

International Intelligence

Mass sterilization of the retarded in China

The People's Republic of China is conducting mass sterilization of retarded people, according to the *New York Times* on Aug. 20. Five thousand have been sterilized in the province of Gansu, which in 1988 became the first of several provinces to adopt eugenics laws requiring retarded people who want to marry to first be sterilized. A retarded person who becomes pregnant is forced to abort.

The decision as to who is retarded is determined by local doctors, who in rural areas often only have high school degrees.

A national eugenics law is currently being drafted, which will be called the "Good Baby, Good Mother" law in the English translation, to avoid conjuring up images of Hitler's policy of exterminating "useless eaters." Prime Minister Li Peng is quoted by the *Times* saying, "Mentally retarded persons give birth to idiots."

Researchers have shown that the 5 to 12 million retarded in China are primarily the result of poor prenatal care and birth procedures, or of dietary deficiencies like lack of iodine.

Egypt's Mubarak: Lift the sanctions!

Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak called for lifting the U.N.-imposed sanctions against Iraq, in an interview published by the state-owned magazine *Al Mussawar* on Aug. 21. "We strongly sympathize with the Iraqi people in their present ordeal, resulting from the miscalculations of their leadership."

The day before, the Iraqi delegate to the Arab League, Nabil Najim, had told the press in Cairo that he had asked the secretary general of the League to try to persuade the United Nations to ease the sanctions.

Mubarak said that he opposes suggestions that the United States and other Western countries mount air strikes to destroy

Iraq's nuclear installations. He said he had communicated his position to President George Bush through Secretary of State James Baker, when Baker visited Egypt in July. He also announced that Egyptian troops will leave Kuwait at the end of August. The withdrawal started when the Kuwait rulers changed their mind on a security agreement that would have kept Syrian and Egyptian forces permanently in the country as the core of a security force.

Pope: East Europe must find its Christian roots

Speaking in Budapest, Hungary on Aug. 19, Pope John Paul II appealed for the newly freed nations of eastern Europe to look to their Christian heritage, as well as their national identities, in order to find meaning in a rapidly changing world. "People go so far as to propose to live practically without God," he said, "and forget the national identity and that noble patrimony of values, thanks to which to be a Hungarian and a Christian and thus being part of a Christian Europe represent one and the same thing."

"It is difficult to live according to a good conscience in such a world," said the Pope. "Therefore I tell you: Be strong. . . . Dig out your Christian and Hungarian roots. Enter again the flow of history of this continent, not as those who arrive the last and beg to be accepted, but as the carriers of a great European tradition, whose origin lies in Christianity."

"You are called to be missionaries in your own land," said the Pope, speaking to the youth. "You have to confront the ignorance which derives from the lack of an adequate catechism. But you will have also to confront materialism and consumerism."

The Pope had also treated this theme in Poland on Aug. 16, speaking to an international youth conference in Czestochowa. "Do not submit to mediocrity, do not surrender to the conditioning of the current fashion," he said.

"Dear young people, you know that the collapse of the ideology in the eastern Euro-

pean countries has left in many of your comrades the feeling of a big vacuum, the impression of having been cheated, and a depressing anxiety about the future. Also in the western European countries many young people have lost the reasons for which to live. The drug problem is a symptom of this deep loss. The lack of interest for politics in many is the indication of a sense of impotence in the fight for the good. To these brothers and sisters, you are sent as messengers of the Good News of salvation."

Colombia's Gaviria names civilian defense minister

Conforming to the demands of narco-terrorist guerrilla groups and U.S. policymakers, Colombian President César Gaviria on Aug. 22 requested the resignation of his defense minister, Gen. Oscar Botero Restrepo, who has held the post for four years. In his place, Gaviria named Rafael Pardo Rueda, an official with no military background, and who was indeed the architect of the plan to "amnesty" the M-19 terrorists. Pardo was the "peace adviser" to Gaviria's predecessor, President Virgilio Barco, and has played a similar role in the Gaviria government.

According to the daily *La Prensa*, the project to install a civilian in the post was devised in the United States. "The decision to name a civilian defense minister was studied and practically adopted at Harvard University. In effect, President Gaviria solicited and received a favorable recommendation from Prof. Roger Fisher," who has been studying this, the paper reported.

The military is outraged, and Gen. Fernando Landazábal Reyes, a former defense minister, told *La Prensa* that Gaviria's decision is "a disaster, a contradictory attitude, and a concession [to] the Colombian guerrillas. . . . Colombia is not at a point where relieving a military man of the post is called for. It is an error by President Gaviria. . . . We are in an internal war, and that must be understood."

As *EIR* has reported, the Anglo-American establishment is out to destroy the armed

forces of all Ibero-American countries as an effective force in defense of national sovereignty, turning them into merely "constabulary" armies, on the model of Panama. The appointment of a civilian defense minister, in violation of longstanding tradition, must be seen in this context.

China deports friends of democracy leaders

The Beijing government at the end of August deported four foreigners who had come to meet with the families of two jailed leaders of China's democracy movement, Wang Juntao and Chen Ziming. All of the visitors are of Chinese descent; their visas were "revoked for activities incompatible with the status of their visas," a Canadian embassy official told UPI, quoting a Chinese police spokesman.

Chen, 39, and Wang, 33, are serving 13-year prison terms for masterminding the 1989 Tiananmen Square protests. Both reportedly went on a week-long hunger strike to protest poor conditions at Beijing No. 2 Prison.

The hideous conditions at the prison have become the focus of an international mobilization. Both prisoners live in solitary confinement in tiny, dimly lit cells, with open drains for toilets. Wang is reported to be suffering from hepatitis, which the Chinese authorities deny. His wife, Hou Xiaotian, has described him as "despondent."

Hou has been outspoken, taking a great risk in doing so, as officials have begun to re-arrest released prisoners who have spoken out after their release. Hou spent several months in prison after the Tiananmen Square events. She has already temporarily lost her once-a-month visiting right to see her husband. U.S. Rep. Arthur Ravenel (R-S.C.) met with Hou, despite obstruction from the government, and is publicizing the case.

Several of the Democracy Movement groups in the U.S. are rallying behind the case, and a rally was held on Aug. 17, in

front of the Chinese embassy in Washington, addressed by journalist dissident Liu Binyan and others, where Li Lu, one of the activists, went on a hunger strike. Li was a hunger striker at Tiananmen.

Argentine weekly charges U.S. rights violations

The Buenos Aires weekly *El Informador Público* on Aug. 23 published a very detailed and accurate article on the U.S. Justice Department's political persecution of Lyndon LaRouche, noting that "it constitutes another of the numerous occasions on which the U.S. government openly and shamefully violates fundamental human rights." LaRouche is currently serving a 15-year prison sentence on trumped-up charges.

The article, written by Guillermo Frugoni Rey, describes LaRouche as an "expression of a humanist right wing," who has a "great following among anti-imperialist and anti-monetarist sectors of the U.S. economic and political spectrum, as well as among left-wing and right-wing nationalists in Latin America and the rest of the Third World." The article reports LaRouche's programmatic proposals for Ibero-America, adding that his anticolonialist focus "profoundly bothered" the U.S. political establishment.

The persecution of LaRouche was launched, *Informador* wrote, because "the growing programmatic influence of LaRouche's ideas among Latin American nations, and even in Washington" made him too much of a risk for the establishment. His ideas "are diametrically opposed to those of Henry Kissinger and the interests of the sectors he represents." LaRouche's freedom, the article concludes, "requires the intervention of the international community in defense of the most elementary human rights. . . . The case of LaRouche and his collaborators is a classic example of the existence of political prisoners in a country which claims there are none within its borders."

● **STANISLAW TYMINSKI**, the Canadian libertarian and financial wheeler-dealer who unsuccessfully challenged Lech Walesa in presidential elections last year, has returned to Poland to organize a party to run in the October parliamentary elections, sources close to him report.

● **ARGENTINA'S ARMY** faces "restructuring," in a plan which will eliminate conscription, reduce manpower to no more than 30,000, and base almost all soldiers at remote border posts. The new plan will reconceptualize the Army as strictly defensive, incapable of waging an offensive, and creating a "rapid deployment force" involving relatively few people.

● **CHINESE CP** hardliner Wang Zhen, in the first public response to developments in Russia, called for strengthening the control of the Chinese Communist Party, particularly over the Army, and praised the party for crushing the "counterrevolutionary rebellion," referring to the Tiananmen Square massacre of 1989.

● **IRAN** sought confirmation of the death of former prime minister Shahpour Bakhtiar 24 hours before French police found his body in his Paris home, according to the French weekly *L'Express*. The magazine said the U.S. and Britain had intercepted a message from Iran's Information and Security Ministry to one of its European units, seeking verification that Bakhtiar was dead.

● **THE U.N.** Human Rights Commission's Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities passed a resolution on Chinese repression in Tibet on Aug. 24. It noted "continuing reports of violations of fundamental human rights and freedoms which threaten the distinct cultural, religious, and national identity of the Tibetan people."