

# International Intelligence

## **Swedish church submits to Soviet demands**

On March 13, at the close of a meeting of the synod of the Swedish Lutheran State Church, spokesmen announced that the church's highest decision-making body had resolved to drop the Augustinian passage, "of the son" ("Filioque"), from the church's liturgy. Adoption of this resolution will not be final until after discussions with other Scandinavian churches, but, so far, only a few have been mobilized for strong opposition to the change.

The strongest pressures for this radical change in the Swedish church's liturgy have come from the Soviet government, which has demanded that all Catholic and Protestant denominations in Western Europe repudiate the Filioque. The recent escalation of Soviet press attacks upon Pope John Paul II began immediately following the Catholic Church's official rejection of this Soviet demand. The Soviet government, as well as the Soviet Russian Orthodox Church, have recognized that the Filioque is the center of resistance to spread of Soviet influence into Western Europe and the Americas, and are most insistent that the Filioque be suppressed among the official churches of areas of Europe destined for early "Finlandization." Swedish opinion estimates that the strongest push for this "Russianization" of the Swedish church has come from the Socialist International's prime minister, Olof Palme, a notorious Moscow fellow-traveler. Also, the decision to drop the Filioque followed a recommendation by the World Council of Churches.

The day after the decision, members of the European Labor Party distributed a pamphlet authored by U.S. statesman Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr., "Are the Swedish Churches Still Worth Saving?—The Importance of the Filioque for the Development of Science." In response, some priests among the 250 delegates to the synod admitted having no idea of what they had voted against the day before.

## **Willy Brandt to tour East bloc for Soviets**

Timed with the accession of Mikhail Gorbachov to power in the Kremlin, Socialist International chairman Willy Brandt has announced his commitment to "launch a new Ostpolitik" with trips to Hungary, Poland, and Czechoslovakia this spring and summer. Brandt, who once enjoyed the international spotlight as a "world statesman" and "architect of détente" during the Watergate years of the 1970s—until the arrest of his top aide as a KGB spy cut short his career as West Germany's chancellor—will campaign shamelessly against the United States and President Reagan's Strategic Defense Initiative. The theme of Brandt's eastern tour will be to "stop the militarization of space" by forging a "security partnership between Europe and the U.S.S.R."

Meanwhile, Brandt announced, his own West German Social Democratic Party will hold high-level discussions with party officials of the Soviet Union and other Warsaw Pact nations. For example, the SPD will meet with the Soviet Communist Party's working group on disarmament next, to discuss "the relation between the arms race and Third World underdevelopment." On March 8, Brandt met with the Czechoslovak Communist Party's foreign relations expert, Vasil Bilak, and on the weekend of March 16-17, with Soviet Central Committee member Vadim Zagladin, both meetings in Bonn.

## **Carrington in 'hot conflict' with Rogers**

"Lord Carrington is in a hot conflict with Rogers on the question of the SDI," a well-informed NATO parliamentary source told *EIR* upon returning from a trip to Brussels NATO headquarters. "My colleagues and myself were amazed at what lengths Carrington was willing to go to attack Rogers. It was hard to believe that the Secretary-

General of NATO could so attack the top military commander." Carrington, the former British foreign secretary, has been forced in written statements to cover his personal distaste for the SDI with a veneer of united-alliance rhetoric. He seems to be less careful in the spoken word.

## **Bonn minister pushes ECU for East bloc trade**

On March 16, two days after the European central banks resolved at a meeting of the Bank for International Settlements to make the European currency unit, the ECU, partially convertible as a substitute for the U.S. dollar, West German Economics Minister Martin Bangemann called for full convertibility.

"Europe is about to miss its big chance to have its own reserve currency unit, if the ECU is not made fully convertible," Bangemann told economists and managers at a seminar organized by the monetarist magazine *Wirtschaftswoche*. "Also, the Comecon governments have a strong interest in making the ECU available for East-West trade."

Socialist International circles have been arguing for some time that the ECU should replace the dollar on European money markets, as part of a strategy to "decouple" Western Europe from the United States. Former French finance minister Jacques Delors has put forward one such ECU plan. Recent meetings of the Italian Communist Party and the West German SPD have raised the same demand.

## **Belgian prime minister supports Reagan's SDI**

Prime Minister Wilfried Martens said on television March 20 that Western Europe should back the U.S. Strategic Defense Initiative program in order "to be protected by this shield."

Martens' statement reflected a political

shift in Belgium that surfaced when the Belgian cabinet decided on March 15, after long hesitation, to deploy U.S. cruise missiles. Under the terms of this decision, Belgium will initially deploy 16 of the 48 cruises it originally promised in 1979 would eventually be deployed on its territory.

Martens turned the cabinet to his position after his foreign minister, the pro-appeasement figure Leo Tindemans, returned empty-handed from meetings with Soviet foreign minister Andrei Gromyko in Geneva.

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### **López Michelsen rag targets Betancur**

A March 18 editorial in the Colombian daily *El Tiempo*, a mouthpiece for drug kingpin Alfonso López Michelsen, claims that Colombian President Belisario Betancur "lacks the guts" to impose his peace plan on the country. To all intents and purposes, *El Tiempo* insists, Betancur is serving as the "head of the guerrillas." López Michelsen's assault on Betancur is taking advantage of the M-19 terrorists' rejection of the peace plan. Since their mass rally in Bogota over the weekend of March 16-17, where the M-19 showed its affinity with the program of Hitler admirer and dope gangster Carlos Lehder, the M-19 has been holding meetings with other leftist groups to plan a national strike against the Betancur administration, claiming it has "failed to meet" the M-19's economic demands.

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### **Soviet diplomat assassinated in India**

Soviet diplomat Vladislav Khitzichenko was assassinated 200 feet from the Soviet embassy gates in New Delhi March 21 by two men "of Asian origin" on a motorcycle. Five 7.65 mm bullets were fired into the Soviet economics attaché as he rode in his limousine; his wife and son suffered only cuts from flying glass.

No one in India has claimed responsibility for the hit, although in the United States, the Ukrainian Liberation Army has taken credit. Indian authorities immediately searched haunts of Afghan, Palestinian, and Iranian groups.

According to well-informed sources in New Delhi, the Soviets are stalling the investigation. A cover-up could be expected if the victim is a member of the Soviet state security service, the KGB.

New Delhi police commissioner S. S. Jog is looking for a possible connection to the disappearance of Soviet 3rd secretary Igor Gheja on March 17. Gheja, deputy head of the Soviet embassy information section, disappeared in New Delhi during his daily morning walk near Lodi gardens. Authorities are investigating possibilities of kidnapping or defection. Gheja, who was near completion of his five-year stint at the New Delhi post, may have been tied into an "international religious sect," according to Indian press reports.

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### **Arab 'rejectionists' to hold summit meeting**

Concluding two days of talks in Damascus March 22, representatives from the member-countries of the hardline anti-Israeli "rejection front" called for a heads of states summit to be held soon in Damascus to reactivate the movement, in opposition to the peace efforts of Egyptian President Mubarak, Saudi King Fahd, PLO chief Yasser Arafat, and others.

Attending the conference under the chairmanship of Syrian President Hafez al Assad, were Libya's Jalloud, Algeria's Foreign Minister Taleb Ibrahim as an "observer," Iran's Foreign Minister Ali Velayati, and South Yemen's deputy President.

Meanwhile Libya's Col. Muammar Qaddafi threatened on March 19 that he would like to "personally behead" the leaders of Arab states who are trying to work with the United States. "I will help them to deter such weakness," he said.

## Briefly

● **RED IS GAY**, as the Italian Communist Party courts the votes of Italy's homosexuals in hopes of winning a parliamentary majority. Nichi Vendola, a 26-year-old who was seduced by his teacher at age 18, has just been elected to the leadership of the communist youth organization. Can Henry Kissinger be far behind?

● **JESSE JACKSON** admirer Paul Ragsdale flunked his IQ test. After meeting with a Schiller Institute delegation, he circulated an angry letter: "Some of Lyndon LaRouche's followers have been circling the Capitol lately trying to drum up support for ideas they say will help starving Africans. Their real purpose is to enlist our support for their goal of abolishing the International Monetary Fund."

● **MALAYSIA'S** Prime Minister Mahathir introduced a radical change in population policy last year. His government is now promoting the five-child family, to increase the population as fast as possible from 15 million to 70 million. Inspired by the industrial success of Japan and South Korea, the prime minister thinks that his ambitious industrialization program will be impossible without population growth.

● **'VERACITY and Credibility'** was the headline in the March 17 edition of the daily *Diario de Caracas* when columnist Alejandro Tinoco recalled that the *Washington Post's* Bob Woodward once said that "possibly at least 40 people at the *Washington Post* use cocaine regularly. In spite of the editor's denials, doubts are still floating around."

● **SWISS DEFENSE** Minister Delamoras was slated to arrive in Washington, D.C. on April 1 for talks with Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger. Also planned were trips to Boston and New York.