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The World At War — January 2002

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“War is disaster. War is evil. Because war is unholy. There is no holy war.”

—Afghan tribal elder
Mohammed Hazarat Faqirbad

“Take that ‘just war’ theology. Put it in a drawer. Lock it. Never open it again.”

—Detroit’s Catholic Auxiliary Bishop
Thomas Gumbleton

Introduction

Sept. 11 did not presage or begin a new war. For more than 30 years, the modern world has confronted terrorism in the form of plane hijackings, massacres of travelers and athletes, and assassinations of politicians and military and business people.

During the same 30 years, untold numbers of civilians in countries all over the world have been wounded, maimed, and killed as groups vying for personal and political power have battled each other, sometimes with the backing or even direct intervention of neighboring states.

U.S. citizens have been among those killed and wounded by foreign terrorists. But not until 1988 and Pan Am Flight 103 did a large number of U.S. civilians die in a single act of terrorism. And not until the first World Trade Center bombing in 1993 did a major foreign-inspired act of terrorism occur on U.S. soil.

As of late December, the toll from Sept. 11 stood at 3,173 dead and miss-

ing; 2,940 in New York, 189 in Washington, and 44 in Pennsylvania. The toll in Afghanistan, a country of only 25 million, from famine and 23 years of war, is unknown, will probably never be counted, and is sure to rise further even with peacekeepers and anticipated generous reconstruction and rehabilitation funding (\$10 billion for the first five post-war years) by the world community.

As serious as is the situation in Afghanistan, it is far from unique. There are several dozen deadly conflicts in progress around the world. The United States could play a positive role in ending many of them. But to do so, the nation must be willing to support diplomatic, economic, financial, and self-help programs through which countries can rebuild stable and economically viable societies.

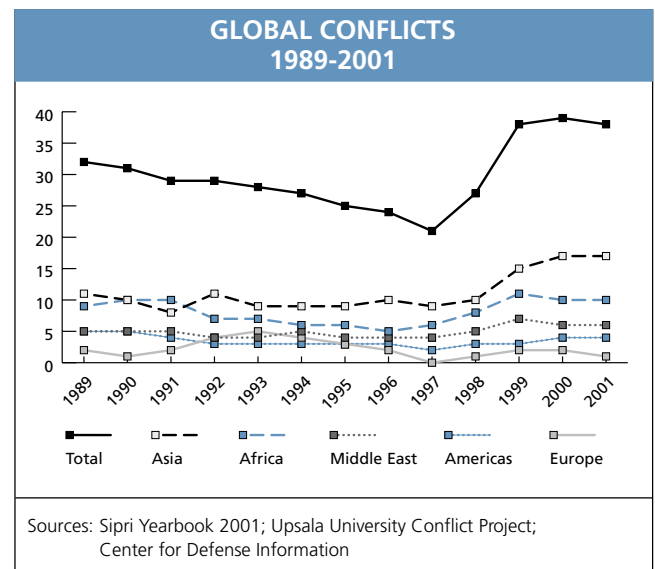
This is where real justice lies. And perhaps this, even for Mohammed Azarat Faqirbad, would be a holy war.

The War Equation

There are still more than three dozen major significant conflicts (those with

over 1,000 casualties, both military and civilian) in the world. CDI registers a decrease of one (to 38) at the start of 2002 from the number at the start of 2001.

The following chart shows the ebb and flow of conflicts by region at the start of each year since 1989.



At the start of 2002, the United States remains focused on fighting global terrorism. Nations and organizations around the world have expressed support for the anti-terrorism campaign, particularly its diplomatic and financial threads. NATO, for the first time in its history, invoked Article 5 which declares that an attack on one

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

THE WORLD AT WAR

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

NATO member is an attack on all and triggers a consultative process to forge an appropriate response to the attack. The Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe called on its 55 member nations to sign, by the end of 2002, all twelve UN resolutions on fighting terrorism, some of which predated Sept. 11.

The United States now lists more than 150 organizations and individuals deemed to be terrorist or financially involved with global terror. Four countries in particular have drawn the attention of the Bush administration.

Afghanistan

Although the Taliban have been routed and the new interim council headed by Hamid Karzai assumed power Dec. 22, pockets of resistance persist. In the southwest, the Taliban's spiritual leader Mullah Muhammad Omar and as many as 1,000 supporters reportedly fled Kandahar for the mountains.

In the area near Jalalabad, Eastern Alliance forces overran the tunnel and cave complex that was the last Afghan retreat for members of Osama bin Laden's *al Qaeda* movement. Many *al Qaeda* fighters and bin Laden himself are believed to have slipped into Pakistan. Some have been apprehended.

While Pakistani authorities have cooperated by increasing troop and militia numbers along their border with Afghanistan to apprehend *al Qaeda*, some American officials are less pleased with the Afghan "way of war" which includes amnesty for those who surrender. U.S. Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld, while in Afghanistan in mid-December, said: "To the extent that we find that people who

aspire to high office or high position in Afghanistan have been involved in preventing us from getting our hands on people who are responsible for what's gone on in Afghanistan, will find the United States not terribly friendly to their aspirations" [sic].

While U.S. casualties have been light – only fourteen deaths – the number of anti-Taliban and Afghan civilians who have died in the last three months of fighting may never be known. But with an estimated 10 million landmines and more than 10 million small arms in the country, the toll will continue to rise.

With the fighting in Afghanistan ebbing, the big question is where the United States will pursue its global war on terror. Three countries seem to top the list: Somalia, Yemen, and Iraq.

Somalia

Somalia remains a failed state. It has no central governing authority and is unable to provide basic services and security for its population. The transitional government of President Abdulkassim Salat Hassan, established in October 2000, controls only part of Mogadishu. In the north, two "republics," Somaliland (created in 1991) and Puntland (created in 1998) exercise great autonomy from Mogadishu. Puntland has its own internal power struggle to handle. However, Somaliland has been able to provide basic services in those parts of the country under its sway.

In March 2001, Somali clan leaders opposed to the transitional government established the Somali Reconciliation and Restoration Council. However, fighting continued among the warlords, with deaths exceeding 1,000 during the year. The situation became more complicated when, on Sept. 24, United Nations and European Union

personnel were evacuated from Somalia after being told that, given the war on terror, the safety of resupply flights could not be guaranteed.

As 2001 drew to a close, the Somali Reconciliation and Restoration Council meeting in Nairobi was postponed when warlord Hussein Aideed refused to attend. Aideed, whose father was the subject of the failed U.S. raid in 1993 in which 18 U.S. special forces troops were killed, says the United States should take military action to eliminate fighters from *al Qaeda* and *al-Itihaad* (another Islamic group) who try to return to Somalia.

Yemen

While Yemen has a central authority, it has been identified as a country in which terrorist cells operate. The USS Cole was almost sunk in Aden harbor in October 2000 when two men deliberately blew up a boat loaded with explosives. The government seemed less than fully cooperative in the ensuing investigation, which led to the U.S. withdrawing agents from the country. Since Sept. 11, the Yemen authorities have been cooperating more with the United States, and in mid-December raided a village 125 miles from the capital in which alleged *al Qaeda* members were residing.

Iraq

Iraq appears high on the administration's list of terrorist nations not so much because it might harbor *al Qaeda* members or other groups but because Saddam Hussein is believed to have restarted his biological and chemical weapons programs. He continues to refuse re-admitting UN arms inspectors who were withdrawn in Decem-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

THE WORLD AT WAR

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

ber 1998, a refusal that has provoked a warning of dire consequences from Bush. But so far, no allied intelligence agency has been able to tie Iraq to the events of Sept. 11. The absence of a link prompted UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan, on the occasion of accepting the Nobel peace prize for 2001, to caution against an expansion of the anti-terrorism war to Iraq. "Any attempt or any decision to attack Iraq today will be unwise and could lead to a major escalation in the region."

Independently of the anti-terror campaign, the United States and Britain still patrol the northern and southern no-fly zones and respond when Iraqi anti-aircraft centers initiate action (radar painting, communications, firing). The UN Security Council also extended Iraq's oil-for-food program for another six months, through May 2002, while the United States and Russia try to work out new "smart sanctions" that would unburden the Iraqi people while still constraining a build-up of military power.

Interstate Conflicts

As has been the case in recent years, most extant conflicts are intrastate. In fact, aside from Angola, Congo, and Afghanistan, where countries overtly are supporting factions or governments, only three instances of interstate conflict (broadly defined) exist at the start of 2002: Iraq vs. the UN/U.S./Britain, Pakistan vs. India, and Palestine vs. Israel.

Iraq has already been discussed. Pakistan and India continue to confront each other along the Line of Control in Kashmir. But what was a relatively localized and somewhat sporadic stand-off became more ominous in

1998 when both countries exploded atomic devices, catapulting their quarrel to the front ranks of concern about a nuclear exchange in a future pitched conflict.

Indeed, as 2001 drew to a close, tensions increased sharply following an attack on India's parliament building in which 13 people, including five assailants, died. India originally blamed the 300-strong Islamic group, *Lashkar-e-Taiba* (the Army of the Pure), for the attack, an accusation the Punjabi-based group denied. India then said that Pakistan's Inter-Services Intelligence agency planned the attack with *Lashkar-e-Taiba* and another Islamic group, *Jaish-i-Muhammad*.

Of equal duration is the Palestine-Israel conflict. In its most recent manifestation, the current *intifada*, well over 1,000 have died, mostly on the Palestinian side. Suicide bombings by *Islamic Jihad* and *Hamas* were answered with Israeli rotary and fixed-winged aircraft attacks, re-occupation of Palestinian villages and land, and "extrajudicial executions." At one point in November 2001, seven towns and villages had been occupied by Israeli troops. In December, the airfield in Gaza was destroyed, Yassir Arafat's headquarters attacked, and Arafat called "irrelevant" to the peace process by the Israeli Cabinet.

Early in the Bush administration, the United States seemed to withdraw from direct involvement in the Israeli-Palestinian imbroglio. In April, Rumsfeld said he favored withdrawing U.S. troops from the Multinational Force of Observers in the Sinai between Egypt and Israel. (This force was established in 1982 as one facet of the Camp David accord of 1979. Of the approximately 1,900 observers from 11 countries, the United States currently contributes 865, an infantry battalion of 529 and a support battalion of 309.)

At year's end, signals were mixed. On one hand the administration formally called for the creation of a Palestinian state and reiterated U.S. support for UN resolutions 242 and 338 as the basis for resolving the conflict. Conversely, in mid-December, the United States vetoed a UN Security Council resolution that the administration said was one-sided and an unneeded complication in the search for a way to end the violence. The draft resolution called for the withdrawal of Israeli forces from all Palestinian controlled areas, condemned all terror attacks on civilians, and urged the creation of an international "monitoring mechanism" to report on human rights violations. Meanwhile, at its year-end meeting in Belgium, the European Union voted increased economic aid to the Palestinian Authority but coupled this to demands that Arafat crack down on terrorists.

Intrastate Conflicts: Asia

In East Asia, the two most troublesome areas are Indonesia and the Philippines. Although the status of East Timor is settled, Indonesia must still cope with a number of insurgencies and rebellions against central government control.

- Aceh: the Indonesian parliament has granted more autonomy, but the Free Aceh Movement (GAM), with an estimated 2-5,000 fighters, remains adamant in its demands for independence. More than 1,300 have been killed in violence between the government and GAM in 2001 alone.
- Irian Jaya: Grievances again are independence and control over the proceeds from natural resources.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

World at War — Ongoing Significant Conflicts (January 1, 2002)

MAIN WARRING PARTIES	YEAR BEGAN	CAUSE(S)	OTHER FOREIGN INVOLVEMENT/CONDITIONS
MIDDLE EAST			
Iran vs. Kurds	1961	Independence	None
Iraq vs. Desert Storm Coalition (U.S. & U.K.)	1991	Stop WMD development	Economic sanctions regime under heavy pressure
Iraq government (Sunni) vs. Shi'a (Supreme Council for Islamic Revolution in Iraq)	1991	Religious	Iran; U.S. & U.K. (No-fly zone); Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain (bases)
Iraq vs. Kurds	1961	Independence	U.S. (No-fly zone); Turkey (bases)
Israel vs. Hamas and Hezbollah	1975	Religious & Territory	UN, U.S., Syria, Lebanon, Iran
Israel vs. Palestinian Authority (Al-Aqsa Intifada)	1948-94 (2000)	Independent state	U.S., UN, European Union, Jordan, Egypt
ASIA			
Afghanistan: Taliban vs. Non-Taliban Forces	1978	Ethnic & Religious	U.S., UN, Britain, France, Germany, Russia, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, Iran
India vs. Jammu & Kashmir Liberation Front*	1989	Ethnic & Religious	UN
India vs. Assam insurgents (ULFA & NDFB)	1982 1986	Independence	UN
India vs. Pakistan	1948	Ethnic, Religious, & Territory	UN, U.S.
Indonesia vs. Aceh separatists	1969	Autonomy & Religious	None
Indonesia vs. Irian Jaya separatists	1963	Ethnic & Economic	Appeal to UN
Indonesia vs. Christians & Muslims in Maluccan Islands	1977	Religious & Territory	None
Indonesia vs. Christians & Muslims on Sulawesi Island	1977	Religious & Territory	None
Kyrgyzstan vs. Islamic militants & drug gangs	1999	Religious & Drugs	Russia, Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS), Uzbekistan
People's Republic of China vs. Tibet	1949	Autonomy and Religious	None
People's Republic of China vs. Uighur	1996	Independence	None
Philippines vs. Moro National Liberation Front/ Moro Islamic Liberation Front	1984	Religious	None
Philippines vs. New People's Army	1969	Ideological	None
Philippines vs. Abu Sayyaf	1999	Criminal & Terrorist	U.S., Libya, Malaysia
Sri Lanka vs. Tamil Eelam	1978	Ethnic & Religious	India
Tajikistan vs. Islamic militants & drug gangs	1997	Religious & Drugs	Russia & CIS, UN
Uzbekistan vs. Islamic Movement of Uzbekistan	1997	Religious & Drugs	Russia & CIS
AFRICA			
Algeria vs. Armed Islamic Group (GIA)	1991	Religious vs. Secular rule	UN
Angola vs. UNITA	1975	Economic & Ethnic	UN, U.S., South Africa
Burundi: Tutsi vs. Hutu	1988	Ethnic	UN
Democratic Republic of Congo & Allies vs. Rwanda, Uganda & indigenous rebels	1997	Ethnic	UN, Namibia, Angola, Chad, Zimbabwe, France, Organization of African Unity
Guinea vs. rebels based in Sierra Leone & Liberia	2000	Power	UN, Economic Community of West African States Monitoring Group (ECOMOG)
Rwanda: Tutsi vs. Hutu	1990	Ethnic	UN, U.S.
Sierra Leone and UNAMSIL vs. Revolutionary United Front and Liberia	1989	Ethnic	UN, Nigeria/ECOMOG. Guinea, Liberia, Burkina Faso, Gambia, Britain
Somalia: factions	1978	Ethnic	UN (humanitarian aid), U.S., Ethiopia, Kenya
Sudan vs. Sudanese People's Liberation Army	1983	Ethnic & Religious	U.S., Iran, Uganda
Uganda vs. Lord's Army	1986	Power	Sudan
EUROPE			
Russia vs. Chechnya	1994; 1996	Independence	Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), Georgia
LATIN AMERICA			
Colombia vs. National Liberation Army (ELN)	1978	Drug Trade & Ideology	U.S.
Colombia vs. Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC)	1978	Drug Trade & Ideology	U.S.
Colombia vs. Autodefensas Unidas de Colombia (AUC)	1990	Ideology	Right wing militia
Peru vs. Sendero Luminoso	1981	Ideology & Drug Trade	None

*Principal groups are Hizbul Mujaheddin, al-Badr, Lashkar-i-Taiba, and Hargat ul-Ansar, backed by the Jamiat-e-Islami movement.

Political Violence or Conflicts In Suspension That May Restart

PARTIES TO CONFLICT	DURATION	CAUSE(S)	FOREIGN MEDIATION/ INVOLVEMENT
MIDDLE EAST			
Turkey vs. Kurds (PKK)	1961-00	Independence	None
Lebanon: factions	1978-	Power, Territory	Syria, Iran
ASIA			
Fiji vs. insurgents	2000	Ethnic	None
Laos vs. Hmong	1999-	Economic, Ethnic	Vietnam
Myanmar (Burma) vs. factions; National League for Democracy	1942-1988-	Ethnic & Drugs; Democracy	U.S., UN, Association of South East Asian Nations
Tajikistan vs. United Tajik Opposition	1992-97	Religious	UN, OSCE, CIS (Russian & Uzbekistan peacekeepers)
Solomon Islands: Malaita Eagle Force and Isatabu Freedom Movement	1998-00	Ethnic & Economic	Australia and New Zealand- led International Peace Monitoring Team
AFRICA			
Central African Republic	2000	Power, Economic	UN, France
Chad vs. Movement for Democracy and Justice	1965-	Religious	None
Ethiopia vs. Eritrea	1998-2000	Territory	Organization of African Unity, UN, U.S.
Guinea Bissau vs. "army rebels"	1998-2000	Power	Economic Community of West African States Monitoring Group (ECOMOG), UN
Mozambique vs. RENAMO	2000	Power	None
Nigeria: internal	1970-	Religious, Ethnic, Economic	None
Republic of Congo	1998-	Power	Angola
Zimbabwe	2000	Racial & Economic	None
EUROPE			
Armenia vs. Azerbaijan	1990-94	Nagorno-Karabakh	OSCE
Kosovo: Albanians vs. Serbs & other minorities	1998	Autonomy & Ethnic	KFOR (NATO & others), OSCE, UN
Macedonia vs. National Liberation Army	2001	Ethnic & Cultural	NATO & others, EU, OSCE, UN
Moldova vs. Transnistria Region	1991-	Ethnic & Economic	U.S., OSCE
Republic of Georgia vs. Abkhazia & South Ossetia	1992-93	Independence	UN, Russia, OSCE
Serbs, Croats & Bosnian Muslims	1990-96	Final status of Bosnia-Herzegovina	NATO Stabilization Force under UN mandate, Russia & others
United Kingdom vs. IRA splinter groups	1969-97	Ethnic & Religious	U.S.
AMERICAS			
Haiti: factions vs. factions	1991-94; 2000	Economic & Power	UN, U.S.
Mexico vs. Zapatista & Popular Revolutionary Army	1983- 1993-	Ethnic & Religious	None

THE WORLD AT WAR

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

The Indonesian parliament agreed that the province could retain 80 percent of the logging revenues and 70 percent of the petroleum revenues. It also allowed the creation of a local people's council, a separate flag and anthem. But even these concessions were not enough to satisfy the Free Papua Movement (Irian Jaya shares an island with Papua New Guinea), which seeks

full independence from Jakarta.

- Sulawesi: Muslim-Christian violence has accounted for more than 1,000 deaths in the last two years on the island. Muslim militants from the hard-line Laskar Jihad are blamed for the upsurge in violence. In late November, the government responded by dispatching over 2,500 troops and police to reinforce local security forces. Authorities believe the militants, who are said to have links with *al Qaeda*, came from the Molucca (Spice) Islands where

thousands have died in inter-religious fighting since 1999. A late-December truce halted the fighting, but it did not call for the departure of the hard-line militants.

The Philippines confronts three rebellions.

- New People's Army: Peace talks stalled in June 2001 when two members of the Philippines legis-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

THE WORLD AT WAR

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

lature were killed. This breakdown seemed to spur a surge in attacks by the 9,500-strong Marxist organization against communications centers and the most deadly ambush of government forces in years.

- **Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) and the splinter Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF):** A 1996 agreement gave a degree of self-rule to predominantly Muslim areas centered on Mindanao through the creation of the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM). The MNLF chairman, Nur Misuari, became governor, but in 2001 the MNLF ousted him as its leader. In November, a week before elections for a new governor, Misuari attempted a coup with loyalists from the 900-1,000-strong MILF, which first formed in 1984. Although 55 died in the attack on an Army camp on Jolo Island, the effort failed. Misuari is currently in a Malaysian jail.
- **Abu Sayyaf (Sword of God):** This organization, estimated to have between 80-200 hard core fighters and perhaps 1,500 supporters, began fighting for an independent Muslim state in the early 1990s. By 1998, it seemed to have changed to an essentially criminal terrorist organization whose main activity was kidnapping for ransom. The United States has offered to aid the Philippines government in eradicating the group.

Two other hot spots are Sri Lanka and Nepal. In Sri Lanka, where an estimated 6,000 have been killed in 2001 alone, Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) leader Velupillai Prabhakaran said in November that he

could agree to less than an independent Tamil state. But he conditioned any peace talks on repeal of the “terrorist” label on his organization, a demand rejected by the government. Nepal, whose royal family was virtually wiped out by the crown prince, continues to suffer from a five-year Maoist-inspired insurgency that has claimed some 1,500 lives, including 42 police in April 2001 and 150 rebels in the first action by the Nepalese army against the group. The rebels want a new constitution and a republican form of government. Nepalese authorities refuse to agree to talks until the rebels lay down their weapons and renounce violence.

Intrastate Conflicts: The Americas

In the Americas, Colombia continues to struggle against the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC), the National Liberation Army (ELF), and the right-wing Autodefensas Unidas de Colombia (AUC) paramilitaries, all of whom are supported by the production and distribution of illegal drugs. Continued U.S. aid to Colombia is conditioned on a crackdown on the AUC by the government. Peru, suffering from economic and political upheaval, is seeing a resurgence in the hinterlands of the Maoist Sendero Luminoso (Shining Path). The group, which is also tied to the drug trade, attacked an Army camp in June, ambushed a police unit (killing four) in August, and is believed to be moving into the cities. Estimates place its current strength at about 600.

On a positive note, violence between the Mexican government and the Zapatistas has ended even though no formal peace document has been signed and some economic issues re-

main unresolved. But in Port-au-Prince, Haiti in mid-December, commandoes attacked the presidential palace in an apparent coup. Although only seven people died, the incident sparked widespread attacks on opposition party facilities and even homes of party leaders. Underlying the violence is an 18-month dispute about elections that gave President Jean-Bertrand Aristide’s party a dominant position in the legislative assembly. The lingering controversy has stopped disbursement of \$500 million in desperately needed aid and contributed to a steady exodus of Haitian boat people trying to reach the United States and the Bahamas.

Intrastate Conflicts: Europe

Spain and the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM) seem to dominate conflict reports from Europe. In Spain the Basque Homeland and Security armed group (ETA) stepped up attacks in connection with its drive for recognition of a separate Basque homeland even though its political wing lost half of its 14 regional legislative seats in May elections. In October, the ETA issued a statement that “peace is possible” but demanded a popular referendum on independence to be held in Basque regions of both France and Spain. Then, in early November, a car bomb in Spain wounded a further 100 people.

Meanwhile, fighting between ethnic Albanians and Macedonians in the FYROM eased when an August peace agreement guaranteed increased minority rights. However, some rebel groups, estimated to control about ten percent of the FYROM, insist they will hold out for wider implementation of the accord. Resistance persists in some

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7

THE WORLD AT WAR

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

ethnic Albanian areas to mixed (Albanian-Macedonian) police patrols. The Macedonian government has agreed to extending until March 2002 the 1,000-strong NATO-led force charged with guarding the 260 unarmed civilian monitors policing the ceasefire. Between 100-200 people were killed in the six months of fighting.

Elsewhere in Europe, an estimated 100 members of the Kurdish Worker's Party (PKK) died in fighting with Turkish security forces in the first six months of 2001. Authorities believe total PKK fighters now number no more than 400 scattered throughout southeastern Turkey.

Two Irish Republican Army splinter groups, the Real IRA and the Continuity IRA, seem to be coordinating if not converging their activities and memberships – perhaps as high as 200 personnel. A series of six attacks since June 2001 have been attributed to the group(s).

Two low-key lingering European concerns seem on the verge of final resolution. The French parliament narrowly passed a bill aimed at ending more than 25 years of violence on Corsica. The measure would give the island's 260,000 residents greater local autonomy and provides for extending Corsican language instruction. Although the main armed groups have maintained a theoretical ceasefire since 2000, in mid-December, the Corsican National Liberation Front (FLNC) admitted it was behind 17 recent assaults against security force buildings.

Since declaring independence from the Soviet Union, Moldova has been the unhappy host of a large contingent of Russian troops patrolling an uneasy truce between the government and the

breakaway region of Transdniestria. In late 2001, the United States agreed to provide \$14 million to help pay for costs of withdrawing the remaining Russian forces and a large, Soviet-era military arsenal left behind in Moldova.

In the south Caucasus Republic of Georgia, fighting flared again in mid-October in the separatist province of Abkhazia. Nine people died when a UN helicopter was shot down. Another 14 were killed in subsequent clashes between Georgians and Abkhazians.

Equally unfortunate are the people of Chechnya where the war continues, albeit at a much lower intensity than in previous years. Military operations here have also spilled into neighboring Georgia where Russian troops have repeatedly attacked Chechen refugee camps in the north of that country. Russia alleges that the camps serve as staging points for Chechen militants.

Intrastate Conflicts: Africa

Lastly, Africa, especially the sub-Saharan, continues to be awash with internal state conflicts. Many are fueled by the illegal exploitation of natural resources. For example, "blood diamonds" are believed to be the principal source of funds that are keeping alive the civil wars in Angola, the Democratic Republic of Congo, and Sierra Leone.

- **Algeria:** In Northern Africa, Algeria continues to suffer the greatest turmoil. More than 3,000 people, mostly civilians, are believed to have died in 2001 at the hands of Islamic rebels, chiefly the Armed Islamic Group (GIA). A new source of instability surfaced in 2001 among the Berbers, who are con-

centrated in the northeast. Comprising some 10 percent of the population, the Berbers are demanding greater political, cultural and linguistic equality with Arabic. Protests, which have spread to other disaffected groups, included a march by 500,000 to the capital, Algiers.

- **Angola:** National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA) rebels continued their decades-long campaign throughout 2001. More than 5,000 were killed in 2001, and there are some 430,000 refugees now registered with international aid agencies. In perhaps the single worst reported incident, more than 200 people died in August when a train hit a land mine. Another 50 were killed in a bus ambush. Government forces did succeed in capturing the remaining UNITA strong points, but the rebels have now reverted to classic guerrilla warfare.
- **Burundi:** In spite of a major push for peace and the installation of a government of ethnic reconciliation, abductions and killings continue. The latest incidents include a raid by some 400 Hutu rebels belonging to the "Forces for the Defense of Democracy" in which they kidnapped 300 boys for use as soldiers. An estimated 2,000 people have died from ethnic violence in 2001 with a total estimated toll of more than 200,000 since 1993.
- **Central African Republic:** This chronically unstable country suffered another coup attempt in May with an untold number – reported as "scores" – killed. Supporters of ousted army chief Gen. Francois Bozize rebelled when the government attempted to arrest him.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8



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THE WORLD AT WAR

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

- **Democratic Republic of Congo:** With the death of Lawrence Kabila and the accession of his son, Joseph, to the presidency in January 2001, violence in the Congo “declined.” Disengagement agreements were concluded with many of the external forces in the country, both those supporting the government and opposing it. Nonetheless, the continued presence of Rwandan Hutu militiamen in eastern Congo complicates relations between these two countries. In spite of the decline in violence, an estimated 10,000 people were killed in fighting in the Congo in 2001.
- **Guinea:** Situated in the volatile West Africa, Guinea is subject to the fallout from the incessant intrastate wars that have engulfed the area in the last few years, especially in Liberia and Sierra Leone. In 2001, Guinea claims that Sierra Leone dissidents killed 1,000 of its people who reside near its borders with these two nations.
- **Sierra Leone:** Another effort at peace was undertaken in Sierra Leone in 2001, with the Revolutionary United Front (RUF) starting to disarm. At the same time, however, there are reports that more arms are flowing into the country to the RUF and to militias backed by Liberia. Elections had been scheduled for December but now will not be held until 2002. In addition to the UN force in the country, the United Kingdom still has 800 troops in Sierra Leone.
- **Senegal:** In March 2001 the government and the main rebel group, Mouvement des Forces Democratiques de Casamance (MFDC), signed a long-awaited peace accord. But its implementation has been delayed because some members of the MFDC wanted to continue fighting, sparking intra-MFDC infighting that continues.
- **Sudan:** In April 2001 the Muslim government in Khartoum announced a ceasefire with the Sudanese People’s Liberation Army (SPLA) and its political wing, the Sudanese People’s Liberation Movement (SPLM), the largest part of the broader National Democratic Alliance. Nonetheless, fighting has continued, with more than 1,000 killed in 2001 (and an estimated 2 million since 1983). The conflict impedes much needed relief supplies from being distributed in southern Sudan as UN planes still are coming under attack. Moreover, the Lord’s Resistance Army still uses Sudan as a base for its war against the Ugandan government. ■