

# International Intelligence

## ***Camorra 'cocaine king' arrested in Barcelona***

In a joint anti-narcotics operation with Italian authorities, Spanish police arrested Antonio Bardellino in Barcelona on Nov. 3, along with three top aides. Bardellino, the highest-ranking leader of the Neapolitan Camorra out of jail, had been based in Barcelona for the last four months, distributing a significant part of the cocaine which is sent from Latin America to Europe.

Known as "the cocaine king," Bardellino paid for narcotics with arms bought in Belgium and Germany. One of his larger deals was the exchange of five Centurion and five Leopard tanks to Central American countries for narcotics. In addition to heroin, cocaine, and prostitution rings, Bardellino also ran a tobacco contraband operation.

Spanish government sources have denounced Reynolds Corporation of America for supplying tobacco contraband in industrial quantities to dealers such as Bardellino.

Seagram's Edgar Bronfman, whose name is often mentioned in connection with the upper reaches of the international dope business, will soon arrive in Madrid to visit President Gonzalez and other leading political figures.

## ***Colombian union head hails LaRouche candidacy***

Jorge Carrillo Rocha, secretary general of the Colombian trade union federation *Uraboc*, welcomed the presidential campaign of *EIR* founder Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr., in an interview with *EIR* in Bogota Nov. 9. "The ideas of Mr. LaRouche are well known in this country," he said. "What I would like to see from his campaign is that the U.S. population understands the full range of his proposals."

Carrillo, who is a founding member of the Club of Life, declared, "It is possible that, because of the very breadth and size of the U.S. population, the program of Mr. LaRouche may not be well known yet. But I know that it is well known in Brazil, in Argentina, in Colombia, in Europe, and in

India. . . .

"The U.S. has a problem of leadership, which it is losing. We, free and democratic trade unionists and friends of the U.S. population, express our concern that our leading ally is losing ground in this respect. So we are happy to see programs for industrial recovery, to end unemployment, to improve agricultural production, to allow American scientists to continue their research for the benefit of humanity unimpeded, without taking away from the defense industry. We understand in this context the importance of the proposal for developing defensive beam weapons.

"So this to us is the significance of Mr. LaRouche's campaign. He may not make it to the presidency, but this does not mean his ideas will not proliferate everywhere."

Carrillo, whose full interview will appear in an upcoming *EIR*, called for the countries of Ibero-America to form a debtors' club and declare a debt moratorium, following the example of Colombian President Olaya Herrera who announced a moratorium in 1933.

## ***Mubarak speaks in defense of Arafat***

Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak remains the only Arab leader to issue a strong public plea not only for the survival of the Palestine Liberation Organization but for the resolution of the Palestinian problem.

In a speech before Egypt's Consultative Council and the People's Assembly Nov. 6, Mubarak declared: "I do not believe that the emergence of a new PLO leadership will help solve, but will rather further complicate the problem. . . . We consider Yasser Arafat's leadership extremely important, and I do not believe that there is a leader in the PLO at the present time who can replace Arafat if he is removed from his position."

In early November, the director general of the Israeli foreign ministry, David Kimche, visited Cairo to confer with Egyptian Foreign Minister Hassan Ali, reportedly on the prospects for resuming the Palestinian autonomy talks under the rubric of Camp David.

It was also revealed that Kimche regis-

tered Israel's concern about the possibility that Egypt may become the eventual place of exile of Arafat. It has been a longstanding Egyptian position that Arafat, who has family members in Cairo, could come to Cairo and form a government in exile.

## ***Venezuela: 'We'll help Grenada—Keep Brits out'***

Venezuelan officials have officially offered to participate in any way necessary in the reconstruction of Grenada, including sending troops for the period of pacification. Their immediate concern is to keep additional British forces out of the hemisphere.

Venezuela became worried when it was reported that British troops might be deployed to Grenada as part of a Commonwealth force replacing American marines. Shortly after those reports, Venezuela's foreign ministry issued a statement expressing Venezuela's rejection of any British troop deployment to the island, which lies only 120 kilometers off Venezuela's coast.

In a follow-up statement Nov. 10, Jose Rodríguez Iturbe, head of the Foreign Relations Advisory Commission, reiterated that while Venezuela will wait for more details on proposals for a multinational force on Grenada before commenting, it must be stated emphatically that any such force should not include any "extra-continental forces," but only forces from the Western hemisphere.

The same day, Venezuelan Foreign Minister Zambrano Velasco told the press that Venezuela "is prepared to assume responsibilities for the institutional normalization of Grenada. . . . We also are interested in seeing that the process of internationalization does not continue, but instead that, in the measure possible, the regional dimension of what happens there be recovered." The foreign minister officially communicated the offer to the U.S. government in a private meeting with U.S. Ambassador George Landau, who called it "interesting," but added that no decisions had been taken.

In a separate interview, Venezuela's defense minister, General Alcalde Álvarez, made explicit the offer to send troops. Lead-

ers of the opposition party, Acción Democrática, favorites in Venezuela's Dec. 4 elections, lent their support, if in a slightly weaker manner, to the proposal.

## ***Soviets unleash PCF against Mitterrand***

The Moscow-controlled French Communist Party (PCF), has launched a series of actions to shake the Mitterrand government and France and tie its hands in foreign policy. The Communists, led by Georges Marchais, are coalition partners in the government with Mitterrand's Socialists, and hold four cabinet portfolios.

The Socialists have a large parliamentary majority, but the perspective of social and labor unrest led by the PCF is not an easy one for them to face at a time when most Socialist Party supporters have been hit by the depression and economic austerity measures.

● Communist chief Marchais on Nov. 15 charged the Socialist Party with responsibility for a streak of five by-elections lost by the ruling coalition of Socialists and Communists, in which the PCF lost especially heavily.

● Henri Krasucki, the Communist head of the country's largest labor union, the 1.5 million strong CGT, announced a new "wage offensive" after a long lull on the labor front.

● The Communist chairman of the National Coal Board, Central Committee member Georges Valbon, suddenly announced his resignation, arguing that the Socialist government's rejection of the Communists' "let us produce [expensive and inefficient] French coal" policy prevented him from implementing his programs to "save French coal." This may foreshadow a collective resignation of the four Communist ministers.

Mitterrand's "sin" seems to be that France has been the most resistant of the major Western European powers to the strategy of decoupling Europe from the United States. On Nov. 16, the French President went on national TV to say that "The present crisis is the most serious the world has known since Berlin and Cuba," and warn

of the Soviet attempt to split NATO. The next day, French jets raided terrorist command centers in Lebanon.

Defense Minister Charles Hernu has indicated receptivity to President Reagan's beam-weapons defense policy, which the Soviets violently oppose.

## ***'A laser shield for common European defense'***

An important member of the French opposition party, Jacques Chirac's RPR, called on the front page of *Le Figaro* for common European development of a beam weapons defensive shield.

"The shield of the atomic age will soon appear," wrote French academician Maurice Druon on Nov. 16. "It will be placed in space, made of satellites equipped with lasers able to detect massive destruction missiles at their departure and to destroy them in flight. . . . It is going to be actualized, and . . . the two superpowers are hastily building it. The whole strategy of strategic weapons will be transformed."

"This defense system is within the political and technical abilities of Europe. Nations don't need to wait for a remote and difficult establishment of a confederal power to find an agreement. The States, as they presently are, can face it, without questioning their national sovereignty. All the needed technology is available to Europe. It is only a question of agreement and will—joining our means and sharing the costs, to be able to build a shield in the sky."

Maurice Druon is a famous figure of the Resistance (he was radio propagandist in London and wrote the well-known *Chant des Partisans*) and a member of the Central committee of the RPR. His statement is a reflection of the impact that the Parti Ouvrier Européen, led by Lyndon LaRouche's collaborators in France, has had on the patriotic section of the country's elite in promoting beam-weapons defense.

The RPR stand could influence Socialist President Mitterrand and his defense minister, Charles Hernu, who will need help from Chirac's party to resist Communist-led efforts to destabilize France.

## ***Briefly***

● **AYATOLLAH MONTAZERI**, the heir apparent to Khomeini, in a meeting with the families of martyrs, said that "Had there not been this war and the resulting disasters, the talents and capabilities of the young generation would have remained idle."

● **SHAPOUR BAKHTIAR** and Ali Amini, both former prime ministers of Iran, denounced the bomb attacks on the headquarters of the U.S. and French peace-keeping forces in Lebanon, in a statement issued in Paris Oct. 27. The two leaders added that no one should mistakenly identify the Iranian people with the terrorist regime of the Islamic republic.

● **THE SNTE** (Mexican teachers union) rubbed it in for the fascist PAN party, which was set back in this month's elections in the state of Sinaloa: They published an ad in *Excelsior* Nov. 7 saying that "Reactionaries like [PAN spokesman Manuel] Clouthier and [candidate] del Rincon should know that most, if not all the citizens that voted against them last November 6 were educated and oriented by the teachers of Sinaloa belonging to this union, and we openly confess we teach the history of Mexico denouncing the role the traitors have played in Mexico, the ideological ancestors of Clouthier and the PAN. . . ."

● **JACQUES VERGES**, an old friend of Pol Pot who is now the attorney for Nazi war criminal Klaus Barbie, has been trying to make the trial "backfire" by spotlighting the betrayals within the French Resistance of World War II. Patriotic anti-Nazi networks began to fight back, as was signaled by a mid-November article in the new weekly *Hebdo* magazine. *Hebdo* began to detail Verges's connection to both the Nazi International of François Genoud, and to nominally "left-wing" terrorism.