

# International Intelligence

## **Presidents pledge joint war against drugs**

U.S. President Ronald Reagan and Colombian President Belisario Betancur issued a joint statement April 4, after two days of talks in Washington, D.C., pledging an "irreversible" dedication to win the war against drugs. "Drug trafficking is a criminal activity that has no frontiers and can only be controlled by a combined effort of all countries involved," the Presidents declared, underlining the "terrible effect drug abuse has on the health and well-being of the individual users, as well as more generally on the economies and public morality of both societies."

The joint statement hits the banking structure which takes in hundreds of billions of dollars a year through laundering drug money, emphasizing that "the financial power resulting from the enormous profits of illicit narcotics trade poses a terrible threat to democracy."

The Presidents' communiqué was blacked out in the U.S. press.

## **Split in Spanish CP will activate insurgency**

The Spanish Communist Party (PCE) split into two factions at the end of March, a "retooling" which will pave the way for increased radical-Jacobin activation of the labor movement.

The "traditional Euro-communist" PCE, in the process of expelling long-time party leader Santiago Carrillo, will now move to incite mass-based anti-NATO sentiment, and assimilate a number of movements to the left of the Socialist Party—including ecologists, pacifists, Trotskyists, and regionalist groupings. The strongmen of this faction is Nicolas Sartorius de las Asturias y Alvarez de Bohorquez, secretary general of the Politburo, a nobleman whose brother is ambassador to Finland, and Julio Anguita ("the Red Caliph"), mayor of Cordoba and recipient of millions of dollars of Arab funds.

In the other faction, Cominternist Carrillo will likely join the pro-Soviet, pro-separatist Partido Comunista de los Pueblos de Espana (PCPE), created in 1984 by Ignacio Gallego, who already controls the powerful Andalusian branch of the Communist Trade Union, CCOO.

A reactivation of the anarchist trade union, Confederacion Nacional de Trabajadores, can also be expected.

## **Italy charts its participation in SDI**

A conference on beam-weapon defense organized by the Schiller Institute and the Fusion Energy Foundation (FEF) in Rome on March 29 was attended by 100 people, with particularly strong representation from the Italian military-industrial complex.

The general staffs of the army, navy, and air force were represented by high officials, and researchers also attended from the defense ministry, which has formed a new defense commission to study the areas in which Italy can contribute to the Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI). Also well-represented were companies which produce lasers, tracking systems, radar, ships, airplanes, and precision materials for NASA, as well as researchers in these fields.

Also present were diplomats from various African and Asian countries, journalists, and candidates of the European Labor Party in Italy (POE).

The conference was opened by a message of greeting from the Christian Democratic group in the Italian Senate, read by Gen. (ret.) Giulio Macri. POE chairman Fiorella Operto spoke on the strategic importance of economic policy, showing a videotaped program by Lyndon LaRouche on the Russian strategic threat. Jonathan Tenenbaum, the chairman of the FEF in West Germany, and EIR's European Executive Director Michael Liebig outlined a proposal for a European air defense. Prof. Forrest Tierson of the U.S. Space Foundation in Colorado conveyed the message that President Reagan's offer of technology transfer to the Europeans is "a real offer," which

Europe should accept quickly. Italian FEF director Giuseppe Filippini discussed the role Italy can play in European-American cooperation, emphasizing that "the first cooperation should be against the IMF's austerity policy."

## **Italian secret services in anti-terror crackdown**

Italian Prime Minister Bettino Craxi announced early in April that the secret services will be increasingly involved in the fight against terrorism and organized crime, because of the connections "between international groups and the mafia in drugs and weapons smuggling." He emphasized that all terrorist actions have been "clearly anti-NATO and anti-Western."

Behind this crackdown against terrorism, a bitter fight is raging between the Italian Communist Party (PCI) and the government, with the Socialist Party newspaper *Avanti* charging on April 5 that the communists are trying to topple the government and assume the reins of power directly for the first time.

PCI security expert Senator Peccioli has accused Craxi and Interior Minister Oscar Luigi Scalfaro of using terrorism as an excuse to prevent the PCI from taking power. He insists that terrorism is a purely domestic affair, and that there is no Soviet involvement in it. Peccioli in turn was denounced by the editor of *Avanti*, who wrote that "in the second half of the '70s, when terrorism was unleashed and the secret services were largely polluted, Senator Peccioli, who contributed to appointing these people, was defending them and certainly not criticizing them."

## **Cabinet votes to make France ungovernable**

The French cabinet announced on April 3 that the present majority polling system which was set up by President Charles de

## Briefly

● **ARIEL SHARON**, Israel's minister of trade and industry, told the newspaper *Hadashot* April 5 that he would make a bid to become the next prime minister in the 1988 elections. One of the foundations of his campaign, he stated, will be to deny legitimate national status to Jordan, which he referred to as "Transjordan." Said Sharon: "My political ideas have not changed since I was a child. I don't think for a minute that Transjordan is not part of Israel."

● **ERHARD EPPLER**, the top Green guru of the West German Social Democratic Party and a leading official of the Lutheran church, claimed in an Easter message which appeared in the Lutherans' weekly *Sonntagsblatt* on April 5 that Christians must oppose the U.S. Strategic Defense Initiative, "because God created man to be vulnerable . . . and the SDI aims at invulnerability."

● **LICIO GELLI**, the leader of Italy's Propaganda-2 Freemasonic lodge, has been exposed as a Nazi-communist by the Catholic weekly *Famiglia Cristiana*. "In 1945 Gelli was saved from a death sentence by the communist mayor of Pistoia," the magazine reported in a late-1984 exposé. "A member of the Italian Communist Party until 1955, he owned a bookshop which was investigated as a base for spies from the East bloc." Later Gelli founded the P-2 lodge, which was involved in many attempted fascist coups d'état. Gelli went to Argentina in 1955 to mediate trade between South America and the Comcon, the article added.

● **A SOVIET-IRANIAN** Economic Commission will be revived soon, as an Iranian foreign ministry delegation led by Sheikh Hussein Islamzadeh arrived in Moscow early in April to discuss closer technical and economic cooperation between Teheran and Moscow. The visit came just a week after the visit to Moscow of Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz.

Gaulle in 1958 will be changed into a proportional polling system for the next 1986 legislative elections.

This will make France ungovernable, because it will be impossible for President François Mitterrand—or anyone else—to achieve a political majority in the National Assembly. Mitterrand is already being referred to by pollsters as "Mr. 20%," and a proportional polling system would reduce his party's seats in parliament substantially. The new system means that the President of the Republic will have to build a majority from the various political formations.

Commenting on the plan, *Liberation* columnist Serge July, considered to be a spokesman for Mitterrand, wrote on April 4 that this will make it possible for the Socialist Party to affirm its "Social Democratic identity," as the Social Democratic Party has done in West Germany. The new polling system will free the Socialist Party from the Communists, he claimed, who will play a more "strategic" role.

### *Syria plans second front in Gulf war*

The four-year war between Iran and Iraq is expected to spread to most of the Persian Gulf and Mideast region by late spring at the latest, informed intelligence sources in the Mideast and Europe report. Backed by Soviet and Bulgarian technical advisers, Syria is reportedly planning to open a second front against Iraq. This would involve cutting off the Euphrates River, a move which would coincide with a renewed Iranian military offensive.

Under the cover of large-scale agricultural development, Damascus intends to build an irrigation canal between Aleppo and Lake Assad, at the level where the Belikh River flows into the Euphrates. This would close down the most important dam on the river a few kilometers below, threatening the city of Baghdad with a severe water shortage.

A similar maneuver in 1975 brought Baghdad and Damascus close to war.

### *Numayri overthrown in Sudan coup*

Sudanese President Gaafar Numayri was overthrown in a bloodless coup April 6 as he arrived in Cairo, Egypt from a visit to the United States. General Siwar ad Dahab, the previous defense minister, became the new head of Sudan's military government. He announced that the constitution was suspended, martial law imposed, Numayri and his ministers relieved of all duties, and that Vice-President and Chief of Intelligence Omar Tayeb was under arrest.

Sources report that General ad Dahab may have been forced to make his coup in order to prevent takeover by more radical forces. He is a professional soldier and is seen as having no personal ambition. He announced that he would cede power after six months.

Sudan has been the scene of riots protesting the government's attempt to impose International Monetary Fund austerity conditionalities. Price increases demanded by the IMF were canceled just before the coup, after a series of negotiations with trade-union leaders. As news of the coup spread, the unions organized a demonstration of support.

### *Wörner: Soviet beam research is far advanced*

The Soviets have been working on a space-based ABM system since the late 1960s, said West German Defense Minister Manfred Wörner in a television interview April 3. He revealed that, when in Washington recently, he was shown U.S. satellite photos on the Soviet program. "This means," said Wörner, "that the Soviets have been working consistently on such systems for almost 20 years at least."

Wörner added that the great majority of the West German population backs the Bonn government's support for the U.S. Strategic Defense Initiative. "It goes without saying that the SDI will also protect the European part of NATO," he said.