

International Intelligence

Soviets destroy legal files of Great Purges

Soviet legal files are being destroyed at the rate of 5,000 dossiers a month, on the pretext that there "is no room" to keep them, according to an article in the dissident newspaper *Glasnost* which was monitored by AFP. The files on millions of Soviet victims of Stalin's purges are stored in the archives of the Military College (Tribunal) and the Supreme Court.

The article reports that for several years, two presidents of the Supreme Court managed "to save the files from destruction." But "when the minister of justice, Vladimir Terebilov, became president of the Supreme Court, with Sergei Gusev as his first deputy, the 'ditching' of the files suddenly began," and has continued for two years during the Gorbachov regime. The incineration was originally being done at the Supreme Court, but this reportedly created such a thick cloud of smoke over Moscow, that the location was moved.

"At the moment," *Glasnost* reports, "filing clerks at the Military College are getting rid of the dossiers from 1940, those at the Supreme Court, the dossiers from 1948-49. Some of the files are transferred to the archives of the KGB despite rules banning the transfer of the files from one department to another." They are being incinerated outside Moscow.

Colombian labor leader threatened by death squad

The name of Colombian labor leader Jorge Carrillo Rojas appeared on the hit-list of an unknown death squad, according to the Aug. 27 edition of the Bogota daily *El Espectador*. Carrillo, who was labor minister in 1985-86, is today the president of Colombia's largest labor federation, the Unified Workers' Confederation (CUT), which he helped found in 1986.

Carrillo is known for his strong stance

against the austerity policies of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) in the developing sector, and the support he has given to Peruvian President Alan García's "10% solution" to the debt crisis, which Carrillo has championed in international forums as well as in the Colombian labor movement.

According to *El Espectador*, account, Attorney General Carlos Mauro Hoyos presented the hit-list to President Virgilio Barco Aug. 26 during a meeting of the Council of Ministers, and urged the President to provide security protection for the targeted individuals. Carrillo's name is number 15 on the death squad's list of 22 assassination targets. Number 12 on the list is Liberal Party leader Héctor Abad Gómez, murdered by a death squad the week before as he attended the funeral of CUT regional leader Luis Felipe Vélez, who had been assassinated.

Scores of political and labor leaders have been killed in Colombia in recent weeks. Carrillo is slanderously characterized by the death squad as a man "with extremist ideas, and a saboteur of democratic trade-unionism." At press time, he has not been granted security protection by the government.

Socialists map strategy toward Ibero-America

The Socialist International will be holding an international conference in Brussels Oct. 8-9, to discuss "current Socialist international behavior" toward Ibero-America, and "new strategies" toward the continent, according to a European Socialist source.

A key theme will be how the Socialist International "might enforce, support, and/or coordinate the new 'people's' movements," based on small communities dealing with their immediate local problems," which are developing in Argentina, Uruguay, Brazil, and, to some extent, Bolivia. These four countries, plus Central America, will be the main foci of the meeting.

Keynote speakers are to include France's Claude Cheysson, Spain's Alfonso Guerra, and Guatemala's Francesco Villagrán. The

Dutch branch of the Socialist International is playing a key role in coordinating the conference.

Committee whitewashes Contras' dope connection

The Iran-Contra investigative committee of the U.S. Congress found "no evidence" to support allegations that the Contras were involved in cocaine trafficking, according to a July 23 memo written by Robert A. Birmingham.

"There was no information developed indicating any U.S. government agency or organization condoned drug trafficking by the Contras or anyone else," the memo states. Birmingham suggested that in any further investigation of this matter, the committee should defer to parallel investigations that are being carried out by independent counsel Lawrence Walsh, the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, and the House Judiciary Committee's crime subcommittee.

The committee's report covers up the massive evidence of Contra drug-running, as presented in *EIR*'s Special Report, "Project Democracy: the parallel government behind the Iran-Contra affair." Not only have Honduran police found marijuana farms run by Contra intelligence officers, next to Contra military camps; the entire logistical apparatus for the Contras' drug operations is coordinated by the Medellín Cartel of Colombia, through Robert Vesco, the exiled U.S. financier living in Havana under the protection of Fidel Castro.

Philippine senators reject nuclear weapons

Half the Philippine Senate on Aug. 20 voiced support for a measure that would ban the storage or transit of nuclear weapons in or through the Philippines or its airspace. According to President Corazon Aquino's press secretary, she was not consulted by the bill's author, leftist Sen. Wigberto Tanada, or any

Briefly

● **SAUDI ARABIA** charged Iran with orchestrating the recent riots in Mecca, at a press conference of the Saudi ambassador to Bonn on Aug. 27. The Saudi authorities pointed to the role of Hojatoleslam Charrubi, private secretary to Khomeini, in planning the "pilgrim riots." Charrubi was arrested and expelled from Saudi Arabia a few days before.

● **ARGENTINE PRESIDENT** Raúl Alfonsín praised Soviet leader Gorbachov, in a television interview Aug. 25. "Gorbachov is making a Revolution in Russia; he is consolidating his power; he is an example to be imitated," Alfonsín said.

● **MANFRED WÖRNER**, the West German defense minister, has been officially proposed as the next NATO secretary-general, German Chancellor Helmut Kohl announced Aug. 25. Britain's Lord Carrington, the current secretary-general, is scheduled to step down in 1988. Also in the running are Kaare Willoch of Norway, Giulio Andreotti of Italy, and Leo Tindemans of Belgium.

● **PANAMA'S PRESIDENT** Eric Delvalle has appointed Juan Sosa as the next ambassador to the United States. Sosa is a member of the Modelo group, which opposes Gen. Manuel Noriega, the chief of the Panama Defense Forces. Noriega would have preferred that roving ambassador Aquilino Boyd be named to the critical post.

● **"I DO NOT TRUST** Gorbachov's *glasnost*," said Cardinal Lubachinsky, exiled primate of Ukrainian Catholics, to the Italian daily *La Repubblica* on Aug. 21. "I fear that Ukrainians living in the Soviet Union will undergo even more persecutions now," he said. "The much publicized *glasnost* is only a means to confuse ideas in Western countries, and actually the present Soviet leader is a communist as much as his predecessors." Lubachinsky has been living in Rome for 30 years.

of its co-sponsors, among whom are five former members of Aquino's cabinet and the President's brother-in-law, Sen. Agapito Aquino.

The number of co-sponsors, 12, is sufficient to guarantee passage in the 24-member Senate under the new Filipino Constitution. Sen. Neptali Gonzales, vice-chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, says enactment of the measure would probably result in the withdrawal of U.S. bases from the Philippines.

However, backers of the measure argue that it will not adversely effect relations with the United States. Sen. Heherson Alvarez says, "It's not my intention to vote against the bases. . . . Most Filipinos would prefer to keep the bases." Senator Alvarez argued that the nuclear ban could be used as leverage to negotiate favorable terms for the renewal of U.S. basing rights.

AIDS issue raised in U.S.-Philippine dispute

AIDS "will be a very important issue" in the upcoming negotiations concerning the future of the two U.S. military bases in the Philippines, according to Richard Walden, an attorney representing a military doctor in an AIDS-related court-martial proceeding in Manila.

According to the *Los Angeles Times*, a two-year study by defendant Lt. Cmdr. Thomas O'Rourke and several Philippine Health Department officials indicates that the U.S. military bases are primarily responsible for spreading AIDS into the Philippines.

The U.S. Navy on Aug. 21 announced that it had filed court-martial charges against O'Rourke, in part for refusal to identify prostitutes carrying the AIDS virus. This is the first case in American jurisprudence of a doctor being prosecuted for protecting the anonymity of AIDS carriers, according to lawyer Walden. O'Rourke is also charged with unauthorized absence, falsification of documents, illegal distribution of controlled drugs, and theft of drugs.

His lawyer claims that the Navy was harassing O'Rourke because his research blames American sailors for the spread of AIDS.

Germany's Späth leans toward Social Democrats

Lothar Späth, the Christian Democratic governor of the West German state of Baden-Württemberg, hinted in an interview with the daily *Süddeutsche Zeitung* published Aug. 22, that all is not well with the economic policy of the government of Chancellor Helmut Kohl. Späth is seen as the most likely candidate to replace Kohl, in a "grand coalition" government that would include the opposition Social Democratic Party (SPD).

Späth said that he does not rule out a "major conjunctural downturn." Pointing to imbalances in the Bonn government's tax reform plans, which would further reduce the state's annual tax revenue, Späth recommended a policy of building budgetary reserves "in case of a considerable downturn."

This is the first time that a prominent member of Kohl's party has even hinted at the possibility of trouble ahead; the official line in Germany, as in the United States, is that the "recovery" is taking hold.

Späth also reiterated his recent attacks on Kohl's Free Democratic Party coalition partner, urging the Christian Democrats to distance themselves from the FDP.

The Social Democrats, too, are pressing Kohl on the issue of tax reform. Hans Apel, the deputy head of the SPD's parliamentary group, said Aug. 19 that his party is "certain there is not only broad opposition in the population against this tax reform, but also inside the Christian Democracy." Apel expressed confidence that "these Christian Democrats" would vote "with the SPD, against their own chancellor," if it came to "a moment of truth in the Parliament."

The issue may come to a vote by the end of September or early October, which could mark the end of the Kohl administration.