

International Intelligence

Desultory terrorists meet in London's Hyde Park

A few score "Islamic revivalists" gathered in London's Hyde Park on Sept. 8, after an international outcry forced the British government to have the so-called "Islamic Rally for Revival" terrorist conference cancelled. The original event was expected to draw 12,000 (see *Entente Bestiale* in *EIR*, Sept. 6, 13, and 20).

The Syrian-born Omar Bakri Mohamad sulked that the British government had "made a mistake" in pressing for the event to be shut down, since, "if the Muslims [sic] start to go underground, that will be worse." Saudi revolutionist Mohammed al-Masari warned that "rallies for revival" would go ahead in Birmingham, Bradford, and Manchester, and that another big event would be scheduled for next year, in London. "God knows," he said, "next time, it may be in Downing Street." A leaflet distributed by Mohammad's organization Al-Muhajiroon proclaimed, "the victory of the faithful over the Jew is imminent."

The London *Guardian's* Ian Black, who covered the rally, added his denunciations of the British Foreign Office and the Arab nations, all victims of the terrorists, whose protests succeeded in getting the conference cancelled. He called the governments of Egypt, Algeria, and Tunis "short-sighted," in thinking that "state violence is the solution to radical fundamentalism."

Bush buddy CAP to run for Venezuelan Senate

Former Venezuelan President Carlos Andrés Pérez, who was forced from office in August 1993, convicted on charges of corruption, and expelled from the Democratic Action (AD) party, has decided to run for Senate in 1998. CAP, who inaugurated his Presidency in 1989 by announcing that he intended to turn Venezuela into the spearhead of George Bush's "new world order," may not have chosen the most auspicious moment to relaunch his political career. His friend George Bush is himself now under a

cloud after being exposed as the kingpin in the Contra drug-running. But, reality has never deterred the power-mad Pérez, who intends to play a role in overthrowing President Rafael Caldera.

On Sept. 18, after serving his sentence under house arrest since May 1994, Pérez regained his freedom. The sentence, which was a slap on the wrist compared to the crimes he committed, allowed him to remain politically active, holding meetings, granting interviews, and surfing the Internet.

Of late, articles about him have begun appearing, many political commentators seek his opinion, and he is reportedly being visited by many small-town delegations asking for advice. He is already planning campaign trips. CAP has said that he intends to take back the leadership of AD, or failing in that, will start up his own new political movement.

Britain, Poland, Ukraine reach 'defense agreement'

What is billed as "a trilateral defense arrangement" has been reached among Britain, Poland, and Ukraine, according to the Sept. 10 London *Independent*. "The arrangement bridges the gap between Poland—a leading candidate for NATO membership—and Ukraine, which until recently has opposed expansion of NATO, and is unlikely to join. It also gives Britain a foothold in eastern Europe."

The agreement involves use of each other's training facilities and joint parachute exercises. Ukraine will grant Britain use of its ranges for live ammunition training exercises, including, possibly, "the British use of air-to-ground ranges in Ukraine." The *Independent* reported on ongoing large-scale Polish-British armored exercises, with 3,500 British troops in Poland carrying out the "largest armored exercises since the Gulf war."

On Sept. 7, Belarus President Aleksandr Lukashenko held secret talks on military cooperation in Moscow with Russian Security Council chief Gen. Aleksandr Lebed and Defense Minister Gen. Igor Rodionov. They announced that more work is needed on pull-

ing out the Russian nuclear missile forces still based in Belarus, which reveals Moscow's decision to indefinitely keep a limited nuclear presence there, clearly an "on-the-ground" response to the "Entente Cordiale" plans for NATO expansion.

Philippines' Ramos to disarm Christian militias

In a handwritten note to military and police, President Fidel Ramos has ordered "more forceful measures" be taken to disarm Christian militias, which have vowed to fight the peace accord reached between the government and the Muslim Moro National Liberation Front earlier in September on the southern island of Mindanao. The note called on authorities to "remove the threat, preserve peace and order."

Over the Sept. 7-8 weekend, 35 members of the self-proclaimed Mindanao Christian Unified Command staged a clandestine press interview outside Zamboanga City, displaying their weapons, which ranged from assault rifles to machine guns and grenade launchers. The militants also sported uniforms bearing an inverted Filipino flag, which is understood as a declaration of war. Local officials credit the group with 3,000 armed members, while some of the "commanders" claim up to 10,000 members, including former soldiers and ex-policemen.

The peace accord with the MNLF calls for creation of an administrative council, led by Muslim leader Nur Misuari, as the first step to creating a Muslim autonomous region, encompassing 14 provinces and 10 major cities. Eight of the provinces have Christian majorities.

UN, human rights NGOs go after Peru's military

The United Nations sent a "Special Rapporteur" to Peru to investigate the "independence of the judiciary," and human rights violations, at the same time that human rights non-governmental organizations (NGOs) are intensifying their campaign against the Armed Forces. According to the

Peruvian dailies *Gestión* and *La República* on Sept. 7, Dato Param Cumaraswamy will spend eight days looking into the cases of "innocent" terrorists who were allegedly tried without due process.

The Fujimori government has already released 210 "innocents," as a dangerous concession to groups such as George Soros's Human Rights Watch/Americas and the Washington Office on Latin America, and has stated that as many as 400 people may be wrongly jailed. But the NGOs claim that at least 1,000 people were falsely accused and convicted by "faceless judges"—a mechanism created by the government during its war against Shining Path, to protect judges who convict terrorists from retaliation.

HRW/Americas and WOLA have stepped up their attacks on the Peruvian military, charging that Army commander General Hermoza is protecting a Presidential adviser and National Intelligence Service (SIN) official, Vladimiro Montesinos, whom they allege is a CIA asset. The attack on Montesinos has become their vehicle for taking down the Amnesty Law passed by the Fujimori government, which prevents prosecution of military personnel for alleged human rights violations, and for reviving high-profile cases of alleged military violations of human rights.

Burundi archbishop, nun murdered in ambush

Archbishop Joachim Ruhuna, was killed on Sept. 9, when he was ambushed in his car in central Burundi. Also murdered with him was a Burundian nun from Mother Teresa's Missionaries of Charity. Archbishop Ruhuna had been booed at a funeral for Tutsi massacre victims on July 23, when he said there were extremists among both the Tutsi minority and the Hutu majority: "There are no names for this. I have seen it many times, but I condemn violence on both sides," he said at the chaotic mass funeral for 304 Tutsi victims of a massacre at Bugendana, in the Gitega region.

The Tutsi military is claiming that Hutu rebels dragged Ruhuna, a Tutsi, from his car

and apparently murdered him. However, the National Council for the Defense of Democracy (CNDD), political wing of the largest Hutu rebel group, has denied any role in the killings. CNDD's East Africa representative said: "The Army killed him because he was very moderate. . . . The army killed all 25 priests, monks, and nuns who were killed in the past three years in Burundi before him." The 62-year-old archbishop had refused to travel with bodyguards. Ruhuna had received death threats after publicly striking out against both Hutu and Tutsi extremists in the country.

Kissinger, Thatcher, Lee stump Asia Pacific region

Henry Kissinger, speaking at the 21st Century Forum in Beijing on Sept. 12, told Chinese leaders that they are facing a threat from countries such as India and Japan. Kissinger singled out Japanese nationalism as a major challenge to Chinese security and asked the Chinese to go along with his balance of power plan, which would require the United States continue its strategic involvement in Asia.

Kissinger continued that, whereas European countries now commonly have strategic cooperation, Asian countries are suspicious of each other, and their leaderships unpredictable. To maintain a stable Asia, China should welcome what the self-avowed British agent calls "American" involvement. Some Chinese political scientists have bought Kissinger's line and concluded that the 21st century will see a three-way balance of the East Pacific powers among Japan, China, and the United States. Paraphrasing Kissinger, the *Singtao Daily* wrote that Japan's transition to a more independent political and military policy would inhibit a Tokyo-Washington axis against Beijing.

Earlier, Margaret Thatcher had warned Indian leaders that Asia needs the United States, because it is the only power that can tame the Chinese dragon. Later, another British strategist, Singapore's Lee Kuan Yew, said that Russia is going to be the real danger to China for a long time to come.

Briefly

HEZBOLLAH, the pro-Iranian "Party of God," won four seats in Lebanon's general election on Sept. 8. Hezbollah candidates won in south Lebanon under a Syrian-sponsored alliance with the secular Shi'ite movement Amal, which also won five seats in the 128-member house, according to partial results issued on Sept. 9.

'A FRANTIC QUEEN Elizabeth" held an emergency family summit at Balmoral Castle on Sept. 16. The so-called Way Ahead Group will discuss "ending the monarch's role as head of the Church of England and allowing heirs to the throne to marry Catholics," according to Rupert Murdoch's Sept. 11 *New York Post*. Allowing succession to the throne through the female line will also be on the agenda.

THE GREEN PRINCE, Charles, of course, prepared a lecture for the 50th anniversary of the Soil Association, which promotes organic farming, where he was to "raise public awareness about the potential dangers to agriculture of genetic engineering, whereby crops and livestock are manipulated to raise production," according to the Sept. 10 *London Times*. He has, in the past, termed efforts to increase food production a "crime against the environment."

DANIELLE MITTERRAND appeared on a French cable broadcast promoting the Mexican Zapatista terrorists on Sept. 10. The broadcast also included interviews with three "impoverished Arab youths," who were nonetheless able to secure costly air tickets to Mexico to meet with the Zapatistas. Mrs. Mitterrand has carved a niche for herself as the spokesman for "indigenous chic."

INDONESIA'S Coordinating Minister for Political Affairs and Security Susilo Sudarman, said Aug. 29, that the government has frozen licensing to discotheques following drug seizures, including of the dangerous stimulant "Ecstasy," at such locations in several major cities. Sudarman told the press, "The trafficking in Ecstasy pills has reached a critical level."