

International Intelligence

Armenia charges Turkey behind Azeri offensive

Armenia officially charged on June 15 that Turkish military officers planned and are directing the current Azerbaijan offensive against the Armenian-inhabited Azeri enclave of Karabakh, which began on June 12. Armenia charged that Turkey has been covertly funneling Soviet-compatible arms and equipment into Azerbaijan which it had received from Germany from former East German stocks.

Azerbaijan declared on June 15 that its forces had taken some 20 villages and the town of Shaumyan, lying to the north of Karabakh, the capital of the district of the same name. Azerbaijan has recruited as mercenaries Turkic soldiers who have been recently demobilized from the Community of Independent States 4th Army based there.

The Armenian government stressed that the Azeris had succeeded through use of attack helicopters and Su-25 Frogfoot ground attack aircraft, equipment that is impossible to come by without help from Moscow.

U.N. head calls for supranational force

U.N. Secretary General Boutros Boutros-Ghali presented a report on June 18 calling on U.N. member nations to place "peace enforcement units" under the permanent control of the U.N. Security Council. The standing force would be on call from their national armies at all times, to respond to "outright aggression, imminent or actual," the June 19 *Washington Post* reported. The proposal would be a major step toward ending national military forces and national sovereignty.

The U.N. "peace enforcement units" would be more heavily armed than "peace-keeping forces," and would receive more extensive training within their national forces. The upgraded U.N. forces would also be used in "preventive redeployment" in case of national crises or disputes between states. The Security Council would be empowered "to dispatch forces at the request of a single government that feared aggression by a neighbor," according to the *Post*.

In Boutros-Ghali's proposal, these are no longer "peace-keeping" forces, but forces to be injected into areas of tension to abort a conflict or deter an invasion. Boutros-Ghali said that "the time of absolute and exclusive sovereignty has passed. Its theory was never matched by reality." He added that another way of unifying conflict resolution is for governments to accept "without any reservation" the jurisdiction of the International Court of Justice at the Hague.

The Spanish news agency EFE reported that the proposal has been received "with caution" by the international community, who are worried about the loss of the principle of non-interference in the internal affairs of countries implied by the Boutros-Ghali proposal.

Russia and Moldova at war, says Snegur

For all practical purposes, Russia and Moldova are at war, Moldovan President Mircea Snegur declared on June 22, following an emergency session of the Moldovan Parliament. He proclaimed that Russia has been waging an "undeclared war" against Moldova.

Just hours before, an ammunition dump of the Community of Independent States 14th Army based in Moldova, was blown up, killing 20 CIS soldiers, in what the authorities in Moscow are denouncing as "an act of terrorism."

Senior intelligence sources have told *EIR* that the situation in and around Moldova is extremely serious, and the crisis could become unmanageable. Some of the additional elements include:

For their own opportunistic reasons, both Georgian President Eduard Shevardnadze and Romanian President Ion Iliescu are giving Moldova their support. Shevardnadze and Snegur issued a joint communiqué over the weekend of June 20 denouncing "Russian imperialism."

Following a meeting on June 22 between Russian President Boris Yeltsin and Ukrainian President Leonid Kravchuk, Kravchuk announced that the Ukrainians are going to give their full backing to the trans-Dniester region, where Russians and Ukrainians live.

Over that same weekend, Yeltsin, Rus-

sian Vice President Aleksandr Rutskoy, and Russian Defense Minister Gen. Pavel Grachev all issued harsh statements, affirming Russia's intent to "protect" its interests and the Russian-origin population in Moldova and South Ossetia.

Libya role in Lockerbie not found, say Germans

German investigators have found no substance to charges by the United States and Britain that Libya carried out the bombing of Pan American airlines Flight 103 over Lockerbie, Scotland on Dec. 21, 1988 in which 270 people died.

Volker Rath, the Frankfurt prosecutor in charge of the official investigation of the case, said in an interview with Hessischer Rundfunk radio on June 19 that for lack of real evidence, the investigation into the affair will have to be dropped.

Rath said that more than three years of investigation in the United States, Scotland, and Germany (where the flight originated) has not produced any evidence that could shed light on the authors and background of the Lockerbie incident. Rath declared that his investigative team has found little substance behind U.S. and British charges that two Libyan secret agents, Basset el Megrahi and Khalifa Fhimah, did the bombing. He said that these charges were in the realm of guessing rather than proof.

French may defeat Maastricht, Delors warns

Jacques Delors, the president of the European Council, said that a defeat of the Maastricht Treaty in the French referendum in September is possible, leading to "stagnation and crisis" and putting an end to the process of European integration.

Despite the defeat of Maastricht by Danish voters on June 3, which legally bars its implementation, proponents have scheduled referendums in an attempt to revive political support for the treaty. Irish voters approved Maastricht on June 18 by a 2-1 margin, but, as observers pointed out, Ireland is expected to gain a massive monetary trade advantage with the rest of Europe.

Briefly

Delors said that non-ratification of the Maastricht Treaty would shake up the Common Market and turn the European Community into a free-trade area, which would make all of Europe even more vulnerable to political conflicts and trigger a process of disintegration. "At the smallest confrontation between member states, there would be a new crisis, until in the end, the free-trade area itself would disappear," Delors explained in an interview with the French daily *Le Figaro* on June 19.

Delors said that a defeat of the Maastricht accords would lead to a "general panic, because France has made its mark on the construction of Europe ever since the beginning. And as far as I am concerned, the dream would have been shattered."

Panamanian government blasts Bush officials

Julio Linares, the foreign minister of the U.S.-installed Panamanian government, called in U.S. Ambassador Deane Hinton on June 17 and accused the United States of "flagrant violations of the canal treaties."

On June 16, U.S. soldiers raided the home of opposition Cong. Gerardo González, violating his parliamentary immunity and Panama's sovereignty. The raid, ostensibly to investigate the shooting death of a U.S. GI and the wounding of another on the eve of George Bush's visit to Panama, was in reprisal for the June 11 fiasco, when Bush was forced to flee Panama in tears after police fired tear gas at demonstrators protesting his visit.

Linares said Hinton apologized for the military patrols and said it was all due to "a misunderstanding." The United States was given permission to increase security for Bush's visit, but that was just for the one day, said Linares, according to Mexico's *La Jornada*. "It never occurred to anyone that it would be for more days."

Japanese Diet okays overseas troop bill

After years of debate, the U.N. Peace-Keeping Operations (PKO) bill, to allow Japanese troops to go abroad for the first time

since World War II, passed the Diet and was enacted into law on June 15. The immediate purpose of proponents of the measure is to provide help in keeping the genocidal Khmer Rouge in check in Cambodia, so that Japan and Thailand can begin to implement their long-term strategy for the Mekong River development program.

The bill exhaustively stipulates that troops must be invited and deployed for purely peaceful purposes. In effect, the measure creates a Japanese "army corps of engineers."

The bill was passed over frantic attempts to stop it by the U.S. embassy in Tokyo, which deployed the minority Japan Socialist Party to walk out of the Diet on the day of the vote, in an attempt to bring down the government by calling an election over the bill. Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa, however, refused to accept their resignations or dissolve the Diet.

Danger of fascism in Israel, commentator warns

Sam Lehman-Wilzig of Bar Ilan University in Israel warned that given the failure of both the Labor Party and the Likud Party to do anything more than attack each other in their campaigns, a disenchantment with both parties is rapidly developing, in an article in the June 17 *Jerusalem Post*.

In this context, a so-called "popular non-political public personality" like Ross Perot could step forward to win the prime ministership in 1996, when it will become a position directly elected by the population.

Lehman concluded that unless the political parties get more serious about issues and programs, the parliamentary system would collapse and lead to fascism. "It is at this stage that we begin to perceive the dangers inherent in the penchant for hyper-negativism, the search for the non-political leader, the reversion to direct mass democracy. All three constitute prime ingredients for fascism as we have learned to our sorrow throughout the 20th century. And in a country where the political culture already contains some elements of authoritarianism, the danger of quick-fix democracy deteriorating into its antithesis is even greater."

● **AFRICAN LEADERS** must resolve their conflicts at the Organization of African Unity summit, OAU Secretary General Salim Ahmed Salim told reporters in Dakar, Senegal on June 22. "I attach capital importance to the problems of resolving conflict on the continent. I think that without stability and security in Africa it is inconceivable for us to concentrate on vital questions of economic development."

● **INDONESIA** has banned a human rights report by the Indonesian Legal Institute on the trial of Muslims in the northern province of Aceh, Reuters reported on June 17. The ban is a reaction to a U.S.-led destabilization of the country. The Attorney General's office also banned two books it said would revive communism and create ethnic conflicts.

● **SPANISH** merchant marine workers staged a two-day warning strike against the Maastricht scheme, in what has been characterized as the beginning of a series of labor protest actions. The action, which began on June 15, was joined by longshoremen and others in Portugal, France, Italy, and Greece.

● **THE CITIZENS** Electoral Councils' 17-member executive committee endorsed a statement entitled "Enough is Enough," which called for the freeing of U.S. political prisoner and Democratic presidential candidate Lyndon LaRouche, in a conference in Melbourne, Australia on June 13-14. The statement was first issued on Jan. 27, on the third anniversary of LaRouche's incarceration.

● **THE IRAQI** Agriculture and Irrigation ministry has complained to the U.N. that U.S. planes have been systematically firebombing its grain fields in villages surrounding the city of Mosul, the center of Iraqi wheat and barley production. In a June 17 letter, Iraqi U.N. official Abdul Amir al-Anbari said such bombings had occurred on three occasions in June. The U.S. claims that the U.S. Air Force was only releasing flares.