

been “fair enough” not to accede to the anti-Nazi Free French of de Gaulle; instead, the British commander, General Wavell, sent them all back to Vichy with weapons.)

The de Lassus family, which doesn't like to be named publicly but is open to discussing its strategic viewpoint, wants to revive *La France traditionnelle* of the imperial and Vichy eras; it controls the Falangist Gemayels, through noble Lebanese families such as the Sursoks, whose last heiress, Yvonne (Lady Cochrane through her marriage to a Scottish aristocrat), is still active: this summer she donated one of her palaces in the Christian Beirut quarter of Achrafiyya as a hospital for the Falangists.

Another branch of the Jesuits' Franco-Lebanese networks is the Comité Catholique, which openly and bitterly opposes the Vatican. The Comité works through the Freemasonic Grande Loge Nationale de France, which traditionally regards Britain as “the Brother Empire” and has been named as a correspondent lodge to the fascist Propaganda-2 Lodge of Italy. The Comité is also associated with various associations more publicly concerned with Lebanon, such as the Comité de Soutien aux Forces de la Résistance Libanaise, led by Marie-Madeleine Fourcade, a veteran of the British intelligence-controlled wing of the World War II French Resistance. It is among these groups that Beshir Gemayel's Falange representative in France, Commandant Malek, receives moral, political, and financial support.

The Order of Malta

Yet these groups in turn are only lower-level extensions of the oligarchic forces who invented European fascism and succeeded for so long in keeping the Middle East in bestial backwardness: the ancient Order of Malta, which originated in the effort to use the Crusades to crush the Arab scientific and technological centers of world culture.

The Maltese Order, in recent history overseen by the ostensibly Catholic Hapsburg dynasty and the Jesuits, had its role in the Lebanese slaughter underscored when the Begin government, which has rejected the offers of other organizations to provide help for the wounded and homes in the Lebanese cities of Sidon and Tyre, ordered Israel's invading armed forces to welcome Prince Lobkowitz, the order's current Grand Master, together with the Order's ambulances, while Israeli authorities were denouncing the Vatican as pro-Arab.

The Order of Malta should provide “international brigades” in Lebanon, the Jesuit Father Riquet proposed a year ago. Now it is said privately in these circles that the Order will have to play a “spiritually guiding role” in the planned multinational force there.

Interview

Raymond Edde on the crisis in Lebanon

Raymond Edde was born in Alexandria, Egypt, in 1913, the son of Emile Edde and Lody Sursok. He is a Maronite Christian. After his father's death, he was elected Amid, or party chairman, of the National Bloc, and over the years became the symbol of Lebanese opposition to the Syrians. After two assassination attempts against him in 1976 in Beirut, Mr. Edde chose to continue his fight outside Lebanon and exiled himself in Paris. Although he diplomatically denies knowledge of Vatican efforts on his behalf in the interview excerpted below, other sources have confirmed that the Vatican sees him as a preferred candidate for the Lebanese presidency. The interview was conducted on July 13 in Paris by EIR Paris Bureau Chief Sophie Tanapura.

EIR: What do you think of American policy in the Mideast after the departure of Mr. Haig?

Edde: The impression one gets is that Haig was a clear ally of Israel. We all hope that his replacement, George Shultz, will be more fair concerning events in Lebanon. Since the Israeli invasion, several U.N. resolutions—501, 508, 509—continue to be unheeded by Israel. The epitome of it all was the American veto against the French resolution. . . .

Now let's take the case of Syria, and I am on very bad terms with Hafez Assad simply because he had ordered me shot at twice. I must admit that I am getting pretty used to it because I am now at my ninth assassination attempt. . . .

Now, if the aim of the Israelis were to decapitate the Palestinian resistance, they could have launched an Entebbe-style operation against the leadership. They could have kidnapped these gentlemen, one after the other, instead of totally destroying Beirut. In reality, Israel wants to occupy part of Lebanon. And I accuse Israel of having a long-standing agreement with Hafez Assad so that each could take a part of Lebanon. . . . By sending the MIG 21s and 23s, Assad wanted to show that he represented the only force opposing the Israelis. This all occurred over Lebanese territory and nothing happened to Syria. I truly believe that there is a secret agreement between the two countries. The MIGs could have at-

tacked the tanks as they were filing into Lebanon from three different points, but not one MIG did it. Assad only wanted to make a minimal show in order to be paid by the Arabs. . . .

EIR: The Italian press has reported that the Vatican has a proposal to preserve the national integrity of Lebanon. Do you know more about this?

Edde: No, I don't know anything about it.

EIR: They also referred to you as the presidential candidate of the Vatican.

Edde: As early as March 1982, journalists came here to ask me if I were a candidate. I just want to make one point clear. One does not present one's candidacy. It is the parliament that elects you. By the way, the Lebanese constitution is modeled on the French constitution of the Third Republic. Therefore, I can be elected President even while I am here.

So, as early as March 1982, I issued a declaration stating the three preconditions under which I would accept a candidacy in the next presidential elections: 1) withdrawal of Israeli forces from the entire south of Lebanon and application of the 1949 Lebanese-Israeli armistice convention; 2) withdrawal of Syrian forces from the entire territory of Lebanon; 3) replacement of the Syrian army by a multinational force. I would like to emphasize that it should be *multinational* and not *international*. It should be Arab or European or Euro-Arab, with no Syrian forces of any kind in it. . . .

Lebanon has turned into a football field worked over by both sides. The absurdity is that people applaud whichever side is winning or losing, and no one speaks of Lebanon any more. The chief of state of Lebanon, who was elected under conditions everyone knows, did not open his mouth to protest against the Israeli invasion. The Foreign Affairs Minister did not protest either. No one protested because they were afraid of being killed. . . .

The Russians are very good chess-players. They are letting things run their course. . . .

EIR: It was the Italian Communist paper *L'Unità* that covered you as the candidate of the Vatican. . . .

Edde: That is nice. Doesn't the Vatican have its own press? Why did they address *Unità*? Why don't they print it in their own press? Was the Communist coverage favorable? After all, I am an original candidate. I don't swallow everything. Even President Reagan [made campaign promises]; I impose conditions. I don't want to become President just for the pleasure of it; my father was one. I know how it starts and how it ends in Lebanon. I will accept it only when I know that I will have the means to save the unity of the country and the country's sovereignty.

ITALY

POE: London behind Roberto Calvi case

by Umberto Pascali

On July 7 a brief was filed with a court in Milan, Italy that threatens to blow wide open the control of international terrorism, drug running, and other criminal operations by the British royal family—as *EIR* has contended for years. Fiorella Operto, Secretary-General of Italy's European Labor Party (POE), filed the legal brief documenting the probable role of the British Freemasonry, led by royal family members, in the recent shocking death of Roberto Calvi, head of the Banco Ambrosiano and member of the Italian lodge "Propaganda-2." Calvi's body was found hanging from Blackfriars Bridge in London on June 18.

Since the middle 1970s, the POE—collaborators of *EIR* founder Lyndon LaRouche—has established itself as a special kind of authority on terrorism in Italy. In a series of dossiers and legal briefs, the party of Fiorella Operto exposed and demanded the dismantling of the *command center* of terrorism. The POE's method of "striking at the head of the beast" contributed to the success of Italian authorities in tracking down the P-2 lodge as the source of repeated massacres and attempted coups, and in such anti-terror operations as the Jan. 24 rescue of Gen. James Lee Dozier.

Since Calvi's death, the British Royal Family, government, and press have attempted to cover up what is now emerging in the major Italian press: evidence that Calvi was murdered to prevent him from revealing the central role of the Grand Mother Lodge of London (led by the Queen's cousin, the Duke of Kent) and the City of London in running political and financial operations to control and destroy national governments.

The Milan daily *Il Giorno* reported July 11 that British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher met with Italian Interior Minister Virginio Rognoni while in Rome the week of July 5 to discuss the Calvi case, and that Rognoni had told Thatcher he wanted London to stop attempting to thwart the Italian investigation of the case.

Corriere della Sera, a Milan paper, stated July 13 that "certain interests" want to shift the blame in the Calvi case from the role of the Grand Masonic Lodge and the City of London onto Italian institutions. Italian author-