

## Report from Paris by C. Agricola

### Papal visit unleashes mad dogs

*The campaign by freemasons and Zapatista-supporters has been marked by truly amazing eruptions of imbecility.*

There is a Russian saying, "He who keeps a dog, need not bark himself!" Were the French "cultural elites" to stop barking at the upcoming papal visit, they might at least retain a little threadbare dignity. But evidently, this is not to be.

The pope is to visit four French cities Sept. 19-22, at the invitation of President Chirac, and in honor of the 1,500th anniversary of the baptism of King Chlodowig, known in France as Clovis.

Months ago, the daily *Le Monde* kicked off a campaign against the visit. As France plunges deeper into depression, assorted freemasonic and anarchist riff-raff fret that the notion of *Caritas* put forward by Catholic Church figures close to John Paul II, such as Cardinal Bishop Lustiger, will recruit youth to an anti-Darwinian spiritual mode.

In the Tours diocese, a group has been making the rounds to encourage people to be "debaptized"—to remove themselves from the register of baptism; several dozen have apparently done so, in what is intended by its instigators to become a nationwide movement in favor of what one might call non-existence.

In the front ranks of the slavering pack, there is the Réseau Voltaire, a collection of police provocateurs, which has taken time off from building support for the Zapatista insurgency in Mexico, to launch law suits against municipal and regional bodies that approved subsidies to the papal visit. They have now succeeded in getting the Administrative Tribunals to strike

down the subsidies. The Voltarians have announced, through their president Thierry Meyssan, that immediately after the visit, they will "go through the accounts of each town the pope shall have visited, and take to the Criminal Courts those prelates, who benefitted from the use of two military bases and from the services of thousands of officials, in order that they be made accountable to the population they have despoiled."

Meyssan, under the title "The Elysée and the Vatican Against the Republic," scribbled in *Le Monde*: "The Holy See is, by its very nature, hostile to the constitutional principle of laicity, since it is both a religious and a political power, both the Roman Catholic Church, and the Vatican State. . . . Let us denounce his diplomacy. . . . This pope . . . celebrates the Christian family, while throwing anathema upon all sorts of families: single parent families, homosexual families, etc., in the name of a single, totalitarian family." Meyssan waves off triumphantly, remarking that tens of thousands will demonstrate against the pope's visit on Sept. 22.

This will be a pretty sight! The Grand Orient Freemasonic Lodge, namely, the upper crust of the Parisian business world, will take part, alongside the Communist Revolutionary League, the Greens, and assorted violence-prone stragglers who make up the Réseau Voltaire.

Note that the Réseau Voltaire's little operation with the Administrative Tribunals would seem to have been spurred on, not by the anarchist rabble,

but by more exalted circles. Michel Tubiana, vice-president of the well-connected League for Human Rights, virtually said as much to *Le Figaro*: "The vastly inflated means put at the pope's disposal go way beyond the Republic's obligation toward a foreign head of state. The Administrative Tribunals have begun to remind us of same. . . . It is not a whit old-fashioned to recall this fact at a point in time when . . . the privileges granted a single church represent unjustifiable discrimination, bearing heavy consequences in their train."

Getting down to the bottom of things, to coin a phrase, was the Director General of Yves St. Laurent International and former head of the Opera, Pierre Bergé, who, for some reason best known to his hairdresser, is one of the most powerful figures on the French "cultural" scene. M. Bergé, who is not married to a woman, has just written a book against the unfortunate King Chlodowig. He told *Le Figaro*: "This whole business with Chlodowig shows one thing clearly: The Church still has not digested the Enlightenment, the Revolution, and the Republic. The Church has not laid down her arms."

This would all be greatly amusing, save for the fact that there have already been several assassination attempts against the pope, at least one of which, that by Father Krol in Portugal, was run through French fundamentalist networks. And the National Front's perfervid propaganda for King Chlodowig has been mounted precisely to shape an environment whereby the pope will attract hostile elements of every stripe. On Sept. 3, a powerful bomb was discovered at the Church of St. Laurent sur Sèvres, precisely at the spot where the Pope is to kneel and pray in memory of Saint Louis-Marie Grignon de Montfort, a 17th-century missionary.