

International Intelligence

South Korean scandal could hurt Clinton accord

A potential slush fund scandal in South Korea aimed at former President Roh Tae-woo could reverberate against President Clinton's Korean peace accord. President Roh was accused by a former security guard on Oct. 19 of amassing personal funds of 400 billion won (\$522 million) while in office, according to wire reports on Oct. 25.

Roh was the chief architect of South Korea's "Northern policy" of rapprochement with North Korea. On Oct. 4, 1988, Roh made a landmark speech at the U.N., calling for the reunification of Korea, and "re-connecting every roadway" to combine all "human, technological, and financial resources." Roh especially emphasized a policy of food for peace with the North, coinciding with Lyndon LaRouche's Food for Peace offer to the socialist bloc that same month in Berlin.

On Oct. 25, Roh's party, the ruling Democratic Liberal Party (DLP), demanded the elder statesman apologize and go into internal exile. Korean State radio said the demand by DLP chairman Kim Yoon-hwan, relayed to Roh through "a former internal intelligence chief," was that Roh should return to his hometown and devote himself to Buddhism. Roh's predecessor Chun Doo-hwan was forced to retreat to a remote Buddhist monastery after he left office and was hit with a financial scandal. South Korean opposition parties have gone further and demanded that Roh be arrested.

Soros courted in Italy, but not by everyone

"Why do you, in Bologna, award a doctorate to somebody who has made money against the lira?" That is how the Turin daily paper *La Stampa* began its coverage on Oct. 31 of the previous day's press conference by George Soros in Bologna, Italy, by citing the question raised by Andrew Spannaus, correspondent for the *New Federalist*, a weekly newspaper close to Lyndon LaRouche. Sim-

ilarly, *La Repubblica* reported: "When a U.S. journalist accuses Soros of being a 'speculator,' he does not react. 'I do not believe I must defend myself from anything. I always worked according to market laws.'"

Soros, the Hungarian-American currency speculator and philanthropist, whose foundations are devoted to meddling in eastern Europe, was in Bologna to receive an honorary degree from the University of Bologna, the oldest in Europe. Sponsors of the "Soros apotheosis" included the deans of the university, who belong to the "left" Catholic political camp: Fabio Rovorsi Monaco, Stefano Zamagni, and Romano Prodi, candidate for prime minister of a leftist coalition dominated by the PDS, the former Communist Party. But also opposition representatives, such as Giuseppe Gazzoni Frascara, a businessman who is member of the conservative Forza Italia party and ran as mayoral candidate for the moderate bloc, strongly defended Soros.

Among several Italian groups protesting his appearance, the biggest sensation was created by the Solidarity Movement, which circulated a leaflet with a cartoon showing Prodi feeding liras into an olive oil-press while Soros grinds up the currency into tiny coins which come out the bottom at 1,500 lira per deutschemark—a 50% devaluation. The leaflet text, headlined "The Financial Pirate Soros Deserves a Jail Term Not a Degree," drew upon material which the movement has presented to a court in Bologna in a petition requesting that a formal investigation be undertaken into Soros's activities.

Mandela rebuffs Soyinka on pressuring Nigeria

Wole Soyinka, the Nigerian Nobel laureate and dissident, who called for an armed insurrection against Nigeria's leader Gen. Sani Abacha from the United Kingdom on Oct. 9, is pressuring South African President Nelson Mandela to help bring down the Nigerian regime.

In an interview with a South African newspaper on Oct. 21, carried by international wire services, Soyinka charged that

Mandela was simply not doing enough, and that he should visit Olesegun Obasanjo and Moshood Abiola (who are jailed in Nigeria for plotting a coup). "Mandela must lead the coalition of international forces against the regime. It's a duty, I think, which Mandela owes," Soyinka said, calling the President the "moral voice on the continent."

The largely foreign-owned, and heavily British, South African press has been editorializing for months that Mandela should act against Abacha.

Mandela, however, dismissed Soyinka's criticism. He told a news conference at Waterkloof Air Force Base before leaving for New York that: "We are not going to act like other countries who really have not got the responsibilities we have. What we are concerned with is not publicity, but to solve problems. As long as we have hands-on attention to the problem, that is quite sufficient." He continued: "We are not briefing leaders either of Nigeria or the world on the efforts we are making because these are sensitive issues. And I think we are more likely to reach a solution if in dealing with the situation we observe [its] independent sovereignty."

'Soviet formula' mooted for Taiwan U.N. seat

A Russian expert recommended that Taiwan seek a seat in the United Nations by referring to the precedent set by former Soviet Union republics, according to a Central China News dispatch from Taiwan on Oct. 15. M. Kapitsa, a fellow and adviser at the Russian National Science Institute, and a former Soviet deputy foreign minister, said at a Taipei seminar that Russia, Belarus, and Ukraine each kept a seat in the U.N. until the collapse of the Soviet Union in December 1991. He said that Taiwan may be able to stand along with mainland China in the U.N. without the latter's opposition by adopting this kind of strategy.

Kapitsa also revealed that Joseph Stalin in 1949 rejected a request by Mao Zedong to provide Communist China with aircraft and submarines to help "liberate" Taiwan

Briefly

and Hongkong. Stalin's argument was that the U.S.S.R. and the eastern bloc had not yet recovered from World War II and were not prepared for a direct showdown with the United States and other western countries.

Since then, although the Soviet Union never had any contacts with Taiwan, it also refused to become involved in possible cross-strait military conflicts, he said. In 1958, he added, the Soviet Union gave tacit consent to Beijing to launch the "battle of Kinmen" (in which the communists briefly bombarded a Nationalist-controlled island) on grounds that Beijing only wished to take the frontline island as a demonstration of sovereignty and that Taiwan was well prepared then for the unsuccessful attack.

Russian security services accuse greens of spying

Russia's Federal Security Service (the successor to the KGB) has accused the Bellona Foundation, an environmental organization based in Oslo, of spying on Russian military installations and divulging military secrets, reported an article in the Oct. 22 *Washington Post*. The Bellona Foundation has published a series of detailed reports exposing nuclear waste disposal problems in Russian military installations. These reports apparently have revealed sensitive military information.

On Oct. 5, security service agents seized a Russian "green" working for Bellona and questioned him for three hours. Before being released he was told that he would be contacted again as a witness against the Bellona Foundation.

The next day the Russian security agency raided several offices of the Bellona Foundation, as well as the homes of several of its leaders and contacts. This included a search of Bellona's office in the strategic port of Murmansk, and of the home of Alexander Klimov, a Greenpeace-linked activist who operates in the northern port of Severodvinsk.

Other western non-governmental organizations involved in environmental issues in Russia that have been publicly accused of

spying include Greenpeace, the Soros Foundation, and the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. Prince Philip spent almost two weeks in July traveling through Russia as the head of the World Wildlife Fund and meeting with some of the very same groups now accused of spying.

Paris tweaks London for coddling terrorists

French press and elected officials are more and more honing in on London for giving asylum to Islamic fundamentalists. Deputy Jacques Myard, a member of President Jacques Chirac's RPR party, denounced Britain directly during a parliamentary debate, and some French media have singled London out for attack as well.

Le Parisien, dated Oct. 21-22, ran a long article titled "London, Land of Asylum of Islamists." The Regent's Park mosque has become the center where Islamists organize openly, including those who sell *El An-sar*, the bulletin of the Armed Islamic Group, which has claimed credit for all of the deadly bombs which have gone off in Paris this year.

The demands for political asylum have swelled from 275 in 1993, to 995 in 1994, out of which 20 were accepted. The number of mosques in Britain is also growing. Twenty-five years ago there were 13, while today there are more than 1,000. These are, of course, not all terrorists, says the author, who nonetheless attacks a general climate of laxity. For example, the article reports that Anwar Haddam, a leader of the Islamic Salvation Front, the Algerian opposition group, who in contrast to other FIS spokesmen abroad does not hesitate to support the GIA publicly, had been invited to speak at the Royal Institute for International Affairs. His visa request was rejected by the British government.

On Oct. 21, *Le Figaro* journalist Pierre Darcourt wrote an article on the Afghan networks of international terrorism in connection with the wave of bombings in France (for an in-depth report on these links, see *EIR*'s Special Report of Oct. 13, 1995).

● **NATO** will be widened to include the Czech and Slovak Republics, President Bill Clinton pledged on Oct. 20 while hosting Czech President Vaclav Havel and Slovakian President Michal Kovac in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, where the three traveled to inaugurate a museum and library dedicated to Czech and Slovak history and culture.

● **FIDEL CASTRO**, speaking at a meeting in New York City with Protestant ministers on Oct. 27, had the nerve to tell his audience that Pope John Paul II "doesn't fully understand the problem of the population explosion in the world." It was because of these irreconcilable outlooks, the Cuban narco-dictator averred, that tensions increased between his regime and Cuban Catholics until 1992.

● **ITALY** "is going to become a capitalist society without democracy, not the Singapore model," a former member of the board of IRI, the Italian State-controlled industrial holding company, told *EIR* on Oct. 31.

● **CHERNOMYRDIN**, the Russian prime minister, has asserted his authority for the first time, on Oct. 30, an informed Moscow source told *EIR*. The source was commenting on the latest medical reports on President Boris Yeltsin, who will be hospitalized till the end of November following his latest heart attack. When asked who is in charge, Chernomyrdin said, "I give the orders, if it is necessary to do so."

● **AMIN GEMAYEL**, the former President of Lebanon, charged that Syria, Iraq, Libya, and the Palestinians have been using Lebanon as a base for exporting terrorism since 1975. He spoke as he arrived in Melbourne to raise support for Lebanon from the Australian government. Gemayel, who supports the Mideast peace process, said that there needs to also be a conference to determine Lebanon's future. He lives in exile in France.