

International Intelligence

Shagari re-elected as president of Nigeria

President Shehu Shagari won reelection in Nigeria Aug. 6, by a wider margin than four years ago when the military conducted the election that brought to an end 13 years of military rule.

The Shagari victory foiled efforts to exploit discontent resulting from depression-induced austerity, engineer the president's defeat, and return the country to the regional conflict and chaos of the 1960s. Western press outlets which had been playing up the possibility of violence had to admit that the election proceeded calmly.

Of the six candidates, Shagari won 47 percent of the vote—4.2 million more votes than the runner-up, Obafemi Awolowo, who had 30.8 percent. Shagari's victory puts his party in a good position for the coming Senate, House of Representatives, and state elections.

Analysts in Nigeria expect Shagari to now expand Nigeria's role in pan-African affairs, a positive factor on the grim African scene.

Thai daily publicizes LaRouche initiative

The 200,000-circulation Thai political daily *Baan Muang* gave prominent coverage on Aug. 4 to Lyndon LaRouche's visit to Thailand, where he met with many political leaders and government officials. The daily wrote:

"Leading U.S. Democrat Lyndon H. LaRouche believes that the problem of Kampuchea should be solved as soon as possible, before Vietnam becomes a total Soviet puppet. LaRouche's trip to Asia has the aim of assessing the development potential of the Indian Ocean and the Pacific Basin. His assessments will be reported to President Reagan before the official presidential visit this fall.

"The solution to the problem of Kampuchea and the establishment of stability in Southeast Asia are important to world peace as a whole. LaRouche stated: '... Should a shift in the Vietnamese domestic situation

occur, bringing to power the younger, war-hungry group, this would be extremely dangerous for Thailand. At present the Soviets do not totally control Vietnam because they are not able to give Vietnam real economic aid. . . . Because the southern part of Vietnam is in great need of economic development, negotiations can be opened with Vietnam using this as a leading edge.' . . .

"LaRouche also hopes that in the future, the United States will have a key role to play as the economic partner of Japan, India, and the ASEAN countries, which would not only be policy, but actual concrete implementation of projects. . . .

"Continued conflict in Kampuchea plays into the Soviet gameplan to weaken the West. Countries in this region need advanced technology, qualified manpower, and technological knowhow. The same goes for Kampuchea. . . .

"LaRouche concluded that the above remarks are merely his personal convictions, and are not meant as interference into the internal affairs of Thailand. . . . As an American and a world citizen, Lyndon H. LaRouche wants world economic development. The Kra Canal, the Mekong Water Project, and other such projects will ensure progress for Asia for the next 25 years."

P-2's Gelli flies his Swiss coop

Licio Gelli, the Venerable Master of the Masonic Lodge Propaganda-2, has escaped from a prison in Geneva, Switzerland, where he had been kept pending his extradition to Italy. The deadline for Gelli's extradition was Sept. 14.

Our sources report that an intra-masonic deal had been struck between Switzerland and the new Italian prime minister, Bettino Craxi, to get Gelli free as soon as possible. Gelli was to be sent to Argentina to organize a new regime of Isabelita Perón and her astrologer-controller López Rega, and to help Qaddafi obtain atomic weapons.

Gelli had been arrested in Geneva while trying to transfer a large sum of money. The Swiss authorities never recognized the accusations of the Italian magistracy that Gelli was involved in plotting against the Italian state, and condemned the P-2 boss only for

secondary financial crimes. He was incarcerated in the Geneva prison, reputed to be the most comfortable in the world.

Gelli's lawyer claims that the Italian Mason was kidnaped; another possibility is that the Swiss Grand Lodge Alpina decided that Gelli should disappear—and killed him.

Italy: Craxi grabs for secret services

Socialist Bettino Craxi has announced that as the new Italian prime minister he wants to have personal control over the Italian secret services. A fight is reported to have occurred between Craxi and Christian Democracy (DC) Party Secretary Ciriaco De Mita, who demanded that the DC be given a vice-premiership in charge of secret services. Craxi refused.

In the period leading to Craxi's new regime, a campaign has been unleashed against the magistracy, which has been nearly singlehandedly conducting the battle against the mafia-Mason-terrorist apparatus in the country. The press has raised a loud cry in defense of Enzo Tortora, a famous actor arrested because he was part of the Camorra drug-smuggling network. The magistracy, and especially the public prosecutors, are being called "head hunters, butchers of human flesh, rippers. . . ."

The press is also supporting the famous killer Toni Negri, the terrorist boss arrested in 1979 and now elected to parliament under the Radical Party standard. A special committee of parliament decided that Negri should be sent back to jail, but shortly afterwards the leadership of the Christian Democrats and the Communists had the decision reversed.

Hashemi to revive suit against EIR

A notice of appeal has been filed by Iranian banker and gunrunner Cyrus Hashemi, following the dismissal of his \$100 million libel suit against this news service and associated publications. Hashemi's suit was dismissed by a federal court in Atlanta, Georgia last month after he repeatedly failed to

appear for court-ordered depositions. Hashemi had filed his spurious libel suit after being named as a principal financial conduit for covert funds entering this country from Iran to finance pro-Khomeini propaganda and terrorism in the U.S., activities conducted with the protection and approval of the Carter administration.

Britain, France near fast-breeder agreement

The British and French governments are on the brink of reaching agreement on a \$3 billion-plus project to build a "high-technology, next-generation nuclear reactor," the *Times* of London reported Aug. 7. The arrangement would involve joint efforts to build a 1,200-megawatt fast-breeder reactor in the United Kingdom.

The arrangement is being consolidated by the Electricité de France and by the U. K.'s Central Electricity Governing Board, whose head, Sir Walter Marshall, was appointed to his post by Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher from his previous position at Britain's Atomic Energy Commission "with a brief to accelerate Britain's nuclear program." The *Times* reported, "Mrs. Thatcher is an enthusiastic supporter of nuclear power, which now meets 14 percent of Britain's electricity needs. She regards it as a safe, reliable, and cheap energy source, as well as a means of reducing the nation's long-term dependence upon increasingly expensive and potentially unreliable coal and oil supplies."

The article stated that British electricity officials are concerned that a start must be made now in developing the new reactor, which won't come on line for at least a decade, so that Britain will "have the necessary technology in place in the next century."

Separatists heat up Mexican elections

The National Action Party (PAN) of Mexico is attempting to grab its first-ever governorship in the state of Baja California Norte when voters of that state go to the polls in

state and local elections Sept. 4.

The state is one in which the neo-fascist, separatist party has a substantial local following and powerful connections across the border to boost it into power. Many of these connections tie into the "Hollywood mafia," asserted the Mexican Labor Party (PLM) in a well-attended press conference in Baja capital Mexicali on Aug. 11. The PLM further demonstrated PAN links to the drug and arms-running networks infesting the region.

To highlight the importance given to the elections by the ruling PRI party, president Miguel de la Madrid made a special tour of the state Aug. 3-4 and spoke to large crowds in the three largest cities: Mexicali, Tijuana, and Ensenada.

The PLM has thrown the hardest punches so far, however. One PLM poster shows a picture of Hitler and Hitler's finance minister, Hjalmar Schacht, reviewing a parade of Nazi stormtroopers. The caption says "Let us remember," and cites a famous quote by PAN leader and former party president José Angel Conchello, who published an article lauding Nazi slave labor policies as the appropriate model for Mexico.

The PAN's attempts to dodge the charges that it is plotting to remove the northern border states from Mexican central government control, are hampered by statements of some of its leading candidates in the current elections, who have stated that ceding Baja California to the United States would be an appropriate means to liquidate a good portion of Mexico's foreign debt.

Currency warfare against Ibero-America

This month has witnessed a wave of forced depreciation of currencies in Ibero-America.

In Brazil, during the single day of Aug. 12, the dollar parity of the cruzeiro on the black market dropped 5 percent. In Peru, in the same period, the sol dropped 6 percent. In Argentina, speculation against the peso on the black market is rampant. In Venezuela, because of the scarcity of dollars, in the first two weeks of August the bolivar plunged 50 percent. In Mexico, a new round of devaluations is rumored to be afoot.

Briefly

● **BRITISH PRIME MINISTER**

Margaret Thatcher will keynote a London conference of industrialists and scientists on the "application of science to industry" in mid-September, according to a London financial source.

● **SCANDINAVIAN** customs authorities are reportedly upset about Spain's newly liberalized drug laws—especially since so many Norwegian and Swedish youth vacation in Spain during the summer.

● **BARRY DUNSMORE**, who is supposed to cover the State Department for ABC-TV, announced Aug. 11 that he was taking a vacation because "When you start going on the air with reports on strategic places like Faya Largeau, for God's sake—lumps of camel s—t, it's time for a break."

● **PETRA KELLY**, the German Green who objected to being called a political whore, has taken refuge at a spa in Lower Bavaria, suffering from a kidney infection.

● **MIKHAIL KAPITSA**, the Soviet vice minister of foreign affairs, will visit China Sept. 8-16

● **SHAMANISM** has come into vogue in Austria, where the press is full of reports on transplanted practitioners of the American Indian art of obtaining magical powers from the dead.

● **THE KURIER** of Wiesbaden, West Germany, reviewed the Aug. 5 Humanist Academy/Club of Life performance of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* under the headline "Reason Instead of Magic: Against Deceptive Certainty." The LaRouche-founded Academy's sister organization in the United States, the Lafayette Foundation, produced *Macbeth* in New York City the same weekend.