

International Intelligence

Thatcher under fire for her anti-German bloodlust

"I don't know much about scandals concerning George Bush, but you should keep a close watch on the attacks against Margaret Thatcher, that are now breaking here," a leading British Trilateral Commission member advised *EIR*. He was referring to excerpts in the Sept. 23 London *Times* from a new book by George Urban, former head of Radio Free Europe, *Diplomacy and Disillusion at the Court of Margaret Thatcher*. "We will soon be hearing more about this, I'm sure," said *EIR*'s source.

Urban recounts how Thatcher, during an address at London's Center for Policy Studies in December 1989, reacted violently, when a fellow Tory expressed the view that German reunification was both good and inevitable. Thatcher, says Urban, was "extremely reluctant to see Germany assume a role other than that of a divided country," and told the author: "There are things that people of your generation and mine ought never to forget. We've been through the war, and we know perfectly well what the Germans are like, and what dictators can do, and how national character doesn't basically change."

Asked by CPS Chairman Lord Hugh Thomas whether the West would now "switch enemies," from the Soviet Union to Germany, Thatcher shot back: "As soon as the Germans have fully recovered, they will reassert their hegemonic interests throughout Eastern Europe. . . . With the Central European countries reasserting their independence, and all the ancient feuds and territorial disputes resurfacing, we may be going back to the state of affairs preceding the First World War."

German TV producer staged Klan rallies

German television producer Michael Born was on trial in September for fraud, after he admitted staging phony meetings of the "Ku Klux Klan" in Germany for a documentary.

He claims that German TV executives knew his work was staged, and thus, that he could not have defrauded them. Prosecutor Norbert Weise charged that Born sold 32 copies of the documentary with "made-for-TV" Klan rallies to television companies in Germany and Switzerland. The documentaries were supposed to show the resurgence of Nazism in Germany.

The Born scandal occurs in the wake of the tour by British asset, Daniel Jonah Goldhagen, to promote the German translation of his book *Hitler's Willing Executioners*, which blames all Germans for the Holocaust.

In October, a Hamburg court sentenced Nebraska neo-Nazi Gary Lauck to four years, for being the main supplier, over two decades, of propaganda to the German neo-Nazi underground. Lauck's demise was due in part to an *EIR* exposé showing him to be a British-run "setup," prompting German, Danish, and U.S. authorities to collaborate in shutting down his dirty little operation.

Myanmar formally requests ASEAN membership

Myanmar formally filed its request for membership in the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), Malaysia's Foreign Minister Abdullah Badawi told the press on Sept. 17. Badawi said the application was made last month, at the time that Gen. Than Shwe, chairman of the ruling military council, SLORC, visited Malaysia. Abdullah was optimistic that Myanmar would be accepted in the regional body, to which it was admitted as an official observer at the late July ASEAN meetings in Jakarta, Indonesia, in spite of heavy-handed pressure by the European Union and the United States to blackball Rangoon. Laos and Cambodia are in line to join ASEAN in 1997.

Among the first to protest Myanmar's membership is Gen. Bo Mya, head of the country's principal ethnic secessionist movement, the Karen National Union. The KNU was formed in 1947, on the heels of independence from Britain, and is the last significant rebel group fighting for auton-

omy. Bo Mya protested that accepting Myanmar into ASEAN would give legitimacy to "military dictatorship." One of the leading foreign supporters of the Karenni movement is George Bush's cousin, Elsie Walker.

Benjamin Netanyahu snubs France's pro-peace Jews

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu refused to attend a dinner with the French Jewish umbrella organization CRIF during his late-September visit, and instead dined with his supporters among the Likud-France fanatics. According to the Paris daily *Libération*, he is the first Israeli premier to snub the dinner held specially in his honor, even though CRIF's leader, Henri Hadjenberg, is not particularly favorable to Netanyahu. One Jewish leader told *Libération*, "Bibi Netanyahu is again behaving like a cult leader."

Likud-France, writes the daily, is "much more extreme than its mother party" in Israel. After news shot around the world of Yitzhak Rabin's murder, Likud-France President Jacques Kupfer remarked that his only regret, was that he would not now have the chance to put Rabin on trial for treason. The student wing of Likud-France, Tagar, has put out leaflets claiming that Shimon Peres arranged Rabin's assassination, to discredit Israel's right wing. Likud-France has repeatedly organized violent protests against visiting Israeli Labor Party leaders.

OAU may hire S. African mercenary 'peacekeepers'

According to the London *Independent* on Sept. 18, a recent South African intelligence assessment concluded that the Organization of African Unity (OAU) may be forced to offer the firm Executive Outcomes a contract "for peacekeeping continentwide." Executive Outcomes, registered in London and Johannesburg, is a South African mercenary operation, with direct ties to the South African giant mining company, Anglo-American.

In Angola, the firm was hired by the

Briefly

EGYPT'S President Hosni Mubarak bluntly told the London Arabic daily *Al-Hayat* of Sept. 18, "We have contacts with all the states concerned with terrorism. We held the Sharm al-Sheikh international conference to cooperate against terrorism. All the participating governments agreed on that, but some states, like Britain, give political asylum to terrorists, and these states will pay the price for that."

VIETNAM called for ASEAN to develop a plan of action against the drug plague, as anti-drug officials from ASEAN, Interpol, the UN Drug Control Program, and the Bangkok-based Association of Narcotics Control Officers started a five-day meeting in Hanoi on Sept. 17. In spite of its efforts, Vietnam itself has become a transit country for opium, and is suffering a huge rise in addiction.

GREEK SOCIALIST Prime Minister Costas Simitis won reelection in a tight race against conservative challenger, New Democracy party leader Miltiadis Evert on Sept. 22. Evert had made confrontation with Turkey the focus of his campaign. Evert has accused Simitis of backing down in January, in a dispute with Turkey over a deserted Aegean island. The dispute almost led to war.

SHIMON PERES, Israel's former prime minister and Labor Party leader, announced on Sept. 18 that he will not run again for the party leadership in the June 1997 Labor Party leadership primaries, nor will he run for prime minister in the national elections in 2000.

JORDANIAN and British troops fought mock battles south of Amman on Sept. 17, completing 13 days of joint war games. Jordanian and British army officers said the exercises, involving 1,000 troops, were not related to the current situation in Iraq. British Lt. Col. Clive Hodges, the head of the Cyprus-based King's Regiment, said his soldiers were able to fire all their weapons, including anti-tank weapons, which is impossible on the divided island.

MPLA government of Dos Santos to clean up Jonas Savimbi's Unita, in exchange for a franchise in Angolan diamonds. The Clinton administration has told the Angolan government to get rid of Executive Outcomes, but so far it has not done so.

In Sierra Leone, it was hired by the government to mop up the Revolutionary United Front insurgency, which is allied with Liberia's French-backed warlord Charles Taylor. In return, the extremely well-equipped Executive Outcomes took the diamond-mining franchise in Sierra Leone.

In Uganda, it reportedly guards the Karamoja gold mines, in which British Minister of Overseas Development Baroness Lynda Chalker reportedly has interests.

Writes the *Independent*, "Executive Outcomes recruits from some of the most combat-experienced soldiers in the world, former members of the apartheid regime's notorious 32 Battalion and Koevet and former British officers. Its security services range from mechanized infantry and armor to naval and air-force training."

3,700 Moscow police guard Michael Jackson

Some 1,200 policemen and 2,500 security officials guarded rock idol Michael Jackson in Moscow, according to NTV's *Vremchko* program on Sept. 18. No political figure visiting Russia in the last five years was treated with such enthusiasm. According to *Moskovsky Komsomolets* on Sept. 15, all these precautions still did not help when a crowd surrounded Jackson on Red Square, trying to tear off his black mask (which he sports to protect himself from infections). Jackson was rescued from the crowd by an officer who "took him by the collar and dragged him into a police car."

According to the Sept. 15 *Moskovskiy Novosti*, when he was in Prague, the androgynous Jackson could look out the window of his hotel and see the 10-meter monument of himself, erected on the base of the Stalin monument, which had been taken down in 1962.

NTV reported the "heroic" intervention

of Moscow customs officials on Sept. 18, who confiscated the gift of an antique sword presented to Jackson by the ex-head of Presidential Security, Gen. Aleksandr Korzhakov. The sword, a national treasure, bears the crest of Czar Nicholas II on the handle, and by law, it cannot leave the country. Moscow customs was not so meticulous when hundreds of Russian icons, pictures, etc. freely crossed the border in 1990-95. Russian intelligence officials evidently can perform heroic deeds only when they are assigned to discredit other Russian intelligence officials.

Filipinos may vote out Presidential term limit

Approximately 18 months away from the next Philippines Presidential elections in 1998, already more than half of the 3.5 million signatures needed to convene a plebiscite to scrap a Constitutional one-term limit for President Fidel Ramos have been gathered, according to the London *Financial Times* of Sept. 19. The daily reports that Ramos himself says his list of possible successors is "a very short list. And it's getting shorter every day."

Presidential term limits is a highly emotional issue, wrapped in the mythologies associated with the "People's Power Revolution" that overthrew Ferdinand Marcos in 1986. Under Corazon Aquino, in 1987, the Constitution was profoundly changed, including slapping a single six-year term limit on the Presidency and recognizing the legitimacy of "autonomous regions," based on ethnicity or religion, as affirmed in the recent peace agreement in Mindanao.

The *Times* points out that Ramos is too shrewd to embrace the petition drive, at least until after he hosts the APEC summit at Subic Bay in November. But, without doubt, the pressure is building in certain sectors of the business and foreign investors community to sustain the all-out liberalization and privatization scheme that has become Ramos's hallmark. With no other candidate yet opposing "globalization," why change horses till the nails in the horse's hooves are sold out from beneath the rider?