

International Intelligence

Brazilians hear LaRouche anti-drug plan

Lorenzo Carrasco Bazua, *EIR*'s correspondent in Rio de Janeiro, opened the first meeting of the Federal Drug Commission of the new Brazilian government on May 7 with a 20-minute presentation on Lyndon LaRouche's 14-point "War on Drugs" program.

The Commission consists of representatives of all government agencies involved in the drug fight, including the foreign and health ministries, the army, and the Federal Police. Each representative received a copy of the LaRouche program, in Portuguese. The program was carried in full in English in the April 2, 1985 issue of *EIR* (page 36).

The program, which is in the form of a military general-staff order for the elimination of illegal drug traffic in the Western Hemisphere, proposes that the Hemisphere's governments enter into "a treaty of alliance for conduct of war," under which auspices a joint military command is to be established.

"The international drug traffic," LaRouche told a March 13 conference in Mexico City, where he first unveiled the proposal, "has become an evil and powerful government in its own right, a financial, political, and military power greater than that of entire nations. It is a government which is making a war against civilized nations, a government upon which we must declare war, a war which we must fight with the weapons of war and which we must win in the same spirit the United States fought for the unconditional defeat of Nazism."

Christian Democrats regain lead in Italy

The Italian Christian Democracy (DC) regained its status as the most popular party in Italy in recent regional, provincial, and municipal elections. The Communist-Socialist city councils of Rome, Turin, and Milan were defeated.

There was concern that the Italian Com-

munists, who had garnered the most votes during European parliamentary elections last year, would also come out on top in this polling. However, the May 12 voting proved otherwise.

A very important factor was the Vatican's support for the Christian Democracy—in Rome, for example, where a Communist regime fell before a "Re-Christianize Rome" campaign. Overall, the DC received an official 33.8% of the popular vote, the Communists only 28.7%.

Another critical element in the outcome was the up-front support for the U.S. Strategic Defense Initiative by Premier Bettino Craxi, a Socialist: A week before the elections, Craxi had a meeting with the secretaries of the five parties in the government and was able to obtain their unanimous support for President Reagan's policy. Craxi's Socialists received a record vote of 14.8%.

The Green Party slate got as high as 2% of the vote—the first time it fielded a slate—8% in Trento, 4.4% in Venice. They and the neo-fascist MSI of Giorgio Almirante were the big winners in Bolzano, a center of "Tyrolean separatism." The MSI jumped from 6.3% to 22.6% of the vote, and the Greens received 8%. The Christian Democrats and the Communists lost about 5% a piece.

AFSC joins East Germans against SDI

"We will be contacting the East German church, to join our campaign against 'Star Wars,'" an American Friends Services Committee official at the AFSC's Philadelphia headquarters told a caller. "We are, today, translating our anti-Star Wars petition into German, to circulate to the Protestant churches in East and West Germany. We have direct contacts in East Berlin, through the Theological Studies Department there, and with the East German Federation of Protestant Churches. We know the East German church is concerned with the Star Wars developments."

In the United States, the AFSC petition against "Star Wars" has been signed by two leading Roman Catholic Bishops, Gumble-

ton of Detroit and Sullivan of Richmond, Virginia. Called, "We Have No Faith in Star Wars," the petition has been signed by 37 individuals to date, including Rep. Walter Fauntroy and National Council of Churches International Affairs Director Duane Epps. Epps is chief NCC liaison with the Moscow Patriarchate of the Russian Orthodox Church.

"We reject any system of security based on fear and intimidation," the petition reads. "This plan would lead to the material and spiritual impoverishment of our people." How the SDI, and the industrial revolution that would accompany it, would impoverish anybody, the petition does not explain.

Soviets publish Israeli communiqué

For the first time since Israel and the U.S.S.R. broke diplomatic relations in 1967, the Soviet press has published a message from an Israeli leader. The government paper *Izvestia* published the May 8 message from Israeli President Chaim Herzog, praising the role of the Red Army in World War II.

According to one Middle East source, there are other recent signs of an Israeli-Soviet rapprochement, including the granting by Soviet authorities of a visa to a correspondent of Israel Radio, to cover the May 8-9 celebrations in Moscow of the World War II victory.

Venezuelan calls ban on book political error

The recent banning of *EIR*'s book, *Narcotráfico, SA (Dope, Inc.)* in Venezuela, was the subject of a question by *EIR* Washington correspondent Dolia E. Pettingell to Aristides Calvani, head of Venezuela's COPEI party, at the May 7-11 conference of the National Democratic Institute for International Affairs in Washington.

"A little while ago, an editorial in *Resumen* magazine of Caracas questioned the freedom of expression in your country be-

Briefly

cause the circulation of a book entitled *Narcotráfico SA* was prohibited there. What commentary can you make?"

He replied: "This has set off a big scandal in Venezuela. This scandal is still on the table. I don't think it can be judged. I am absolutely not trying to defend the measure, but one simply cannot judge a political regime by one of its errors. I would say, the judicial structure is there. Make use of it and fight."

"Was it an error that this book was banned?" asked Pettingell.

"Look, I don't know the text of the book. So, in order to have an opinion, one should be informed first, and I am not informed. What I say is that in principle, I don't like prohibition measures. But there are also judicial regulations that have to be respected."

The book was banned, and *EIR* correspondents expelled, in January at the insistence of the powerful Cisneros family, which the book linked to international money-laundering networks.

Genscher goes public against the SDI

West German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher told the parliament in Bonn on May 14 that European governments "must still work out their position" on the U.S. Strategic Defense Initiative. He referred to the French Eureka program as a "possible European alternative to just being a sub-partner in the SDI." The Eureka envisages non-military research in technologies related to the SDI. The French have refused to participate in the American program.

Genscher added: "What is bad for the French can't be good for us, and vice versa."

Reportedly, the West German intelligence agency, BND, also attacked the SDI in a private study presented to the Chancellor's office at the end of 1984. According to *Der Spiegel* magazine, the BND cited "technological problems and possible counter-measures" to argue that successful defense of the United States "must be evaluated on a rather skeptical basis. Chances for the European allies of NATO to defend themselves

against strategic offensive weapons of the Warsaw Pact are even lower."

BND networks friendly to Genscher reportedly produced the evaluation.

When Genscher's Free Democrats (FDP), met in Bonn on May 13 to discuss how to capitalize on the election defeat of Chancellor Kohl's Christian Democrats in North Rhine-Westphalia a day earlier, party manager Helmut Haussmann told journalists that Kohl must "consider more thoroughly Genscher's proposals for peace and arms control"—i.e., Moscow's proposals.

Greek Socialists: U.S. is security threat

Greece's governing pro-Soviet Socialist Party released a policy program on May 13 which states that U.S. military bases on Greek soil, which provide support and anchorage facilities to the Sixth Fleet in the Mediterranean and serve as communications and surveillance centers for NATO's southern flank, are a security threat to Greece.

The program said the bases "undermine our national defense and expose us to the danger of extinction in the event of nuclear war."

The Socialist government is headed by Andreas Papandreou, and recently tore up the 1975 republican constitution of Greece, replacing its author, Constantine Karamanlis, with a figurehead President.

U.N. leader warns of African genocide

The president of the U.N.'s World Food Council, Eugene Whelan, said in an interview published in the *Toronto Star* on May 13 that developed countries must boost aid to Africa, or "be guilty of the worst bit of genocide the world has ever seen."

Whelan, formerly Canada's agriculture minister, said he visited six African countries where one million have died through drought and famine. "There's no excuse for it, because we know what's going on."

● **SPAIN'S** President Felipe Gonzalez guardedly endorsed the U.S. defense program in a May 13 interview with Mexico's *Excelsior*. "If you have a new arrow, man always seeks a shield. The Soviets are doing it discreetly. The research phase is not public."

● **MENDEZ ARCEO**, the former "Red Bishop of Cuernavaca," said on May 9 that a recent interview of Russian Metropolitan Filaret (Vakhromeyev) in the Italian communist paper *L'Unità*, praising Liberation Theology, shows the possibility of a dialogue between the Catholic and Orthodox churches.

● **GUSTAVO CISNEROS** told an *El Nacional* interviewer in Caracas that small parties "get in the way of democracy" and of a functioning "two-party system." His family had *EIR's Narcotráfico, SA* banned in Venezuela, and is now seeking to ban smaller parties opposed to drugs, such as the Venezuelan Labor Party (PLV). The PLV qualified for party status in February, but certification has been delayed while Cisneros's forces prepare changes in the law.

● **ARGENTINE** leaders of the Peronist CGT labor confederation met with Cardinal Raul Primatesta, head of the nation's bishops council, on May 8; they agreed to coordinate on economic issues. A working document presented by the CGT drew its first paragraph from Pope John Paul II's teachings on the dignity of labor, and condemned "international usury."

● **DAVID B. FUNDERBURK**, U.S. ambassador to Romania, resigned recently because the State Department had dismissed evidence collected by his embassy in Bucharest which testified to growing Romanian dependence on the Soviet Union.