

# International Intelligence

## ***Dominican groups seek new trial for LaRouche***

A coalition of legal and human rights organizations in the Dominican Republic delivered a letter on Nov. 13 to American Ambassador Paul Taylor, calling for a new, impartial trial for U.S. political prisoner Lyndon LaRouche and several of his associates. The letter notes that a number of people in the United States have been imprisoned after "being falsely accused, unjustly condemned, or denied human rights and fundamental freedoms. That leads us to suggest, or recommend, that an investigation be undertaken of the case of Lyndon LaRouche, and that it be reviewed and given special attention, as demanded by international public opinion.

"We request a new, impartial trial, before judges with a high sense of duty, without interference for reasons of state or government."

The letter was signed, on behalf of the 13 groups, by general coordinator Dr. German Miranda Villalona. Among those represented are the Dominican chapter of the American Association of Jurists; the Latin American Council of Churches; the Dominican Human Rights Committee; and the Council for the Defense of Legal Rights.

Dr. Miranda also sent a telegram to President George Bush which read: "As a lawyer and general coordinator of several institutions for the defense of human rights in the Dominican Republic, I call upon you to request an investigation of the charges of persecution against the American politician and economist Lyndon H. LaRouche and of the possible irregularities of the trial against him, which resulted in his being sentenced to 15 years in prison. . . ."

## ***Carlos Lehder gets a new identity***

Carlos Lehder, the Medellín Cartel drug kingpin who is serving a sentence of life plus 135 years in prison, with no possibility of parole, testified as a U.S. government

witness against Panama's Gen. Manuel Noriega on Nov. 19, providing what the press described as "the most damaging testimony to date." Although admitting that he had never met Noriega, and never personally paid him a penny, he maintained that Noriega had set up a deal with the Colombian drug traffickers, whereby he would take a cut, in cash, of every drug shipment passed through Panama.

All of Lehder's "knowledge" of this came from conversations with third parties, he testified.

As a result of Lehder's testimony, he may eventually gain freedom, in a deal with the U.S. Justice Department. He has now been transferred from the maximum security Marion federal penitentiary to another prison, and has been given a new identity under the Federal Witness Protection Program. Eight members of his family were brought to the United States by the government, given green cards, and are living under federal protection, at the expense of the U.S. taxpayer.

## ***Bulgaria fears spread of Yugoslav conflict***

Bulgarian President Zhelyu Zhelev warned on Nov. 14 that the war in former Yugoslavia could spread to neighboring states, and said that only NATO could keep the country's warring forces apart if international peace efforts failed. "It will not be in the interests of the international community to let the germ of conflict infiltrate Yugoslavia's neighboring countries and spread the infection of bloodshed and fratricide," Zhelev told NATO ministers and ambassadors, according to Reuters.

"What Bulgaria sees as a special cause of concern," he said, "is the tendency to extend the geographical border of hostilities." Bulgaria's western frontier borders former Yugoslavia, mostly alongside Serbian territory. Asked whether NATO should intervene to prevent this, Zhelev said: "It has a military potential which could and might by agreement with the [U.N.] Security Council separate warring groups. I do not

see any other force that can enter the country and force the warring groups to lay down their arms."

The President announced that Bulgaria intended to host an international conference on European regional security next year, and he invited NATO representatives to attend.

Zhelev was the third East European President to visit NATO headquarters and the first to do so since the early November Rome summit of the alliance decided on regular security talks with East European countries.

## ***South Korea rejects 'help' on unification***

The South Korean government has decided not to accept U.S. Secretary of State James Baker's proposal for "internationalizing" the issue of the Korean peninsula, the Seoul daily *Choson Ilbo* reported on Nov. 11. The Baker plan, as was explained in the quarterly journal *Foreign Affairs*, involved talks among North and South Korea, the United States, Japan, China, and the Soviet Union.

A high-ranking government official is quoted: "The government has consistently maintained that the internationalization of the Korean peninsula issue is not desirable for either the South-North talks or for stability in northeast Asia. If the major neighboring countries are allowed to interfere in the settlement of the Korean peninsula issue, the South-North question runs the risk of being settled in a way that suits the major neighboring countries' concerns."

The official noted that President Noh Tae Woo's proposal for a Northeast Asia Peace Consultative Conference, advanced at the U.N. General Assembly in 1988, was an economic initiative, and was never aimed at an international conference focusing on political and security issues, such as has been mooted recently.

The newspaper contrasted the situation on the Korean peninsula with that of Germany, where the "two plus four" talks with foreign powers were successful in leading to reunification. "At that time, two Germans had the armies of the four major powers

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stationed on their territories. Thus, approval from these countries was an absolute prerequisite for reunification. Unlike the case of the two Germanys . . . there is no reason why the four major neighboring countries should interfere in reunification of the Korean peninsula."

### **The democracy movement surfaces again in China**

A group calling itself the Liberal Democratic Party put up posters at Beijing University, denouncing the Chinese Communist Party, on the eve of the arrival of U.S. Secretary of State James Baker on Nov. 15. "The despotic atrocities of Chinese Communist Party authorities have already aroused the hatred of all the Chinese people, including a very large number of honest and conscientious members of the Communist Party," said the poster, copies of which were distributed to some western journalists, according to Reuters.

The poster demanded the release of all political and religious prisoners and an end to torture, and called on Beijing to stop persecuting pro-democracy activists and enter into a dialogue with other political forces "concerning the future destiny of the nation and all the nation's important problems."

### **Greenpeace 'eco-fascists' are losing revenue**

Greenpeace Canadian Executive Director Michael Manolson said that Greenpeace Canada was suffering from financial cuts made at the international level, according to the *Montreal Gazette* on Nov. 11. He said that donations to Greenpeace had actually increased in Canada, but that serious financial problems in the U.S. branch were having effects on other branches worldwide. The U.S. branch is suffering a several-million-dollar shortfall on its \$56 million annual budget, and has closed its Boston and Fort Lauderdale offices. Other radical ecology groups are also suffering.

Christian Simard, executive director of

the Quebec Union for the Conservation of Nature, said that environmentalist groups were suffering from politicians and businessmen who, because of the recession, found more people sympathetic to their anti-environmentalist ideas. He cited a recent speech by Richard Le Hir, vice president of the Quebec Manufacturers Association, who had called certain environmentalists "eco-fascists."

### **New crisis erupts in Indonesia's East Timor**

Indonesia is facing its worst crisis in several years over the annexed region of East Timor, following an incident on Nov. 12, in which Indonesian armed forces shot at people attending a memorial mass for an East Timor youth who had been killed in a demonstration two weeks before. Reports from East Timor are that at least 20 people were killed, and some estimates are higher. Certain observers are saying that Indonesian troops went on a rampage, shooting at random into the streets, but this is not confirmed.

Whatever the exact circumstances of the events, they are providing a pretext for the British and their friends to escalate an international campaign against Indonesia on the East Timor issue. The campaign was signaled some months ago by an editorial in the *Times* of London, demanding that Indonesia be treated regarding East Timor as Iraq was regarding Kuwait. BBC's correspondent said that "people in East Timor are talking about independence from Indonesia more openly than one year ago."

There exists a United Nations resolution, dating from the mid-1970s, denying Indonesian claims over the region. Indonesia, which has annexed East Timor, rejects the resolution and related pressure, claiming that this is a purely internal Indonesian affair.

Indonesian Chief of Staff General Tri expressed regret over the events, and said the government would investigate what happened. He said that the troops had used force against anti-government rioters as a last resort.

● **GORBACHOV** will face trial along with all members of the former Communist Party Politburo, Russian Federation Justice Minister Nikolai Fyodorov said on Nov. 18, in an interview to the German daily *Süddeutsche Zeitung*. "Gorbachov is no longer deciding what policy is made by Russia or the U.S.S.R.," he said. "The Soviet Union is nothing but a phantom now."

● **LITHUANIAN** President Vytautas Landsbergis, during an audience with Pope John Paul II on Nov. 18, invited the pope to visit Lithuania. This was the first papal audience with a Baltic leader in more than 50 years. Landsbergis was on a four-day trip to Italy.

● **RUDOLF AUGSTEIN**, the editor of Germany's *Der Spiegel* magazine, hosted some of his buddies in Washington, D.C. at a reception the second week in November. Guests included Deputy Secretary of State Lawrence Eagleburger, presidential legal counsel John Schmitz, and Henry Kissinger—who boasted that he has been friends with Augstein for 35 years.

● **GUYANA'S** President Desmond Hoyte has announced that he will go ahead with elections on Dec. 16, and defy an "order" from Washington to postpone the election until February to allow time to "clean up" the voter registrar. Jimmy Carter and other foreign "observers" claim that the voting rolls are out of whack. The government has said it has plenty of time to correct whatever errors there may be.

● **ARGENTINE** President Carlos Menem brought his hairdresser with him to the state dinner held for him in Washington on Nov. 13 by President Bush. Menem called Bush "a true brother," and Bush hailed him as a man who has "repeatedly demonstrated a fundamental quality that distinguishes true statesmen from mere placeholders: political courage."