EIR Warned of Korea ‘Regime Change’

South Korean President Roh Moo-Hyun was suspended from office at on March 12 after an unprecedented parliamentary impeachment vote ahead of turbulent April 15 general elections. Prime Minister Roh Kun took over as interim president, calling an emergency cabinet meeting, although Roh retains the poorly-defined post of “chief executive.” There are only very foggy rules in the Constitution for impeachment, which has never happened in the history of Korea.

The scenario went as the Oct. 24, 2003 issue of EIR had warned (“South Korea: Target for Cheney ‘Regime Change’?”) and triggered panic in financial markets as foreign hot money poured out—also as EIR had forecast then. Seoul’s main index slumped nearly 5% in morning trading.

The impeachment was run directly by the American Enterprise Institute (AEI)-controlled Korean opposition Grand National Party, which EIR has exposed for some years as a front for Cheney’s neo-con faction, given Cheney’s extensive ties to AEI.

French Judge Blames Kagame for 1994 Deaths

Judge Jean Louis Bruguieré, the top anti-terrorism judge of France, will soon issue a devastating report on who shot down the Falcon 50 airplane transporting Rwandan President Juvenal Ntaryamira and Burundian President Cyprien Ntaryamira to Kigali, Rwanda, in 1994, returning from a regional summit in Dar es Salaam. The downing of that plane ignited the Hutu genocide against the Tutsi in Rwanda. The report—which was finished Jan. 30, but will not be disclosed officially until after the ceremonies on the tenth anniversary of the genocide on April 6—was leaked to Le Monde, which put it on its front page March 10 and gave it a full two pages.

Bruguieré’s report blames present Rwandan President Paul Kagame as the main decision-maker behind the downing of the plane. During his investigation—demanded by the families of the four French air personnel killed in the downing—Bruguieré heard the testimony of hundreds, launched many foreign investigations, and benefitted from the support of several dissidents of Kagame’s Rwandan Patriotic Front (FPR) now living in protected places, among whom was a member of the “Network Commando,” operating directly under Kagame and in charge of shooting down the plane.

Beginning in 1996, Lyndon LaRouche had sponsored a worldwide campaign to expose the Anglo-American interests behind the genocide in the Great Lakes region of Africa, with Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni and Paul Kagame as their tools.

According to Le Monde’s Africa correspondent Stephen Smith, France, in the course of Bruguieré’s investigation, has been actively impeding Kagame’s military activities in neighboring countries, as well as smuggling some of its Rwandan sources to more secure locations. In retaliation, Kagame had several of Judge Bruguieré’s witnesses murdered, Smith charges.

CDC: Rare Diseases Could Become Global, Unstopable

Dr. Julie Gerberding, director of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control, warned at the Fourth International Conference on Emerging Infectious Diseases, in Atlanta, Georgia, that diseases that are now only a problem in local areas could become global; that diseases that today are rare could become widespread; and that new animal diseases could jump the species barrier and affect the human population.

The SARS outbreak, the flu, and other recent examples indicative of the danger were discussed, and Dr. Keiji Fukuda, an influenza epidemiologist at the CDC, said that a worldwide flu epidemic is “inevitable,” noting that the recent run of emerging diseases has already “taxed and strained the entire international health system” beyond its capacity. “We are thin in terms of numbers of available experts, resources, and staff,” he said, according to a March 9 New York Times article.

Experts at the conference said they cannot predict which infectious disease will hit next. One candidate is the Usutu virus, which had never been identified outside of southern Africa until 2001, when birds in Vienna, Austria suddenly started dying from it. It has apparently adapted to cold European winters, and so far one person has become ill from the virus. Many others are possibilities. On top of these, there is the return to the United States, thanks to the policies of today’s Schachtian budget cutters, of diseases such as malaria, which had been nearly eradicated through the use of the politically-banned DDT.

Chávez Alleges Bush Coup; Threatens ‘100 Years War’

Venezuela President Hugo Chávez on March 5 charged that the Bush Administration was running a coup d’état against his government, and predicted that the opposition march planned for the next day would be an attempted repeat of April 11, 2002, when he was briefly overthrown. He called the opposition “terrorist and coup-mongering” movement dressed in democratic clothes, which is trying to unseat the government, “and accused its leaders of causing the eight or more deaths that occurred at the end of February, despite the fact that the majority of the victims were protesters against his regime.

During a five and a half hour televised speech on March 7, Chávez repeated his claim that Haiti’s President Aristide had been “express-kidnapped” by U.S. Marines, and warned Washington not to “even think about trying something similar in Venezuela.” He insisted that “the Bolivarian revolution has enough allies on this continent to launch a Hundred Years’ War, and not just on Venezuelan territory,” and added that “U.S. citizens could forget about ever getting Venezuelan oil,” if the U.S. tried to invade his country. At the same time, the opposition forces are pushing for a Hundred Years’ War of their own, adding fuel to the planned conflagration that could soon hit Venezuela, before spreading throughout Ibero-America.