

# International Intelligence

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## ***Birgit Nilsson endorses scientific tuning***

World-famous soprano Birgit Nilsson of Sweden has signed a call for a return to scientific tuning C = 256 (A = 432), against the higher A = 440 currently practiced.

The petition originated with a conference in Milan sponsored by the Schiller Institute, where it was resolved that the tuning had to be lowered not only to save young voices, but because shifts in register occurring in the music of the classical composers were distorted by the higher tuning introduced in this century. The conference and petition have been endorsed by Renata Tebaldi, Montserrat Caballé, Plácido Domingo, Kurt Moll, and many other international music figures.

Nilsson stated that if the higher tuning is continued much longer, there soon will not be any tenors left. She testified from personal experience that high tuning is devastating to the voice. She recalled an occasion when, one day after having sung at the Metropolitan opera in New York, she sang in Vienna, where the Philharmonic Orchestra was tuning to A = 446, which she recognized because her voice protested.

Other recent signatories are soprano Ann-Charlotte Björling (daughter of tenor Jussi Björling), singer Eva Serning, singing instructor Birgit Stenberg, opera singer Lars Billengren, singing instructor Thorsten Foellinger, 'cello and guitar teacher Mikael Klarstroem, the head of the opera in Reykjavik, Iceland, Gardar Cortez, and two Danish opera singers, Lone Koppel, a soprano who has sung most dramatic roles at the Danish Royal Theater, and Christian Soerensen.

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## ***Old fascist circle outlines AIDS program***

"Nation Europa," a Germany-based organization that is the leading neo-fascist formation of the postwar era, has issued a call for concentration camps and euthanasia against AIDS victims.

Nation Europa which was founded in 1951 and claims, for example, that Hitler betrayed "real" fascism, is the "spiritual mother" of the West German Republikaner Party and the neo-Nazi NPD.

In a publication entitled, "AIDS: An Epidemic Is Changing the World," the organization argues that euthanasia should become legal for AIDS victims; they should be put in concentration camps; their treatment should be the same that it used to be for persons with leprosy, i.e., no treatment; there should be no research or treatment with "Retrovir" or AZT, because it is much too expensive; all foreigners with AIDS should be expelled from the country.

Adopting the viewpoint of the late Bertrand Russell, Nation Europa argues that nature does not allow overpopulation—and that AIDS is nature's way of solving the problem.

The Nation Europa "program" is interesting, in that it hardly differs at all from the standing policy of most governments toward AIDS.

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## ***Singapore ups challenge to State Department***

After expelling one diplomat in mid-May for attempting to organize and finance an opposition to the government of Lee Kuan Yew, Singapore has issued a challenge to American diplomats it accuses of interfering in its politics, to a "television confrontation" to debate the U.S. State Department's contention that they did nothing wrong.

Singapore expelled E. Mason Hendrickson for meeting with a group of dissident lawyers whom he promised U.S. financing should they mount an electoral challenge to the government.

Trade and Industry Minister Lee Hsien Loong said that Singapore is willing to arrange a "satellite television confrontation" between the U.S. diplomats and two of the dissident lawyers they tried to instigate, "so that all the countries in Southeast Asia can see the Americans clear their name."

Singapore announced on May 31 that it would reduce the number of U.S. embassy

staff and become non-aligned if American diplomats insisted on interfering in domestic politics. First Deputy Prime Minister Goh Chok Tung told parliament, "If American diplomats behave as if they have a missionary right to roam all over Singapore, including off-limits areas, whether such behavior is official U.S. State Department policy or not, then we have no choice but to cut down their diplomatic staff strength."

Goh, without mentioning what was done to Ferdinand Marcos in the Philippines, said the United States was trying to reshape the political future of South Korea, Taiwan, and the Philippines. He noted that the U.S. embassy in Singapore had 22 diplomats and 44 non-diplomatic staff. By contrast, the Soviet Union had only 8 diplomats and 18 non-diplomatic staff.

Meanwhile, in the second crackdown in a year on "liberation theology" in Singapore, Archbishop Gregory Yong has ordered priests to stop holding special services for political dissidents confined at the government's detention center.

Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew told parliament on May 27 that some Marxists and liberation theologians hide behind the Church as they work to broaden their network. Since 8 dissidents were re-arrested April 19, as many as 15 priests have conducted each service, with members of the congregation sporting yellow tee-shirts with the Biblical quotation, "The truth will set you free."

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## ***Japanese terrorist traveled widely***

Japanese Red Army terrorist Yasuhiro Shibata, arrested in Tokyo early in May, was in Britain in January, to re-establish contact with other terrorist groups and buy arms and explosives, security experts report.

Britain's *Daily Mail* has reported that Shibata was also in Paris, Brussels, Amsterdam, and Hong Kong in the past year.

Shibata, arrested in a joint Japanese-South Korean security operation that is part of ongoing efforts to protect the Summer Olympics in Seoul, is part of the Japanese Red Army group that spent most of the past decade in North Korea; another group was