

International Intelligence

Italy hit by barrage of assassinations

"There are areas of Italian territory in which the function of the state has weakened," declared Italian President Francesco Cossiga on Sept. 23, after a magistrate, Judge Rosario Liviatino, was assassinated in Sicily. He was investigating dirty-money laundering in an area where the mafia does a big business, extending to Turkey and Venezuela.

During the preceding week, a dozen people, including three children, were assassinated in Naples, in the context of faction fights within the *camorra*, the Neapolitan mafia. The number of mafia-type assassinations is growing day by day, running in the order of more than 1,000 victims per year.

"Terrorism," said President Cossiga, "was widespread, but never before had the capacity to control a territory. Those crimes perpetrated by the mafia, instead, are not common crimes, but real attacks against the security of the state and of the republic."

Cossiga called for the creation of special anti-mafia coordination bodies, involving all the relevant institutions of the state and of the local administration, in all the regions affected.

Pope John Paul II also addressed the issue on Sept. 23. "I now ask all Italians," he said, "to be firm and courageous, so as to contain the growing danger represented by the culture of death. Let us stop the stream of blood, the mourning, the suffering. Let all the forces of the country unite to proclaim with a loud voice the will to live in a serene way and to build a civilization respectful of man and of his dignity as a person."

Japan calls for revision of the U.N. Charter

The Japanese government has issued a call for the U.N. Charter to be revised, to delete references to "enemy states" defeated in

World War II. "The enemy state articles remaining in the Charter are inappropriate and meaningless in this new age and should be done away with as soon as possible," Japanese Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama said in a speech at the U.N. on Sept. 25.

This is the first time in 29 years that Japan has called for such a move at a high government level. It paralleled a similar call issued by Italian Foreign Minister Gianni de Michelis, the Japanese news agency Kyodo noted.

Some of the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council have traditionally been reluctant to agree to any amendment to the Charter, believing that this would increase pressure for a restructuring of the Security Council. Japan, Germany, India, and Brazil are believed to be among the states aspiring to permanent membership on the council, according to diplomatic sources quoted by Kyodo.

Scots score Western contempt for Arabs

Scots nationalist Patrick Kane, the rector of Glasgow University, criticized the governments and media of the West for their treatment of Iraq and the rest of the Arab world, in a commentary in *The Scotsman's* week-end supplement in early September.

"Years of systematic contempt for the Arab world," he wrote, "blatant double standards over Israeli aggression . . . all this can be forgotten in a righteous strike against a dictator. . . . It is interesting how Saddam Hussein's first substantial peace initiative correctly seized on the lack of condemnation of Israel's savageries towards Palestinians and Lebanese. . . ."

"For years, well-heeled humanities mandarins have been gleefully trumpeting the decline of modernity. . . . After Nietzsche, after May 1968, all is plurality, every value is relative. . . . A substantial body of Middle Eastern opinion would regard the emptiness of the West's traditions in a less philosophical light, i.e., a lie to cover its

unforgiving capitalism and economic imperialism. The triumphs of last year's revolutions in Europe are beginning to ring hollow. How could we possibly forget there was a Third World, and after this crisis takes its course, will we still keep forgetting?"

The newspaper also published a report by its Washington correspondent Michael Pye, calling anti-Arab feeling the new kind of anti-Semitism. "Anti-Semitism has been transferred from its 1920s version (hook-nosed, greedy, bomb-toting, dirty, inexplicable Jews—John Buchan stuff), to a brand-new modern concept (hook-nosed, greedy, bomb-toting, unscrupulous, conspiratorial, dirty, inexplicable Arabs—Sidney Sheldon stuff)."

Gaviria scores hypocrisy of U.S. war on drugs

Colombian President César Gaviria Trujillo drew a striking comparison between the multibillion-dollar outlays for George Bush's Mideast adventure, and the failure of the advanced sector countries to give material substance to their anti-drug rhetoric. In his Sept. 27 address to the U.N. General Assembly, President Gaviria charged:

"Drug trafficking may not be as tangible a threat to peace as tanks and combat aircraft, but it is just as real and no less devastating. . . . The world community has been able to activate global cooperation to face possible war and to defend international law. We have in less than a month mobilized enormous war power from one end of the world to the other. I am convinced that we would be able to achieve similarly satisfactory results in the fight against the drug trade. . . ."

"In light of the recent crisis in the Persian Gulf, President Bush requested and obtained economic assistance to offset the costs of the U.S. effort and thus help to guarantee the effect of the U.N. decisions. Fighting an enemy even more dangerous to humanity, Colombia has received repeated statements of solidarity but very few real

measures of support. While nations have demonstrated their economic support of the United States, on the other side of the world, Colombia, fighting against the other enemy of humanity and suffering economic and social hardship, has received no compensation at all.

"It is time that repeatedly announced initiatives be translated into concrete action."

Growing concern in France over Gulf policy

French Defense Minister Jean-Pierre Chevènement warned that a war against Iraq could lead to World War III, in a radio talk show on Sept. 30. "If there were a war," he said, "it would be the beginning of a global confrontation which would not be limited in time and in space."

He said that it is an exaggeration to compare Iraqi President Saddam Hussein to Adolf Hitler, and as for chemical warfare, the Europeans were the first to use gas, in 1915, and therefore Europe has no lessons to teach on this score.

Other French commentators outside the government are growing even more outspoken in their opposition to the Anglo-American Gulf policy. "What French interests are we defending?" asks analyst Pierre Clostermann in a commentary published in the daily *Le Figaro* on Sept. 27. Clostermann is one of the most respected representatives of the French Resistance during World War II, a member of the order of the Compagnons de la Libération, one of the most famous pilots in the war, and a recipient of the Great Cross of the Legion of Honor.

Clostermann asks if defending the \$1.5 billion annual oil revenues received by the Saudi king's family is worth the life of a French pilot, or if the oil revenues of Kuwait, owned by eight families, are worth the life of a seaman on a French ship, or even if the defense of interests of Aramco and the Anglo-American oil companies is worth the life of a soldier.

"International morality" does not seem

to mean much, Clostermann says, since the American invasion of Panama; since the British war against Argentina over the Malvinas islands, which had been on the list of territories to be decolonized since 1947; since the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan; and since Israel's occupation of Arab territories.

Stasi terror a threat to unified Germany

German anti-terrorism experts are warning that underground cells of former agents of the East German Stasi secret police may be mobilized for attacks on institutions and leading figures of the newly united Germany. This is the most explicit official recognition to date of what *EIR* has referred to as "Operation Trojan Horse."

Heinz Neusel, the assistant minister of the interior and coordinator of anti-terrorism measures, who escaped an assassination attempt at the end of July, was quoted in *Der Spiegel* magazine at the end of September, saying that there is evidence that former Stasi desperadoes are organizing themselves into clandestine cells, equipped with explosives and weapons from secret depots to which only a select group of Stasi operatives had access. The weapons, he says, are "enough to arm an entire medium-sized army."

Ralf Merkel, vice chairman of the office in East Berlin that is overseeing the dismemberment of the Stasi apparatus, said in an interview with the daily *Die Welt* published on Sept. 26, "The country is still covered with a network of old SED [communist] cliques, and either we succeed in destroying the old SED connections at last, or unity is endangered, even if we are reunified from Oct. 3 on."

"Nonsense talk about plans for amnesty must end," Merkel declared. "Not a single document file must be destroyed. . . . The nervous system of the former MfS [Ministry of State Security] is not as destroyed as it has been presented nowadays."

Briefly

● **LECH WALES**A welcomed the unification of Germany as the end of Yalta, in a statement printed by the daily *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung* on Sept. 29. "We welcome with joy what has occurred without violence or bloodshed," he said, "because the overcoming of all the consequences of the Yalta accords, which were repressing the peoples, has always been the objective of Solidarnosc."

● **ISRAEL** and the Soviet Union have agreed to reestablish consular relations. Though the two states began moving toward diplomatic relations in 1987, full ties have been blocked by Moscow's insistence that the Palestinian conflict be resolved in a manner approved by the Arab states.

● **THE JORDANIAN** daily *Al Dastour* published an article by *EIR*'s Joseph Brewda in mid-September, titled "Superpowers push Mideast war." Brewda reports on a July 3 statement by Lyndon LaRouche which forecast that the "British zombie state" of Israel was planning a new Middle East war to provide a "final solution" to the "Palestinian problem."

● **SOVIET NUCLEAR** warheads have been moved out of potential ethnic hot-spots, according to Soviet Chief of Staff Gen. Mikhail Moiseyev, in an interview with the *Washington Post* on Sept. 27.

● **JAPAN'S DEFENSE** agency played down the Soviet Union as a threat, in its annual White Paper released Sept. 18. The White Paper concludes that domestic difficulties and the international environment makes Soviet aggression against other countries unlikely. But Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu's national security adviser, Ichiro Yoneyama, indicated that this shift will not affect Japan's defense planning.