

# International Intelligence

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## ***Malnutrition stalks Hutu refugees in Burundi***

Tens of thousands of Burundians, living in camps inside the country, do not have access to adequate basic food sources to stave off malnutrition and life-threatening diseases, the UN World Food Program has warned. WFP said in an Aug. 15 statement, that teams assessing regroupment and displaced persons camps, have reported that disorders from protein deficiency and undernourishment—kwashiorkor, marasmus, and edema—have become prevalent over the last few months. An estimated 600,000 Burundian Hutus live away from their homes in some 250 camp settlements throughout the country. More than half of them are living in “regroupment” camps, which the Ugandan-allied Burundian dictatorship of Pierre Buyoya refers to as “protected settlements.”

WFP says that malnutrition rates are believed to be most acute in the provinces of Karuzi, Babanza, and Kayanza: “In the highly insecure province of Babanza, hundreds of people have been streaming into clinics in search of medical assistance and nutritional support after spending months in the forest. Some are so weak from malnourishment, they can barely stand. Thousands more are believed still to be in hiding.”

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## ***Mexicans jam concerts to exonerate LaRouche***

Between Aug. 5-8, as many as 2,800 people attended three Classical concerts by Mexico's Schola Cantorum Boys Choir, dedicated to the exoneration of Lyndon LaRouche. The Schola Cantorum, directed by Maestro Alfredo Mendoza, was founded a decade ago to provide some of the poorest of Mexico's children with the ability to create beauty, through *bel canto* singing of Classical European and Ibero-American choral works. The Schola performed songs by Bach, Mozart, Schubert, Schumann, and Mexican composers.

The concerts were performed in Baja California, in the capital of Mexicali, the

port city of Ensenada, and the “den of iniquity,” Tijuana. They were co-sponsored by the Schiller Institute and the state government.

Some 1,400 people filled the State Theater in Mexicali, and 300 people were turned away at the door. Blanca García of the Schiller Institute greeted the audience on behalf of the institute's founder, Helga Zepp LaRouche, whom she described as “a tenacious fighter on behalf of the urgent need to rescue universal values and to save civilization.” She stressed that the institute in Baja California was participating in the fight “to obtain the exoneration of her husband, Lyndon LaRouche, whose passion for truth, beauty, and justice, we share.” In his introductory remarks, Maestro Mendoza also emphasized the necessity to stop the holocaust in Africa.

Seven hundred people jammed each of the concerts in Ensenada and Tijuana, both of which also had to turn overflow crowds away at the door.

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## ***Inkatha right-winger defects to ANC***

Walter Felgate, one of the right-wing strategists of Mangosothu Buthelezi's Inkatha Freedom Party, has defected to the African National Congress (ANC), according to South African news reports in mid-August. A former Central Committee member of Inkatha, Felgate cited as reasons for his departure, Inkatha's withdrawal from the KwaZulu-Natal provincial peace talks with the ANC, and the lack of democracy within the IFP.

However, it should be noted that Felgate strongly opposed the peace process between ANC and Inkatha that was forged in July 1996, and the two parties began talking, only after marginalizing Felgate and IFP party adviser Mario Ambrosini. South African *EIR* sources had often noted the seemingly insurmountable power grip that the two white advisers had over Buthelezi and his party. Felgate and Ambrosini took over the senior posts within the IFP after the 1994 elections, and were thought to hold the posts because of Buthelezi's friendship with British multi-

millionaires Sir James Goldsmith and John Aspinall.

In what way Felgate's departure is connected to the recent breakdown in the Inkatha-ANC talks is not immediately apparent. It is likely, however, that Felgate's major role within the ANC will be to manipulate a more permanent rupture between the two sides, in traditional British geopolitical style.

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## ***German, Polish armies in bilateral exercises***

The cooperation between Germany and Poland's armies during the flooding of the Oder River along their common border is continuing into the defense sphere, a Bundeswehr source told *EIR*. The senior officer said that his Dresden-based tank brigade would be holding a joint field exercise with a Polish tank battalion from the nearby Zagan military district. The Aug. 18-25 exercise, at the Nochten firing range, featured Polish officers firing charges from a German Leopard II main battle tank, and German officers firing from the Polish T-72 main battle tank.

The exercise is strictly bilateral, rather than taking place within the structure of the Partnership for Peace. This is indicative of growing German-Polish cooperation, which has been boosted by the battle jointly waged by their militaries against the floods last month, he said. The deployment of German military helicopters and reconnaissance aircraft to monitor and photograph the state of the water-logged dikes, in late July, also illustrates the high level of cooperation. Polish and German military units now have almost weekly contact, with officers making reciprocal visits.

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## ***India disinvites Queen from Amritsar visit***

The Indian government has asked Queen Elizabeth to bypass visiting the Punjab city of Amritsar during her official visit in October, because of the British massacre of Indian colonials which took place there in 1919. Prime Minister Inder Kumar Gujral revealed the request in an interview with the

London *Observer* on Aug. 17. The Queen is making her visit as part of the year-long celebrations of 50 years since Indian independence from Britain, whose actual anniversary was on Aug. 15.

Gujral said that India was anxious to avoid bitterness over the Jallianwala Bagh Massacre, in which hundreds of Indian civilians were mowed down by British troops. The Queen had been due to visit Amritsar's Sikh Golden Temple, but Gujral said: "We have suggested as a government to the British a few days back that it would be much better if she doesn't visit Amritsar. It is a goodwill visit and we would not like to add anything historically that would cause bitterness. . . . Sometimes some shadow is cast by indiscreet speeches. I do hope in the interest of building better psychological relations, policymakers in London will be slightly more careful and respectful of our sentiments."

## **Ranariddh blames U.S. for blocking Khmer Rouge**

Nate Thayer, the *Far Eastern Economic Review* correspondent who had tearfully taped the fraudulent trial of Khmer Rouge leader Pol Pot two weeks earlier, was given ample space in the Aug. 15 *Washington Post* to present the gripes of Cambodia's Prince Ranariddh against the Clinton administration. Clearly, the White House does not buy Ranariddh's tall tale, which he told Thayer in an interview in Bangkok, that "the Khmer Rouge are coming back, but they are coming back as nationalists, as patriots, not as killers."

Ranariddh is particularly incensed that the White House has not yet released an FBI report on the March grenade attack on a political rally led by Ranariddh ally Sam Rainsy, against the "corrupt judiciary." The FBI was called in to investigate the attack because American Ron Abney, a case officer with the International Republican Institute at its Phnom Penh regional office, was wounded in the attack. Ranariddh accused the Clinton administration of hiding evidence that his factional opponent, Hun Sen, is a terrorist, and should be brought to trial.

As for Nate Thayer, sources tell *EIR* that his life dream is to be the official biographer of the Khmer Rouge and Pol Pot. He was livid when Hun Sen successfully negotiated the surrender of 18,000 Khmer Rouge militias last year, which action shut down the KR's lucrative gem and timber businesses.

## **Coptic Christians rebuff CSI meddling in Egypt**

The Coptic Christian community in Egypt has denounced Christian Solidarity International-led efforts on behalf of a U.S. Congressional bill, which would authorize boycotts by companies that deal with countries whose governments pursue anti-Christian policies. Among the countries allegedly persecuting Christians, is Egypt, which the CSI, headed by Deputy Speaker of the House of Lords Baroness Caroline Cox, denounces as a Muslim fundamentalist regime.

A spokesman for Pope Shanudah III, head of the Coptic Orthodox Church, told the government weekly *Al Ahram*, that "whatever problems the Copts of Egypt are suffering from, will be solved within a domestic framework, and through purely Egyptian channels." Another Coptic Christian said: "We don't need anybody to claim they are defending the rights of Copts. The U.S. should never call us an Egyptian minority, because we are part and parcel of the national fabric." He further noted, "The draft law before Congress sounds like an old colonial pretext to interfere in Egypt's internal affairs."

A 30-page report on "Religious Persecution," compiled by Sen. Joe Lieberman (D-Conn.) of the Subcommittee on Middle East Affairs, claims that Christians are the target of persecution in Egypt, Sudan, and Saudi Arabia. Lieberman is close to the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, and has been working hand-in-glove with Cox's CSI, whose board includes Anglophile conservatives Rep. Frank Wolf (R-Va.) and Chris Smith (R-N.J.). Lieberman's CSI-influenced report asserts: "The persecution of Christians and others who refuse to convert to a fanatical brand of Islam is on the increase in these countries."

**THE CORSICAN** National Liberation Front hosted a mid-August meeting of some of Britain's favorite European separatist outfits, including the Basque ETA, its legal front Herri Batasuna, and separatist gangs from Sardinia (Italy), Brittany (France), and the Jura (Switzerland).

**THE ANTI-DEFAMATION** League of B'nai B'rith opened an East European operations center in Vienna, Austria at the end of August. Ceremonies featured former U.S. Ambassador Ronald Lauder, heir to the cosmetics fortune, whose Lauder Foundation donated \$80 million for the project, which includes fighting "anti-Semitism" in Hungary, the Czech Republic, Romania, Bulgaria, Croatia, Bosnia-Herzegovina, and Serbia.

**NIGERIA'S** defense chief, Maj. Gen. Abdulsalam Abubakar, visited China and North Korea, according to the *Wall Street Journal-Europe*. He reported that Nigeria plans soon to host delegations from both countries' defense establishments.

**QIAN QICHEN**, China's foreign minister, told visiting Vietnamese Deputy Foreign Minister Vu Khoan that disputes over common land and maritime borders can be settled soon, the *People's Daily* reported on Aug. 16. "Settling boundary issues between China and Vietnam is in the fundamental interest of the people of the two countries and is the wish of the leaders and the peoples of both countries," he said.

**MARK THATCHER'S** South African home was raided by police in early August, after allegations that the former British prime minister's son had illegally hired armed policemen to protect him. Thatcher, 43, fled from his home in Dallas, Texas, 18 months ago, after reports that tax officials were investigating how he had made his fortune, much of which derived from arms deals.