

# International Intelligence

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## ***Slovakia's premier loses confidence vote***

Slovakian Prime Minister Vladimir Meciar lost a no-confidence vote in the parliament on March 11, with a margin of 2 votes over the required absolute majority of 76 votes. There were 2 votes against the motion, and 70 abstentions. This means that should all efforts to form a new government within the mandatory transition period of 30 days fail, Slovakia will face another election this spring.

The deepening economic disaster, indicated by an official jobless rate of close to 15%, is at the center of this power struggle, with neither the government nor the opposition offering any solutions.

The last early election brought a big increase of votes for the post-communist party of Meciar, turning that party into the biggest single group in the parliament. The opposition, usually split but united in the recent no-confidence vote for the first time, can't be sure of defeating Meciar in early elections: Seven out of the 85 members of the opposition bloc didn't vote against Meciar.

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## ***Russian-Kazakh crisis takes ominous new turn***

Since the March 7 parliamentary elections in Kazakhstan, French newspapers have been warning of a split-up of the country, with a Russian ethnic-separatist movement taking off in the north of the country.

The Russian authorities, with support from the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) observers who watched the elections, are charging electoral irregularities, saying that the Kazakh government's aim was to ensure that the ethnic Kazakhs would receive a greater percentage of seats than merited by their percentage in the population, relative to the ethnic Russians. The head of a Russian Duma "observers' mission" for the elections, Konstantin Zamulin, said, "In my capacity as representative of the former tutelary power of the

Soviet Union, I would advise the Kazakhs to be more tolerant toward their ethnic minorities." The Kazakh government has also been criticized by Andranik Migranian, a member of Russian President Boris Yeltsin's Presidential Council, who had recently written an article demanding a "Monroe Doctrine sphere of influence" for Russia in the areas of the former Soviet Union.

The daily *Le Monde* warned that the Russian majority living in the resource-rich north of the country, where strategic missiles and the Baikonur Cosmodrome are located, could decide to proclaim themselves independent and linked to Russia. *Le Monde* noted that "the specter of a division of the country, which Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn had raised in his 1991 book as a means of 'reorganizing Russia' in new frontiers, should continue to haunt the country, despite the contrary assurances given by Boris Yeltsin."

The daily *Libération* cited a western defense attaché in the capital city Alma Ata, that the most likely scenario now is that Kazakhstan would split up, with Russia acting as "policeman," and with Kazakhstan thereby re-entering the Russian sphere of influence.

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## ***Bonn downgrades anti-crime bureau***

The German government has announced a "reform" of the Federal Anti-Crime Bureau (BKA) that will certainly be to the liking of organized crime and terrorists. Minister of the Interior Manfred Kanther decided early in March that the status of the BKA director would be downgraded and that the agency's directorate be replaced by a "collegial body" that would be "less hierarchical" and "more in tune with the federalist structure of the Federal Republic." This measure goes along with budget-cutting attitudes that are sold under the slogan of "long-overdue streamlining of the bureau."

The government's plans have met strong resistance among the anti-crime authorities. BKA officials delivered a note of protest.

BKA director Hans-Ludwig Zachert, they said, has been picked as a "scapegoat" for the failures of a security policy that the politicians have not yet been able or willing to define.

Bonn's conflict with the BKA will add to the sentiments that are building against the German government and the political establishment in general, among the police, which has repeatedly charged policymakers on the federal and state levels with incompetence and readiness to look for scapegoats rather than for efficient and meaningful legislation against crime and terrorism.

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## ***Israeli professor: Jews aren't immune to Nazism***

It is perfectly justified to call the Kach movement fanatics "Jewish Nazis," said Hebrew University professor Ze'ev Sternhell, Israel's leading expert on the origins of fascism, in an interview with the French daily *Libération* published on March 9.

*Libération* asked: "You speak of 'Jewish Nazis' in regard to the Kach movement of the late Rabbi Meir Kahane, to which Dr. Baruch Goldstein belonged. Isn't there an inherent contradiction in this terminology?"

Sternhell responded: "Not at all. There is no gene which immunizes Jews against various forms of racism, of xenophobia, of the cult of violence, and it is that which we find in 'kahaneism,' an exacerbated nationalist fanaticism that is combined—and this was not the case with the Nazis—with a religious fanaticism. Kahaneism seeks to purify Israeli society from all foreign elements, not only by expelling all Arabs from the land of Israel, but also by preventing mixed marriages. We find, in this, the essential elements of Nazism. If there was a kahaneist majority in the Knesset, the laws which it would promulgate would not be different from those of Nuremberg."

Sympathies for Hebron killer Baruch Goldstein, according to Sternhell, come mostly from religious circles—the rabbis of the yeshivas and various religious parties. This is "a world in which fundamen-

## Briefly

● **THE RUSSIANS** arrested an alleged spy for Germany's foreign intelligence service, the BND, according to Itar-Tass news agency on March 10. No details were made public by the Russian counterintelligence service, except that the person is a Russian citizen. German Chancellor Helmut Kohl's spokesman refused to comment in a Bonn press conference.

● **FRANCE** and Israel have signed their first military cooperation agreement since the 1967 Arab-Israeli war. The agreement deals with military technological research and development.

● **CHILE'S** outgoing President Patricio Aylwin on March 11 released three leftist terrorists who were jailed for an assassination attempt against former President Gen. Augusto Pinochet in 1986. The three were immediately given asylum by Belgium. Aylwin's successor, Eduardo Frey, was sworn in as President on the same day and promised to continue Aylwin's policies. He is expected to attempt to put the Armed Forces, which are run by Pinochet, on a tighter leash.

● **ALEKSANDR RUTSKOY** will run for President of Russia, he told the March 6 *Sunday Express* of London. Rutskoy was jailed by Boris Yeltsin in October 1993, during Yeltsin's assault on the parliament; he was released in February under an amnesty declared by the new Duma. "The state continues to disintegrate," Rutskoy said, adding that he was opposed to "shock therapy."

● **KING HUSSEIN** of Jordan was snubbed by Saudi King Fahd during a visit to Mecca this month. U.S. authorities had reportedly promised the Jordanian king that they would intercede on his behalf for a meeting with his Saudi counterpart, but this apparently did not succeed. Relations between the two countries, always fraught with difficulties, have been particularly strained since the Gulf war.

talist nationalism mixes with religious fanaticism, the worst cocktail that one could imagine. The only advantage: It is relatively limited in Israeli society. The highest estimate would be not more than 12% of the population. On the other hand, the milieu that look on [Goldstein] with a certain benevolence is much larger." This current of "active and passive sympathizers" could reach 25%, which "is sufficient to become a political factor."

Sternhell charged that most of the dangerous operatives come from Brooklyn, New York. In the United States, they can't take up a gun and wear a uniform, and act out ideas of racial purity against blacks and Puerto Ricans. So, they come to Israel to act out these emotions against the Arabs.

### *Rao foresees end of Sino-Indian conflict*

Indian Prime Minister Narasimha Rao said on March 9 that India and China are likely to achieve a breakthrough soon in ending eyeball-to-eyeball confrontation between the two armies on the border.

Speaking to both houses of parliament on Sino-Indian relations, Rao said that action is being initiated to implement the agreement on maintaining peace and tranquillity on the Line of Actual Control signed last year during his visit to China.

"We want to remove eyeball-to-eyeball confrontation in a very short time. We will be able to make a breakthrough," he told the Lok Sabha, the lower house, according to the Chinese news agency Xinhua.

### *Look out Argentina, here comes the MI-6!*

The head of the Argentine State Intelligence Service (SIDE), Hugo Anzoreggi, has agreed to have British intelligence services train Argentine intelligence agents in the art of "intelligence analysis." Anzoreggi met in London early in March with the directors of both MI-5 and MI-6 to discuss the ar-

rangement. David Spedding, the new chief of MI-6 (foreign intelligence), will travel to Buenos Aires shortly for a three-day visit. Spedding was stationed in Santiago, Chile in the early 1970s.

Anzoreggi told the daily *Clarín* that he was "astounded" by the knowledge which the heads of MI-5 and MI-6 had about Argentina's anti-subversive war of the 1970s. It was as if, he said, "the mind of a military officer had merged with that of a guerrilla."

Other matters discussed during the London meetings included nuclear nonproliferation and Argentina's scenarios for potential regional conflict. Anzoreggi said he referenced Argentina's excellent relations with Chile, making no mention of several points of conflict with that country in which British involvement is also a factor.

### *OAS wants to form a hemispheric army*

Military experts, diplomats, and defense authorities of the Americas were scheduled to meet at an Organization of American States forum in Argentina March 15-18 to discuss military means to back up such integration measures as the North American Free Trade Agreement, said Argentina's ambassador to the OAS Hernán Patino.

According to the Caracas daily *El Globo* of March 6, the forum was to elaborate proposals for the OAS General Assembly that will meet in June in Belén, Brazil, for the eventual creation of a supranational OAS military intervention force.

Such a force, a long-standing project of the Anglo-American oligarchy and its stooges such as Venezuela's Carlos Andrés Pérez and Argentina's Carlos Menem, until now had been prevented from coming into being largely because of opposition from Mexico. However, as a result of the insurrection in Chiapas, Mexico has now abandoned its absolute commitment to non-intervention. Luis Donaldo Colosio, the presidential candidate of Mexico's ruling PRI party, said that he would welcome international observers in the presidential elections in August, Reuters reported.