

International Intelligence

British dyspeptic over China help to Cambodia

Dow Jones' *Far Eastern Economic Review* of Dec. 11 warns Cambodia it is "playing with fire" by getting closer to Beijing. It is clear that China has undermined the combined effort of the British and their U.S. agents in the International Republican Institute (IRI) to revive the murderous Khmer Rouge. The *Review* complains that when Second Prime Minister Hun Sen foiled the attempted coup by First Prime Minister Ranariddh earlier this year, "China was among the first foreign governments to endorse the change." The *Review* dubs China's support for Phnom Penh's crushing of the Khmer Rouge, "abetting factionalism within Cambodia, stunting the growth of a strong and durable political system, . . . prolonging the corruption and instability that deter foreign investors."

Meanwhile, reported the Dec. 5 *South China Morning Post*, IRI front-man, Cambodia "dissident" Sam Rainsy returned to Phnom Penh in late November, from self-imposed exile, showing off his Khmer Rouge colors: "I urge all people to stop sending their sons to war to kill other Cambodians. Forget the Khmer Rouge — there are no hard-liners, just one Cambodian people." In keeping with the Khmer Rouge's rabid anti-Vietnamese racism, Rainsy said, "We must band together to prevent the *luan* [a derogatory term for Vietnamese] thieves from stealing our land and our timber." The *Post* quotes "foreign diplomats" calling this treasonous madness "brave and provocative."

Russia's Yeltsin blasts 'macroeconomic slogans'

In his Dec. 19 radio address to the nation, Russian President Boris Yeltsin, reviewing 1997, said that "it has become clear for most people, that there have been few achievements" in the economy, and he promised to "correct mistakes and draw the necessary conclusions." In place of Communist Party slogans, he complained, Russia has had a slew of "macroeconomic ones," such as

"Privatization at any cost!" and "Let us squeeze the dollar into a currency corridor!"

Yeltsin's remarks were a clear warning to First Deputy Premier Anatoli Chubais. Yeltsin, who took part on Dec. 19 in round-table talks on land reform, with multi-institutional participation, including from the Communist Party (CPRF) leadership of the Duma (parliament), also said, "I have asked Russians to turn this year into a year of reconciliation and accord. And I am doing it myself, even when I have to force myself and seek agreement, with the once 'irreconcilable opposition.'"

On Dec. 18, Yeltsin's financial adviser, Aleksandr Livshits, told reporters that information "known to a very limited circle" of officials, had been leaked to Western financial institutions. Livshits, as well as Premier Chernomyrdin, have come out with promises to get to the bottom of those leaks. On Dec. 18, *Nezavisimaya Gazeta* published an imperious letter from International Monetary Fund Managing Director Michel Camdessus to Chernomyrdin, but the scandal is not around the leak of the letter to the press, but rather, the leaking of sensitive data to the IMF! On Dec. 20, *Nezavisimaya* accused Chubais of handing such information over to the IMF.

Canadian Club of Isles daily pushes legal dope

The Toronto *Globe and Mail*, flagship newspaper in Canada for the British oligarchy's Club of the Isles, came out aggressively pushing for legalization of marijuana in Canada in its Dec. 12 editorial. The editorial was occasioned by a ruling by an Ontario provincial court that an Ontario man, Terry Parker, could legally cultivate a field of marijuana, ostensibly because he used the drug as "medication" to treat his severe epilepsy.

The *Globe and Mail* argued that, with medical marijuana now accepted by the courts, marijuana should be legalized for everyone. "A quarter of a century since the Le Dain royal commission recommended the decriminalization of marijuana in Canada, the Criminal Code remains obstinately in the throes of 'Reefer Madness' — insistent that

possession and use of marijuana is a serious and dangerous problem for society."

The editorial documents that the majority of the legal establishment in Canada favors legalized marijuana: "The Canadian Bar Association has been advocating the decriminalization of marijuana since 1976; the Canadian Police Association urged Parliament in 1993 to remove cannabis possession from the Criminal Code, lowering it to a mere ticketing offense, similar to a speeding violation. . . . And back in 1980, a justice minister by the name of Jean Chrétien [now Canada's prime minister] said his government intended to bring about changes to lessen the severity of penalties for marijuana possession. Seventeen years ago, Mr. Chrétien may well have been forced to explain why he would take such a step — today, he should be asked why not."

The owner of the *Globe and Mail* is a member of the oligarchy's 1001 Club and a protégé of 1001 Club member Maurice Strong, a leading mouthpiece for one-worldist, UN enforcement of environmentalist dictates.

British TV features EIR analysis of Diana death

On Dec. 13-15, Westminster TV, the largest cable network in Britain, aired a 30-minute documentary on its "Live-TV" show, featuring *EIR*'s Jeffrey Steinberg and Allen Douglas, reviewing their investigation into the vehicular murder of Princess Diana, Dodi Fayed, and driver Henri Paul. The half-hour broadcast was an unrelenting denunciation of the French government's "official" version of the fatal crash on Aug. 30-31. The official French story is that the Mercedes driver Henri Paul was drunk.

Steinberg, Douglas, and several others interviewed, including two former British Intelligence officials and Stuart Qualtrough, a writer for the weekly publication *The People*, all tore into Paris's mishandling of the case, detailing the contradictory facts, already elaborated in *EIR*.

Much of the broadcast was devoted to Steinberg and Douglas, who emphasized the "war and a half" that had been going on be-

UNICEF has suspended funds to six districts in Northern Uganda, because administrators failed to account for millions of shillings advanced in 1996. This is but a hint of the massive amount of funding that goes into Uganda and which is then siphoned off by government officials.

BRITAIN'S STRATEGIC Air Services and its amphibious counterpart, the Special Boat Service (SBS), have effectively merged much of their work, in a far-reaching reorganization of Britain's special forces, according to the *Sunday Telegraph* of Dec. 28. The two units regularly oversee terrorist operations globally, typified by the training and deployment of the Afghan mujahideen in the 1980s.

PAPUA NEW GUINEA continues to be threatened by the spread of drought, which now menaces the lives of up to 1 million people, according to Peter Barter, a senior coordinator for CARE Australia. Barter said that there was a greater than 80% chance that the drought would continue beyond May. Most deaths are caused by "drought-related illnesses, such as diarrhea, respiratory problems, and an increase in malaria."

WEI JIANXING, a member of the Chinese CP'S Political Bureau Standing Committee, began a nine-day visit to India on Dec. 12, at the invitation of Indian Vice President Krishna Kant. Wei was the highest-level Chinese official to visit India in 1997. Wei was to meet with President Kocheril Raman Narayanan, Vice President Kant, Prime Minister Inder Kumar Gujral, and leaders of the major political parties.

FRANCE is taking heat from International War Crimes Tribunal general prosecutor Louise Arbor, for allowing Serbian war criminals in Bosnia to walk freely around in those areas under French control. Foreign Minister Hubert Vedrine held a long and testy meeting with Arbor in mid-December, and also came under fire at the recent NATO meeting in Brussels.

tween Princess Diana and the House of Windsor, over the future of the British monarchy. "This was high politics—not low soap opera," Steinberg stressed. He and Douglas highlighted the viciousness of the French government's cover-up efforts, including its efforts to silence and intimidate key witnesses, such as British attorney Gary Hunter, who saw two cars speeding away from the tunnel moments after the crash.

In stark contrast to the Westminster TV documentary, most French and British media continue to spread disinformation about the vehicular homicide of Diana and Dodi.

Iran upgrades relations with Russia and Italy

Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Viktor Posvalyuk and his Iranian counterpart, Gholam Ali Khosroo, held talks which the latter described as "strategic" on Dec. 19. In the context of Iran's expanding ties with its neighbors, Khosroo said, Russia holds the top priority, and enjoys a "special status." The areas of cooperation stressed by both, were the Caspian Sea, the Caucasus, and Central Asia. Khosroo said that Iran was ready to help Russia expand ties with members of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, which had just completed a highly successful annual meeting in Teheran. The Iranian-Russian effort to end the civil war in Tajikistan, was cited as exemplary of effective joint action.

At the same time, Russian Deputy Prime Minister and Interior Minister Anatoly Kulikov made a three-day visit to Iran, to discuss cooperation in security affairs. The Iranian Interior Minister Abdollah Nouri announced that the two governments had inked a memorandum in security and law cooperation, signed by Kulikov and himself. The agreement is to cooperate in fighting crime, drug smuggling, smuggling of cultural objects, and transportation security.

Italy, too, has been upgrading relations with Iran. Italian Prime Minister Romano Prodi, in a meeting with Iranian Ambassador Majid Hedayat-Zadeh, on Dec. 20, said the OIC summit had presented a positive image of Iran, and that under Iran's three-year

chairmanship, relations with Europe were bound to improve. Prodi also underscored the importance of President Mohammad Khatami's call for a dialogue among civilizations. Foreign Minister Lamberto Dini also met with Hedayat-Zadeh to discuss enhancing economic and political relations. At the same time, an Italian delegation led by Foreign Ministry Secretary General Umberto Vattani, was visiting Teheran.

Shin Bet informant tied to Rabin's assassin

For the first time, the Israeli government has officially confirmed that Avishai Raviv, a close associate of the Yigal Amir, the man who assassinated Yitzhak Rabin, was a long-time informant of the Israeli internal security service, Shin Bet. Karmi Gillon, the former Shin Bet director, who resigned in the wake of the Nov. 4, 1995 assassination, confirmed that Raviv had worked "for many years" as a Shin Bet mole among the right-wing Jewish fanatic underground.

The confirmation by Gillon, which came during an interview on Dec. 26, with Israel's Channel One TV, came two days after Attorney General Elyakim Rubinstein announced that he was considering bringing charges against Raviv for failing to alert government agencies about the plot on Rabin's life, including from Yigal Amir, with whom he was closely associated. Gillon's comments came in the context of his harsh criticism of those in Israel who wish to pin the entire blame for the Rabin murder on just Amir, and who wish to ignore "the continuous campaign of incitement and rebellion" waged against Rabin by many opponents of his peace policy.

He defended Shin Bet's use of Raviv as an informant, noting, "You and I cannot be agents among the extreme right—we simply wouldn't be accepted there. That's why you have to recruit people from among them. . . . And if they don't act like those around them, the agents will not glean any intelligence information."

Israel commemorated the second anniversary of Rabin's death during the week of Chanukah, which began the evening of Dec. 23.