

International Intelligence

Former British agents embarrass MI5, MI6

The French court of appeals announced on Nov. 18, that it was rejecting Britain request for the extradition of former MI5 agent David Shayler. Shayler had been arrested in Paris some months ago, after Britain charged him with violating the Official Secrets Act. However, in rejecting the extradition request, the French court found that "under French law," the activities for which Shayler is wanted "have the character of a political offense." Shayler, who was with MI5 during 1991-96, left the service because of vehement disagreements with the policies of Her Majesty, and he has been publicly exposing those policies ever since.

By contrast, on Nov. 9, Australia refused permission for ex-MI6 agent Richard Tomlinson—a native of New Zealand—to enter the country. Tomlinson was an MI6 operative during 1991-95, and spent six months in jail in 1997 for allegedly breaking the Official Secrets Act. Over the past year, Tomlinson has exposed extremely sensitive aspects of MI6 operations, including an MI6 role in the assassination of Princess Diana, and economic espionage against European nations. He was scheduled to be on board the Swissair Flight 111, which crashed on Sept. 2, killing all on board.

Indonesian Parliament meets amid turmoil

The Nov. 13 special session of the People's Consultative Assembly, the subject of student attacks in Jakarta, unanimously passed 11 of 12 decrees overhauling election procedures in Indonesia, including ratifying the requirements for registering new political parties, dozens of which have been created since May 1998. For the first time in 30 years, a decree was passed, backing a plan for parliamentary elections in May or June 1999, as the precursor to new Presidential elections.

The most contentious decree called for only a gradual reduction of the 75 seats currently held by the military, to 55 of the 500

seats. The Muslim United Development Party, one of the three legal parties under former President Suharto, staged an unprecedented walkout over the military quota of seats, joining with student demands for an immediate end to the military's political role. Former President Suharto was named in a decree calling for a crackdown on corruption, collusion, and nepotism, falling short of student demands for him to be tried.

Nearby the Parliament building, raging battles exploded, as students and thousands of unemployed Jakarta youth engaged in open clashes, throwing Molotov cocktails, rocks, and bottles at military troops guarding the parliamentary session. At least eight people died in the clashes, but officials confirmed that troops were issued only rubber bullets, and no live ammunition.

On Nov. 20, religious leaders met at the home of Muslim leader Abdurrahman Wahid, and drafted a statement urgently calling for national reconciliation. The participants came from the Muslim, Catholic, Protestant, Hindu, Buddhist, and Confucian communities. Wahid told the group. "We gather here to strengthen solidarity and tolerance among religious communities, especially among their leaders. . . . There has been a trend that religions are used by certain factions to sow hatred in an attempt to maintain power and to persuade other factions to join them."

Propose S. Africa work with Egypt and Nigeria

South Africa should seek a partnership with Egypt and Nigeria, wrote Francis Kornegay, coordinator of the National Policy Institute of South Africa, in the Nov. 11 issue of the *Johannesburg Sowetan*. Citing the division of the South African Development Community over the war in the Congo, Kornegay said: "In this regard, South Africa's warming relations with Nigeria and Egypt may point the way forward, not just with respect to the Congo, but in terms of the Central African cauldron that includes the ongoing civil war in the Sudan which has now become linked to the Congolese hostilities. Pretoria cannot assume sole leadership

for untangling such a complex set of interlocking hostilities, which is where relations with Nigeria and Egypt could prove critical. . . .

"A South African-Nigeria-Egypt intervention in the Congo-centered Central African crisis could take the form of joint sponsorship of a UN-backed OAU [Organization of African Unity] commission on peace and security in greater Central Africa. The commission could be mandated to oversee negotiated political settlements in Congo and in the Sudan linked to a regional peace treaty guaranteeing inter-state security, human rights, and the promotion of economic cooperation."

War in Sierra Leone continues unabated

Foday Sankoh, the leader of the Revolutionary United Front (RUF), has been condemned to death for treason in Freetown, Sierra Leone, by the government of Ahmade Tejan Kabbah. RUF deputy leader Sam Bockari responded: "I am a ruthless commander. . . . I am ready to damage but I am waiting until something happens to Sankoh. When I take Freetown, I shall clear every living thing and building. To my God, I'll fight. I'll kill and kill, and the more they tell me to stop, the more I'll kill."

The RUF was strongly behind the military junta government that overthrew the government of Ahmade Tejan Kabbah last year. Nigerian forces restored Kabbah to power. The RUF was an allied force of Charles Taylor, the insurgent in Liberia, and now President there, who had invaded Liberia from Ivory Coast.

Bockari told the local newspaper *For Di People*, that the RUF had no intention of laying down its arms, and is already vowing revenge for the execution of 24 officers and soldiers for treason for being part of the RUF junta. There has been a steady escalation of the war in Sierra Leone ever since the announcement of the death sentences.

Although the Kabbah government has the official support of Britain, other sections of British intelligence have traditionally supported Sankoh. This includes: the BBC,

ISRAEL'S Supreme Court rejected a request on Nov. 16 by lawyers for Jonathan Pollard, to make Israel's release of Palestinian prisoners under the Wye agreement contingent on Pollard's release from U.S. prison, where he is serving a life sentence for espionage on Israel's behalf.

UGANDAN MADMAN Yoweri Museveni has directed that homeowners who do not dig pit latrines be arrested, on the grounds that lack of proper latrines encourages spread of disease. "If a person with an unregistered gun can be arrested, whereas this can just kill one person at a go, why not you who is bent on destroying a whole village through dysentery?" the President asked at a public rally. He added that his economic liberalization policies had helped fight poverty, but blamed Ugandans for still being poor, "because of lack of awareness."

THE HOUSE OF LORDS Science and Technology Committee released a 70-page report on Nov. 10, calling for cannabis (e.g., marijuana) to be made available to "relieve pain," according to the London *Observer*.

A SUDANESE DIPLOMAT in London, asked by a journalist to comment on the Iraq crisis, said, "Why don't the UN inspectors come to Khartoum? We've invited them several times, to go and inspect the Al-Shifa pharmaceutical factory, to see if they can find any weapons production facilities. But, for some reason, they do not seem to be interested."

CAMBODIA is working out an agreement between the Cambodian People's Party of Second Prime Minister Hun Sen and Prince Norodom Ranariddh's Funcinpec, to seat a new government three months after the elections, which had more than 90% voter participation. In talks brokered by King Norodom Sihanouk, the two parties agreed on Nov. 13 to a coalition arrangement under which Hun Sen will be the only Prime Minister, and Prince Ranariddh will become president of the National Assembly.

which aided the RUF in its military operations and ran propaganda for it, as it did for Liberia's Charles Taylor; the International Alert of Lord Avebury; and Bob Astles, the British controller of Uganda butcher Idi Amin. Sankoh's defense attorney is British lawyer Charles Buckley.

Arabic daily covers call to 'dump Blair'

Inspired by the Schiller Institute's international day of action on Nov. 17 which focused on the treacherous geopolitical role of British Prime Minister Tony Blair, the London-based Arabic daily *Al-Arab International* published a commentary by Hussein Al-Nadeem, identified as a "writer for *EIR*."

"The old proverb stating that 'some frogs might croak louder than a bull, but they can never pull a plough,' passes for the current state of the world's politics more than ever. Tony Blair's ravings and threats to strike Iraq have increased recently. . . . What Blair is expressing is the policy of 'British brain, American brawn' of his predecessor Churchill. No one should miss the fact that the source of the accelerating campaign against Iraq is Zionist-Anglo-American. Britain and Israel have done everything they can to urge Clinton to strike against Iraq.

"However, the disastrous effects of a confrontation with Iraq, as was the case in the bombing of the Al-Shifa medicine factory in Sudan, always redounds on America and its President alone, while Britain goes through the back-door to harvest the benefits of 'American folly.' . . .

"On the international economic and financial side, the Iraqi crisis came when Clinton was preparing to attend the APEC summit in Malaysia, which was hoped would be a forum for proposals which could save the nations of the world from a real catastrophe, of which the American economist Lyndon LaRouche recently warned on the pages of *Al-Arab International*. . . .

"But, Clinton sent Vice President Al Gore and Madeleine Albright. . . . Al Gore is also one of the enthusiasts for the Third Way ideology which the Anglo-American financial oligarchy is trying to market to the

world through Tony Blair, who is trying to impose it on Clinton as an alternative for LaRouche's and [Malaysian Prime Minister] Mahathir's proposals for solving the global financial crisis."

Al-Nadeem summarizes Blair's Third Way, and concludes: "The members of the Schiller Institute . . . carried out campaigns and rallies in many American cities and in the major capitals of Europe, Ibero-America, and Australia in the past two weeks to demand from Clinton not to fall into the trap of suicidal policy of the Zionist-Anglo-American in striking Iraq, and also to demand that Clinton appoint LaRouche as his economic adviser in order to create a new, just world economic order, in cooperation with nations like China and Russia on LaRouche's conditions instead of working with the British and Israel."

Mossad nabbed in Cyprus for spying on Brits

The arrest early in November of two Mossad agents in Cyprus dealt another blow to Israel's once-vaunted spy service, an Israeli intelligence-linked source told *EIR*. The arrest of Yigal Damari, 49, described as one of the most senior Mossad officers to be arrested on an overseas mission, was a major embarrassment for the agency. Earlier this year, the Mossad flubbed a failed assassination attempt against a Hamas leader in Amman, Jordan, and later failed a kidnapping attempt in Switzerland.

According to the source, the arrested Mossad operatives were not spying on Greek Cypriot military sites, but were attempting to gather information from Britain's GCHQ, the equivalent of the U.S. National Security Agency. GCHQ has several important listening posts on Cyprus, which are the primary source of electronic intelligence on the Middle East. The source said the Israelis were desperate to find out what the United States and the British were up to in Iraq. Israel had, the source said, been shut out of access to electronic data relating to the buildup against Iraq, because the Clinton administration does not trust the Netanyahu-Sharon combine.