

International Intelligence

Bechtel unlikely for Basque nuclear project

A spokesman for the Bechtel corporation declared on May 22, that it was highly unlikely that the international construction/engineering firm would take charge of completing the nuclear reactor at Lemoniz. The entire technical staff at the site resigned after the assassination of their head, Angel Pascual, by Basque separatist ETA terrorists two weeks earlier. Bechtel's specialty is projects that have to be built under aversive conditions.

Spain currently has 8 percent of its energy supplied by nuclear sources, and plans to hit 20 percent by 1985.

Meanwhile, having taken credit for a rocket attack on the Basque National Police Comisariat on May 24, the ETA-Military met with other Basque factions, legal and illegal, in Bayonne, France. The terrorist connections of the ruling Socialists in France have been well documented by *EIR*.

Juan Carlos hails role of classical culture

King Juan Carlos of Spain has undertaken a series of diplomatic moves which show that Spain is not following the rest of Europe in obeisance to Great Britain.

On May 23, Juan Carlos was in Aachen, West Germany to receive the Charlemagne Award, a symbol of the European Renaissance and humanist development. He used the occasion to outline the roots of Hispanic culture in world history.

Ties between Spain and the Americas, he cited, derive from the tradition of the great humanist philosophers Philo and St. Augustine, who established links between Spain and Africa. As an outcome of those ties, Spain's monarchy soon became the "Hispanic monarchy, integrated in both hemispheres, beneath a single crown."

"Spain is not just a European, but it is a trans-European country," he added.

"From the very time of its birth as a modern nation, it has been projected beyond the old continent to be one of the members—the original and oldest member—of a community of independent Hispanic nations. . . . If Europe were to be closed, selfish, disdainful of others, Europe would be less European. . . . This is how I understand being King; this is how I understand my country and its historical duty. We must increase liberty for men, . . . for various countries beyond our frontiers which under no pretext whatsoever must be violated, dominated, or invaded."

Juan Carlos next went to Bonn, where he reported he had just sent a "personal, urgent, and private" letter to President Reagan, urging him to fulfill the United States' role as a world power, to restore peace in the South Atlantic.

German unions hogtied by scandal

The mid-May congress of the Deutsche Gewerkschaftsbund (DGB), West Germany's equivalent of the AFL-CIO, demonstrated that the trade union movement in that country is in no better condition than management in facing world economic disaster. The gathering was dominated by continued discussion of the months-long "Neue Heimat" scandal—in which *Der Spiegel* magazine sought to implicate the construction firm of that name, wholly owned by the DGB, in financial wrongdoing—rather than economic policy.

Observers note that the scandal, which has caused the resignation of top Neue Heimat board members as well as the withdrawal of DGB chairman-designate Alois Pfeiffer, could have been handled easily by a DGB labor press which has a circulation about 15 times as great as the scandal-mongering *Stern* or *Spiegel* weeklies. *Spiegel* publisher Rudolf Augstein (arrested for possession of hashish) and *Stern* publisher Henri Nannen (once an employee of Josef Goebbels) should have little credibility as mor-

al crusaders against "corruption."

The new national chairman, Ernst Breit of the postal workers, is considered a "solid unionist." If so, he will have to rid the federation of the "post-industrial" outlook cultivated by his long-serving predecessor, Heinz-Oskar Vetter.

Meanwhile, the "safety first" resolution on the cautious development of nuclear energy, which the DB delegates voted up, indicates that the federation is in approximately the same morass as the ruling SPD party.

Chinese divided over Soviet policy

Peking is caught in a policy split on whether or not to heal the rift with the Soviet Union, according to an unnamed Chinese official cited in the overseas Chinese press. According to this official, the Foreign Office would like to improve state-to-state relations and economic ties. However, the International Liaison Department of the Chinese Communist Party insists on maintaining the current policy.

The same Chinese official reported that in 1979 when the Soviets made their first rapprochement overture, Chinese Ambassador Wang Youping received instructions from Marshal Ye Jianying to "go ahead and adopt a 'warm' attitude." However, Party Vice-Chairman Deng Xiaoping countermanded Ye's instructions and told Wang to "be firm and hard." As a result, the talks failed.

French celebrate 'Decline of West'

As the world political situation deteriorates, the Socialist regime of French President François Mitterrand has become increasingly redolent of "cultural pessimism," a disease which historically paved the way for fascism.

Socialist Party international relations chief Jacques Huntzinger, writing in the March issue of *Politique Etrangère* (the French equivalent of *Foreign Affairs*) draws hope from the fact that the economic depression is leading to the weakening of Western culture, so that "so-called universal values are being shrunk and becoming local values only." Huntzinger is also happy to see America through an analogous process become a mere "local power."

Huntzinger also says that the underdeveloped nations are the cause of their own problems because of their "inegalitarian" regimes, and sees the rise of "regional" powers like Iran as a hopeful sign.

Economist Yves Laulan (with a following in both Socialist and opposition circles) speculates in the French National Defense Review for May on whether a "renaissance" might not follow in the wake of a nuclear war. Although casualties would be high, says Laulan, the ensuing scarcities might force man to become more contemplative, in a way the Chinese are particularly suited for. Laulan is the top economic adviser to the powerful Société Générale de Banque.

Self-criticism for Chinese Premier?

According to Hong Kong news sources, Chinese Premier Zhao Ziyang engaged in "self-criticism" following the recent revelation that three of his sons were conducting illegal economic dealings with foreigners from their base in Guangzhou, Guangdong (Canton) province.

Though the phenomenon is rampant throughout the country, especially in the coastal areas where there is frequent contact with foreigners, the story is believed to be part of factional mud-slinging tactics, currently being used by rival groups in the Chinese leadership to embarrass opponents.

Similar rumors are rife about the family and doings of Ye Jianying, an

opponent of Chinese leader Deng Xiaoping whom Deng has been trying to pressure into retirement for some time, thus far unsuccessfully.

Piperno charged in Moro murder

The political and legal forces who have been protecting terrorist controller Francesco Piperno in Canada for the last eight months, preventing his extradition to Italy, suffered a setback on May 18 when lawyer Joseph Nuss, representing the Italian and Canadian governments at Piperno's hearing in the Quebec Supreme Court, charged that he "participated" in the kidnapping and murder of former Italian Prime Minister Aldo Moro in 1978.

At the Montreal hearing, Nuss said that Piperno had indirectly participated in both the kidnapping and murder of Moro through two Red Brigade terrorists currently on trial in Rome. "The proof shows that Valerio Morucci and Adriana Faranda participated materially in the kidnapping," said Nuss. "Piperno was aware and participated in this act." This is the first time since last September, when Piperno was first arrested, that a Canadian lawyer has responded to the official request of Italian Judge Imposimato, the leading judicial officer in the Moro case, for the extradition of Piperno on 44 charges, including the kidnapping and murder of Moro and the killing of five of his bodyguards.

At the hearing, Nuss said that he will be introducing in court the proof that the gun used to kill Moro, "a Skorpion, a Czech gun used for several murders," was in Morucci's possession when his residence was raided by police in 1979. "We are not contending that Piperno actually went to the scene and participated concretely, materially, in the kidnapping. . . . But the proof will show that to be part of a crime, it is not necessary that the person participates actively."

Briefly

● **EUROPEAN** governments should stop their "silly chatter about U.S. budget cuts and deficits," *EIR* founder Lyndon LaRouche said on May 28. "While I do not have total agreement with President Reagan on these matters, the budget is absolutely not the problem. If the Europeans want to talk about the economic problems of the U.S., let them first kick out the Mont Pelerin Society agents who are entrenched within their own governments."

● **JOHN VINOCUR**, the *New York Times* correspondent in Bonn, is part of the clique of Americans working to bring down West German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt, according to a source with extensive NATO connections. Vinocur is working with ambassador Arthur Burns, the source said, to convince the Free Democratic Party to break with its Social Democratic Party coalition partners over the budget, which will be debated beginning June 12.

● **THE ECONOMIST** magazine of London May 22 compared the Iran-Iraq war to the Thirty Years War which devastated Central Europe in the 17th century. "Ayatollah Khomeini matches the Emperor Ferdinand, 'The Crowned Jesuit,' in the ferocity of his fanaticism, and the Gulf has the same strategic importance the Baltic once had."

● **RUDOLF AUGSTEIN**, publisher of the popular German pornography weekly, *Der Spiegel*, was forced to cancel his appearance as featured speaker at this year's *Roemerberggespraeche* radical-chic symposium in Frankfurt May 22. The European Labor Party, which distributed a satirical leaflet at the event with a cartoon of the degenerate Augstein, said that the last-minute cancellation was due to "either our leaflet, or what we wrote in the leaflet: that he drinks too much, smokes hashish, and walks around in the street in his negligé."