

# International Intelligence

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## ***'A slap in the face to all American countries'***

Enrique Loncan, an Argentine lawyer and businessman, spoke at Georgetown University's Center for Strategic and International Studies on May 4, affirming that while Argentina enjoys freedom of the press and the judiciary, the Falkland Islanders are "second-class citizens" who do not even elect their own governor and are under the thumb of the Falkland Islands Company.

The U.S. position in the conflict, he said, "causes a tremendous sadness. . . . I am one of the majority of Argentinians who have always looked to the United States for leadership in the fight for freedom. . . . Your country suddenly gives military support to a country that has as an object the establishment of a colony in America . . . a criminal action under the U.N. rules. This was a slap in the face to all American countries that will have lasting consequences. . . ."

Loncan added that if there is a change of government in Buenos Aires, "the result will not be a government closer to the United States."

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## ***Mexico featured at Hannover trade fair***

Mexico's largest foreign-trade exhibition to date opened on April 20 as the centerpiece of the annual industrial fair held in Hannover, West Germany. Over two hundred Mexican enterprises were represented, including the state oil company, Pemex; the Federal Electric Power Commission; the Somex industrial and banking conglomerate, in which the government owns a majority share; and the HYLSA steel giant.

The Mexican exhibit put special emphasis on the role of maritime ports in Mexico's industrial-development strategy. Fernando Rosenweit, head of Industrial Ports for the Special Projects section

of the President's Office, gave a seminar at the fair on Mexico's plans to concentrate population in new coastal port cities now under construction at Altamira, Lazaro Cardenas, Coatzacoalcos, and Salina Cruz. This had a particular impact on German businessmen, for whom the North German port city of Hamburg is an industrial hub of the entire country.

Mexico has suffered from intense economic warfare in recent months, designed to force the government to abandon its heavy-industry-based development strategy. Despite the forced February devaluation of the peso and a continuing propaganda barrage from London, the Swiss, and some Americans, *EIR* correspondents at the fair found the representatives of West Germany's largest enterprises eager to consider Mexico's potential; in numerous conversations they recognized Mexico as one of the few national economies that could still sustain a high growth rate, and one of the best developing-sector customers for export-dependent West German business.

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## ***Israel defies Britain with Argentina aid***

Despite what the Israeli Foreign Ministry called an "astonishing" rebuke from the British Foreign Office, Israel has rejected British demands that Israel renege on agreements for shipment of Israeli goods, including weapons, to Argentina.

"Israel has more than enough reason, from its history, to be anti-British," a government official close to Prime Minister Begin told the National Democratic Policy Committee on May 2. Three days later Israeli Energy Minister Yitzhak Berman, speaking in London, attacked Britain for its "double standard," saying that if Britain cannot solve its problems in Northern Ireland, it cannot expect to solve its problems on the other side of the world.

Intelligence sources report that one of the items at issue are 16 Israeli-made Dagger jets. One military analyst noted

that because the Dagger does not contain any American parts, the United States cannot prevent Israel from selling the plane to Argentina. "That is where the whole flap is coming from," he said.

The Israeli position is that the deliveries fulfill previous obligations. Israel will not sign any new contracts during the duration of the war, Foreign Minister Shamir said in an interview with the *Likud* weekly in Israel, in the interest of not getting drawn directly into the conflict.

The majority of American Jewish organizations are reported to be very unhappy with the Israeli stand.

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## ***'Operation Nightmare' reactivated in Italy***

The Mafia murder of the Sicilian head of the Italian Communist Party (PCI) on April 30 signals that "Operation Nightmare," the British intelligence plot to destabilize Italy, has again been moved onto the front burner.

The assassination of PCI leader Pio La Torre came only three days after a prominent Christian Democrat (DC) of Naples, Raffaele Delcogliano, regional labor councilman, was gunned down a few blocks from church while riding to Mass in an armored car. His killers used military automatic weapons and diamond-tipped bullets to fire through the armor plating.

Immediately after the assassination of La Torre, Italy's Prime Minister Giovanni Spadolini declared that there exists "a plan for the destabilization of the Mezzogiorno," the southern region of Italy and the home ground of the Mafia. Spadolini announced a series of security measures, including the appointment as special prefect of Palermo of the Carabinieri's Gen. Carlo Alberto Dalla Chiesa, who has led the anti-Mafia crackdown in Italy.

Both La Torre and Delcogliano were among those in both the Communist and Christian Democratic parties fighting to extirpate the Mafia and terrorism from

Italian political life. A government of national unity enjoying the full support of both the DC and the PCI, Italy's two largest parties, could win the war on the Mafia once and for all, as Pope John Paul II, among others, has urged.

The killings, just prior to the convening of the party congress of the Christian Democrats, appear timed to stop the momentum of the "national unity" forces in the DC.

### **No Japanese sanctions against Argentina**

Reports appearing in the *New York Times* and elsewhere the week of April 28, claiming that Japan had joined the European Community nations in imposing trade sanctions against Argentina, have turned out to be lies in the best British "black propaganda" tradition.

Japan, contrary to reports carried by the British press agency Reuters, will not put restrictions on Japanese imports from Argentina, the Japanese Foreign Ministry said in a statement issued May 2. Japan "considers it necessary to observe its responsibilities to GATT and the treaty of commerce and navigation with Argentina," the statement said, adding that Japan will not "take advantage" of U.S. or European sanctions to reap windfall increases in trade.

This was elaborated by Foreign Ministry officials in Tokyo in discussion with *EIR*. These officials stressed that, far from joining economic warfare against Argentina, Japan wants to avoid any actions that would hurt North-South relations. The implications of the Malvinas crisis for relations between the industrialized and the developing nations were described as "enormous."

At the June heads-of-state economic summit in France, Japanese Prime Minister Zenko Suzuki is expected to emphasize the necessity for cooperation between the advanced industrial countries on high-technology research and development, the proceeds of which would be

made available to the less-developed countries.

### **Andreotti allies win at Italian party congress**

The national congress of Italy's Christian Democratic party (DC) concluded May 5 with the election of Ciriaco de Mita as the new party head. Insiders at the congress confirmed that the political line emerging from the event and the choice of Party Secretary were the work of Giulio Andreotti, the former prime minister known as an advocate of an alliance with the Italian Communist Party.

This does not mean, according to these sources, that the DC will immediately break its alliance with the Socialist Party (PSI)—although de Mita is considered anti-PSI—because this would bring down the government of Giovanni Spadolini, the Republican Party Prime Minister who is in a coalition with both the DC and the Socialists. Andreotti has made it clear that he wants to keep Spadolini in power for at least a year. In the meantime, Andreotti reportedly intends to consolidate support for his policies, to develop a strategy against terrorism and its drug-trafficking funders, and an economic recovery program.

In his own speech to the congress, Andreotti discussed the crisis in the South Atlantic and held out an opening to the Communist Party. The Malvinas developments, he said, risk generating hostility to the West among numerous non-aligned countries. "If the world avoids being engulfed by these military events," he said, "it truly means that the destructive potential of the great [superpower] arsenals constitutes a paradoxical defense against the threat of a third world war."

The loser in the DC party fight was Arnaldo Forlani, who stood for a close alliance with the Socialists and their would-be Mussolini, Bettino Craxi. Craxi is regarded as Alexander Haig's candidate for Prime Minister.

## Briefly

● **JAPAN'S** Ministry of Trade and Industry announced April 28 the doubling of the highest temperature previously achieved with the Reversed Field Pinch (RFP) thermonuclear fusion device. Plasma with a particle density of 50 trillion per cubic centimeter was heated to 6 million degrees Celsius for about one-thousandth of a second with the RFP, which is expected to clear the way for a low-cost nuclear fusion reactor.

● **IZVESTIA**, the Soviet daily, told its readers in an April 24 article by New York correspondent V. Soldatov that the Abscam operation against Sen. Harrison Williams was a "provocation" by the FBI, which "in the crudest fashion broke the spirit, if not the letter, of the law." Soldatov's piece represented an advance in sophistication over previous treatment of Abscam in the Soviet press as evidence of "corrupt capitalist politicians."

● **ONE HUNDRED** and fifty thugs organized by Iran's embassy in Bonn attacked anti-Khomeini students at the University of Mainz in their dormitory April 24. Many of the attackers had arrived in West Germany just two days before with letters of introduction from the Iranian Foreign Ministry requesting that their "needs be taken care of." Police arrested 86 of the thugs before they could expand their rampage into the city of Mainz. Anti-Khomeini Iranian sources in West Germany say that German police may not prosecute those being held for fear of retaliatory action by the terrorists.

● **TWO ISRAELI** soldiers received unusually harsh sentences on May 5 for refusing to serve in the occupied West Bank, where Israeli soldiers have shot and killed Arabs demonstrators, many of them youths, in recent weeks. The sentences were seen by analysts in Israel as an attempt to prevent large-scale military mutinies.