

Soros's 'lunar cycles' won't stop collapse

by Cynthia R. Rush

"By the middle of next week, the solution to the [world] financial crisis will begin," Argentina's Deputy Finance Minister Carlos Rodríguez predicted on Nov. 13. When asked by the daily *Clarín* why he was so confident of this fact, Rodríguez replied, "lunar cycles. I have a friend who, besides being an economist, is interested in the influence of the stars on earthly events. He told me that, according to lunar projections, the solution to the financial crisis will begin by the middle of next week."

Is he nuts? Read on. Rodríguez's boss, Finance Minister Roque Fernández, apparently consults the same astrologer. Fernández predicted on Oct. 31 that the current financial crisis "wouldn't last more than a week." A respected Argentine journalist who specializes in financial markets told *EIR* that Rodríguez's astrologer is also consulted by the Center for Macroeconomic Studies, the think-tank of Argentina's "Chicago Boys," at which Fernández is a frequent lecturer. Fernández did his graduate work at the University of Chicago, under Mont Pelerin Society kook economist and Nobel Prize-winner Gary Becker.

But the unifying thread in this bizarre tale is megaspeculator and nation-wrecker George Soros. We learn that Eduardo Elzstain, president of Soros's real estate holding company, IRSA, also uses the same astrologer. Small world. The journalist source reports that Soros himself, who has made Argentina a special target of his predatory activities, admits that he often consults astrologers before playing the markets. It shouldn't surprise us, therefore, that during President Bill Clinton's mid-October visit to Argentina, it was Rodríguez who told a luncheon audience of U.S. and Argentine businessmen that "investment" of the type Soros has made in the country, is the reason why Argentina wouldn't suffer a financial crisis.

Some reliable sources say that Rodríguez's medium is in contact with the astrologer who told Adolf Hitler that he would win World War II.

Beware 'Sorosism'

Talk of "lunar cycles" and other extraterrestrial phenomena determining the course of the world financial crisis, might be passed off as just kookery—were it not for the fact that Soros and his ilk, as Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir bin

Mohamad has repeatedly charged, have devastated Ibero-American and other developing sector economies with their lunacy. Thanks to Mahathir's and *EIR*'s attacks, Soros is finding an increasingly hostile reception to his activities in Ibero-America.

In November, Peruvian journalist Patricio Ricketts authored a double whammy against Soros: a six-page article in the Nov. 10 issue of the weekly *Sí* magazine, headlined "A Disease Named Soros. Speculation Brings Down Markets, Countries and Systems"; and, in the Nov. 17 issue, a six-page sequel on the "Confessions of a 'Digestive Tract,'" a reference to Soros's description of himself as precisely that, in a Nov. 5 interview with ABC-TV's Ted Koppel. The Nov. 10 issue was illustrated with a picture of Soros superimposed over marijuana plants. Here, Ricketts warned that the Group of 15 emerging nations were, at that very moment, working on a remedy for "Sorosism" and the system of "financial and exchange piracy upon which it is based."

The second article was illustrated with a cartoon of Soros's head atop a large colon. Citing *EIR*'s *Special Report*, "The True Story of Soros the Golem," and Soros's description of himself as "amoral," unconcerned with the consequences of his actions, Ricketts reminded readers that Soros is "merely the visible tip of an enormous hidden iceberg, whose presence we only take note of, through its catastrophic effects." He is one of a horde of such predators, Ricketts warned, who devour "entire countries, ingenuously engaged in attracting the voracious 'hot-capital investor.'"

At the same time as Ricketts's broadsides, it was reported from Lima that the Argos brokerage house, Soros's first partner when he entered the Peruvian stock exchange in 1992, was suspended from trading on Nov. 13-18, because it could not meet \$10 million in obligations. Soros's current relationship to the firm is not known; he claims to have pulled out of Peruvian stocks, which no one believes.

On Nov. 17, Moody's Investors Service downgraded one of Soros's major investments in Brazil, the Banco do Investimentos Garantia, dropping the bank's financial solvency rating from D+, to D. Moody's cited the steep drop in value of the bank's investments and of the funds it manages, and Garantia's large volume of highly leveraged bond purchases, as the reason for its decision.

As for the astrologers, Argentine journalist Carlos Scavo offered a fitting commentary in *Clarín* on Nov. 26. "Since the end of the 18th century, every speculative mania tends to unleash divining rods, and other trivial magic, with the same message: 'This is something else, the market has changed.' But reality turns such predictions and horoscopes to dust." Pointing to Rodríguez's embrace of astrology, Scavo forecast that as the international financial crisis goes on, "no zodiac will survive. In the final phase . . . those who believe in astrology, can place their bets on Charon," the boatman who ferried the souls of the dead across the river Styx to Hades.