

International Intelligence

French gov't shakeup augurs austerity ahead

In a surprise move, Premier Alain Juppé and President Jacques Chirac reshuffled the French government, after just five months in office. *EIR's* Paris correspondent points out that the shift confirms the "free-trade" austerity turn of the regime over recent weeks, after months in which it was unclear whether France would bow to British pressures or take its own, more nationalist course. Juppé had been pressuring Chirac for the former, arguing that the fall in Chirac's popularity was because there were too many incompetent ministers and too few "heavyweights" from the previous Balladur government.

The new government now has been streamlined from 41 to 32 ministers.

There are no changes in the major portfolios: Foreign Affairs, Defense, Economy and Finance, Culture, Education, and Labor. The significance of the reshuffle is that four new persons were brought in, three as ministers and one as a delegated minister, of whom three are former Balladurians. A Paris daily reported Nov. 8 that Juppé had asked the Balladurian "heavyweights" to join the government, but they all refused, expecting the Juppé government to self-destruct in the coming weeks. The reshuffle is also aimed at "reassuring" the markets, by indicating the French government's will to impose an austerity budget against French national interests and to meet the conditionalities by 1997, for joining the Maastricht Treaty's single European market.

In resisting British plans, Mandela risks life

Archbishop Desmond Tutu, following the assassination of Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, on Nov. 6 warned South African President Nelson Mandela of possible attempts to kill him, and insisted that Mandela immediately and seriously "look" at his security. "If anyone wants to get at you,

they will get at you. And God forbid that it should happen to Madiba [Mandela]," the Anglican archbishop of South Africa said.

The same concern was voiced the next day by South African Police Commissioner George Fivaz, who said that security around both Mandela and the cabinet has been increased.

Referring to the Rabin assassination, Fivaz said: "We simply cannot afford to think that we are immune to such lunacy. Rabin's assassination is a tragedy. But we must learn from it. Distinct parallels exist between the Israeli-Palestinian and South African political processes, and it would be disastrous if especially the leaders of the major parties of the Government of National Unity were harmed in any way."

Several days before the April 27, 1994 elections that brought the Government of National Unity into power, *EIR* News Service received information of a plot to kill Mandela. The Hollinger Corp., a publishing empire which has Henry Kissinger and Margaret Thatcher on its board of directors, was the putative center of this plot at that time.

The Mandela government has not caved in to the indiscriminate privatization desired by the financial circles which back Kissinger and Thatcher. Nor has President Mandela agreed to play his scripted role in the London-directed project to crush Nigeria, the other potential African superpower, which is not buying British looting schemes masked as "free trade," either.

Toffler pushes deschooling in Brazil

Alvin Toffler, the futurologist and mentor of U.S. Squeaker of the House of Representatives Newt Gingrich, was in Brazil to push his latest book, *Creating a New Civilization*, written with his wife, Heidi. In an interview published in the Oct. 29 *Folha de São Paulo*, he obscenely recommended that the racist, brainwashing methods of Paulo Freire, author of *Pedagogy of the Oppressed*, be applied in poor communities

of countries such as Brazil, as a way of helping "to close the gap between rich and poor societies."

Freire argues that written and spoken language itself is "a western imposition" upon Africans (many Brazilians are of African descent), and claims that their "natural mode" of communication is pantomime. *Folha* adds that Freire's method consists of teaching by associating letters and words to objects which are familiar to the student. Toffler suggests too that pupils might combine learning with "service to the community," which means manual labor.

Toffler also asserts that not everyone should aspire to universal education, run by the State. "In countries of low educational level, the dream is to have a vast network of conventional schools. But this is perhaps mistaken reasoning. The method should vary according to local, social and economic conditions." The conventional classroom belongs to "second wave [industrial]" countries, but is no longer appropriate for the information age, he rants.

Doctors' magazine runs Club of Life statement

Ideologie und Medizin, the magazine of the European Doctors Action, has published a six-page statement by the board of directors of the German Club of Life, dealing with a groundbreaking decision of the German Federal Court which permits stopping life-sustaining treatment in certain cases, even if the patient is not terminally ill. In Germany, this has been forbidden by law since the end of World War II. Although the court decision was made in the case of a comatose patient, the decision has general implications and can be used for all kinds of other patient groups as well.

The European Doctors Action is connected to the World Federation of Doctors Who Respect Human Life—one of the most important organizations of this kind in Europe.

Also, the group, Head Trauma Patients in Need, a federal German association,

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which cares for comatose patients and patients with severe brain injuries, as well as their relatives, has been alerted. They raised an alarm in their latest magazine against the plans of the European Commission to hold a Dec. 8-9 conference in Bonn, discussing "the best way" and the "criteria" being used in killing comatose patients. The title of the conference is: "The moral issues surrounding the treatment and health care of patients in a persistent vegetative state"; the conference is part of a so-called "Biomed 1" Program of the Commission of the European Union, which is being used to promote so-called bioethical pretexts for pulling the plug on patients who are deemed to be useless eaters.

Another strong-arm move against Venezuelan party

The party registration of the Venezuelan Labor Party (PLV) was arbitrarily cancelled by Venezuela's Supreme Electoral Tribunal, through a deliberately malicious reading of an ambiguous electoral rule. The law established that a party would lose its registration if it failed to obtain 1% of the vote in a general election, or if it failed to participate in two consecutive general elections. The PLV opted out of one election, in 1993, after consulting with the then-members of the Electoral Council.

However, on Aug. 16 of this year, the new Electoral Council, whose majority is made up by the Democratic Action party (one faction of which is controlled by the impeached President Carlos Andrés Pérez), Causa R (the Castroite party), and the faction of President Rafael Caldera's COPEI party close to the Mont Pelerin Society, issued a resolution saying that because the PLV had failed to obtain 1% of the vote cast in the 1993 elections (in which it did not participate), and had failed to re-register, its registration was annulled.

Outside of a legal notice printed in the Official Registry, the PLV was not even notified of the decision, and it was only by

accident that it learned that it was no longer a political party with legal standing.

All the information available at this time, indicates that the prime mover of the decision was David Morales Bello, Democratic Action's representative on the Electoral Council. *EIR* also learned that Morales Bello's law firm was the legal brains behind the unsuccessful attempts by banking tycoon Gustavo Cisneros to silence the PLV through the criminal lawsuit and attempted imprisonment—and murder—of its leader, Alejandro Peña, last year.

Sri Lankans seek Australian Tamil Tiger

The Sri Lankan Army is searching for Adele Balasingham, an Australian and former nurse, as a pivotal figure in the Tamil Tigers separatist band which has been terrorizing Sri Lanka and neighboring parts of India, it was reported in an Australian paper, *The Age*, on Nov. 3.

Brig. Sarath Munasinghe, the Army's spokesman, claims that Adele Balasingham has been active in the political indoctrination of girls as young as 12, some of whom have later been sent on suicide bombing missions. "She has been teaching these children for years. We believe she is still very active in the Tigers' leadership. She goes around meeting these youngsters. She talks about Australia and the world. For the children of Jaffna today, who have no television and radio, the world for them is Adele Balasingham," he said.

Mrs. Balasingham has been training young female recruits in the jungles of the northern Jaffna peninsula since the early 1980s. She was born Adele Wilby in Warragul, Victoria, and joined the Tigers after marrying Dr. Anton Balasingham, a Tamil Marxist whom she met while studying in London in the 1970s. Her husband is a key lieutenant of Velupillai Prabhakaran, the commander of Tamil Tigers. She writes a monthly column in the Tigers' newspaper, *Inside Report*.

● **Buenos Aires** television aired a 25-minute interview with *EIR*'s correspondent Gerardo Terán for the first time since the magazine opened its bureau in Argentina's capital. The interview on CableVision's Channel 52, dealing with the financial crisis and Lyndon LaRouche's ninth economic forecast, was broadcast on Nov. 2 and 4.

● **Bulgaria's** Communists hosted 29 parties loyal to the ideology of Marx and Lenin, on Nov. 4-5 in Sofia to found a new International. The congress attracted parties from the East and the West, including from France, Germany, Turkey, Albania and "Yugoslavia" (Serbia).

● **A Colombian** government report issued by the Comptroller General's office, says that 20 of the country's 42 national parks and reserves are serving as operational centers for the country's guerrilla forces, and another 15 are "no-man's lands" used by the drug traffickers. Six others were identified as "the site of frequent skirmishes between the military and armed bandits."

● **Excélsior**, the major Mexico City newspaper, referred to Lyndon LaRouche's U.S. Presidential candidacy on Nov. 3. José Neme Salum, the chief economic correspondent, wrote under the headline, "Limits to Globalization: The Financial Titanic," and advised that people desperate about the crisis should read LaRouche's writings.

● **Canadian** Prime Minister Jean Chrétien and his wife were threatened by an armed intruder Nov. 4, who is now in custody, facing multiple charges, potentially including attempted murder. The incident occurred in Ottawa just 12 hours after the shooting of Rabin.

● **European** sources are indicating that the U.S. may be interested in having Sam Nunn, who is leaving the U.S. Senate, replace retiring Willy Claes as NATO secretary general.