

International Intelligence

Iran offers help to Philippines' Mindanao

Nur Misuari, governor of the Autonomous Region of Muslim Mindanao, carried a letter from Philippines President Fidel Ramos to Iran's President Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani, during his four-day visit to Teheran last month. Misuari is also head of the Moro National Liberation Front, the largest Muslim organization on the Philippines' southernmost island. Misuari told Rafsanjani that Iran "is regarded as the closest and friendly Muslim state for the people and government of the Philippines and the peace efforts by Iranian officials in different countries are exemplary."

Misuari also met with Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati on June 29, where he urged using Iran's experience in reconstructing Mindanao, which has been caught up in civil war for the last 25 years. Velayati welcomed the return of peace to Mindanao and voiced Iran's support for the Philippines territorial integrity. The governor also visited the Mubarak Steel Works in Isfahan, where he stressed Mindanao's need for Iran's know-how and technology, and expressed the hope of reaching agreements in agriculture, animal husbandry, and petrochemicals.

Brits capture Polish Solidarity election arm

An investigation by *EIR* into the Windsor Group, a British organization that has insinuated itself into Polish politics since 1994, shows that the Conservative Revolutionaries around the Tories, and their U.S. allies in the International Republican Institute and the Heritage Foundation, have effectively captured Poland's Solidarity Electoral Action (AWS). AWS was founded by the Solidarity trade union. In contrast to the original intent of Solidarity, one Windsor Group brochure advises small businesses to locate in the countryside, where there is less "danger" that employees will unionize.

The free-trade takeover is exemplified

by one Krzysztof Ujazdowski, founding member of the Windsor Group and a chairman of the Conservative Coalition in Poland, who has been for years preaching a radical conservative agenda. Ujazdowski's party candidates were included on the AWS slate at the beginning of July. What is Ujazdowski's program? Restoration of the death penalty, privatization of education, increasing funds to the police, decentralization of finances, decentralization of government down to the district (or *powiat*) level, and various concessions to "family rights," which will mean nothing in a free-market-devastated social and political landscape.

AWS chairman Marian Krzaklewski has pledged that if AWS wins the parliamentary elections on Sept. 21, his party will rapidly privatize 80% of state property. Such an action would promptly ensure mass unemployment for thousands of Solidarity unionists.

U.S. 'sends message' to Cambodian factions

U.S. State Department spokesman Nicholas Burns reported on July 10 that the United States is suspending its aid to Cambodia for 30 days, as "a clear signal" of displeasure with Second Prime Minister Hun Sen, who seized control of the government over the previous weekend. Burns also delivered an extremely important message to First Prime Minister Prince Ranariddh, who is in the United States meeting with UN officials, as well as with U.S. officials.

Burns made clear the Clinton administration's opposition to Ranariddh's ongoing negotiations to bring Khmer Rouge leaders into a political alliance with his Funcinpec party, stating: "I think that we simply would not . . . support in any way, shape or form any senior member of the Khmer Rouge playing a role in the political life of Cambodia." As to Hun Sen, Burns said, "We hope very much that Hun Sen will reconsider his actions of going it alone, of rupturing the Paris peace accords and breaking the coalition government."

A further important indication of the Clinton administration's desire to work with

Cambodia's immediate neighbors in solving the crisis, was Burns's statement that the U.S. fully supports the decision of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations to send the foreign ministers of Indonesia, the Philippines, and Malaysia to consult with Cambodia's King Norodom Sihanouk, who is receiving medical care in Beijing.

With regard to the suspended aid, Burns said that a review would be conducted in 30 days, at which time he anticipated resumption of humanitarian aid, such as land mine removal. (There is one land mine per capita in Cambodia.) U.S. aid to Cambodia is set at \$35 million for fiscal 1997. Germany also announced suspension of its aid, saying Hun Sen's action was in violation of Cambodia's 1992 constitution, and endangered German development workers. Sixty percent of Cambodia's annual budget is paid by such foreign assistance.

'Golem' Soros deeper and deeper in trouble

EIR has learned that a member of Bulgaria's Social Democratic Party, who is living overseas, provided the Sofia newspaper *Zora* with a copy of our *Special Report*, "The True Story of Soros the Golem: A Profile of Megaspeculator George Soros." *Zora*, a nationalist newspaper, serialized a translation of the report over 11 weeks, and also published a booklet version, with an introduction by the former director of the Soros Foundation of Bulgaria, who had split with the phony, philanthropist "arch-democrat." Among recipients of the booklet were President Petar Stoyanov, during a ceremony to award Soros a national medal.

According to the July 12 *New York Times*, Soros's "democratic" fronts—which go under the names of Open Society Fund or Soros Foundation—are coming under increasing fire, exemplified by Belarus, where the director of the foundation was expelled, and the foundation fined \$3 million for tax fraud. Still, with \$5 billion to play with, Soros hopes to expand operations: In 1997 alone he opened offices in Mongolia, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Azerbaijan, and Arme-

EAST TIMOR'S terrorist/separatist Fretilin has launched an upsurge of terror since May, which is being taken seriously by the Indonesian government. The former head of Fretilin, José Ramos-Horta, was co-laureate of this year's Nobel Peace Prize, whose "liberationism" consists of yearning for the return of the negligent Portuguese colonialist oligarchy.

SAMUEL RUIZ, the pro-Zapatista terrorist bishop from Chiapas, Mexico, was confronted by the Schiller Institute in Germany, where he was attempting to drum up support. Ruiz lied that the Zapatistas are in their "third generation," and no longer believe in armed uprising; rather, they now have their own identity, he said, and seek change through the political process, obliquely referring to the July 6 election of Zapatista sympathizer Cuauhtémoc Cárdenas as Mexico City mayor.

DUTCH PHYSICIANS are virtually licensed killers, according to a study by the *Journal of the American Medical Association*, which showed that at least 948 people died in 1995 alone, from physician-administered drug overdoses to patients who had not explicitly requested euthanasia. Mercy-murder accounted for 2.3% of the total deaths in the Netherlands that year.

THE WORLD Wildlife Fund's tiger expert Ron Lilley attributed the recent killing of three Indonesians in West Lampung by a Sumatran tiger to "people converting the tiger's habitat into plantations or settlement areas, prompting the animal to retaliate." Rampaging elephants "trampling on villages and plantations" must also be excused, due to the "dwindling size of their natural habitats."

STRIKING FLIGHT CREWS at British Airways have drawn support from the German transport workers and white collar unions that work for Deutsche BA, which also refuses to negotiate with them. The unions OETV and DAG are threatening to strike in autumn.

nia, and established his first Ibero-American beachhead, in Guatemala. He plans to open nine new country offices in southern Africa, soon.

Venetian separatists get prison sentence

The commandos of the "Veneta Serenissima Armata" (VSA) who seized the belltower in St. Mark's Square in Venice, last May, were sentenced on July 8 to a moderate jail term of four to six years. Prosecutors had asked for eight years, which was interpreted as halfway between the most severe (life sentence) and a mild sentence, through which the state would have surrendered. Under the terms of this sentence, the "Serenissimi" will have to cool their heels for at least a year in prison.

In the meantime, Venice Mayor Massimo Cacciari, a follower of Nazi philosopher Friedrich Nietzsche, has proposed founding a party in the Veneto region on the model of Spain's "Catalan party," which Cacciari claims will defuse moves toward armed secession. Cacciari offered himself as a candidate to lead the party, which he said should be a "regionalization" of the center-left coalition supporting the central government. Cacciari said, in an interview with the daily *Il Sole 24 Ore*, that either his party "is born by September, or it will be too late. In that case, we can only hope in God."

France adopts British geopolitics in Africa

All defense accords between France and African countries may be overhauled. Agence France Presse, on July 4, reported that Charles Josselin, secretary of state for cooperation, told the National Assembly's Foreign Affairs Committee, that "the question arises of whether there should be a French military presence on African soil." He said that France should move from a "concept of defense to one of security" for French nationals only, and said France "must learn the lessons from the unfortunate adventures" in the Great Lakes region and Zaire.

Josselin singled out the influence of the United States as France's major problem in Africa. "France," he said, "should be able to count on the help of its European partners, because it cannot cope on its own" in establishing a "balance of forces" on the continent. He attributed the U.S. interest in Africa as mostly economic, saying, "Oil exploration has shown that the Gulf of Guinea may hold reserves comparable to those in the Persian Gulf." One partner the French may rely on is Britain; as Jean-François Bayart, director of the International Studies and Research Center, pointed out last month, France has had more investment in the last three years in Uganda, than in Zaire.

Bayart, meanwhile, suggested to the daily *Libération* of July 3, that France should withdraw support from Cameroon President Paul Biya, if he runs for re-election in October, which Bayart characterized as "flouting the most elementary rules of democracy. . . . If so, the militarization of the conflicts in Cameroon would become inevitable."

'Perfida Albion' picks a fight with Spain

Spanish press has been up in arms over a dirty operation by British Foreign Minister Robin Cook at the Madrid NATO summit, who picked a fight over the contested sovereignty of Gibraltar. Cook had threatened to veto Spain's entry into NATO's military structure, if it did not end restrictions on air traffic in Gibraltar. Even such Anglophile publications as the daily *El País* wrote on July 9, "It seems totally contrary to correct diplomatic behavior, that Britain's Robin Cook should yesterday talk of blocking Spain's entry." Spanish officials are warning Blair, that a veto of Spain's entry into NATO's military structure "would run into strong opposition from all other NATO members," wrote the London *Times*.

Cook struck a petulant pose over Spain's reaction: "At least that shows our message is getting across," he said, "that there has to be a solution to the Gibraltar problem, before Spain can join the integrated military command."