

# International Intelligence

## ***Military behind killing of journalists in Peru***

The Peruvian weekly *Kausachum*, based in Lima, reveals in its Feb. 22 issue that the recent massacre of eight journalists, reportedly carried out by enraged Indian villagers in southern Peru, was in fact ordered by well-known politician Fortunato Gavilan of the Accion Popular Party (APRA), to prevent the journalists from revealing information about atrocities committed by the military.

According to *Kausachum*, the journalists had discovered the alleged Sendero Luminoso terrorists killed

12- and 13-year-old children murdered by the military in an "anti-subversive" sweep of the area.

Gavilan ordered the reporters killed to prevent the information from being published and then went into hiding. He is currently being protected by General Noel, the commander of the region around Ayachuco.

The backdrop to this exposé is a fierce battle taking place within both the government and the armed forces. Monetarist Prime Minister Federico Schwalb and Finance Minister Carlos Rodriguez Pastor are under heavy attack for their efforts to put Peru under an International Monetary Fund dictatorship. And nationalist factions within the military are charging that the army's deployment in an Argentine-style "war against subversion" is a means of discrediting the armed forces. When anti-IMF forces from the APRA party sought out nationalist elements within the armed forces in mid-February to form a popular front, they were immediately accused of conspiring to overthrow the government of President Belaunde.

## ***Colombian President dealt policy setbacks***

Colombian President Belisario Betancur will not attend the Non-Aligned summit March 7, because of a national crisis created by Defense Minister General Landazabal and the country's drug-running oligarchy. Betancur had been expected to play a positive role in focusing the summit on a new world economic order.

The Colombian Supreme Court on Feb. 23 defeated by a vote of 13-11 the major portion of the "economic emergency" program implemented by Betancur when he first took office. The program, which punishes the speculative financial sector for its wrecking activities, was the cornerstone of the Betancur economic strategy, and its defeat came as a shock.

Betancur is also under attack from the liberal daily *El Tiempo*, which called Feb. 24 for a "defense of the armed forces" against the Colombian attorney general's report naming 59 active-duty officers as members of the MAS death squad. *El Tiempo* demands a witchhunt against the attorney general. The attacks against Betancur occurred one day after he and Cardinal Alfonso López Trujillo of Medellin reaffirmed their commitment to Pope Paul VI's encyclical *Populorum Progressio* in a meeting at the government palace. López Trujillo told those at the meeting that "as long as Belisario Betancur occupies the presidential palace, there is hope for Colombia. . . ."

## ***Sharon's JDL a new threat to Reagan?***

According to U.S. intelligence sources, several American embassies have been put on alert as a result of an activation of Rabbi Meier Kahane and the Jewish Defense League (JDL). It is believed by some sources that Kahane's recent denunciations of Reagan and French President François Mitterrand may be used as a pretext for another assassination attempt on Reagan.

Kahane has appeared on Israeli TV ridiculing charges that the JDL was responsible for the fatal grenade attack on a Peace Now demonstration in Jerusalem in February, saying that the JDL does not kill Jews. In that broadcast, Kahane called for "revenge squads" to assassinate neo-Nazis and Arabs internationally. As of Feb. 22, Kahane has gone underground, hiding from Israeli police who are seeking to further interrogate him on the grenade killings.

Kahane, acting on behalf of ex-Defense Minister Ariel Sharon, has repeatedly denounced the Kahan Commission investigation into Sharon and its finding. Kahane has praised the Sept. 18 Lebanon massacre with

the Khomeini-like formulation that "Not even the Christians killed the Arabs. God's will killed the Arabs."

Shimon Peres, who has recently called for outlawing Kahane's Kach Movement, the Israeli JDL, is being denounced by Kahane as a traitor, leading some sources to believe that Peres himself might be a Sharon target.

## ***Peccei in Salzburg hails peace movement***

Early reports from the Club of Rome's late-February congress in Salzburg, Austria signal the Club's intentions to build a mass fundamentalist movement under the name of the "peace movement."

Club founder Aurelio Peccei used his keynote address to the Salzburg gathering for a diatribe against the U.S. policy of "atomic over-kill," which he termed a "policy of insanity." Peccei said that he could understand the peace movement, which he thinks consists of "people with serious concern." The director of the Rome research center of the International Association of Catholic Universities, Joseph Loblin, seconded Peccei in terming "the peace movement a movement as important as the historical emergence of the international labor movement." Loblin is a prominent former student of Italian separatist controller Eleonora Masini, a Club of Rome spokesman.

The Salzburg congress was co-sponsored by the Salzburg regional government, the Club of Rome, and the Konrad Adenauer Stiftung, the West German political foundation linked to the Christian Democratic Union of Chancellor Helmut Kohl.

## ***West Germans announce foreign aid triage***

West German Minister of Development Policy Jürgen Warnke presented a document to the press the third week in February revealing the "new approach to Third World relations" of his ministry. Warnke, a member of the Bavarian Christian Social Union, whose undersecretary of state in Bonn is Club of Rome member Dr. Volkmar Köhler, informed the press that in the future

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German development aid would no longer be given to countries "hostile" to West German interests. Cuts in development and financial aid have already been decreed for India, Benin, Angola, Mozambique, Ethiopia, and Algeria. According to the Warnke ministry, these countries are "anti-West and pro-Soviet," and should therefore not get any German money—which is being defined as "Western money available only for purposes of the West."

A second category of Third World nations is already on the hit list: those countries which had a "disproportionate military budget." Warnke said that this applied to "Third World governments who waste a lot of money for unreasonable arms purchases while often having no money for development projects." Warnke parroted the line of the Palme Commission that the main cause of the Third World's poverty is not the International Monetary Fund, but the underdeveloped nations' "arms race" and "militarism." There are rumors that Turkey, Egypt, and several nations in Ibero-America will be listed in this new category.

Warnke did *not* mention Libya, Iran, Pakistan, Guatemala, Paraguay, South Africa, or China.

## **German politicians cry 'Save the forests!'**

In the midst of the greatest economic and political crisis in West German history, politicians from Social Democratic chancellor candidate Hans-Jochen Vogel, to Free Democratic Party leader Hans-Dietrich Genscher, and Bavarian Christian Social Union leader Franz-Josef Strauss, feel "concerned, if not alarmed, at the speed of destruction of the German forests!"

Vogel convened a special meeting with his key advisers on Feb. 20 to examine the situation. Vogel termed the "threat to the German forests a very dramatic one, much more dramatic than imagined before." He called the problem "one of the main political tasks of the 1980s."

The chairman of the Bavarian Christian Social Union (CSU)—and possibly the next foreign minister in Bonn—Franz-Josef Strauss, wrote letters to the governments of the German Democratic Republic and

Czechoslovakia urging them to stop polluting German forests.

## **Soviets call on OPEC to halt price fall**

*Pravda* on Feb. 22 issued a commentary urging OPEC to resolve its differences and halt the threat of an oil-price war. *Pravda* accused the "monopolists" of attempting to break up OPEC.

*Pravda* failed to mention that the U.S.S.R. was one of the first countries to initiate the oil-price drop immediately after the Jan. 24 collapse of the OPEC meeting. Over the course of 1982, the U.S.S.R. gained an unprecedented share of Western oil markets, exporting about 1.4 million barrels a day, roughly the same export volume as Britain. The Soviets gained that volume of sales to the West largely by underselling OPEC.

London sources claim that since Feb. 21 the U.S.S.R. has been unusually active on London's currency markets buying sterling, a move seen aimed at helping to firm the flagging pound.

## **Venetians sharpen knives for deeper austerity**

The Italian government of Amintore Fanfani may not be long for this world, as Olivetti chief and Republican Party president Bruno Visentini issued a sharp denunciation Feb. 19 of the failure of Fanfani to administer enough austerity. (Under Fanfani the trade unions and the Communist Party (PCI) have for the first time ever agreed to weaken the provisions of the cost of living escalator in union contracts.)

Visentini is the advocate of a "technocratic" cross-party emergency government which would include cooperation with the Communists—a deal the PCI seems to have accepted.

The government's austerity measures have been too weak, said Visentini; what is needed is a brute force program to drastically cut public spending.

Fanfani's fall is intended to "begin the end" of Italian democracy.

● A DEBATE is being conducted in Romanian journals on economic policy. The journal *Era Socialista* has blamed the international monetary system and high interest rates for Romania's economic difficulties, and those of other developing countries. The opposing faction, which is concentrated around the journal *Economic Review*, claims that it is Romania's rapid industrialization policy which is to blame. Development of industry as a priority compared to individual consumption leads to "inflation." The solution offered is to drop the present program of "total and absolute industrialization."

● OTTO VON Lambsdorff, West Germany's economics minister, has declared that there will be no government funds for "restructuring programs" for three major West German steel firms until they present a merger plan, along with firm commitments to cut capacity and manpower. Hoesch, Klöckner, and Salzgitter are now losing 100 deutschemarks on each ton of steel produced, or about 3 billion deutschemarks on an annual basis.

● RUDOLF BAHRO, the new head of the West German Green party, declared in a speech at the University of Essen Feb. 20 that "The Third World doesn't need development. Technology and science are too dangerous for the Third World. Africa for example has been damaged by technology," he said.

● EGIDIO ORTONA, the former Italian ambassador to the United States, Trilateral Commission member, and confidant of Fiat magnate Gianni Agnelli, had only one word to describe the U.S. Congress when questioned by *EIR* during a recent conference of leading banking representatives of the Italian "black" oligarchy and American officials in Milan. The word she said was *zoticones* (bumpkins).