogotá daily *El Espectador* reported on May 4, citing sources at Scotland Yard. Police have been alerted and advised to take appropriate measures, particularly in London and Berne, where former President Virgilio Barco and former Justice Minister Enrique Parejo González, respectively, are the ambassadors.

● **ROMANIA'S** President Ion Iliescu met with French President François Mitterrand in Bucharest in late April. It was the first visit to Romania by a Western head of state since the collapse of the dictatorial regime of Nicolae Ceaușescu in 1989.