

International Intelligence

Interior Minister Deri resigns in Israel

Israel's Interior Minister Aryen Deri, who heads the Shas party, resigned May 9, apparently because Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin failed to meet the demand of Deri's ultra-religious party. Shas had demanded the removal of the supposedly secular Education Minister Shulamit Aloni, whose remarks Shas had found to be offensive to the religion. This move now has put the Rabin coalition in the minority in parliament.

Most of the western press is speculating that Rabin might be forced to seek the help of five members of the Knesset (parliament) who represent Arab parties, so the government will be able to withstand a no-confidence vote. But since the majority of Israelis are opposed to the Arab-Israeli peace talks, the intention behind this artificial crisis might be to tell the Arabs that they should be grateful for what Rabin is offering them. The fascist Likud party is accusing Rabin, of all people, of selling out Israel in the peace talks.

Central banker takes reins in Italy

Interpreting the result of the April 18 referendum as a plebiscite against "political parties," President Oscar Luigi Scalfaro has appointed central banker Carlo Azeglio Ciampi to form the next Italian government, bowing to the demands of the international financial elites to impose a technocratic austerity government. The next Italian government is requested to immediately find roughly \$8 billion to plug holes in the 1992 budget, by accelerating the privatization of the public industry and introducing new taxes, and to plan a \$50 billion austerity package to be implemented in the autumn.

The Christian Democracy, the main party in the coalition which is supposed to support Ciampi, has moved to keep the Health Ministry, which will presumably be saved from budget cuts. The Socialist Party has kept the Defense Ministry. The new foreign minister is Beniamino Andreata, an ultra-liberal economist who was budget minister

in the previous cabinet. Giuseppe Guarino, the former industry minister who fought against privatizations, is out.

According to press reports, Ciampi's proposed list of ministers was discussed by the Italian delegation at the International Monetary Fund meeting in Washington on April 28, before he made it known in Italy. The nomination of Ciampi came after a delegation from Moody's, the American rating agency, met in Rome with all candidates for prime minister, including House and Senate leaders Giorgio Napolitano and Giovanni Spadolini, Mario Segni and Ciampi.

Ciampi has already promised that his government will last only until October, and disband after taking care of the economic situation and electoral reform.

Malaysian premier invited to visit North Korea

North Korean President Kim Il-Sung has invited Malaysia's Prime Minister, Dr. Mahathir Mohamad, to visit North Korea. The invitation was extended in early May when a six-member delegation from the North Korean Information Committee called on Dr. Mahathir and Deputy Prime Minister Ghafar Baba in Kuala Lumpur. Among other things, there was discussion about information exchange between the two countries, including the exchange of television programs. Malaysian Information Minister Datuk Mohamed Rahmat is quoted by Bernama news agency saying that news exchange between the two countries is particularly important since reports about North Korea and Malaysia are mostly by foreign wire services and "inaccurate at times."

Speaking in Malaysia on May 3, North Korean Information Minister Kim Ki-yong named the conditions that must be met if it is to rejoin the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), according to Japan's Kyodo news service. North Korea wants 1) a neutral International Atomic Energy Agency delegation and assurances that its military sites will remain closed to foreign checks; and 2) the U.S. to guarantee it will not use nuclear force against North Korea, and to withdraw nuclear weapons and facilities from South Korea. Kim said North Korea

will allow IAEA inspection of a nuclear power plant in Yongbyon, but not at a nearby military base which is exempted under the treaty.

There are indications that Malaysia may be attempting to play a mediation role with respect to North Korea: Three weeks ago, Mahathir was in Iran, a country with which North Korea has strong links. Under what auspices Malaysia might be acting as mediator is not known.

ADL spreading more prejudice in Germany

The April issue of *ADL on the Frontline*, the publication of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, boasts the headline, "ADL to Fight Prejudice in Germany: A World of Difference Program to Begin in Berlin." According to the article, the openings were made by a January trip to Germany of an ADL delegation led by National Chairman Melvin Salberg, who once again met with Chancellor Helmut Kohl and other government officials.

The ADL's World of Difference was used to infiltrate U.S. law enforcement agencies, and was funded with \$1 million from convicted junk bond swindler Michael Milken. Some police officers, who showed "promise" under the program and who have since come under investigation in the spreading spy scandal, were rewarded with junkets to Israel.

During Salberg's January trip, the ADL contracted with the Office of the Commissioner for Foreigners' Affairs of the Berlin Senate Administration for Social Affairs to conduct a World of Difference workshop for senior officials of the Commissioner's Office, which deals with foreign asylum-seekers. In Rostock, where skinhead violence against foreigners erupted in riots with the police last year, city officials have expressed the desire to set up a pilot project for a World of Difference in public schools.

San Francisco authorities investigating the ADL spy scandal report that ADL/FBI informant Roy Bullock had traveled to Germany, where he twice met with law enforcement authorities over skinhead violence and wrote the ADL profile of Germany's skin-

heads for which his boss, ADL Fact-Finding chief Irwin Suall, has often taken credit. Bullock's informants are known to have infiltrated U.S. neo-Nazi groups, on the ADL's behalf. *EIR* has exposed these groups as being active in recruitment, training, and incitement of skinheads against foreigners in Germany.

Pope urges Iraq's Christians to remain

Pope John Paul II has urged Iraqi Christians not to emigrate, in a message earlier this month conveyed by papal envoy Cardinal Achille Silvestrini, Prefect of Oriental Congregations, who was in Baghdad and planned to meet with President Saddam Hussein. The message was delivered to the Chaldean Patriarch, Raphael I Bidawid, who read the pope's appeal at a mass.

"I share the hope that they stay in this country to perpetuate the heritage fed by their ancestors," John Paul said, according to an Arabic translation of a message he addressed specifically to Iraqi Christians. The pope continued that he hoped that "current painful conditions will change into prosperity for Iraq" and its Christians would be able to stay "to carry out [Christ's] message. . . . I am aware of the hard conditions which Iraqi citizens are forced to live under. For their sake I have frequently raised my voice in different ways for an end of their pain," Pope John Paul said. The hardships caused by the U.N. are among the reasons Christians choose to emigrate, Reuters acknowledges in its coverage.

Khmer Rouge attacks U.N., Chinese troops

Two more United Nations positions came under attack from the Cambodian Khmer Rouge on May 4, according to a BBC report, after a Japanese policeman, and later that night a Polish installation and a Chinese engineering base, were attacked. The Chinese soliders returned fire. Japanese Prime Minister Miyazawa held a ministerial meeting on May 5 to review the growing conflict in

Cambodia. In addition to the dead policeman, three other Japanese and five Dutch commandos were wounded. There is increasing pressure in Japan to withdraw from Cambodia, cabinet secretary Yohei Kono said. U.N. head in Cambodia Yasushi Akashi travelled to Beijing, to meet with nominal Cambodian head of state Prince Norodom Sihanouk, who has been there since late last year.

In Beijing, a Foreign Ministry spokesman "strongly condemned" the attack. Without actually naming the Khmer Rouge, however, the spokesman expressed "our deep regret over the shelling of the Chinese engineering battalion in Cambodia." The Chinese, formerly the primary patrons of the Khmer Rouge, officially "distanced" themselves at the end of 1990.

Brazilian separatists plan southern secession

Folha de São Paulo reported on May 10 that on May 23, separatist Irton Marx will declare the creation of the "Pampa Gaucho Republic" in southern Brazil. Marx emphasizes that the fact of declaring the new republic's existence doesn't mean that it will separate yet from the federal union. That will occur, he predicts, following a plebiscite to be carried out by the assemblies in three southern states. No date is yet set for that plebiscite, however.

Continuing reports of separatist movements in the south have provoked strong statements of concern. Bishop Dom Aloisio Sinesio Bohn, of Santa Cruz del Sul, in the southern state of Rio Grande do Sul, warned a week earlier that "there is a risk of civil war if we don't deal with this." He charged that international separatist interests are behind these efforts in Brazil and that, among other things, this is a reflection of profound racism. "This is an idea which can be disseminated in times of crisis, such as these," he said. Dom Luciano Mendes de Almeida, president of the Catholic Bishops Conference, condemned the propagation of separatist ideas and said that egotism and racism could lead to the disintegration of the country.

● **GÜNTER KRAUSE**, Germany's transportation minister, resigned on May 6. He was immediately replaced by Matthias Wissmann, who recently took over the research ministry and wants to scrap space research, nuclear research and the development of maglev train technology and instead to increase state funding of solar energy and biogenetics.

● **KENYAN** "democratic" opposition leader Jolly Joe Mugalla, secretary of the Organization of Trade Unions, threatened at a major May 1 meeting in Nairobi, that any strike-breaker or any employer who attempts to disrupt strike actions, will "be dealt with by the necklacing," according to the *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*. "Necklacing" involves putting a gasoline-filled tire around a person's neck and setting it on fire.

● **BETTINO CRAXI**, Italy's former prime minister, won a vote in the Chamber of Deputies to keep his parliamentary immunity on April 30, which protects him from prosecution. Judges in Milan are seeking to charge him in a sweeping political "corruption" scandal aimed at making Italy ungovernable.

● **CAMBODIA'S U.N.** embassy is still led by Thiounn Prasith, who was the Khmer Rouge ambassador to the U.N. for seven years. The official ambassador from Cambodia is Prince Norodom Sihanouk, son of Prince Sihanouk, who prefers not to reside in New York.

● **PAKISTAN**, under heavy threats from the U.S. that it will be declared a "terrorist state," is now helping Egyptian intelligence compile lists of alleged extremists still based in Peshawar, and at least 180 foreign "fundamentalists" have been arrested, according to the *Sunday Times* of London for May 9. Eleven of those arrested were extradited, including supporters of Sheikh Omar Abdel-Rahman, whose followers were arrested for the World Trade Center bombing.