

International Intelligence

EIR Mourns Death of Dr. Giuliano Preparata

Italian physicist Giuliano Preparata passed away, the last week of April, after a year-long battle with cancer. Preparata, a professor of Theoretical Physics at the State University of Milan and member of the Scientific Advisory Board of the LaRouche-associated publication, *21st Century Science & Technology*, was a pioneer in the effort to develop and explain the phenomenon of cold fusion. After years of being ostracized by the scientific establishment, he had finally obtained funding for a two-year effort to develop a viable cold fusion generator. Preparata hoped to potentially wield the development of cold fusion against colonialism and the control of natural resources by oligarchical cartels.

On April 4, 1998, he organized a meeting of a group of scientists with Lyndon LaRouche in Rome, in which he emphasized the importance of LaRouche's scientific method (see "LaRouche Meets with Italian 'Cold Fusion' Scientists," *EIR*, May 1, 1998).

Since that time, Preparata had given some lively presentations at the Physics Department in Milan, describing how the scientific establishment could not see past its own formalism, when it was confronted with a new phenomenon. In April 1999, he spoke at a large student meeting against the war in Kosovo, together with LaRouche associate Paolo Raimondi, in which he challenged students to go beyond what they are fed by the academic authorities, and search for the truth.

Indonesian Military To End Dual Function

The Indonesian Armed Forces (TNI) has agreed to end its dual function within civilian, as well as military affairs, known as *dwi-fungsi*, according to the April 22 *Jakarta Post*. In a two-day leadership conference of 146 top brass, Adm. A.S. Widodo, Commander of the TNI, said that the military's socio-political function had been abused in the last three decades.

The TNI has already ruled that any mili-

tary man who wishes to retain a political position must resign his military commission. The TNI will continue to help the police (recently separated from the TNI) to deal with terrorism or rebellions. Indonesian President Abdurrahman Wahid, who addressed the conference, said, "Let us be cautious not to have anti-TNI sentiments, because as an institution, the country will always need TNI."

Britain's Cook Stirs Up Trouble in ASEAN

British Foreign Secretary Robin Cook visited refugee camps in Thailand near the Myanmar border, according to the April 20 issue of Bangkok's *The Nation*. Cook's side trip is part of his effort to subvert relations between the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and the European Union, which have been icy, since ASEAN refuses to buckle under to EU demands that Myanmar, because of alleged human rights abuses, be excluded from their joint meetings. The EU has called for renewal of the meetings, implying a willingness to accept Myanmar's participation.

In Thailand, Cook travelled to the Karen refugee camps on the border, professing that he was "shocked that any government would have behaved so brutally as to drive out such friendly, gentle people." Karen separatists, which include drug runners, have been fighting the Yangon government for years. Cook, wrote *The Nation*, "stressed that Britain and Europe's hawkish policy toward the ruling junta in Rangoon [Yangon] would remain intact and might even become more severe."

India, Uzbekistan Sign Major Security Pact

Uzbekistan President Islam Karimov, during a visit to India, and Indian Prime Minister A.B. Vajpayee, concerned about the serious challenge posed to regional and national security, signed a joint declaration of principles, *The Hindu* reported on May 2. The declaration was signed as both New Delhi and Tashkent are increasingly feeling the urgency of putting up a joint front to counter the threat of destabilization to Central and

South Asia from Taliban-dominated Afghanistan.

Sources pointed out that Uzbekistan, which shares a border with the other Central Asian states—Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Kyrgyzstan—is aware that it is the fulcrum for the security of Central Asia. According to *The Hindu*, Uzbekistan is threatened by the Taliban, who are now sitting in the northern Afghan city of Mazar-e-Sharif. Reports indicate that a United Uzbek Opposition has been formed in Kandahar, Afghanistan. This opposition is likely to be joined by the Taliban. Kandahar is close to the Pakistani border, whence arms and manpower can be supplied from Pakistan's garrison town of Quetta. President Karimov said: "Afghanistan has become a hotbed and training ground of international terrorism. Such activities are completely unacceptable to us. We cannot accept the policies of certain countries supporting the Taliban."

Russia, also anxious to keep the insurgency in the Caucasus insulated from radical forces in Central Asia, is engaging the Central Asians in a major military and diplomatic exercise. Similarly, China, sensing the rise of extremism in its western province of Xinjiang, has launched a major cooperative initiative along with Russia, to work with the Central Asian nations.

Sri Lanka Is Put on War Footing

Sri Lanka President Chandrika Kumaratunga and her entire Cabinet, in an emergency meeting on May 2, agreed that the war against the separatist Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, should achieve victory as soon as possible, by mustering the nation's entire energy. The Cabinet decided that all expenditure for nonessential development will be temporarily suspended for three months. If necessary, such funds will be entirely directed to the war effort. The Cabinet has also decided to allow the Army to arrest, question, or detain anyone it considers a security threat.

At the same time, the Cabinet decided to continue to seek a solution to the ethnic problem, which has pitted the minority Tamils against the Sinhalas.