

International Intelligence

Nigerian minister warns British oil companies

Petroleum Minister Dan Etete summoned to his office the heads of British Petroleum and Shell on July 17 and warned them that their operations in Nigeria could be jeopardized, if Britain keeps up its criticism of Nigeria's military rule and "human rights" record. Between them, the two companies lift much of Nigeria's 1.9 million barrels a day in oil production.

He criticized "the unfriendly posture of the British government and its general attitude" toward the government and people of Nigeria. Said Etete: "In as much as our doors are open to foreign investors, we will not be dictated to by anybody nor allow our sovereignty to be subjected to slavery."

According to BBC, Etete singled out for attack Baroness Lynda Chalker, Britain's colonial minister in her capacity as head of the Overseas Development Administration. Chalker and other British officials have threatened that Nigeria could find itself suspended from the Commonwealth.

Italians interested in U.S. DOJ purges

A Rome-based news agency, Repubblica, has published a long article on the "rogue apparatus of John Keeney and Mark Richard" suggesting that the political shift in Italy against the "Clean Hands" probe, which has been devastating traditional parties and politicians for the last three years in Italy, may reflect the purges initiated by the Clinton administration against the permanent bureaucracy of the Department of Justice.

Repubblica reflects the views of some intelligence sectors in Italy. The July 7 article cites *EIR* and the Schiller Institute as sources for its analysis. It reports that John C. Keeney, deputy assistant attorney general, "is the character in charge of managing the various Buscettas . . . delivered to prosecutors and special police of our country." Tommaso Buscetta, a mafia boss turned

State's evidence, has been the key figure in accusing many Italian politicians of complicity with organized crime.

Repubblica's article wonders whether the DOJ's Criminal Division is "under the orders of Republican conservatism, as LaRouche states," or, as others believe, "a politically self-sufficient division, a typical loose cannon of the State apparatus." Keeney's associate Mark Richard, reports Repubblica, was responsible for creating the Office of Special Investigations, and ran "the coverup of evidence against George Bush and Oliver North's intelligence networks."

Repubblica describes the Keeney-Richard grouping as "neo-McCarthyite" and "part of the J. Edgar Hoover complex" which was at the center of the coverup of political assassinations from JFK to Martin Luther King, as well as Italian leaders Enrico Mattei and Aldo Moro.

Cleric's assassination not in Algeria's interest

Just as the Algerian government was announcing that negotiations with the Islamic Salvation Front (FIS) had failed, Abdelbaki Sahroui, an 80-year-old Imam who was one of the founders of the FIS, was assassinated in Paris on July 11.

The assassination of Imam Sahroui, the intermediary between FIS and the French government, can only make matters worse for the North African country of Algeria, which has been plunged into what amounts to civil war since 1992.

Responsibility for the Imam's death was claimed by the radical Armed Islamic Group (GIA), which had attacked Sahroui by name in its newsletter *El Ansar* on May 12. GIA also included Rabeah Kabir, the FIS representative in Germany, and three other FIS leaders, on its list of people it would like to see eliminated.

The GIA is infiltrated by the Algerian government and some elements of the French intelligence community, hence, Sahroui's murder could have been the result

of a joint operation between the Algerian secret services and the "anti-fundamentalist" French circles close to the military hardliners in Algeria. The use of sophisticated silencers, and the fact that Sahroui was shot inside a mosque, are further clues pointing to a secret service operation.

Greens, peaceniks sabotage Chirac speech

Greenpeace and the anti-nuclear lobby's international campaign against the renewed French nuclear tests in the Pacific escalated on July 11 when greenies and other anti-nuclear activists sabotaged Jacques Chirac's speech at the European Parliament in Strasbourg. In addition to trying to end the eight nuclear tests scheduled by the French, the real goal of the anti-nuclear lobby is to bring to an end the Gaullist "exception" (national sovereignty) which still lingers on in the domain of defense.

Greenies and peaceniks organized a nasty reception for Chirac, who had come to make a speech on the accomplishments of the French chairmanship of the European Union. Green deputies and their assistants, as well as Greenpeace activists, distributed a "Strasbourg call" against the nuclear tests, and as Chirac started speaking, amid general booing and noise, many deputies pulled out umbrellas with nuclear mushroom clouds on them. Many of the deputies boycotted a luncheon with Chirac. The only interesting criticism of Chirac in this context were banners which read something like "more courage in Bosnia, not in the Pacific!"

Mexican paper betrays fear of LaRouche

The July 10 edition of Mexico's business daily *El Financiero* ran a diatribe against Lyndon LaRouche, and Congressmen Ali Cancino Herrera and Walter León Montoya, who recently toured Europe "in association with the Schiller Institute, the cultural arm of the LaRouche sect." Among other wild

charges, the article, written from Germany, says that LaRouche was involved in the Oklahoma City bombing.

The apparent origin of these libels is the desire to discredit the LaRouche political movement when it is playing a key role in the defense of Mexico's institutions, while the operation to wreck the Presidency of Ernesto Zedillo is escalating. Author López writes that the followers of "American fanatic Lyndon LaRouche Jr., are right about one thing: Economics is the occult science." Figures, adds López, can be used by people like Zedillo to lie that the worst is over. They can also be used, as is the case of LaRouche and his followers, to "prove looming catastrophes, which only he—the Great Guru—can save the world from."

The *El Financiero* scribbler attacks the head of the touring delegation, Cancino, for "spreading the story according to which the Chiapas rebellion serves a conspiracy organized by the British Crown. The International Monetary Fund, lord and master of the Mexican treasury, was presented here as part of the evil monster which threatens the Mexico of the ruling PRI." López said that the two congressmen presented "a shameful spectacle in Paris and Bonn . . . where the EZLN is perceived with good faith by those who believe that the Zapatistas are a movement purely for the uplifting of the indigenous people." There is also "a consensus that the PRI government is a corrupt and lying regime."

Pope: Serbian atrocities 'a defeat of civilization'

Pope John Paul II stated on July 16: "The news and images coming from Bosnia witness how much Europe and humanity have sunk into the abyss of abjection." Speaking in Les Combes (Val d'Aosta), where he is vacationing, Wojtyla stressed that "No cause, no project can justify such barbarous actions and methods: They are crimes against humanity. What is occurring is a defeat of civilization. Those crimes will re-

main as one of the saddest chapters of European history."

The homily was widely interpreted as a call to the West to intervene militarily to stop the Serbian atrocities in Bosnia, and a majority of Italian political forces were reported to favor such action, as of July 17. President Oscar Scalfaro, visiting Buenos Aires, read a passage from Dante's *Commedia* to journalists who asked for a comment on Italian Foreign Minister Susanna Agnelli's opposition to direct military intervention. The passage, from Paradise, Canto V, ends by reminding Christians that there is no guarantee that a priest can save their soul. ("Christians, be slower to move: Don't be like a feather in every wind, and don't think every water will wash you.")

How about a posthumous knighthood for Hitler?

Following the honorary knighthood granted to Henry Kissinger on June 20, the latest proposal in the London *Daily Telegraph* (Hollinger Corp.) is that Mick Jagger and the other Rolling Stones be knighted by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. The proposal, printed on July 10, was authored by Boris Johnson, son of Paul Johnson, a "Catholic" proponent of Thatcherite "free trade" policies.

Boris observes that Stones are making their latest mega-tour of Europe, and their average age now is the same average age as that of the members of the British Cabinet. Johnson lauds their contributions to British wealth and fame.

But, overall, it's their "music alone" that merits a knighthood. The Stones have made a major "contribution to postwar global culture." He reports that it was their music, "whose Orphic spell, prompted the rock writer Albert Goldman, in 1969, to compare Mick Jagger to Adolf Hitler." Johnson quotes another "music" critic, from 1971: "The Stones are perverted, outrageous, violent, repulsive, ugly, tasteless, incoherent. A travesty. That's what's good about them."

Briefly

● **RATS** are proliferating through the British water system, thanks to combined privatization and cost-cutting, reported the July 16 London *Observer*. Graham Jukes, co-author of the June 1995 *National Rodent Survey*, reveals a 39% rise in rat infestation in Britain between 1970 and 1993.

● **MARK THATCHER**, son of the Baroness and former prime minister Maggie, has been hit by a third legal action, a multimillion-dollar lawsuit being filed against him by David G. Wallace, the man once described as Mark's closest friend and business partner, according to the London *Times* of July 14.

● **RUSSIA** "has drawn up an emergency plan to combat population decline," reported an AFP dispatch of July 13 which picked up an item from the Russian Tass news agency. The report said the size of the Russian population has been falling since November 1992, and, in the 1993-94 period, it had fallen by 1.7 million. Meantime, the London *Guardian* reported July 14 from Moscow that life expectancy among Russian males has dropped to an average of 57 years.

● **THE DEATH PENALTY** will be abolished in Poland, if a draft law approved by the government on July 11 goes through, Justice Minister Jerzy Jaskiernia said. According to Reuters, the bill also provides for life imprisonment, replacing the current system under which the maximum jail term is 25 years.

● **JUAN LISCANO**, the most anti-oligarchic of the Venezuelan "Notables" who played a critical role in ousting Carlos Andrés Pérez, was honored on his 80th birthday, July 7, as the "patrimony of Venezuela" by his old friend, President Rafael Caldera. This column reported last week on Liscano's incisive attack on British ideology, which was published on July 7 in Caracas.