

International Intelligence

SPD loses majority in German state election

The Social Democratic Party (SPD) lost its absolute majority in the May 14 state elections in Germany's most industrial state, North Rhine Westphalia, and the liberal Free Democratic Party fell below the threshold required to be in the state parliament. But even more dramatic than this change in the political landscape was the massive abstention rate: More than 35% of the electorate didn't go to the polls, the second lowest turnout in postwar German history.

A similar result occurred in the northern city-state of Bremen, where a split-off from the SPD, "Work for Bremen," took 10% of the vote in its campaign against green policies which had closed off a large portion of the area to development.

The short-term big winner in both these elections was the Green Party. In North Rhine Westphalia, the Green vote doubled from 5% to 10%, and SPD chief Johannes Rau may be forced to form a ruling coalition with them. Much of the Green vote came from middle-class professionals; the industrial workers, the SPD's base, just stayed home.

Heidegger exposé to be published in Brazil

The Rio de Janeiro paper *Tribuna da Imprensa* published a full-page review on May 9 of Victor Farias's book *Heidegger and Nazism*, which is to be published soon in Brazil. The book and Heidegger's ongoing pernicious influence were discussed by Helga Zepp-LaRouche in depth in *EIR*'s Sept. 16, 1994 issue.

The Brazilian reviewer, João Antonio, provides a detailed account of Heidegger's role and thinking as a Nazi, as revealed by Farias. He notes that Farias's book "exploded like a neutron bomb within European intellectual circles," because Heidegger, the Nazi, had inspired such postwar western "thinkers" as Jean-Paul Sartre, Jacques Lecan, Michel Foucault, and Jacques Derrida.

Antonio reports Farias told him that he was led to investigate the origin of Heidegger's thought when Heidegger told him in 1967 that it is impossible to conceive of the nature of things in the Romance languages. "To exclude the possibility of the act of thought from the group of Romance languages," struck him as "very grave," Farias told João Antonio.

Patriarch Aleksei urges Russia to mobilize anew

In his May 9 Victory Day message to the Russian people, covered in the West only by the German daily *Süddeutsche Zeitung* on May 10, Russian Orthodox Church Patriarch Aleksei II called for a new mobilization of the Russian people today, analogous to the way they rose to meet the challenge of the war.

He said that to achieve victory in the war, the people came together "into a single organism to defend life and peace, despite the ruling ideology of atheism and totalitarianism." He then declared: "The Church hopes that the people again today can become one organism, if they strive to revive the power of the people." The model of how people responded to the war must be recreated, "to liberate ourselves from the threatening disaster," adding that Russia is now beset by "military conflicts, economic collapse, rising criminality, and a crisis of State power."

Patriarch Aleksei II was seated prominently in the front row at the victory commemoration, near Defense Minister Pavel Grachov.

Hu Yaoban privately rehabilitated in China

In an unpublicized move, China's party chief and President Jiang Zemin visited the hometown of former leader Hu Yaoban, who was ousted by Deng Xiaoping in 1987. To fulfill a longtime request by the late Hu's family, Jiang Zemin inscribed a plate placed by Hu's remains.

According to an article by C. Raja Mohan in the Indian daily *The Hindu* on May 10, the inscription, actually signed as from the Central Committee of the Communist Party, praises Hu as a selfish-less, incorruptible, open-minded leader—an extremely high evaluation, considering Hu had been stripped from his post by Deng Xiaoping.

Hu was seen as friendly to Chinese intellectuals, and his death had in part triggered the 1989 Tiananmen Square Movement. Hu's political opponent is Deng's protégé Zhao Ziyang, China's known advocate of the "Third Wave." The policy differences between Hu and Zhao were detailed in a Feb. 14, 1992 article in *EIR* by Michael Billington, "Zhao Ziyang and How Kisser Destroyed China's Reform."

Major provocation staged in Kashmir

Mercenaries allegedly under the control of Pakistani intelligence services, holed up in the 500-year-old shrine of Sheikh Nooruddin Noorani at Char-e-Sharif in Jammu and Kashmir, set the shrine ablaze at 2:30 a.m. on May 11. The shrine, the adjoining mosque, and a khanqab (shelter for pilgrims) were completely burnt down, according to reports monitored by *EIR* in New Delhi.

After setting the shrine afire, the militants had planned to escape. When security forces moved in to foil this plan, gun battles erupted in which at least 42 militants were killed. Large-scale violence has broken out in the wake of the incident in many towns of Jammu and Kashmir.

EIR's correspondents in New Delhi say the incident clearly indicates the complete failure of the Indian government's hard-nosed Kashmir policy. The two culprits behind this policy failure are Governor General K.V. Krishna Rao and Home Minister S.B. Chavan. The reason that the Army did not move in Char-e-Sharif, *EIR* was told, was that the Army was simply unsure of entering the town because of the intense animosity exuded by the locals. This provided the militants four months to work out a gameplan for how to maximize the impact.

Colombian daily: Patriots must fill power vacuum

Reflecting the desperation setting in among Colombia's political elites as the institutions of power crumble under the impact of President Ernesto Samper Pizano's narco-corruption, the daily *El Espectador* issued an editorial call on May 14 to the country's "illustrious" citizens, to "impose a change of direction in the country" that goes beyond choosing new party leaders or debating new constitutional reforms. Such activities, the editorial argues, are no longer "the proper antidotes to revive the national spirit."

"This is not exclusively a crisis of a party, nor of those who in one way or another have the responsibility to govern. Something much deeper is boring a hole in the national conscience and leading us to the edge of the abyss. Apart from the adverse factors that stagger the country, what is certain is that there is a generalized sense of a vacuum of power."

The daily ends by appealing to individuals "who can serve the country disinterestedly" and "in whom the country believes and respects," to step forward and bring about "a change in the composition of the government" while there is yet time.

Pope names anti-theolib archbishop in Salvador

Continuing his offensive against the Theology of Liberation movement behind the São Paulo Forum in Ibero-America, Pope John Paul II has named as San Salvador's next archbishop Bishop Fernando Saenz Lacalle. Monsignor Saenz Lacalle, a member of the Opus Dei movement and head of the corps of military chaplains in El Salvador, has labeled Theology of Liberation "a re-reading of the Gospel with a Marxist leaning, with a tendency toward violence" which "now has no place in El Salvador."

The impact on El Salvador will be dramatic, as the Catholic Church in that country has long been under the thumb of the pro-terrorist Theology of Liberation, starting

with Archbishop Oscar Arnulfo Romero and followed by Arturo Rivera Damas. Both openly mediated on the terrorists' side throughout a dozen years of warfare against the State.

Rev. Rodolfo Cardenal, the vice-rector of the Jesuit-run Central American University of San Salvador—long a breeding ground for the FMLN narco-terrorists—decried the new archbishop's insistence that politics be kept out of religion: "To me it seems just as political for an archbishop to keep silent about a massacre as to pronounce on it. If the archbishop keeps his silence, he leaves his parishioners unprotected."

Western nations could have avoided Holocaust

The Holocaust could have been avoided had the western states not closed their doors to the Jews, wrote Pinchas Lapide, the Frankfurt-based Jewish-German historian and philosopher, in an essay on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the end of World War II which was published in Germany on May 10.

Without diminishing the direct guilt of the Nazis, Lapide wrote, the "painful question remains posed: Why didn't the nations of the free West open their doors in time and less halfheartedly to let in the stream of the banned Jewish refugees?"

Lapide recalled that Israel's President Ben Gurion in 1965—when German-Israeli relations were established—declared: "Yes, there is a new Germany in which we can trust." Since German reunification five years ago, the Jewish community has increased from 22,000 to now about 50,000, with 60,000 more enlisted to immigrate from Russia, Lapide wrote, underlining that Ben Gurion's trust is shared by many Jews.

One of the biggest contemporary threats to Jewish identity is that the sympathy for the state of Israel and the remembrance of the Holocaust might "turn into a pseudo-religion for the Jews in the long-term perspective. This would be a tragedy," Lapide warned.

● **BELARUS VOTERS** voted 82.4% for an economic union with Russia, according to the official results of a May 14 referendum. The vote also grants President Aleksander Lukashenko the power to dissolve parliament at any time and rule solely by executive decree.

● **ISRAEL'S** Interior Ministry on May 15 deposed Baruch Merzel, a former leader of the outlawed terrorist Kach movement, from the town council of Kiryat Arba in the occupied West Bank, Reuters reported on May 16. Kiryat Arba was home to Baruch Goldstein, who in 1994 massacred 29 worshippers at a mosque in Hebron.

● **FRANCE, SPAIN** and Italy will form a joint intervention force against "threats from the South," (North Africa). The three governments are pursuing formation of a naval component, Euromarfor, and of an airborne component, Euroforce.

● **BENENGELI**, the cultural quarterly of Lyndon LaRouche's co-thinkers in Ibero-America, will hold a joint seminar on June 1-2 in Argentina with the Catholic magazine *Nueva Lectura* on: A Renaissance, or the Twilight of Civilization? *Benengeli's* first issue of 1995 contains articles by LaRouche, Helga Zepp-LaRouche, and Nora Hammerman.

● **THE GULF WAR** is "the cause of all the problems we suffer today," the President of Turkey, Suleyman Demirel, is quoted in the Arabic daily *Al-Arab* on May 11. "The United States solved the Kuwait problem but created a more difficult and more complicated problem, which is the problem of Iraq's present situation."

● **THE ALGERIAN** Islamic Armed Group (GIA) threatened the leaders of the political faction of the Islamic Salvation Front (FIS) and their families, giving them one month in which to submit to the GIA command, and vowing to act "on European soil," reported *Al-Hayat* on May 11.