

## Raymond Barre: Moscow's favorite son for France

by Mark Burdman and Yves Messer

Latest preference polls in France are showing a 30% support rating for Raymond Barre as the voters' choice for next President of France. That piece of news, alone, is jarring: Wasn't Raymond Barre the prime minister who brought down the Giscard d'Estaing government in 1981, because of his clinically-insane, and universally hated, "Barre Plan" for the economy, the only prescription of which was, Austerity, Austerity, and, then, more Austerity?

Yes, it is the same Raymond Barre. It is a measure of the institutional crisis facing France, especially after weeks of the continuing "Greenpeace Affair," that Raymond Barre is being given such high popularity ratings, even if we discount for the shenanigans one associates with opinion polls. Each day, the acute observer sees how Barre is attempting to capitalize on the Greenpeace Affair: one can already foresee the day when a member of the Barre "entourage" will surface in the French media, to "suggest" that President François Mitterrand should resign because of the Greenpeace scandal, and, on another day, Barre himself will surface, to express his "opinion" that French presidential elections "should occur" before 1988, perhaps in 1986.

The whole process of Barre's apparent ascendancy toward the presidency has an even eerier aspect. Suddenly, over months, he and his backers have put Barre forward as the carrier of the tradition of Charles de Gaulle, and have attempted to portray Barre as the kind of "father figure" who will guide a terrified and destabilized nation, suffering from four years of Socialist misrule, out of its nightmare. In view of who and what Raymond Barre is, this is comparable to what would happen in the United States, were Jimmy Carter to grow a beard and portray himself as Abraham Lincoln

reincarnate, or if Walter Mondale were to put on a uniform, and proclaim himself the new Gen. Douglas MacArthur. This point has begun to be driven home to the citizens of France, much to the shock of many, by posters circulated by France's Parti Ouvrier Européenne, showing Raymond Barre's face—with Jimmy Carter's teeth! (Jimmy Carter, to put it mildly, is not well liked in France.)

While not exact, the parallels with Carter-Mondale are useful. Raymond Barre embodies, in his person, the evils of a self-professedly proud member of David Rockefeller's Trilateral Commission. He is committed, to the point of fawning, to appeasing the Soviet imperial regime, and is, unquestionably, himself a Soviet agent of influence. He is the tool and spokesman for the oligarchical families of Europe, the directors of the insurance combines and the rulers of the International Monetary Fund, the proponents of mass genocide. He is also a cultist.

It was of France, in the period of the French Revolution, that the great dramatist and poet Friedrich Schiller, wrote, "A great moment has found a little people." France will become a "very little nation" indeed, and might not survive at all, if the Elysée Palace is occupied by Barre and his entourage.

Barre's positions on the American Strategic Defense Initiative coincide with those of the "experts" of the Trilateral Commission and of Henry Kissinger. While initially declaring his opposition to an initiative which "could only have destabilizing effects in Europe," he later shifted over into formal support for the SDI, coupled with the demand that the ABM, SALT I and SALT II treaties be respected—i.e., an SDI in name only.

"An organization of wisdom on the international level. All of its members have had responsibilities, before or after their participation. They have all profited greatly from their membership." So the French daily *Le Monde*, May 30, 1985, quotes Raymond Barre on the subject of the Trilateral Commission, to which Barre has belonged since its inception in 1973.

In his 1984 book, *Reflections for Tomorrow*, Barre brags, "In April 1983, the Trilateral Commission, to which I have the pleasure of belonging since its creation, celebrated, in Rome, its 10th anniversary. I was on this occasion charged, with Henry Kissinger and M. Ushiba, the eminent Japanese diplomat, to write a report on the state of trilateral relations."

But it is in his underlying philosophy that we find the greatest hypocrisy, or criminality, or both, imaginable. On the one hand, on the subject of the Soviet Union, we see his ostensible greatest fear. In his book he quotes the mastermind of appeasement, former U.S. Ambassador George Kennan, to the effect that "an attempt to prevent or retard the economic development of another country has no place in a democratic state in time of peace. This is a means of preparing a new war, not of preventing one." But, elsewhere, M. Barre pens the most effusive praise for the International Monetary Fund and its policies, which have hardly been adverse to "the slowdown of economic development of another country."

Obviously, the author of "the Barre Plan" has never been one to care much for "economic development of another country." What concerns Raymond Barre more than anything else, is to ensure the continued buildup and growth of the Soviet Empire, and if the rest of the world, particularly the non-white parts of it, die in the process, who cares? No wonder, that the latest edition of the Soviet Foreign Ministry's *International Affairs* magazine so effusively praises the Trilateral Commission!

The word "ensure" gives us a clue to M. Barre's loyalties: He owes part of his political pedigree, and influence, to the great insurance combines of Venice, Trieste, Geneva, and other money-centers, whose political elites are currently obsessed with reaching a general global deal ("New Yalta") with Moscow.

From 1973 for approximately five years, Raymond Barre was the President of The Geneva Association, also known as the International Association for the Study of the Economy of Insurance, based in Geneva, Switzerland, and bringing together the chief executives, or chief economists, of the major insurance and reinsurance giants of Europe, including Assicurazioni Generali di Trieste, Munich Reinsurance, and many more.

Association secretary-general Orio Giarini is the "brains" behind the economic policies of the Soviet-backed, neo-Malthusian Club of Rome International. In 1983, Giarini was the patron of a conference in Trieste, sponsored by the leading oligarchs of that region of East-West back-and-forth, which propounded the idea that the world economy had passed beyond the age of industrial production and growth, and was

now a "service economy," in which "insurers and priests" would play an increasingly predominant role.

From the late 1970s to the present, Raymond Barre has been honorary president of The Geneva Association.

Barre, in fact, has become quite a figure on the Venetian scene. During the first two weeks of September of this year, Barre spent several days in Venice, inclusively at private meetings of the International Advisory Board of the Banco Nazionale di Lavoro (BNL), a bank which has become, in part thanks to funds injected into BNL through Trilateral Commission member Edmond de Rothschild's Compagnie Financière de Holding, a focal point for nasty financial-warfare operations. BNL head Nerio Nesi has recently threatened, in a public statement appearing in the Italian press, that, in the future of international banking, only 20 to 30 banks will conduct all major transactions. Barre is not the only fixer to have been brought on the Advisory Board of BNL; his good buddy, Kissinger, joined him in that position in mid-August of this year.

The "Soviet connection" in all this complex of Venetian-centered financial links is not restricted to the fact that these financial and insurance powers advocate expanded trade with the East bloc, or that these entities' policies are causing the collapse of the West. European investigators are drawing attention to the fact that these combines are identical to what is known as "The Trust," whose financial interests cultivated by and used by the KGB-predecessor Soviet "Cheka," to promote Soviet interests in the West. In that light, Raymond Barre is a politician of "The Trust."

There are a number of suggestive leads, in this respect, concerning Barre.

One is the fact that, in recent weeks, he has had at least one reported important meeting with high-level officials of the French Communist Party, to discuss matters of mutual concern, as France heads for March 1986 legislative elections.

Also, in France, attention is drawn to the fact that Barre's wife, the former Eva Hegedus, is Hungarian-born.

There are, also, a number of striking aspects of Raymond Barre's "cultural" upbringing.

### From Mitterrand to Mithra?

In his book, *Reflections for Tomorrow*, Raymond Barre says a number of things about his intellectual roots. He writes, at one point, speaking of formative years in the 1940s and 1950s:

"I always worked on Schumpeter, and, of course, Marx, who was then in fashion. . . . There is a man who influenced, in this period, my intellectual formation. I had, for two years, the privilege of working at the Ministry of National Economy, around Alexandre Kojève. . . . It is in this period that I began to write in *Critique*, which Jean Piel wanted—and he succeeded—to make into a review of very great interest."

Of the same matter, *Le Monde*, May 30, 1985, in its biographical profile of Barre, writes:

"In 1948, wanting to make a living, the student obtains a post as apprentice to the director of foreign relations of the ministry of national economy. He frequents there an enigmatic and fascinating personage who, although only head of the bureau, plays an important role: Alexandre Kojève. Of Russian origin, the latter rehabilitated, and commented on, Hegel in France, forming from his work an entire generation of philosophers—including Jean-Paul Sartre—while, a philosopher himself, he develops a school of thought that is rather pessimistic, mixing the end of history with the death of mankind. . . . Raymond Barre also meets Jean Piel, a journalist . . . who invites him to collaborate regularly in a review judged avant-garde, *Critique*. Well known today, and still directed by Jean Piel, it had been founded in 1946 by Georges Bataille, a writer in part, whose work embraces, at the same time, ethnology, surrealism, eroticism, and, exceptionally, economics. If *Critique*, the principle of which is the analysis of French and foreign works, is not particularly committed, its authors rather lean to the left."

*Le Monde* then mentions some of the more famous contributors to the magazine, including "absurdist" dramatist Samuel Beckett and radical psychologist Michel Foucault. "Besides several reviews," *Le Monde* notes, "Raymond Barre will publish there, moreover, from 1951 to 1965, eleven remarkable articles." *Le Monde* quotes one Barre piece from

December 1953, in *Critique*, in which he stresses "the grandeur" of the Soviet experience, saying, "Rarely will such a sum of efforts and of sacrifices have been agreed to by an entire people."

What we have just been describing, in the past few paragraphs, takes us down some most-incriminating paths, all the more so, in that it is self-incriminating.

According to French investigators, the Kojève so admired by Barre, the Russian-born Hegelian (whose reputed real name was Kojevnikov), was one of the key patron-saints of the school of radical sociologists and others, who created the May 1968 destabilization of the de Gaulle regime and of the French nation. With his "rational pessimism" and his incitements to the "end of history," during the 1968 events he gave himself the supreme luxury of getting cute and denouncing the demonstrators' naive and frivolous demands for justice, doubtless because they were not as evil as his own. Likewise, the Soviet elements who had shaped and whipped up the "young turks" within the core of the French Communist Party, instructed the directors of the party to officially condemn the "events" and those who were directing them.

The journal *Critique*, in this pre-1968 context, sheds a most interesting light on the "Barre Dossier." Barre and Kojève, of course, had no love for the rowdy, unshorn rebels.

## Trilateral Paris agenda: economic holocaust, appeasement of East

Raymond Barre will be the keynote speaker at the luncheon meeting of the Trilateral Commission, in the halls of the French Senate, on Oct. 26. According to information received by *EIR*, the Oct. 25-27 meeting will have three overall foci:

- Further institutional destabilization of France, to escalate the Greenpeace Affair and its effects;
- Strengthened global economic dictatorship and economic holocaust, under the rubric, "International Economic Management";
- Appeasement of the Soviet Union.

The meeting is to be this year's European membership summit of the Trilateral Commission, in preparation for the international membership plenary in Madrid, Spain, from March 1-3, 1986. In between, a special meeting of the Trilateral Commission Executive is planned for Nov. 14-15, in Washington, D.C.

The first of the three days' sessions, will be a three-hour meeting of the European Executive, on Friday afternoon,

from approximately 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. On Friday evening, Oct. 25, the French Economics Ministry will host the session. The speaker will be French Minister of Economics, Finance, and the Budget, Pierre Berégevoy.

On Saturday morning, Oct. 26, the subject will be "The French Scene." Speakers will include: • M. Alain Duhamel, a French "politologue" who receives frequent play in the French media; • M. Boissonnade, editor-in-chief of *L'Expansion*, the leading business publishing group in France, owned by the brother of French "post-industrial society" advocate Jean-Jacques Servan-Schreiber; • M. Jacques Lesourme, Sorbonne University professor, and leading French spokesman for the Club of Rome International. Author of a recent Club of Rome study on Africa, and participant in a special Club of Rome-led "Program for Action in Africa, 1986-87"; and • M. Michel Crozier, leading French social-psychological profiler, and key figure in the May 1968 destabilization of France.

Following this session, Raymond Barre keynoted a

But both encouraged criticisms which more or less directly constituted part of their ideology at the top. For example, in the same year Barre published the article cited above, Jean-Yves Calvez, chief ideologue of the French Jesuits and future Jesuit chief for all France, penned an article in *Critique* eulogizing the intellectual qualities of the "Third Reich" of Moeller van der Bruck and the "Conservative Revolution" of Armin Mohler, both precursors of the Nazis. Father Calvez sees in this "Third Reich" a "mystical and biblical" "Third Empire."

While not entirely exact, it would not be wrong, either, to characterize *Critique*, then and now, as a "Nazi-Communist" journal.

One of the magazine's leading regular contributors and editors, is the surrealist painter of mystical and pornographic themes, Andre Masson. The biographies of this degenerate stress his experiences, in the mid-1930s, with the Benedictine Order, predominantly at the Abbey of Montserrat. Having gone through, in this period, what he describes as "nightmarish" experiences, Masson then began to produce paintings of classically cultish themes, painting settings of the Egyptian god Osiris, or the god Mithra.

This Mithraic-cult tradition, with its bull-blood rituals, its child sacrifices, and so on, continues to the present day. In recent editions of the magazine, one finds drawings, done

in ultra-Picasso-esque style, of contorted, grotesque, figures, with the caption, "Mithra."

Such grotesquerie might, indeed, be the appropriate art form to accompany the economics of the Barre Plan, and, in this light, certain ironies cannot escape us. At past times in French history, when there was a decline from periods of rich national culture, France often reverted to imperial forms of culture, nominally "Roman," but, in actuality, "Mithraic," in content. The god Mithra became a worshiped cult symbol in an overt and celebrated way. This became most pathological, for example, in the worst days of Napoleon and in the darkest days of Louis XIV's court at Versailles.

On Oct. 5-6, at the same Versailles, the political followers of Raymond Barre, the "Barr-istes," will be congregating, for what are called "Assises," or sessions. Supposedly above all parties, Barre has grouped a configuration of personalities from various parties—the Christian Democrats, the Republican Party, and, even from the Gaullist RPR—around his person. While there is an unquestionable pretentiousness about this cultivated "extra-party" image, it would be absurd, and facile, to draw parallels between a Raymond Barre on the one hand, and a Louis XIV or a Napoleon, on the other. Nonetheless, the circumstances, even if coincidental, bring to mind the question: Is France moving from the era of Mitterrand to the era of Mithra?

luncheon hosted by French Senate President Alain Poher

The afternoon, two preliminary Trilateral task-force reports will be presented. The first, on the subject "International Economic Management," will be led by Count Etienne Davignon, author of the "Davignon Plan" for the European steel industry, which has mandated the forced shutdown and "rationalization" of European steel, with the same methods and philosophy that the "Barre Plan" brought to the French economy as a whole. Davignon recently became a director of Kissinger Associates. Other participants on the task force include former Carter administration economic adviser C. Fred Bergsten, now director of the Institute for International Economics, a Washington, D.C. front for the International Monetary Fund, and Japanese Trilateral member Mizaki.

② The second of the two reports will be "How the West Manages East-West Relations," by Dr. Karl Keyser, director of the West German branch of the New York Council on Foreign Relations, the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Auswärtiges Politik. Keyser is a liaison, in Bonn, with the British Foreign Office, and associates with figures in West Germany who share the perception of Kissinger and Brzezinski that Europe should increasingly "decouple" from the United States. Other participants in this report include former National Security Council Kissinger protégé William Hyland, editor of the New York Council on Foreign Relations' *Foreign Affairs* magazine, and Japanese Trilateral member Professor Kimu-

ra, of Hokkaido University.

The backdrop to the second panel is the summer 1985 article, in the Soviet Foreign Ministry's *International Affairs* magazine, praising the Commission's stance on strategic defense, in contrast to that of the Reagan administration; reached in Paris, a leading Trilateralist admitted to *EIR* on Sept. 30, "I could understand why they would be happy with [a 1983 Commission report on "Trilateral Security"]. It's for no-first-use, and against the SDI."

On Saturday evening, Oct. 26, the Trilateralists will be hosted by the city council of Paris. As of this writing, the scheduled "main speaker" for this evening session, Paris Mayor Jacques Chirac, is listed as "tentative" by the Commission itself.

③ The Sunday, Oct. 27, concluding sessions will be "France in Europe" and "The European Community Scene." According to most recently available information, a key organizer for this day's panels will be Thierry de Montbrial, director of the French branch of the CFR, the Institut Français pour les Relations Internationales.

A leading Trilateralist, when asked by *EIR*, said it was not known to him, how, and in what way, the Commission members would be discussing the recent setbacks suffered by the Commission in Ibero-America, in Peru, Panama, and elsewhere. He also said it was "not known" if the meeting would discuss the global AIDS disease threat.