

National News

Hunt assassination: message to Reagan and Bush

Red Brigade networks acting on orders from the Palestinians were responsible for the Feb. 15 assassination of U.S. intelligence official Leiman Hunt in Rome, according to the Italian newspaper *Corriere della Sera* of Feb. 17. *EIR* has also received information pointing to Shi'ite networks acting under orders from Moscow, with complicity from the Sharon faction in Israel.

This jointly sanctioned hit occurred just hours after Hunt, one of the top American military-intelligence specialists in the Mediterranean region, left the company of Vice President George Bush, who was in Rome for a quick series of confidential meetings with Italian government and Vatican officials. According to a knowledgeable U.S. intelligence source, "The Shi'ites have surveillance on every leading American intelligence and military official in the region. If the opportunity had presented itself, they would have killed Bush. Instead, they went after a target who was as close to Bush as you could get."

Hunt, the head of the U.N. peacekeeping force monitoring the Sinai accords, was reportedly arriving at his home in a Rome suburb when his armored car was cut off entering the steel-gated driveway by a Fiat 110 carrying two "olive-skinned men." The two immediately opened fire at the rear bullet-proofed window of Hunt's car with Barretta submachine guns. Hunt traveled under tight security with a second trail car carrying two armed Italian security officers, but for reasons not yet explained, that trail car became lost or diverted blocks away from the scene of the attack, just seconds before the Fiat approached Hunt's car.

Hunt was a top U.S. security official specializing in recent years in Mediterranean affairs. He maintained a very low public profile in Rome and was not a widely identified target. His assassination came within a day of a White House meeting be-

tween President Reagan and Egyptian President Mubarak at which the Egyptian head of state reportedly complained to the President that the Kissinger-Shultz-McFarlane circles in the State Department had systematically edited or blocked personal messages to Reagan concerning attempted Egyptian initiatives in the Lebanon and other Middle East crisis situations.

'Slaughter' Schlaudeman named Reagan envoy

Harry Schlaudeman, the new special presidential envoy to Central America who replaced Richard Stone on Feb. 17, is expected to promote social chaos and bloodshed in Central America as the Kissinger Commission on Central America, of which he served as executive director, obliquely prescribed in its final report.

The *Wall Street Journal* pointed out Feb. 17 that one of the conclusions of the Kissinger report, which Schlaudeman helped write, is that "overpopulation" in Central America is a threat to U.S. national security. The problem is not so much that people are having too many children, "but of a death dearth," states the article.

Even if Central Americans suddenly stop having children, "There will still be bewildering population growth for decades because of the high proportion of young men and women now in or coming into their prime reproduction ages," states the article. "I don't know what the answer is, but someone better come up with it damned soon." Schlaudeman, who promoted genocidal policies in Chile, Argentina, and Peru, considers himself qualified for the job.

Courts say national defense is illegal

Two recent federal court decisions mean at least a temporary halt to all U.S. nuclear power-plant start-ups, and a serious com-

promise of the war-fighting ability of U.S. nuclear submarines.

In Michigan, federal judge Barbara Crabb issued a permanent injunction Feb. 1 halting work on the U.S. Navy's Extremely Low Frequency (ELF) radio transmission system for communication with U.S. ballistic-missile submarines. The ELF system would be the first and only system capable of communicating with U.S. submarines on station at significant ocean depths. Without ELF, there is no means to communicate with submarines below 30 meters' depth in the event of a Soviet nuclear attack.

In Washington, D.C., the U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals overturned a 1982 ruling of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission that would have eliminated the "financial qualification review" necessary for obtaining a nuclear power plant construction permit or operating license. According to the *Baltimore Sun*, the court decision "put at least a temporary hold on all plans to put new nuclear power reactors into operation anywhere in the nation."

After the Michigan decision, Wisconsin Gov. Anthony Earl, who helped bring the case to court, told UPI that he was happy with the ruling because "I surely think that this will give assistance to a lot of people across the country to try and stop offensive projects."

New York Times puffs 'Temple Mount' maniacs

In its high-circulation Sunday edition of Feb. 12, the *New York Times* announced its de facto support for the forces committed to dynamiting the Muslim holy shrine of the Dome of the Rock and rebuilding Solomon's Temple on that spot.

The Feb. 11 *Times* article, under the innocuous title, "Jews Return to Arab Area in Jerusalem," praises precisely the figures identified in the *EIR* Special Report issued last April, "The Jerusalem Temple Mount: Trigger for Fundamentalist Holy Wars." "At the Torat Cohanim Yeshiva, the laws of sacrifice and cleansing are being studied—laws

Briefly

● **IZVESTIYA** endorsed Walter Mondale for President of the United States Feb. 12: "Observers attribute the former Vice-President's growth in popularity to his recent political pronouncements condemning the militarist course of the present American administration. For instance, he has underlined the importance of conducting a constructive dialogue with the Soviet Union with the aim of halting the arms race. He has called for talks aimed at achieving a mutual and verifiable freeze on the nuclear arsenals of the two countries. . . . In the area of domestic politics, Mondale accuses R. Reagan of having 'placed a burden on the shoulders of low and middle-income Americans, while doing everything to spare the rich.'

● **STAN EZROL** of *EIR* opened the question period at the Feb. 15 press conference of British Labour Party leader Neil Kinnock: "It is reported that in his home, [Druse leader and Second International vice-president Walid] Jumblatt has swastikas and photos of Adolf Hitler on the wall. Have you been there? Have you seen this? Is it consistent with membership in the Socialist International?" A somewhat less relaxed Kinnock said, "I haven't been to Mr. Jumblatt's home and I really don't see what this has to do with a press conference on my meeting with President Reagan."

● **THE NATIONAL** Democratic Policy Committee received notification Feb. 16 that a New York judge has dismissed a libel suit against the committee by Petra Kelly, a leader of West Germany's Green Party. The Kelly complaint resulted from a June 1982 *New Solidarity* article which accurately depicted the political and sexual proclivities of the Green Party leader. While the case proceeds against *New Solidarity* and other parties, the charge against the NDPC was dropped because the plaintiff could not show any connection between the committee and the alleged libel.

applicable to worship at the temple."

This Yeshiva and its sister institution, the Birkat Avraham Yeshiva, also mentioned by the *Times*, were identified by *EIR* as currently performing pagan animal sacrifices in tunnels under the Temple Mount. The figure named by *EIR* as the top Yeshiva leader performing the animal sacrifices, Mattityahu Hacohen, is portrayed by the *Times* as a devout young man who lives in the old quarter with his wife and one-year-old son and takes tea with his Arab neighbors.

But the *Times* finds it necessary to quote Jerusalem Mayor Teddy Kollek on the Yeshiva: "Quite a number among them are ex-convicts."

The fact that the *Times* has chosen to run this story is an indication of how far the Temple Mount scenario has advanced. During *EIR*'s investigation during the spring of 1983, Barbara Ledeen, wife of Kissinger-asset and "universal fascism" propagandist Michael Ledeen, was asked whether she had worked with the *Times* on the Temple Mount. "We'd love to get their help, but they just won't touch it. It's sort of controversial."

McGovern: FEC a 'Frankenstein monster'

Democratic Presidential candidate George McGovern denounced the Federal Election Commission (FEC) as a "bunch of nit-picking peanut-brains" Feb. 11 and called for its abolition.

McGovern made his comments after receiving word that the FEC had continued to deny him federal matching funds monies. Excerpts from his statement follow:

"The Federal Election Commission is the worst bureaucratic nightmare ever devised by the human mind. We have created a Frankenstein monster that is threatening to strangle political campaigns in a maze of useless regulations, maddening red tape, costly compliance harassment, and sterile paper shuffling.

"After struggling for several months* with the nit-picking peanut-brains who staff this agency, I think that the Congress should

move immediately to abolish the whole bureaucratic mess. For 22 years, I dealt with virtually every agency of the U. S. government. In all these years I have never encountered any governmental agency so paralyzing and frustrating as the FEC. The only advantage that I can see to putting presidential candidates through in confrontation with the FEC torture chamber is that any candidate who survives and is elected will find negotiating with the Russians a comparatively easy and pleasant experience. . . .

"I do not lose sleep worrying about my political rivals. My enemy now is the Federal Elections Commission and the misguided reformers who devised this sabotage of the American electoral process."

UPI wire on LaRouche suit against NBC

The text of a UPI nationwide wire on The LaRouche Campaign's \$60 million lawsuit against NBC, sent out Feb. 15, is excerpted below:

"Alexandria, Va. (UPI)—Long-shot presidential candidate Lyndon LaRouche Jr., has sued NBC-TV for \$60 million for calling his race a 'campaign of hate' followers 'extremists in three-piece suits.'

"Edward Spannaus, treasurer of LaRouche's campaign, headquartered in New York, said Tuesday that NBC refused LaRouche time to respond to allegations against him in its broadcasts and never interviewed him.

"The defamation lawsuit, filed Friday in U.S. District Court, said broadcasts last month on the NBC Nightly News and a longer program planned for future airing on First Camera tarnished LaRouche's reputation and damaged his ability to raise campaign funds.

"The lawsuit . . . also names the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith; Brian Ross and Pat Lynch of NBC; Abbott Rosen of the Anti-Defamation League; Chip Berlet, a contributing editor of the *High Times* magazine, and Dennis King, a free-lance writer from New York."