

International Intelligence

Strauss blasts the European decouplers

"The Western alliance is facing a litmus test," wrote Franz-Josef Strauss, the leader of the West German Christian Social Union, in the April 26 edition of the weekly newspaper *Bayernkurier*. He singled out Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher for being "dishonest and hypocritical" in his criticism of the April 14 U.S. bombing raid on Libya.

"The consequences of the European reactions to the U.S. military strikes against Libya will determine for a long time the discussion in the Atlantic alliance. This discussion will be extraordinarily radical and not at all pleasing. . . . America is not only disappointed, but hurt . . . 380,000 U.S. soldiers are deployed in Europe to defend peace. . . . But if the U.S. wants the Europeans to support them, not only do they find widespread refusal, but also malicious criticism and even hatred and outbreaks of anti-Americanism."

Strauss asked what kind of proof the European critics of the United States are waiting for, that Libya is involved in international terrorism: "Perhaps they want a signed declaration by Qaddafi, authorized by a notary in Bonn?" He asked whether the lives of civilians could have been saved, if the United States had received permission from Spain and France to fly over their territories, rather than making long detours.

South Africa's Botha abolishes racist laws

The South African pro-reform faction, led by President Pieter W. Botha, on April 23 announced the official abolition of the 73-year-old "pass laws," one of the main pillars of apartheid. The laws required blacks to carry a pass, indicating restrictions on where they could live and work, which confined them primarily to impoverished rural areas. Those receiving permission to work in the

cities, had to work for the same employer for 10 years before their families could join them.

The government's move enraged both black and white extremists, who are intent on ripping apart the fabric of the nation and plunging the Republic of South Africa into civil war.

The reform measures mean that blacks will no longer be arrested for moving out of their assigned areas, and those already under arrest for past violation of the pass laws, will be released. The changes are effective immediately, with a common identity document for all South Africans to be issued at a future date.

According to Constitutional Development and Planning Minister Chris Heunis, "The government proposes to repeal or amend no fewer than 34 Acts . . . to ensure that the movement of people will not be subject to discrimination on the ground of color or race."

President Botha, in a speech April 17 before Parliament, said that he would soon move to establish a multi-racial council, that would be the first step toward full political participation by all races, leading to the eventual inclusion of blacks in the cabinet.

Will Philippines face new government crisis?

Philippines Vice-President Salvador Laurel warned on April 19 that the new government faces the prospect of either another military coup or a communist takeover, if President Corazon Aquino does not soon create a constitution "reflective of the will of the people."

Contrary to the predictions of Aquino and the U.S. State Department which installed her in power Feb. 25, the economic problems of the country are intensifying, while the communist insurgency has continued. Hoped-for concessions from the International Monetary Fund and the creditor banks have not been forthcoming.

As a columnist wrote in the *Manila Eve-*

ning Post on April 9, "Already there are faint murmurs of disenchantment and discontent. Prices are going up. Joblessness is spreading, crime goes unabated. And we have the circus of leaders of this 'reform society' quarreling like scavengers over the spoils of power and privilege."

Mrs. Aquino, whose release of all political prisoners has estranged her from many of her supporters, suspended the constitution, dissolved the parliament, and postponed elections. Her government now rules by emergency decree.

LaRouche: Beware new hoax about Qaddafi

In a news release issued April 19, Lyndon LaRouche warned that the U.S. intelligence community is being saturated with a hoax, to the effect that "President Reagan's military action against Libya's Qaddafi was a failure, because it had failed to accomplish the assigned objective of killing Qaddafi in the bombardment."

"I must admit that I blew up when I first heard this report," LaRouche reported. "The idea of attempting to kill Qaddafi by bombing his premises from the air, was such an absurd idea that no competent military or intelligence professional would have ever endorsed basing a military bombing mission upon such a specific objective. . . ."

"The 'leak,' which alleges falsely, that the purpose of the military operation against Libya was to drop a bomb on Qaddafi, is a rumor concocted in an effort to discredit the President. This contorted tale is being spread as part of an effort to show that the operation was a strategic failure comparable to the 'Bay of Pigs.'

the President and the U.S. military, and to tip the balance of power in Washington back into the hands of Secretary Shultz and the State Department.

"Curiously, but not surprising, those circulating this false information are insisting that the United States must not strike against Armand Hammer's Libyan oil-fields:

precisely the target which absolutely must be struck should Europeans refuse to go immediately with water-tight sanctions against Qaddafi's dictatorship."

Break-in attempt at EIR office in Rome

Unknown persons attempted to break into the Rome office of *EIR* at about 1:00 a.m. on April 19, in a move which security investigators believe is related to the activation of Libyan-sponsored terrorism against American targets in Europe.

The previous day, *EIR*'s bureau received some anonymous phone calls, whose purpose was evidently to surveil the premises; the afternoon of the break-in attempt, an anonymous caller issued death threats.

These threats followed closely upon the publication of articles hostile to Lyndon LaRouche and his collaborators in Europe, in the daily newspaper *Il Manifesto* and the weekly magazine *L'Europeo*; both articles gave the address of the Rome *EIR* bureau.

Two weeks before, *EIR*'s office in Paris was bombed, sustaining serious damage, although no one was hurt. The action was claimed by a terrorist organization calling itself Black War, affiliated to the French Direct Action group and the Italian Red Brigades.

British plan to upgrade their nuclear arsenal

Great Britain has embarked on the most far-reaching modernization of its nuclear arsenal in a generation, the Reuters news agency reports. The \$14.6 billion program to acquire U.S. Trident missiles will represent a major boost to Britain's nuclear arsenal.

The government has already spent \$730 million on the program and expects to spend \$2.8 billion by 1988, the latest possible date of the next general election. All three major opposition parties have pledged to cancel the Trident program if they win the election.

A major component of the budget will be taken up by construction of four nuclear submarines, the biggest ever built in Britain. "When Polaris came into service in 1967, we had the capacity to send off 48 missiles against what were then undefended Soviet targets," an official said. "With Trident, we will be able to launch 128 missiles against heavily defended targets. The result will be to bring the deterrent effect back to where it was in 1967. We will have the capacity of obliterating the key target area around Moscow."

Green Party makes its Moscow link official

A delegation from the West German Green Party arrived in Moscow on April 13, and was received with great fanfare by top Soviet officials. The Greens, who are committed to ousting the U.S. military presence from Europe, are a key element in Moscow's plan to destabilize the Federal Republic of Germany and draw it out of its alliance with the United States.

The scruffy crew of radical ecologists was met at the airport by Ivan T. Frolov, a member of the Central Committee of the Soviet Communist Party (CPSU) and the new editor of the party journal *Kommunist* as well as a Club of Rome supporter and Soviet liaison with radical environmentalists worldwide, and by V. S. Shaposhnikov, deputy chief of the CC's International Section. The Greens later met with Moscow City Party chief Boris N. Yeltsin, Central Committee Secretary Mikhail Zimyanin, and CC member Vadim Zagladin.

One of the Greens who made the trip, Norbert Kostede, announced on April 22 that the visit had resulted in an agreement for a twice-yearly exchange of visits with the CPSU and a regular "exchange of articles" for their respective publications. The exchange will begin with the next issue of the KGB-run weekly *Literaturnaya Gazeta*: Kostede will contribute a piece entitled, "A Spectre Haunts Europe."

Briefly

● **FRANÇOIS GENOUD**, the Swiss Nazi banker, was linked to Libyan arms smuggling on April 15, during a trial in Lausanne, Switzerland of a former bodyguard of Algerian

Ahmed Ben Bella. The bodyguard was arrested a year ago, trying to enter France with weapons which were acquired from the Libyan People's Bureau in Berne, Switzerland. The bodyguard had been in constant touch with Genoud, who introduced him to Ben Bella.

● **WILLY BRANDT**, the head of the Socialist International and chairman of the West German Social Democratic Party, visited South Africa in mid-April. He met with South African Prime Minister P. W. Botha, as well as with union and business leaders, church figures, and opposition figures including Winnie Mandela of the African National Congress.

● **LEONID ZAMYATIN** was officially named ambassador to Britain April 25, as had been mooted for some time, according to TASS. Diplomats in London claimed that some of the statements of the Kremlin's long-time chief spokesman were "not in tune" with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's public-relations drive in the West, and that, therefore, Zamyatin's appointment is a step down, away from the Moscow hierarchy. Not likely, in *EIR*'s view.

● **U.S. STATE** Department spokesman Charles Redman responded to South Africa's repeal of the infamous "pass laws" April 24 by calling it a "major milestone on the road away from apartheid." However, Redman expressed reservations, particularly over the matter of the tribal "homelands." The reforms regarding freedom of movement must still be negotiated in regard to the homelands, which are considered independent states by Pretoria.