

Editorial

Genocidalists try to gag EIR

The International Monetary Fund's executive director, Jacques de Larosière, was caught *in flagrante delicto* April 9 violating both U.S. law and common time-honored practices of according a certain elementary access to news reporting agencies.

A few hours before the IMF's semi-annual Interim Committee meeting was to begin in Washington D.C., *Executive Intelligence Review* was arbitrarily denied accreditation to the IMF and to the meeting, contrary to the general practice of public institutions, and despite the fact that *EIR* journalists have attended every such IMF meeting since 1975 in good standing.

EIR Washington correspondent Stanley Ezrol was told by IMF Chief Information Officer Helmut Hartmann that "the IMF made a decision not to issue press credentials to the *EIR* this year. We have got a directive to this effect." Despite the fact that *EIR* banking columnist Kathy Burdman had registered with Mr. Hartmann's office a month earlier and been confirmed as a participant by that office, she was told by Hartmann April 10: "You were on the list, but your request has been denied." Hartmann invoked "misuse of press privilege" by *EIR*, citing articles published by the columnist which were "deleterious to the IMF."

Further inquiry revealed that the original decision was made by de Larosière and communicated to Mr. Azizali Mohammed, director of the fund's External Relations Department.

It is a notorious fact that the *EIR* has vigorously argued that the United States should stop funding the IMF with taxpayers' dollars for the reason that the IMF's "loans" are exclusively used to force genocidal policies in the developing sector. *EIR* is on the record as an avowed opponent of the Fund's policies, which are identical to the monetary policies of Dr. Hjalmar Schacht, Adolf Hitler's economics minister.

In previous years, however, the IMF had not dared take the unprecedented measure of depriving the *EIR* of its normal rights of free press operating in a free

country merely because of our critical views. This year, with the toleration of the U.S. executive director for the IMF, Mr. Richard Erb, whose loyalties apparently lie with Paul Volcker and the Treasury, Mr. de Larosière's contempt for the free press as well as his gagging diktat were allowed to pass.

The IMF has placed itself above the U.S. government in this. The IMF's official press registration form states that journalists will be accredited who present "current press credentials . . . such as those issued by national authorities." Burdman and Ezrol have full credentials from the U.S. Department of State and U.S. Secret Service. Apparently the point has been reached at which U.S. government credentials are not good enough for the supranational government at the IMF.

The IMF considers itself above U.S. law altogether. The IMF's chief counsel told *EIR*: "you have no recourse under U.S. law to reverse the Fund's decision. The Fund is immune from suit under the treaty ratified by the Congress, the Bretton Woods Agreements Act, with which the United States joined the IMF. Neither can you bring suit against any Fund personnel such as Mr. de Larosière."

Were the IMF an institution under U.S. law, a dozen commissions of inquiry, select congressional committees and special prosecutors would have been set up by now to deal with Mr. de Larosière's arrogance.

EIR will hold the Fund, Jacques de Larosière, Richard Erb, Azizali Mohammed, and Helmut Hartmann responsible not only for their Gestapo effort to gag the press, but, more to the substantive point, for the genocidal policies which they are attempting to conceal and protect by excluding *EIR*.

Our "misuse of privilege" has been to publish verbatim statements of the Fund's officers openly advocating genocide. We shall continue to do so in the future, and we shall hold the IMF and its officers legally responsible for "crimes against humanity" as defined under the Nuremberg statutes.