

# International Intelligence

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## Mexican government hits political pornography

"Sadomasochistic" was Mexican President José López Portillo's word for the practice of Mexican government agencies which advertise in virulently anti-government left press outlets. The President's observation came during a June 8 press conference in which he vigorously defended his government's cancellation of such advertising.

Hardest hit has been the left-Jesuit weekly *Proceso*, which lost all its government advertising in May and has had to close down its news service.

Responding to charges from the left that he was "singling out" targets for punishment and interfering with freedom of the press, López Portillo retorted: "A commercial enterprise . . . has the right to have the government give it advertising, so that it can systematically oppose the state? That, gentlemen, is a perverse relation, a sadomasochistic relation that comes close to many perversions I will not mention here. . . . I pay you so you can hit me? No, sir."

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## London sneers at 'senior citizen' Reagan

An editorial in the London *Daily Guardian* at the beginning of June gave a succinct summary of the current British view of the United States: "As his election majority at home has slid away, as Congress has deadlocked over the budget and the signs for next November's midterm election have grown ever more ominous, so there has been a sense of Mr. Reagan withdrawing from the struggle, becoming in effect a European-style President (the man who reviews the guards and meets his natural opposite number, the Queen) rather than the chieftain of a powerful process. Political life in America goes on, of course, but somewhat on the Italian model: from memory and inevitability rather than purpose. The President is a senior citizen.

When crisis breaks, he is left to sleep. When policy changes—as it is doing, at least presentationally, on arms control—he is handed a new script and another dollop of conviction. . . .

"When Mr. Reagan, in the early days of the Falklands crisis, sought to distance himself from the rights and wrongs of the crisis, American public opinion tugged him back into line. But such natural pressure is an ephemeral mood. It is turning already to distress at the mounting toll at Port Stanley, to apprehension at the damage to America's fragile reputation in Latin America, and to exasperation. . . . America's worst, most volatile hours come when the levers of superpowerdom hang loose and unconnected. Iran, for Washington, was a horror. Now, simultaneously, two awkward allies—Israel and Britain—are ploughing their own furrows, whilst the White House tags along in impotent admonition. . . ."

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## Central America back on the front burner

Just after President Reagan complained to the British Parliament that the press was ignoring the favorable developments taking place in El Salvador, it was reported that 135 people had been massacred during an anti-subversive sweep in the northern part of the country carried out by Honduran and Salvadoran troops that had just returned from receiving special training at Fort Bragg and Fort Benning in the United States.

"It is natural that there were a series of people killed, including some women, and I understand some children, in the cross-fire between them and us," said a Salvadoran officer, according to the *Washington Post* of June 10. The sweep operation "was in part a test of the counterinsurgency tactics advocated by the United States," the paper added.

The incident underscored the fact that, despite Washington's pledges of moderation, the population war in Central America is heating up. The newly elected government of El Salvador is reversing the land reforms carried out by

the previous Christian Democratic-military regime, threatening a new round of social upheaval as dispossessed peasants are forced off the land.

In Guatemala, "born again" Gen. Efraín Ríos Montt got rid of his junta partners and took sole control of the government last week. The would-be ayatollah, a member of the California-based Christian Church of the Word, claims that his rule will be based on the Scriptures. Since Ríos Montt came to power last March, the government has carried out a campaign to exterminate Guatemala's majority Indian population, which it claims to be "subversive."

The Nicaraguan Sandinista government meanwhile is bracing for a civil war against opposition forces led by dissident Sandinista Eden ("Commander Zero") Pastora and Panamanian adventurer Hugo Spadafora. According to a source at the right-profile Heritage Foundation, the dissidents also enjoy support from officials in the U.S. State Department.

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## Italian city says no to Rolling Stones rock

Following a four-hour debate on June 9, the City Council of Florence, Italy, voted to ban a concert to be held by the British rock group, the Rolling Stones. The Council stated: "The music of the Rolling Stones is based on the drug culture: the concert would have no other effect than to increase the use of narcotics."

The Florence decision is the outcome of a weeks' long campaign run nationally by the Italian Anti-Drug Coalition, an affiliate to the organization of the same name initiated in the United States by *EIR* founder Lyndon LaRouche. The day before the Florence vote, the Italian ADC held a press conference attended by seven leading daily newspapers and ANSA, the leading news service, explaining why the event had to be banned. Coverage of the press conference appeared in several leading dailies June 10.

The Italian ADC resolution calling for the ban is now being reviewed by other Italian municipalities. ADC chairman Christina Fiocchi reports that Turin

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will likely also ban the Rolling Stones concert, but that Milan probably will allow the event to occur. In Milan, the concert is being supported by industrial magnate Umberto Agnelli.

At the June 8 Florence press conference, Fiocchi denounced the Rolling Stones as a creation of British intelligence services working to promote fascist cult ideology around drugs.

In Florence, the Christian Democrats in the City Council supported the anti-Stones effort, while the communists supported the rock group's right to hold the event. The vote against the concert was 28-25 after a six-hour debate.

### Is NATO preparing to confront Libya?

The United States, the British, the French, and the Israelis, under the umbrella of NATO's new out-of-area deployment command, are preparing a new showdown with Col. Muammar Qaddafi's Libya soon. Ongoing NATO naval maneuvers off the coast of Libya in June could trigger a repeat of last year's Gulf of Sirte incident, in which U.S. planes shot down two Libyan jets, almost precipitating a strategic confrontation in the Eastern Mediterranean.

Although Libya's Qaddafi is a madman puppet of the Italian fascist Propaganda-2 freemasonry and the Swiss banks, the Soviet Union has invested a great deal of political and military resources in Libya and is expected to defend it from any NATO-Israeli attack.

But the Brussels NATO command hopes to use the tension resulting from a confrontation over Libya to reorganize its entire East Mediterranean deployment, with upgraded military roles for Israel, Greece, Turkey, Cyprus, and Egypt.

According to some London sources, Britain and France have asked Egypt's Defense Minister Abu Ghazala to permit joint British-French military maneuvers in Egypt's Western desert, near the border with Libya. This will raise tensions dramatically between Egypt and Libya.

To oversee the entire operation, NATO Commander Bernard W. Rogers, a U.S. general, arrived in Athens the first week in June to meet the Greek military brass and Prime Minister Papandreou. The Rogers visit, according to Greek sources, is a follow-up to the trip to Greece and Turkey two weeks ago by Secretary of State Alexander Haig. Part of the scheme may be to attempt to bring Cyprus, a non-aligned island nation now partially occupied by Turkey, into NATO itself.

An explosion with Libya, given the set of eastern Mediterranean relations being established by NATO, might serve to coalesce these reluctant forces into a more coherent bloc.

### Argov's hunter is a British-Swiss agent

*EIR's* file on Black September terrorist Abu Nidal shows that the man widely reported to be responsible for the shooting of Israeli Ambassador Shlomo Argov in London is an agent of British and Swiss intelligence services. He plays a crucial role, the file indicates, in the Muslim Brotherhood subsector of British-Swiss operations in Iran and throughout the Middle East.

Abu Nidal's circle is part of a Middle east network under the protection of British-dominated sections of U.S. intelligence. Through institutions such as the Committee on Man in Modern Society, the Arab Thought Movement, and the Club of Rome, this apparatus enjoys the protection of sections of NATO as well. Through the International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis in Vienna the same networks plug into the Soviet KGB.

Abu Nidal's Muslim Brotherhood network, touching London, Switzerland, and Madrid, has historically been deployed by British Intelligence's Arab Bureau since the days of German Abwehr boss Wilhelm Canaris, whose Second Division in the Middle East during World War II included a special Islamic capa-

● **N. SHISHLIN**, a Soviet Communist Party Central Committee member, alluded on Soviet television May 29 to the fact that East Europe could cause economic pressures currently being directed against itself through its foreign debt to backfire. Referring to proponents of sanctions on trade and credit to the Soviet bloc, Shishlin warned that "those who are applying these sanctions can also be the losers, because the relationship between debtor and creditor is by no means simple."

● **LEONID KONSTANDOV**, a Deputy Prime Minister of the U.S.S.R. and chief Soviet delegate to the German-Soviet Economic Commission went to Bonn June 2 to talk about new joint energy development projects. According to the West German business daily *Handelsblatt* June 2, coal liquefaction was a major subject of discussion. The Soviets are seeking DM 7 billion worth of project orders.

● **ADMIRAL HAYWARD**, U.S. Chief of Naval Operations, established a protocol with Israel when he visited in May, which involves the powerful Israeli air force in the defense of the U.S. Sixth Fleet in the Mediterranean.

● **PAUL MARTINEAU** of the Quebec Superior Court on June 2 denied the Italian government's request for the extradition of Francesco Piperno, implicated in the kidnaping and murder of former Italian Prime Minister Aldo Moro. The *Toronto Globe and Mail* reported that evidence that two terrorists now being held in Italy "had carried out Mr. Piperno's instructions within the Red Brigades . . . [constituted] 'guilt by association not recognized by our law,'" according to Martineau.