

The press reports on Cheminade's policies

Here is a sampling of excerpts from some of the more interesting international press coverage of the Cheminade campaign. For an analysis of the source of a barrage of slanderous coverage, see the article on p. 27.

France

Le Monde, interview, April 12:

Jacques Cheminade . . . denounces the "financial cancer which is destroying the world economy," supports "a new Marshall Plan vis-à-vis the countries of the East and of the South," calls for the constitution of a "republican front" and intends to "introduce a certain conception of transcendence in politics." . . .

Q: How did you get the 500 signatures for your candidacy, when Antoine Waechter [of the Green party] did not?

JC: Beginning in September, we contacted rural mayors, sending them a preliminary platform, in which I denounced the financial cancer which is destroying the world economy and tried to demonstrate its effects in France on local and regional life. The mayors read it and thought there was perhaps a relationship between desertification and what is happening in the world [politically]. I explained that it was necessary to fight against this logic, for a policy in which the state takes control of currency and credit, to launch a new Marshall Plan vis-à-vis the countries of the East and the South. Many were interested in this approach. Little by little, I saw the signatures coming in. I increased my work at the grass roots, and I finally ended up with 556 commitments. I have always thought that, in a period of crisis, it would not be Paris notoriety which could change things.

Q: Are you on the left or the right?

JC: The left and the right have both pursued a monetarist policy which I reject. Personally, I think the terms left and right don't have any meaning, because of the [behavior of the] left or the right. We need a different policy. We need a "republican front" outside the extremisms which endlessly repeat their obsessions and monstrosities; but one cannot have this front if one harbors sympathies toward England and Louis-Napoleon Bonaparte. The Entente Cordiale with the British financial milieu is diametrically opposed to the republican front. This Entente Cordiale has dictated the policy that the Ballardur government has followed, especially in Bosnia, where we have had an indefensible policy.

On the political chessboard, we need a front which brings together the tradition of humanist socialism represented by Jaurès, the tradition of . . . de Gaulle, and the tradition of social Christianity. These traditions have a common prin-

ciple: the idea that a voluntarist policy is possible to develop the human being, instead of sustaining the financial bubble. . . .

Le Figaro, "Jacques Cheminade Does Not Mince Words," April 12:

Publishing a picture of Cheminade holding a copy of his book on Jean Jaurès, the daily quotes him saying that it is the "financier-rentier who causes unemployment and no growth. We need to revive the system that prevailed under Louis XI and Colbert."

"More than 600 or 700 billion francs circulate on the financial markets, but only 0.1% corresponds to real production of goods. Money is chasing money," Cheminade explained, calling for "the international system of finance to be put through bankruptcy."

Advocating a strong role for the state in monetary affairs, and the return of the Banque de France to the role of a national bank that is not artificially independent from the government, Cheminade told the interviewer, adding that he would not rule out calling on his supporters to vote for Socialist Party candidate Lionel Jospin in the second round of voting, but only on the condition that Jospin put "a tiger in his tank."

Bosnia

Faris Nanic, secretary general, Party of Democratic Action (SDA) of Croatia; general manager, TWRA Press, Bosnian press agency based in Zagreb:

"The presidential elections in France are followed with great interest in Bosnia, due to the fact that the French policy toward Bosnia so far has been estimated negatively. It is widely considered that the French attitude has been very pro-Serb and that it has been mainly following the British line in the spirit of the so-called Entente Cordiale. In relation to that, people mention the year 1914 and the assassination of Archduke Ferdinand of Austria in Sarajevo, which sparked the first world war. Some coincidences with old alliances in Europe, on the basis of the so-called geopolitical interests and balance of power, are also noticed. One of the major remarks is that French policy also helped transform the Bosnian problem, first, from aggression to civil war, despite all relevant Security Council resolutions and international recognition of the state; second, from an eminently political problem to a humanitarian issue; and third, from the legal and political problem of the genocide committed against the Bosnian population into legally undefined ethnic cleansing. All this ends with maintaining the status quo which is: permanent occupation of more than 60% of Bosnian territory, continuing genocide, and preventing the victim of aggression from defending itself because the illegal arms embargo is maintained, which is supported by France, too.

"Therefore, the presidential candidacy of Mr. Jacques Cheminade has been received with sympathy, for he is the only candidate who included the problem of Bosnia in his presidential program, by proposing the only possible—the



Cheminade's candidacy has attracted special interest in Argentina, the country of his birth. Shown here are headlines from *La Nacion* of Buenos Aires, and a sampling of other international coverage.

principal—solution. This solution should have strategic importance for the whole region of the Balkans. First of all, it advocates cessation of aggression on Bosnia and complicity in genocide by supporting the peace process which rewards the aggressors and perpetrators of genocide. This should be followed by organizing a fair trial of the responsible individuals, political and military figures. Secondly, it firmly supports preservation of the territorial integrity and sovereignty of Bosnia and demands that all states in the region of former Yugoslavia, including Serbia, be recognized and included into the future European reconstruction program, which is very important, for this is the only way to achieve the durable and just peace in the Balkans, i.e., in Europe.”

Argentina

La Nacion, interview, “I Fight the Oligarchies Such as That of Minister Cavallo,” April 12:

This interview, like other coverage in the Argentine press, stresses the fact that Cheminade was born in Argentina.

“Maybe it was in [the neighborhood of] Belgrano R during the '40s and '50s, where this unique candidate for the Elysée was raised, that he also learned to insert in his daily discourse this panoply of quotes from authors (de Gaulle, Jean Jaurès, Sarmiento, Colbert, Rabelais, and a long etcetera), with an art reminiscent of the Bible. . . .

“He also retains clear traces of the tango in his laments as a persecuted politician. ‘The press (his aides said this also included *La Nacion*) treats me like a dog,’ he often says.

“His themes are the battle against the ‘savage liberalism’ of the United States and his phobia against Great Britain, which he blames for the continuation of the war in the Balkans to keep Europe divided.” Cheminade is also “allergic to the immigration policy of Charles Pasqua,” the article says.

“I was born in a country where, to a certain extent, there is a complete mixture, a melting pot. One is the child of one’s works and not, as Rabelais said, of the four legs that conceived one. One is the offspring of culture,” says Cheminade. “When I walked in Buenos Aires, besides me there were Turks, Lebanese, and Jewish friends from Central Europe, who had sought refuge in Argentina.”

As to his relations with Lyndon LaRouche: “I have known him since 1975. I feel close to what he stands for, not what the reporters claim. He is the enemy of the Anglo-American order. The man who said no to the policy of a British oligarchy that contaminated the United States—a policy which says that the poor should stay poor and that the only things that matter are the interests of the whites. That’s the policy of [Argentine Finance Minister] Domingo Cavallo and of his predecessor Martinez de Hoz. LaRouche and I oppose the same thing, that is to say . . . the oligarchy. The hatred against LaRouche is because of the creative capacity he demonstrates. That is what the new Conservative Revolution in the United States—the new fascism, Gingrich, Cavallo’s Republican friends—wants to hide, so as to impose a two-track world. . . .”

Great Britain

Financial Times, April 7:

“Jacques Cheminade, a former secretary general of the now defunct European Workers Party, is the complete unknown of the race, and there is still a possibility that France’s constitutional council may question some of the endorsements he needs to qualify.

“This 53-year-old ex-Finance Ministry official says he is ‘an enlightened Colbertist,’ a reference to Louis XIV’s minister who practiced massive state protection and subsidy for industry.”