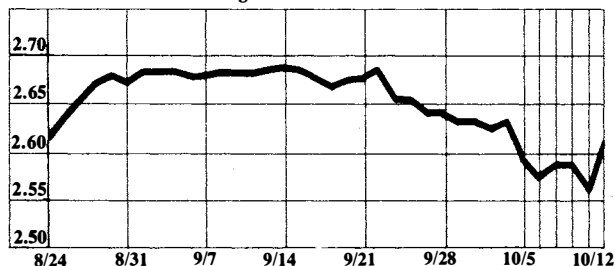


## Currency Rates

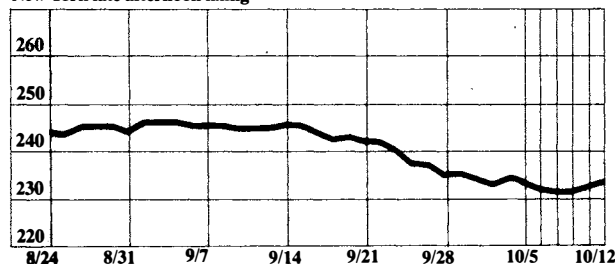
### The dollar in deutschemarks

New York late afternoon fixing



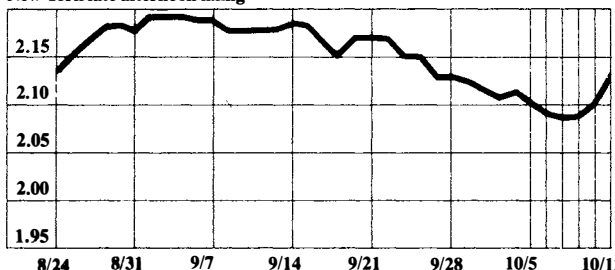
### The dollar in yen

New York late afternoon fixing



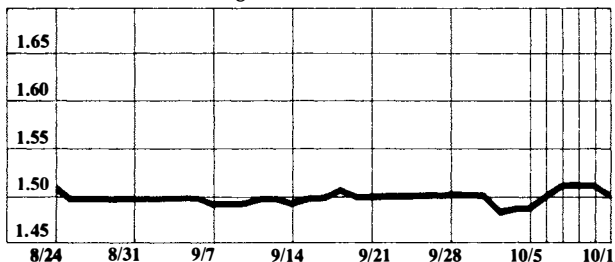
### The dollar in Swiss francs

New York late afternoon fixing



### The British pound in dollars

New York late afternoon fixing



## Argentina and Brazil— playing debt game by the

by Valerie Rush

In the wake of the arrest of Argentina's central bank chief Julio González del Solar, developments in Brazil suggest that the precedent of holding government officials legally responsible for signing debt renegotiation agreements that violate national sovereignty has been well noted elsewhere in Ibero-America.

Brazilian Planning Minister Antonio Delfim Netto, the finance-policy czar of that immense country, is currently the subject of a congressional investigation being conducted into the country's \$90 billion foreign debt. The investigation has begun to focus in on a military dossier reportedly documenting kickbacks that Delfim received on loans he negotiated while ambassador to Paris. Even before the investigation, Delfim had acquired the nickname of "Mr. Five Percent" in diplomatic circles for his skimming practices. Now, both Delfim's future and the entire house of cards known as the Brazilian debt could fall under scrutiny.

In addition, *EIR* has learned that the legal staff of the Brazilian finance ministry is currently reviewing any and all foreign loans contracted by the government in search of potential violations of the constitution. In particular, "Project 2" (new money) of the International Monetary Fund's 1982 four-level rescue scheme for Brazil, has come up for special attention in light of a "newly discovered" clause which puts arbitration in the event of a default under New York state law. High-level military sources in Buenos Aires had informed *EIR* in the aftermath of the González del Solar case that "Every country is now poring over their loan books to see just what in hell they signed . . . and if it's legal."

As Argentine federal judge Pinto Kramer, the judge whose detention of González del Solar for violation of national sovereignty nearly brought down the international debt mountain, told *EIR* (see interview, page 12): "Yes, I think I have lit the fuse of an atomic bomb in Latin America. . . . I sincerely believe that it's time for Latin America to stand up; to establish its importance in the eyes of the international community. You cannot strangle the debtor and [force him] to pay at any price. . . ."

The dossier allegedly implicating the Brazilian planning minister in corrupt practices related to the nation's foreign debt had been placed under tight security classification by