

# International Intelligence

## ***Panamanians exhume invasion's victims***

Angry families of Panamanians killed in the Dec. 20, 1989 U.S. invasion began exhuming bodies of those buried in mass graves, and, according to the headline of the normally pro-government newspaper *El Siglo* of May 7, "4,000 bodies will be unearthed; some cadavers were bound." The paper described the first two days of excavating only the first of many mass graves in the Jardín de Paz cemetery in Panama City.

The exhumation is being carried out by the Committee of Families of Victims of the Invasion, whose president, Isabel de Corro, told *El Siglo*: "We have begun with the common grave at Jardín de Paz, and we will continue with the rest until we are able to bury every last body in a dignified manner. These patriots deserve a special place among Panamanians."

In just the first two days, 122 bodies were found, including three that were bound hand and foot. *El Siglo* commented, "Everything indicates that they did not die in combat, but were killed in cold blood." UPI ran a story on the exhumations and said that "unofficial estimates [of dead] are between 2,000 and 4,000." The U.S. official estimate is that fewer than 100 civilians were killed in the invasion.

## ***Environmentalists seek to ban Antarctic drilling***

Environmentalists testifying before the U.S. Congress on May 2 called for a total ban on mining and drilling in the largest unexplored wilderness in the world, Antarctica.

At a congressional hearing, Jacques Cousteau and representatives of Greenpeace and the Antarctica Project criticized a pending international treaty on Antarctic mineral development, and urged the United States to give up its "minerals option" under the treaty. Several countries, including France and Australia, have sided with these ecological fascists, and have urged a ban on mining.

Greenpeace witness Susan Sabella said the continent should be a "world park." (Quite a place for a picnic!)

## ***East German elections give posts to CDU, SPD***

The first free municipal elections in East Germany will hand most mayors' posts to the Christian Democrats (CDU) and Social Democrats (SPD), although the two parties received fewer votes than they did in March 18 elections for the national parliament. Some observers cited a "demobilization effect," causing many voters to stay away from the polls.

Noteworthy was a strong vote for the Farmers Party in rural districts, and the remarkable gains for non-party citizen groups in numerous cities (especially the university cities).

The three bigger parties CDU, SPD, and the communist PDS consolidated their positions. The communists were still able to poll 14% on the basis of the administrative strongholds of the old regime, showing that the "apparatus" is still there.

But in spite of the fact that the PDS gained 30% in East Berlin, 17% in Frankfurt am Oder and Schwerin, most—if not all—mayoralties will be taken by either the SPD or the CDU, which are expected to form "grand" multiparty coalitions in many municipal parliaments. East Berlin will be run by an SPD Lord Mayor, Dresden by one from the CDU, Leipzig by one from the SPD.

## ***Accuse IMF, World Bank of rights violations***

Davison Budhoo, who resigned from the International Monetary Fund to protest that institution's genocidal practices against the Third World, charged at a press conference in Washington, D.C. on May 3 that the IMF is engaging in a "systematic pattern of violation of my human rights and the human rights of others associated with my work."

Budhoo, who held the press conference to announce the publication of his book, *Enough Is Enough; Dear Mr. Camdessus*, his open letter of resignation to the IMF Managing Director, said that the IMF's harassment of him had "intensified since, particularly, October of last year. I will not stand for it any more." The story of Budhoo's exposure of IMF skulduggery was featured in *EIR*'s issue of Jan. 27, 1989.

A number of high officials of the IMF and its sister institution, the World Bank, have been resigning and blasting the policies of their former employers. Budhoo cited the World Bank's director of personnel, Dr. Michael Irwin, who, in an open letter published by the *Wall Street Journal* on March 30, said that he was tired of the Bank's "bloated and overpaid bureaucracy, wasteful practices, poor management, and unjustified arrogance."

David Knox, former World Bank director for Latin America and the Caribbean, is another former employee who has denounced the policies of the IMF and the World Bank, Budhoo revealed. Knox attacked the handling of Latin America's foreign debt, and said that debtor nations "have no alternative but massive default."

## ***Italian terrorists given 22 years***

The founder of a left-wing pro-terrorist newspaper, *Lotta Continua*, was sentenced to 22 years in prison by an Italian judge for the assassination of a police inspector 18 years ago. Luigi Calabresi was killed in Milan on May 17, 1972, after an intensive campaign of slanders against his person, particularly appearing in *Lotta Continua*, the paper of a terrorist group of the same name.

Adriano Sofri, the founder of *Lotta Continua*, and Giorgio Pietrostefani, one of the leaders of the group, ordered the assassination of Calabresi, and one Ovidio Bompresini actually pulled the trigger, according to Leonardo Marino, a former *Lotta Continua* activist who confessed to being the driver for the assassination team.

Marino also revealed the existence of

## Briefly

an "underground" level in Lotta Continua, responsible for robberies and terrorism. Out of that underground emerged other top terrorists in the course of the 1970s.

On May 2, a Milan court sentenced Sofri, Pietrostefani, and Bompresi to 22 years in prison, and Marino to 11 years. Sofri is an adviser to Socialist Party leader and Deputy Premier Claudio Martelli. Socialist Party general secretary Bettino Craxi, the former prime minister, immediately criticized the sentence, saying he was "surprised" at it. Martelli has attacked it as "unjust."

Italian President Francesco Cossiga, a day before the sentencing, had given an unprecedented speech blasting the "intellectuals" who supported and justified terrorism, calling them "bad teachers who, with an irresponsibility equal only to their conceit and moral and physical cowardice, for the most part bourgeois, full of complexes, and well established in university professorships and newspaper editorships . . . induced young people . . . leading them to a destiny of suffering and prison, but covering their own social and economic interests very well."

### ***Cuba launches big military exercises***

Cuba's armed forces, battle-tested in Africa, have engaged in nationwide maneuvers, and President Fidel Castro has stated that Cuba would be another "Vietnam or worse" for the United States if it tried to attack. The mobilization of forces on the communist-ruled island has gathered momentum since May 2, when the government launched the "Cuban Shield" exercise to counter what it said was the threat posed by three simultaneous U.S. military maneuvers in the Caribbean. "The Yankee maneuver is an opportunity for us to hold our own exercise," Castro said in a visit to a military command post in Havana.

The Cuban mobilization of regular military forces, reservists, and militia appeared to be one of the biggest since the 1962 missile crisis, Havana-based diplomats said.

Washington said May 4 that the U.S.

exercises, "Ocean Venture," "Global Shield," and "Defex," were routine and not aimed against Cuba.

President Bush has fiercely criticized Castro's government for refusing to follow political reforms in Eastern Europe and change the island's one-party communist system.

Across Cuba over the weekend, firing ranges crackled to the sound of automatic arms fire as civilians in the militia uniform of green trousers and blue shirts received weapons training from military instructors. Cubans from 17-year-old youths to 65-year-old grandmothers put on black camouflage paint, crawled through assault courses, and learned how to shoot and throw hand grenades. In Havana alone, more than 120,000 of the 2 million inhabitants were mobilized for defense.

### ***Communists, fascists lose in Italian election***

The Italian Communist Party lost about 7% of its former vote in May 6 city, provincial, and regional council elections, in which the Christian Democrats suffered small losses while the Socialists enjoyed small gains. The right-fascist MSI lost 2%, while the left-fascist Greens lost 1% compared to their vote in the European Parliament elections of 1989 (but gaining about 1.5% compared to 1985).

The Lega Lombarda, which favors autonomy for the Lombard region, got an extraordinary 20% of the vote there.

Electoral slates associated with the views and program of international statesman Lyndon LaRouche competed in the Rome area and the town of Caorso in northern Italy. The Rome slate, called "Liberty for LaRouche," received 5,000 votes. In Caorso, the site of a nuclear plant rendered idle by Italy's 1987 referendum banning nuclear power, the Italians for Progress slate won 1.5% of the vote, with its chief campaign demand being the reopening of the nuclear plant (see *EIR*, May 4, 1989, "Pro-nuclear party on the ballot").

● **HERMANN ABS**, the former chairman of West Germany's Deutsche Bank, has been placed on the "Watch List" of the U.S. Justice Department's self-proclaimed Nazi-hunting agency, the Office of Special Investigations. Those on the list cannot obtain U.S. visas. A Deutsche Bank spokesman said that this came as a shock, since Abs has traveled to the U.S. numerous times and was active in the anti-Hitler resistance.

● **A NIETZSCHE SOCIETY** was founded in London in the first week of May. A Nietzsche revival has hit both British and American universities, the *Sunday Times* of London reported. American commentator Stanley Rosen called Nietzsche "the most influential philosopher in the Western world"—witness Hitler's Nazis, although Rosen said nothing of that.

● **PRINCE CHARLES** popped up in Hungary May 8, and called on the West to help Eastern Europe recover from the "ecological Armageddon" it suffered under communist rule. The region has suffered a "terrible catastrophe," he said. "Somehow we must find a way to help reverse this apparent ecological Armageddon."

● **TEN THOUSAND** Czechs gathered in the city of Pilsen for a rally commemorating the 45th anniversary of the city's liberation by Gen. George Patton's 3rd Army. Czech President Vaclav Havel unveiled a memorial plaque in the little town of Rokycany, where Patton was ordered to halt his advance on Prague under the Yalta agreements.

● **"THE SUMMER** will be tough. I expect a fresh strike wave," Soviet Labor Minister Vladimir Sherbakov told a Spanish interviewer May 4. "If people are demanding better meat supplies, and there is not any meat in the country at all, no matter how many laws are approved, the situation will not change."