

International Intelligence

Leading mullah calls for clergy to leave politics

The London-based Arab daily *Asharq Al Awsat* of July 5 reported that Mohamed Riza Muhdawi Kenni has resigned as chairman of the Iranian League of Spiritual Struggle, the organization all the leading mullahs belong to, including Iran's religious leader Ayatollah Khamenei. Kenni released a long statement calling for the clergy to withdraw from all official positions in the government. He says it is wrong for the clergy to hold government posts because the people would have no one to turn to if the government acts unjustly.

Secondly, he criticized Iranian policy toward the Middle East peace process. He called on the government to recognize the full authority of Yasser Arafat in leading the Palestinian people and to not support his enemies.

Venezuelan author slams British ideology

The Caracas daily *Ultimas Noticias* carried an extensive interview in its cultural section July 2 with Venezuelan author Juan Liscano, who is celebrating his 80th birthday. Liscano began by addressing the cultural crisis in the world and the bestialization of the populace through television. He said the "cyberpunk" movement is a continuation of Nazism, which can be understood by reading Aldous Huxley's *Brave New World*.

"In truth, materialism is a British invention," Liscano continued. "Empiricism . . . postulates that the only reality is *res extensa*, that there is nothing, no other reality, but that given us by our senses. . . . Bacon understood perfectly the empirical ideology . . . which affirms that man is a *tabula rasa* upon which perceptions and sensations are printed. . . . And this was repeated by Locke, by Hume, and all those people. And what was born of this empiricism was nothing less than the British Empire."

Liscano showed how this philosophy

has produced the culture of the "information age." "I know intelligent children who don't know how to conceptualize. Today we are marching toward a humanity which cannot reason, which cannot conceptualize, which cannot write. A class of slaves is being formed. And those who can reason will form a super-elite. Education will be for the very few. The Republicans in the U.S. have eliminated all the social programs, they will eliminate education. There will be an elemental education. . . . That is the Nazi conception of education and of society. And we will return to the esotericism of the white race as the chosen one. . . ."

"All this was begun by the British, the Bacons, the Lockes, the Humes, the Adam Smiths, those founders of that doctrine which insists that one must conform to what is perceptible. . . . We are in the hands of the heirs of British empiricism and economicism."

Juppé scandal erupts, may target Chirac

French Prime Minister Alain Juppé says that scandals being stirred up against him personally by several leading French publications are intended to destabilize the government appointed by the new President, Jacques Chirac.

Juppé is accused of various manipulations to procure luxury housing at low cost, for himself, for his son, and for others. *Le Figaro* on July 7 provided what it purported to be a full list of those who benefitted from Juppé's alleged misdeeds. Other scandal-mongering has come from the satire magazine *Le Canard Enchaîné*.

Justice Minister Jacques Toubon declared on July 7 that all this was, first and foremost, an "undertaking of political destabilization," which does a disservice to political life in France. Similar views have been expressed by leaders of the opposition Socialist Party. For example, Tony Dreyfus, mayor of Paris's 10th Arrondissement, told Radio Monte Carlo that the attacks on the private life of political figures was turning

into a "manhunt."

On July 8, the daily *Libération* devoted its lead article, and all of pages 2 and 3, to revelations by a 33-year-old character named Didier Delaporte, who began working in January 1995 in the fundraising/finances office of the neo-Gaullist RPR party of Chirac and Juppé. Curiously, the main bank cited as being at the center of the alleged shady financing, Banque Rivaud, was central to the "galaxy of advisers" to former prime minister and Chirac rival Edouard Balladur, as Balladur mounted his campaign for the Presidency.

New confessions fuel plot vs. Argentine military

Yet another "repentant" military man, ex-Sgt. Pedro Pablo Caraballo of the Gendarmerie, has come forward to reveal that he committed atrocities against terrorists during the 1970s war against subversion. The leftist *Página 12* reported on July 1 that in a letter to the Buenos Aires Lawyers Association (AABA), Caraballo confessed that he had tortured pregnant women and women who had recently given birth at the clandestine El Campito prison camp. After hearing eight hours of Caraballo's testimony, the AABA decided to represent him in his lawsuit to try to reopen the case against his former superior Gen. Santiago Riveros.

The backdrop to Caraballo's confession is the human rights lobby's demands that the Menem government pressure the Armed Forces into handing over more information pertaining to disappeared people. The June 30 issue of *Tiempo Militar*, the newspaper which circulates among all three branches of the Armed Forces, addresses this biased anti-military campaign.

The bi-monthly paper points to the recent ruling by the Buenos Aires city council, under which schoolchildren in the capital will now be forced to read the book *Never Again*, based on the findings of the National Disappeared Persons Council (Conadep). In reading Conadep's biased account of what happened during the 1970s, *Tiempo Militar*

warns, young people can only conclude that the country's Armed Forces were worse than the Nazis, and that the guerrillas "who unleashed a terror never before known," didn't really exist, but were just innocent, idealistic youth. The military paper warns that by not explaining the genesis of what occurred in the 1970s—that murderous terrorists declared war against the nation—the human rights lobby is keeping open the wounds which continue to "afflict a significant portion of Argentine society."

LaRouche views get big audience in Italy

The Italian economic daily *Il Globo* ran a two-page exclusive interview on July 11 with *EIR* founder Lyndon LaRouche, which went through the present financial disintegration, the history of his movement, and why was it targeted from the outset by the FBI-Justice Department-Kissinger-Gorbachov group. LaRouche also gave his evaluation of the political crisis in Italy, which confirms his warnings given in Rome in 1976. *Il Globo* planned a special edition to be distributed for free to industrialists and politicians in Italy and Ticino, the Italian-speaking part of Switzerland.

LaRouche's ideas were also featured in Rome, on July 9, during an open-air forum in the context of a three-day Solidarity Festival dedicated to the Social Doctrine of the Catholic Church. The final event of the festival, attended by 2,000 people, among them 50 members of Parliament and many important journalists, was a debate between Gianfranco Fini, head of the National Alliance party; Rocco Buttiglione, head of the Italian Popular Party; former Social Welfare Minister Antonio Guidi; and Professor Centorame of the Capranica Association. Centorame organized a meeting at the association's offices on June 29 with Marivilia Carrasco, the Mexican leader of the Ibero-American Solidarity Movement, which is inspired by LaRouche's ideas.

At the debate Centorame announced: "The present economic problems are due to

the International Monetary Fund policy. As Marivilia Carrasco recently reported to a meeting we had, the collapse of the Mexican peso was not a national problem, but a symptom of an unstoppable financial disintegration which will not be stopped unless we re-establish national sovereignty against the IMF." When he attacked the Banca d'Italia and the Italian politicians who made a pilgrimage to London to seek support, Fini (who was among the pilgrims last spring) promptly said, "I am not a lackey of the City of London! Besides I fully agree with what you said, we should force the Banca d'Italia to serve national economic purposes." Buttiglione reiterated his recent call for refocusing economic policy on major infrastructure projects, in an echo of LaRouche's program.

Thatcher panics over son's legal cases

The London *Observer*, in a front-page article on July 9 entitled "Thatcher Orders Mark to Settle Legal Action," reported that the former British prime minister recently visited her son Mark Thatcher in Dallas, and demanded that he settle two cases out of court. One involves his conflict with the founder of the Ameristar company, and the other is a tax evasion case brought by the Internal Revenue Service against his company Emergency Networks.

The Thatcher circle feels that the litigation could prove "highly embarrassing," and is "increasingly concerned" about what would happen if Mark Thatcher were brought to court and exposed to cross-examination. This could lead to disclosures about how he profited from Britain's massive Al-Yamamah arms deal with Saudi Arabia, which was negotiated by his mother.

One of her intimates said, "It would be a great, great mistake for Mark to be in court in America. Absolutely crazy!" It could, among other things, prove "harmful to the Thatcher reputation, especially in the United States," at a time when she is raising funds in the United States for her foundation, and promoting the latest volume of her memoirs.

Briefly

● **POPE JOHN PAUL II** was reported by Reuters to have "showed off a marked improvement in his health on Saturday, striding out at an open-air mass to meet worshippers one year after surgery for a broken leg sparked talk of a papacy on the wane," during his trip to Slovakia. The pope urged Slovaks on June 30 not to squander their new-found freedom on materialism and "moral slavery."

● **CHINA** admits that its child malnutrition rate is high and warns of further deterioration of the health of students. According to the official news service, in coverage by the *Economic Daily* on July 6, the percentage of undernourished children among primary and secondary students in China is as high as 21% and 44%, respectively.

● **WORLD BANK** President James Wolfensohn will embark on a "getting to know you" tour of Haiti, Jamaica, Brazil, Argentina, Colombia, and Mexico, according to the Mexican daily *El Financiero* on July 10. While in Mexico, Wolfensohn will visit Chiapas, where he will meet with unnamed "non-governmental organizations," most of which make up the support apparatus for the terrorist EZLN.

● **PAVEL GRACHOV**, the Russian defense minister, is being blamed for the unpopular war in Chechnya and may be on his way out, the French paper *Le Figaro* surmised on July 11.

● **JACQUES PARIZEAU**, Quebec's prime minister, addressed the Royal Institute of International Affairs at Chatham House in London, on July 5, selling "sovereignty" for Quebec in the context of a "globalist" vision. He stressed Quebec's support for the North American Free Trade Agreement, distinct status for native peoples, environmentalism, and other issues dear to the lunatic "Nine Nations of North America" scheme.