

destabilization plan organized by NATO.

According to reports in *Corriere della Sera* and other papers, that plan is a guideline for profiling and manipulating terrorist groups to destabilize governments not liked by the NATO leadership.

In Maria Grazia Gelli's suitcase, the magistrates also found documents about the Socialist State Industries Minister, Gianni De Michelis. De Michelis, according to these papers, has been involved in financial crimes with his brother-in-law, Count Barnabò, a Venetian nobleman believed to be hiding in Latin America because of his role in helping one of the top neofascists involved in the 1969 Milan Bank of Agriculture bombing massacre.

De Michelis and his Venetian oligarch friends have also been linked to "red" terrorism. The Socialist minister sponsored the early career of Prof. Toni Negri, the head of the Autonomi who was jailed for masterminding the Aldo Moro murder at the hands of the Red Brigades. The first left subversive magazine in Italy was launched by the De Michelis family publishing house in the 1960s.

But the arrogance of the Socialists has no limits. After the documents on his crimes had already been sequestered, De Michelis—engaged in the new Spadolini government's campaign to cut the cost of living escalator and impose tens of thousand of layoffs in the public industries—accused the unions opposing his austerity of being communist and "terrorist."

The strategy of crushing the labor organizations, the principal task of the Spadolini government, is parallel to the efforts to cover up the P-2 scandal. In fact, despite the investigations, the only real obstacle the P-2 forces now encounter is the trade unions. Once the cut in the cost of living escalator is imposed, nothing can block the successive destruction of the unions, and no force will be able to oppose the plan to "restructure" the Italian economy, as follows.

According to the Spadolini-De Michelis plans, the whole economy will be put in the hands of the Banca Nazionale del Lavoro, Banca Commerciale, and the Monte dei Paschi under the supervision of the British-controlled Bank of Italy (see Economics). These are the banks of P-2!

The recent crash of the Milan stock market is part of this plan. The crash was provoked directly by the Venetian financial interests represented by Cesare Merzagora, the former Senate president and the boss of the powerful Assicurazioni Generali insurance conglomerate. Merzagora and his oligarchical owners have already succeeded in changing the law under which banks cannot intervene in buying shares of industries. If this project goes on, in a short time Merzagora's crowd will be able to buy up the entire economy at half-price and kill the industries they don't find "useful."

FRANCE

Mitterrand clinches national socialism

by Dana Sloan

Two months into François Mitterrand's seven-year term as president of the French Republic, a series of dramatic shifts is taking place in the country's policies and institutional structures. Unchecked, they will mean the end of the French Republic.

This should not be taken as a warning that concerns the much-publicized participation of four Communist Party members in the new government. France's drift toward "1984" stems from the person of Mitterrand himself. Mitterrand was described to *EIR* sources, some years ago, by a senior member of the French ruling elite, as one of the very few leading French politicians who had any grasp of world strategic realities. In his case, this means a knowledge and commitment to the zero-technological-growth, "world federalist" order that is the near-term strategic objective of the Venice and London-centered "old families" which expended so much effort over the past decade to bring him to power. Mitterrand was put into power with aid of massive funding from Qaddafi's Venetian colony of Libya, and British intelligence rigging of the French elections.

If Mitterrand has any commitment to "French" interests, it is not to the nation-state rebuilt by de Gaulle, but to the subservient role of a revived "French Empire" within the world empire of the Venice-London forces.

Mitterrand was a Nazi collaborator, receiving the highest decorations of the Vichy government. By D-Day, he had placed himself at the service of British intelligence. During the Fourth Republic, he held various ministerial posts, advocated French prosecution of the Indochinese and Algerian wars, and demanded French subservience to NATO. With de Gaulle's restoration of France, Mitterrand became his most vocal and venomous political opponent, not ending his denunciations of de Gaulle, "the dictator," until the great general's retirement. He built his Socialist Party on the strength of the *sans-culottes* "spirit of May 1968," and continuous campaigning for the destruction of the institutions, the industrial capabilities and the nation-building foreign policy of Fifth Republic governments. Mitterrand personally is described by leading circles today as a dictatorial Robes-

pierre, who has the backing of powerful international oligarchical forces, and sees himself as the mystic prophet of the new French national socialism.

Foreign policy

France under Giscard d'Estaing directed its policies toward nation-building in the Third World. Exemplary was Giscard's "trialogue" proposal for French cooperation with Arab states to achieve economic development in Africa.

On July 15 a Mitterrand foreign policy spokesman announced that the embargo on weapons sales to Qaddafi, imposed by Giscard after Libya's Chad invasion, was being lifted, and that all other contractual relations between France and Libya would be resumed. Normalization of French-Libyan relations, signaling the end of any positive, nation-building French role in the Third World, began immediately after Mitterrand's May 10 election victory. Qaddafi, who made considerable campaign contributions to Mitterrand, publicly claimed personal credit for Giscard's overthrow.

The July 15 statement of the French foreign ministry spokesman declared that, "on the economic and commercial levels, the French government seeks to entertain normal relations with Libya." Concretely, in addition to 30 Mirage F1 fighter-jets, helicopters and rapid-patrol boats that will now be delivered to Qaddafi, France's state-controlled oil company, Elf-Aquitaine, will resume drilling and exploration activities in Libya.

The Arab side of Giscard's "trialogue" is also destroyed. Mitterrand proudly proclaimed recently that he was the only French politician who really supported Camp David—the Carter administration scheme to extend NATO into the Middle East based on a core alliance between Israel and Egypt. To his alignment with the Tripoli dictatorship, Mitterrand has added an alignment with Menachem Begin's Jerusalem, and Khomeini's feudal theocracy in Teheran which also recently benefited from the lifting of an arms embargo imposed by Giscard.

The European-Arab collaboration, which Giscard developed to provide an alternative to Camp David for a general Mideast peace, is now finished. Mitterrand will continue the strong military and intelligence role of France in countries like Saudi Arabia. But France's military role in the Middle East will now be subsumed under a general redeployment and extension of NATO forces into the region. According to Pierre Uri, a Mitterrand adviser who heads the Atlantic Institute in Paris, Mitterrand wants a general renegotiation of NATO's prerogatives in order to expand NATO into new "geographical spheres." Under the arrangement Mitterrand desires, France would serve as NATO's extension into the Middle East.

The International Institute for Strategic Studies in

London, and the Council on Foreign Relations in New York, have both recently made proposals to this effect.

In Latin America, Mitterrand is shifting French policy toward strict observance of the Socialist International doctrine of "wars of national liberation," a doctrine that places France in alliance with the Jesuit order and Cuba's Fidel Castro. The new French government will get its first opportunity to begin setting the new policy into motion when Foreign Minister Claude Cheysson embarks on a trip to Central America which will take him from Costa Rica to Nicaragua and Honduras during early August.

On the European front, Mitterrand has declared the end of the Franco-German axis initiated by de Gaulle and developed by Giscard; he has put relations with the Soviet Union in the deep freeze. The counterpart to this policy is the new "intimacy" with London, as Cheysson has called it, the emergence of new relations with China, and favorable pronouncements on the deployment of NATO's Euromissiles that previously would have been considered impossible.

Relations with Bonn and Moscow

On every possible occasion, including his recent summit meeting in Bonn with West German Chancellor Schmidt, Mitterrand and his ministers have declared that the Franco-German alliance, previously at the center of Western European policy-making, never existed at all, and that Europe must be organized around a series of equal relationships. Some relationships being more equal than others, open arms will now go toward London, with whom Foreign Minister Cheysson in particular is developing a special rapport. Cheysson has emphasized the need to coordinate *industrial* as well as foreign policy with London.

Adding insult to injury, Mitterrand has asked Schmidt's principal opponent inside his own party, Socialist International president Willy Brandt, to spend his holiday at Mitterrand's summer villa. This invitation to the unofficial leader of Europe's anti-NATO "peace movement," Brandt, by a Mitterrand who has now endorsed NATO's deployment of Pershing and Cruise missiles on West German soil, only emphasizes the purpose of the "peace movement," the destabilization and early overthrow of Schmidt's government.

Although traditional Gaullist détente policy over the past 20 years would have dictated that, shortly after Cheysson's trip to Washington last month, he would undertake a similar introductory visit to Moscow, Cheysson announced in early July that France would not have "normal" relations with the Soviet Union so long as Soviet troops were in Afghanistan. Mitterrand announced that he will not make any trips to Moscow either. Mitterrand has now cut off the Soviets' heretofore single most important connection to the West, a

connection which more than once has pulled the world back from the brink of war.

Mitterrand's declaration of full support for NATO's decision to deploy Pershing and Cruise missiles in West Germany and other NATO countries is an even more radical shift from his predecessors. The very fact of taking a public position on this question—which the Giscard government had made a definite point of not doing—has, in the words of *Le Figaro's* foreign policy commentator, Paul Marie de la Gorce, crucial implications for “the political and strategic interests of the country.” De la Gorce, who often reflects the thinking of Giscard's circles, warned on July 8 that Mitterrand's support for a NATO “counterforce confrontation strategy” has all the earmarks of being a “first, disguised way of putting France's own strategy into question,” undercutting the Gaullist doctrines that have prevailed since France withdrew from NATO's military command in 1966. The Soviet Union could now include French forces in the headcount of NATO strength for purposes of any arms negotiations, thereby destroying France's ability “to freely develop its research and production of nuclear weapons at a sufficient level to ensure its security,” de la Gorce concluded.

Another event which, though it passed without official commentary from Moscow, could not have gone unnoticed, was the unprecedented five-day visit to France made by the Chinese army's chief of staff who, after meeting with Defense Minister Charles Hernu, spent much time inspecting French military bases.

All told, the changes taking place in French foreign policy draw the world significantly closer to the threshold of war with the Soviet Union.

Domestic policy

Domestically, France is in the process of being turned into a totalitarian state, under the usual socialist guise of “democratization.” The parallels to the “democratic” reforms initiated by Robespierre and his zealots during the French Revolution are striking, but even as Mitterrand's most consistent backers in the French press admit, what took place in 1789 pales in comparison to what lies ahead. *Le Monde*, which has been the high priest of Mitterrand's new revolution, recently wrote that the administration reforms being carried out by Minister of the Interior and Decentralization (and protector of the heroin racket as Marseilles mayor) Gaston Defferre, add up to “the most profound revolution in the State since King Louis XI set it up in the latter part of the 15th century.”

Under the Defferre Laws, now voted up by the Socialist Party-dominated National Assembly, the prefectural system of state-appointed “governors” is being abolished, with power instead being transferred to locally elected regional assemblies—elected, it should be

noted, during a period of Socialist fervor at the polls. Exploiting frustration with a bureaucratic system requiring small towns to get permission from Paris for any local projects of significance, the new measures will now make any such projects *entirely dependent on the local financial resources of said town, thus bringing economic development to a stand-still.*

The National Assembly also put its rubber stamp on a bill to abolish the State Security Court, created by General de Gaulle to put the terrorist criminals of the OAS on trial for crimes against the state. Since then, the State Security Court has sentenced hundreds of terrorists, ranging from Corsican or Breton autonomists to the Direct Action “left” terrorists, to jail. By the time Mitterrand gets through with his post-inauguration amnesty—a measure usually limited to minor infractions such as parking violations and the like—something in the neighborhood of 10,000 terrorist criminals will be set free to roam the streets. The Military Courts will also be abolished by the Defferre Laws.

The transformation of France goes beyond the alteration of forms of rule. Under the Socialist Party and its hatchetman, Defferre, an unprecedented series of purges and witch-hunts have been opened up affecting not only the police and intelligence community, but the media and educational institutions, and there are also signs of warfare breaking out between branches of organized crime and drug-running networks that have different political allegiances. In one of his first measures, Defferre ordered the closing down of the Cercle Haussmann gambling casino in Paris on charges of fiscal evasion. Its owner, Marcel Francisci, belongs to the Marseilles-based Corsican clan that swears allegiance to Jacques Chirac's “Gaullist” party. Simultaneously, Defferre had 2,000 policemen purged from his own native city of Marseilles.

Several hundred intelligence officers were also purged from the military and civilian intelligence agencies within days after Mitterrand took over. Some of the purged were accused of being too zealous in their activities against Libya's Qaddafi.

Defferre has also announced his intention to begin a political witch-hunt reaching quite far up. He has given directives that going after “right-wing” terrorism is now the number-one priority and hinted that he “expects” the investigations to lead to the doorsteps of one of France's most important political figures. A prominent figure on the black list is Prince Michel Poniatowski, former President Giscard's Minister of the Interior and still a staunch Giscardian loyalist.

In two months, Mitterrand has moved fast, and with the strong powers invested in the president under de Gaulle's Fifth Republic constitution, the damage done to France and the world during his seven-year term will far outlive his reign.

FRANCE

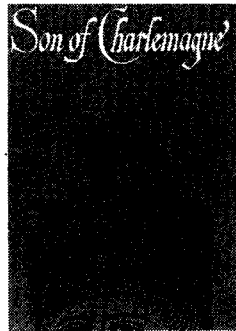
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