Rimini elites: 'South must serve the North'

by Mark Burdman

From Oct. 15-17, there was a meeting of policy influentials from the West and the Soviet Union at the Pio Manzu conference center in Rimini, Italy. In his summation speech, Catholic University of Milan professor Gianfranco Miglio revealed what is really on the minds of a predominant faction of the transatlantic liberal elites.

According to Miglio, there are three priorities for the West. First, the West should accept, if not actively encourage, a transitional authoritarian dictatorship in the Soviet Union. Second, the West, especially West Germany acting on behalf of Western Europe, should massively increase financial and economic aid to the Soviet Union. This should be the driving force behind a full integration between Western and Eastern Europe, to include expedited American troop pullout from Europe. Third, as financial credits are diverted eastward, the Southern Hemisphere countries should be written off.

Among the speakers were former German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt, former Italian Premier Giulio Andreotti, and Soviet Finance Minister Valentin Pavlov, who headed a large Soviet delegation. The conference medal of honor was given to Bonn Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher, Europe's leading appeaser of the Soviets. Pio Manzu directors also gave a special award to Norway's Gro-Harlem Brundtland, who had, ironically, stepped down as prime minister only hours before the conference began. Mrs. Brundtland heads the World Commission on Environment and Development, which has developed the guidelines for a global ecological-fascist world order.

In an Oct. 21 discussion with EIR, Miglio affirmed that Helmut Schmidt privately expressed complete agreement with his perspective. The former chancellor's public statements in Rimini were perfectly coherent with what Miglio said. He warned that a global financial crash could be caused by the Third World debt crisis, but said that the solution must be centered on drastic "population control" measures, to deal with the "demographic explosion" in the Southern Hemisphere. He called on religious leaders to join him in a campaign to reduce population growth. Schmidt also argued that development credits to the Third World would inevitably be consumed to buy arms, whereas the Soviet Union and its allies could be trusted in their stated commitment to redirect funds formerly spent on armaments, into productive forms of investment. The message: The East is a good investment, the South is a waste.

In his discussion with EIR, Miglio reiterated that the West

should yearn for a "strong central power" in the U.S.S.R., a "restoration of authority for a transitional period," so that Gorbachov will not be toppled as the economic crisis gets worse and worse. He said that the "historical moment" now required a new European "East policy" led by West Germany. He labeled this a new *Drang nach Osten* (drive to the East), directed toward a full "integration of the Slavic world with the German-European world." This would involve some form of "German reunification," and a strengthening of the "European pole" in the world, that would counterpose its strength to the United States and to a Japanese-Asian axis. "The Germans," said Miglio, "have fought two great world wars to be the masters of Europe, now they must become the masters of Europe through peaceful means."

In this perspective, he went on, "America will be out of Europe." According to Miglio, "Soviet military power is not a threat to Europe. The Soviets are feeble. From my information, the military class in the Soviet Union is in no position to interfere with the political system."

Asked what future there would be for the developing sector in his world-strategic view, Miglio stated bluntly: "We cannot make miracles for the Third World. It is pure fancy to believe that the West will launch a crusade to help the developing world. In any case, the differences between North and South are planetary; the conflict is fundamental. The South will always be the servant part of the world for the North; history tells us so."

Soviet calls for Gorbachov dictatorship

On Oct. 23, "positive feedback" of sorts came from a senior Soviet official, as the Italian daily La Repubblica ran an interview with Andranik Migranian, of the KGB-linked IM-EMO think tank. Migranian called for a "Committee of National Salvation" in the U.S.S.R., "led by Gorbachov as a dictator." He warned: "Democracy today is against perestroika. Gorbachov has very little time. Only a dictatorship will allow him to rule and carry out his reforms." Migranian claimed that there was a "vacuum of power" in the U.S.S.R. "At end of this impotent situation, I see the risk of a Soviet Tiananmen."

Were Gorbachov to become a dictator, Migranian stressed, the West would be satisfied, since Western policy-makers are less concerned with democracy in the Soviet Union than with the stability of Gorbachov. "Gorbachov is thinking about this," he said. "On Oct. 2, when he proposed to the parliament to declare the state of emergency, it was sort of a general rehearsal. But there is little time."

Yet Migranian denounced the five years under Gorbachov's rule, as having caused economic chaos, moral degradation, and rampant criminality. He said: "We are reviving 1917, from February to October. And to those who ask me whether Gorbachov can become the dictator-reformist whom we need, I answer thus: It depends on whether he feels more a Lenin or a Kerensky."

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