

International Intelligence

Aristide unleashes jacobin mobs in Haiti

With most of Haiti's leading opposition political figures having fled the country, gone into hiding, or simply refusing to participate because of expected fraud, René Preval, of the ruling Lavalas party, has emerged as the leading candidate in the Presidential elections, now scheduled for Dec. 17. Preval, who some consider even more radical than President Jean-Bertrand Aristide, according to wire reports, was Aristide's first prime minister in 1991. When Parliament refused to confirm his appointment, Aristide sent a mob with tires to surround Parliament and threaten to "necklace" the lawmakers unless they ratified Preval as prime minister.

But this time, Aristide is holding his silence regarding Preval's candidacy, and meanwhile mobs are rioting and roaming the streets of Gonaive, Cap-Haïtien, Les Cayes, Port-au-Prince, and elsewhere demanding that the ex-priest extend his time in office, and threatening to kill any candidate who seeks to succeed him. The mobs—whose demands that Aristide remain in power have been publicly supported by Peter Hakim, the head of the pro-drug Inter-American Dialogue—killed at least two people during the second week of November and burned several buildings down. The rampage intensified after Aristide delivered a speech Nov. 11 calling on the population to go with police into their neighbors' homes to raid them for weapons.

Italian liberals want new phase of chaos

The magazine *Liberal* sponsored a meeting in Italy on Nov. 14, collecting all major representatives of the "liberal-technocratic" elite, in which it was decided that the institutional demolition started in 1992 with the "Clean Hands" corruption trials has not been enough and a new phase of "institutional reforms," including a constitutional change, is needed in order to "complete" the transi-

tion to a "British form of democracy." Organizer of the "Friends of the Liberal" meeting is Ferdinando Adornato, a former partner of *Limes* editor Lucio Caracciolo. (*Limes* magazine is dedicated to the notion of erecting a wall like the Limes put up by the Roman Empire, to keep immigrants out of Europe.) Participants at the meeting signed a "Liberal" manifesto calling for changing the second part of the Italian constitution, according to *Corriere della Sera* of Nov. 16.

Prominent signers were: Fiat manager Cesare Romiti, former ambassador Sergio Romano, former head of the Constitutional Court Antonio Baldassarre, "progressist" Sen. Franco De Benedetti (financier Carlo's brother), and Mino Martinazzoli, the man who oversaw the disintegration of the Catholic party during his term as secretary general of the Christian Democracy in 1993. "Clean Hands" hero Antonio Di Pietro, present at the meeting, did not sign the manifesto, but has supported the idea in print.

Sharon makes his move in Israel

By seeking "consensus" between the Labor Party and the extreme right-wing settler-based wing of the Likud, Gen. Ariel Sharon sees a chance to increase his own political power, reported an article in the *Wall Street Journal* of Nov. 17. Sharon, best known as the butcher of Lebanon, believes that the Israeli government must sit down with his faction "and reach a consensus on a map that will provide the Palestinians with the possibility to run their lives without interference and allow us to keep the security we need in our hands."

The *Journal* quotes Dore Gold, an analyst at the Jaffe Center for Strategic Studies in Tel Aviv, as supporting this role for Sharon, because: "Sharon is still considered one of the major security geniuses of the Israeli army. He has a tremendous amount of authority on these issues."

Harry Wall, director of the Jerusalem office of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, said: "The Israeli public wants

the politicians to find a middle ground. Sharon sees getting the two sides together as a way back into power."

Meanwhile, Sharon was quoted in a British wire service Nov. 17 as saying that Syria hopes it will "get more, faster," from Acting Prime Minister Shimon Peres, than it could have gotten from slain Prime Minister Rabin. Sharon called on Peres, who on Nov. 16 launched formal efforts to form a government within a week, telling Peres that he must consult with mainstream opposition on peace moves.

Ollie North crony in Lockerbie coverup

The issue of the British satire-spook magazine *Private Eye* which came out in mid-November indicated that a crony of Lt. Col. Oliver North was responsible for the British Foreign Office coverup of the 1988 terror bombing of an airliner over Lockerbie, Scotland.

Under the headline, "The Man from Lockerbie," the magazine claimed that the British Foreign Office has told Scottish parliamentarian Tom Dalyell, that the Foreign Office official who "from 1988 to 1991 was responsible for the international aspects of the Lockerbie affair" was Andrew Green.

Green, *Private Eye* asserted, "was named in the diaries of Oliver North, the U.S. presidential aide who set up the Iran-Contra 'arms for hostages' scandal in the 1980s. According to the diaries, Green, who was a counselor in the British embassy in Washington, met North in May 1984 to discuss a series of secret arms-for-hostages meetings in London later that year. In 1985, Green was transferred to the embassy at Saudi Arabia, where he lasted through both Al Yamamah arms deals signed by Margaret Thatcher and King Fahd—the biggest arms deal in the history of the world.

"In 1988, he came back to London to take charge of Lockerbie. At first, the Foreign Office suspected that a Palestinian gang succored by the Syrian government was responsible for the Lockerbie bomb. Al-

though the case against the gang was overwhelming, the FO's suspicions faded, as the Syrian government joined the British and U.S. governments in the Gulf war against Saddam Hussein.

"In 1991, Mr. Green became ambassador to Syria. Later that year, Syria was cleared by the U.S. and British governments of all suspicions over Lockerbie."

Mexican bishops see idolatry in globalization

During its 59th Plenary Assembly, which began Nov. 13, the Mexican Conference of Bishops warned that "profit and power have become the new 'God' which dominates everything. . . . We are facing one of the most abominable forms of idolatry, and the country today is living through the catastrophic results of the expectations of globalization and modernization."

Speaking at a mass prior to the opening of the annual meeting, the Catholic bishop of Tapachula, Felipe Arizmendi, emphasized that Mexico should not tie itself to international lending institutions which demand that the country scrupulously implement all of its conditionalities. "We should denounce those mechanisms of the market economy which fundamentally hurt the poor." Leaders must be freed to "freely and creatively" seek an economic structure which is less unjust and inhuman, the bishops said.

China scores nuclear discrimination

China attacked the other four big nuclear powers for discrimination against developing nations, reported the Nov. 17 issue of the *International Herald Tribune*. A policy document, issued by the official Xinhua news agency Nov. 16, also attacked the U.S., Britain, France, and Russia for continuing to develop "nuclear weapons and outer space weapons, including guided missile defense systems." The big nuclear pow-

ers, "on the one hand, vie with one another in dumping their advanced weapons on the international market, even using weapons transfers as a means to interfere in other nations' domestic affairs, and, on the other, they resort to discriminative anti-proliferation and arms control measures, directing the spearhead of arms control at the developing countries," the document stated.

While China is committed to fighting the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, the statement said, "There must not be a double standard whereby anti-nuclear proliferation is used as a pretext to limit or retard the peaceful use of nuclear energy by developing nations."

Schiller Institute gives all-Beethoven concert

In honor of the Beethoven Year of 1995—celebrating the 225th anniversary of Ludwig van Beethoven's birth—the Schiller Institute of Germany sponsored a concert on Nov. 3 at the Dusseldorf City Museum, where students of Prof. Kurt Moll and Prof. Reinhard Leisenheimer from the Cologne Conservatory sang songs and arias by Beethoven.

The unusual all-Beethoven program included the cycle "An die ferne Geliebte," and songs, "Ich liebe dich," "Gretels Warnung," "Adelaide," "Nur wer die Sehnsucht kennt," the six sacred songs to poems by Gellert, the concert aria "Ah, Perfido!" and from the opera *Fidelio*, the duet "Jetzt Schätzchen, jetzt sind wir allein," Rocco's "Das Gold" aria and the marvelous quartet "Mir ist so wunderbar." Four sopranos, a tenor, a baritone, and a bass participated from among the student singers.

A special treat was Professor Leisenheimer's expressive rendition of the Gellert songs in his rich, baritone tenor. He stressed that he considered such concert appearances an important part of the training of young singers, and praised the Schiller Institute's work to restore the classical "Verdi" tuning of A-432 (instead of today's prevailing pitch of A-440 and higher).

Briefly

● **MALAYSIA'S** Islamist posturing doesn't seem to have inhibited their plans to build a massive hotel and casino on a small island off the coast of Sihanoukville, in Cambodia. The Malaysian firm Ariston Sdn Bhd will also rebuild the city's airport and build a power plant to run the computer slot machines for the still backward, war-torn, and impoverished nation.

● **BEIJING** for the first time in history has made an effort to make its military transparent to the outside world by publishing the White Paper on Defense, which restates that China will not seek world or regional dominance, that it will not produce nor possess chemical and biological weapons, and that it will exercise great restraint in the development of nuclear weapons.

● **ALAROUCHE** associated electoral slate, "Civil Rights Movement-Solidarity" in Germany, made impressive gains in the recent Berlin elections. The movement's candidates had won under 0.1% in October 1994. This October, three gained more than double that rate, and a fourth, Heiko Ziemann, won 1.5% of the votes. This was only slightly behind the Free Democratic Party, which holds three key ministries in the Bonn government.

● **THE GERMAN** military must be ready for military conflicts in the future Europe, Gen. Klaus Naumann, Inspector General of the German Armed Forces, said at a security policy conference in Munich on Nov. 18. He urged Germany to participate in international missions, such as that planned for the Balkans.

● **CANADIAN** university students have begun protesting as their tuition fees have almost doubled in the last 10 years; last year in the province of Alberta, they were raised 10.5%, from \$2,450 to \$2,790; fees in Ontario rose by 9.1%, as Lord William Rees-Mogg's vision of education for only 5% of the population gets implemented in this corner of the British Empire.