

International Intelligence

British Tory congress erupts into racism

Racist remarks by former British Conservative Party chairman Lord Tebbit on the sidelines of the party conference early this month, raised an outcry among Britain's large Muslim population. Tebbit apparently warned that Britain's large Muslim population could turn Britain into another Bosnia — i.e., continuing to cover for the fact that the Bosnian Serbs led by war criminal Radovan Karadzic were carrying out *British* geopolitical policy. Writer and broadcaster Yasmin Alibhai-Brown told the *Independent* that Tebbit was "basically talking about civil war, because he implies the people in Yugoslavia could not live alongside a Muslim population."

Lord Tebbit, noted the Iranian news service IRNA, "who has held several cabinet posts, is not unknown for his racist views, having previously suggested that immigrant descendants should have a 'cricket test' to show which country they are loyal to." The Tories new party leader, William Hague, has not condemned the inflammatory remarks.

Iranian daily: It's time to end British monarchy

The Iranian daily *Jomhuri-Eslami*, which is the organ of the conservative clerics, carried an editorial on the British royal family, on the subject of their visit to Pakistan and India, marking the 50th anniversary of the two former British colonies' independence.

Headlined, "Decayed Monarchy Reveals Britain's Medieval Image," the editorial noted: "People witnessed how a newcomer to Buckingham Palace, who tried to disclose parts of the corruption of the royal family, was killed in a suspicious car accident in Paris. Thus, rationally, there is no option but to end the monarchical system. If that happens, it will be seen as the political maturation of Britain. . . . The Indian sub-continent has suffered from the dark ages of British colonialism for 150 years and tasted the bitterness of its crimes. . . . The corrup-

tion of the royal family is not something new that only Princess Diana had found. Rather, it has its roots in the history of Britain's ruling class. . . . Although London is no longer the symbol of a superpower, it will never abandon its domineering nature," the daily concluded.

Tuberculosis stalking famine-wracked N. Korea

Famine-stricken North Korea could be facing the mass spread of tuberculosis, the UN World Health Organization (WHO) said on Oct. 2. A UN team which toured the country at the end of September reported that, due to the general economic breakdown from hunger, "the result is a decrease in immunization activities and an increase in child malnutrition. . . . There is a danger that tuberculosis is much more widespread than previously thought."

North Korean officials, however, strongly denied reports in the British-controlled *South China Morning Post* of Hong-kong on Sept. 30, which said that over 1 million people have starved to death, that cases of cannibalism have been frequent, and that some people had even been executed for selling human flesh. "The recent false propaganda is designed to tarnish the image" of North Korea, the official Korean Central News Agency said.

The WHO reportedly detailed the economic breakdown resulting from widespread hunger, which in turn is allowing TB to spread: Power cuts due to the closure of coal mines whose workers are too weak to mine, have caused extensive shutdowns of refrigeration, which has weakened the effectiveness of what small amount of TB vaccine is available. Although replacement supplies had been brought into the country, they could not be transported to the provinces, because of fuel shortages.

The WHO team also reported an acute shortage of the most common medicines in hospitals and clinics. They concluded that disease surveillance and prevention and control systems were no longer functioning well enough to safeguard against the threat. Fur-

ther, the WHO said that long-term immunization projects would be needed to stop childhood diseases, which are spreading through North Korea's estimated 2.6 million children under six who are seriously malnourished.

Hundreds of thousands of Brazilians welcome Pope

Unlike the garbage carried by the international media, many Brazilian papers have featured the happiness of the hundreds of thousands of Brazilians addressed by Pope John Paul II, who were inspired by his sense of humor and humanity, during the various events of the Second World Congress of the Pontifical Council on the Family which took place in Rio de Janeiro on Oct. 4-5.

Typical of his interventions were his impromptu remarks, in Portuguese, to the Theological Pastoral Congress: "The city of Rio de Janeiro is inspiring, because one continually sees divine architecture, and also human architecture. . . . Man is in the image of God. This inspiration of architecture is important for the family, because the family also is divine architecture. After all, the family needs divine and human architecture to live, to endure, to find its home." Addressing 114,000 people in the Maracana stadium on Oct. 4, the Pope contrasted the "growing secularization and reigning hedonism," to the "fundamental battle to give dignity to man." He stressed, "Poverty destroys the family. How can a young person think of building a family, if they do not have a job? . . . Marital fidelity and respect for life, in all phases of its existence, are being subverted by a culture which does not admit the transcendence of man created in the image and semblance of God."

Exposés of Piat murder rock rotten French elites

Two new books on the 1994 murder of French Deputy Yann Piat, are stripping the patina of decency from the corrupt French

RUPERT MURDOCH, has been summonsed by a New Delhi magistrate for allowing his Star TV network to broadcast "obscene and vulgar" programming in India. This follows a complaint by a lawyer seeking the prosecution of Star TV under the Indecent Representation of Women (Prohibition) Act. This is the second time Murdoch has been summonsed before an Indian court over the content of programs on his TV network.

TONY BLAIR, Britain's Labour prime minister, reportedly is against having the British crown skip over Prince Charles, and go directly to his eldest son William, according to Australia's *Courier Mail*. Polls show that 60% of Britons, increasingly disgusted with the Windsors since Princess Diana's murder, want her son, Prince William, to be the next king.

YEVHENI MIKOLUTSKY, a member of parliament and State Control Committee in Mohilyov region in Belarus, died on Oct. 6 after being hit by a bomb explosion in his apartment building. The explosive was reportedly a remote-controlled device. Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty described Mikolutsky as a friend of President Alexander Lukashenko.

ARCHBISHOP Desmond Tutu blasted the International Monetary Fund at the All Africa Conference of Churches in Adis Abeba on Oct. 6. He called the structural adjustment programs "immoral, deserving condemnation, for they do not care about the suffering of people. Anything that imposes unnecessary sufferings on those for whom Christ died is wrong. SAPs do this and they must be condemned." Tutu appealed to creditor nations to cancel some \$370 billion in debt owed by African nations.

FORMER FRENCH colonies will hold their first summit on Nov. 14-16, in Hanoi. Vietnamese Foreign Ministry official Luong Van Ly reports that 25 of 49 nations, representing 500 million people, belonging to *La Francophonie*, have responded to invitations to this first-ever summit.

establishment. *The Yann Piat Affair: Killers at the Heart of Power*, by André Rougeot and Jean Michael Verne, openly accuses Mitterrand Defense Minister François Léotard and Marseilles Mayor Jean Claude Gaudin of having ordered the Feb. 25, 1994 mafia-style hit. The second book, *They Killed Yann Piat*, by Claude Ardid, only obliquely identifies two officials, by their codenames "Encornet" and "Trottinette."

Both books attribute their information to an anonymous retired general from Military Intelligence, who claims he intercepted the plot through his investigations, and that the two individuals who were arrested for being the motorcycle hit-team that did the killing, are not the ones who carried it out.

Piat herself was originally elected to the National Assembly on the slate of racist Jean Marie Le Pen. She became disgusted with Le Pen, and left his National Front. After her daughter became addicted to drugs, she vowed to wage a war on drugs. During her investigations she uncovered dirty real estate dealings in the southern department of Var, adjacent to the jet-set playground of the Côte d'Azur. Piat discovered that top political figures were selling land, owned by the military, near the airbase of Hyères and the military base at Fréjus, to the mafia.

Munir Bashir, Classical oud master, dies

The world's greatest oud player, Munir Bashir, died at the age of 67 in Budapest, Hungary. Born in Mosul, Iraq, Bashir learned to play the oud, the Classical Arabian stringed instrument, from his father, continuing a centuries-long family tradition. He studied for six years at the Institute of Arabian Music in Baghdad, under Sharif-Muhyiddin, and later completed a doctorate in musicology at Budapest. Bashir, who was dedicated to maintaining the tradition of Arabian music, and developing it further, founded the Arab Music Academy in Baghdad. He was also artistic adviser in the Iraqi Culture Ministry, vice chairman of the International Music Council of Unesco, and sec-

retary general of the Arab League's Arab Music Academy.

He had perhaps the deepest grasp of the history and development the *Maqam*, which he described in a 1996 interview with *EIR* as a "modal system," at least 3,000 years old, whose sounds, rhythms, and melodies make wide use of "traditional improvisation." Bashir had a unique capability of bringing the history of this music alive. In more recent years, he focussed on the art of improvisation, based on the *Maqam* and the musical laws of its development. Bashir established for the oud, which had traditionally accompanied song, its place as a solo instrument.

Soros's HRW attacks Palestinian Authority

The George Soros-funded and -led Human Rights Watch has issued a new report this month, incredibly attacking the Palestinian Authority for alleged human rights abuses during its crackdown of Hamas, and demanding that the Israelis (and Americans) who ordered the PA to make the crackdown—which HRW approves—now lean on the Palestinians to "respect" human rights.

The aim of the report, titled "Repression and Intimidation in Self-Rule Areas," is to continue the propaganda barrage against the Oslo peace accords and poison any potential for especially PA President Yasser Arafat to negotiate peace.

HRW's press release alleges that the PA's "mushrooming security agencies," have carried out "Hundreds of arbitrary detentions. . . . The PA has also threatened and arrested journalists, human rights activists, and other critics, encouraging self-censorship and creating a climate of fear and intimidation." HRW, which otherwise supports the most bloodthirsty London-based and -backed terrorist organizations, rants that "Washington's failure to publicly urge respect for human rights when combatting anti-Israeli violence amounts to encouragement to resort, once again, to these abusive methods."