

May 10, 1974

Page 2

## SOVIET UNION: DANGEROUS WISHFUL THINKING ON DETENTE POLICY

May 9 (IPS) — The leadership of the USSR, polarized into factions around the general questions of Soviet foreign policy — detente and ties to the West — is confused and alarmed at the rapidity of the Rockefeller onslaught against Western Europe, principally through his lackeys Francois Mitterand and Helmut Schmidt. The Soviet press, especially *Pravda*, demonstrates the leadership's vacillation: from tentative and potentially powerful publication of the Labor Committees' "Golden Snake" (monetization of gold, freeing Western Europe from total dependence on Rockefeller's international financial structure) monetary policy, including the crucial element of Soviet support through trade agreements and gold reserves (*Pravda*, April 28), to trembling before the "dark forces of imperialist reaction" (*Pravda*, May 1, Central Committee May Day message):

*"Many observers in the West indicate, that under the conditions of the sharpening currency-financial crisis, deepened by the general economic collapse in the capitalist world, changes in the financial sphere will be constructive to the extent that they are in accord with positive tendencies in the world economy: the development of trade ties, multistate cooperation, without any closed groups or discrimination of any form."* [*Pravda*, April 28]

*"... we call those who side with peace and progress on earth to strengthen international solidarity in struggle with the dark forces of imperialism, who are striving to wreck international detente and foster the atmosphere of 'cold war.'"* [*Pravda*, May 1]

### *Dangerous Wishful Thinking*

The dangerously paranoid state of the now-dominant Soviet faction is best represented by two major commentary articles in *Pravda* (April 30, by V. Bol'shakov; May 3, by Iu. Zhukov), which reveal the extent to which the Soviets have been victimized by the hard cop/soft cop psychological warfare techniques of missile-rattling U.S. Defense Secretary James Schlesinger and his employer, urbane David Rockefeller. These two articles, remarkably similar, attempt to present a watertight version of the Soviet Communist Party's (CPSU) detente policy — its history, present progress, and supposed status as the essential trend in world politics today.

As for the "enemies of detente" (as Zhukov's article is titled), they are presented as more anachronistic than dangerous. To the extent that the Soviet leadership refuses to comprehend the danger of a world fascist holocaust in strategic *political* terms, this misrepresentation is lawful. The self-imposed blindness of the Soviet bureaucracy produces a peculiar journalistic genre — wishful thinking in place of analysis. The writer defines reality in fantastical terms, dismissing any phenomenon which explodes the myth.

According to the *Pravda* script, detente was born when the West gave up hopes that the Soviet Union would disintegrate from internal weakness.

*"As long as imperialism nourished any hope of annihilating the USSR by force, our peace initiative and any steps towards relaxation of international tensions were viewed in the West as symptoms of the 'weakness of the Soviets.' When all hopes for restoration of capitalism in the USSR and other socialist countries began to dissipate like smoke, the strategies of anti-communism began to be reassessed: couldn't the very idea of peaceful coexistence of different social systems be used to advantage and to harm the socialist community? But these intentions [of overthrowing communism — Ed.] dissipated like smoke when the real relation of forces in the world changed, when the might of the USSR and the whole socialist community strengthened ..."* (Bol'shakov, *Pravda*, April 30)

### *Soviets Deny Bourgeois Factions*

With the fall of the Gaullists and Willy Brandt, the muddled Soviet view leaves them with only David Rockefeller remaining from their indiscriminate grab-bag of detente friends. In other words, the Soviets deny differentiation among bourgeois factions — in the very week when this factionalization became manifest and vindicated Labor Committee analysis of Rockefeller's strategy against the Western European bourgeois democracies and the workers' states.

*Pravda* ascribes a double role to the "enemies of detente," that collection of "Imperialist circles of the Western powers, the American military industrial complex, West German revanchists, NATO generals, Zionists, adventurists of all brands ..." (Zhukov, *Pravda*, May 3). These imperialist circles supposedly slip from harboring malicious designs against the Soviets to being laughably "out of step with the times" (title of *Pravda* editorial column on NATO, May 4).

### *Press Flip Flops*

The Soviet press reflects the leadership's flip-flop: on the one hand, recognition of brinksmanship and the fascist potential in the West; on the other, terrified retreat into bureaucratic routine. Bol'shakov writes, no doubt reassuring to Rockefeller,

*"In the socialist community and in the whole world communist and workers movement there has always existed a firm conviction that the social system of one state or another is the internal affair of its people, and that revolution is not to be exported."* (Bol'shakov, *Pravda*, April 30)

### *Military More Realistic ...*

Significantly, the fog lifts from some Soviet eyes in the area of military strategy. The military newspaper *Krasnaia Zvezda* (*Red Star*), published by hardliner A. Grechko's Ministry of Defense, consistently discusses USA-NATO strategy and maneuvers (April 26 on the subject of Europe; April 28 on that of Asia). Moreover, *Izvestia* has printed a comprehensive review of recent and current NATO maneuvers, commenting

"In a word, a good deal of the territory of West European countries and the surrounding seas now recall a theatre of military action" (*Izvestia*, April 27)

and identifying an "intentional escalation of militaristic psychosis." Even *Pravda* dismissed the psywar rumors emanating from Vienna last month that Yugoslavia was threatened by Soviet invasion through Austria (rumors widely attributed to foreign intelligence sources). This slander was readily debunked by pointing out the absurdity of circuitous line of march suggested.

... *But Still Limited*

Grechko and the military apparatus generally understand the strategic menace of mad bomber Schlesinger and his missiles, but their view is limited. It must be complemented by an understanding of Rockefeller's political strategy, the Reesian psywar methods available to him and the cabal's precise knowledge of Soviet ideological vulnerability to such methods. Such an understanding would give substance and political impact to *Pravda's* editorial claim April 26 about the Warsaw Pact leadership: "We are realists ...."

## LIBERAL FASCISM TAKES OVER WITH COUP IN PORTUGAL

May 3 (IPS) — Antonio de Spínola has successfully carried out his "golpe branco" (bloodless coup) against the "ultras" in the Portuguese army and government. Immediately upon seizing power April 25 and giving President Thomaz and Prime Minister Caetano free vacations on the island of Madeira, Spínola proclaimed amnesty for political prisoners, freedom of the press, freedom of association and the possibility of legal elections within six to nine months. All over the world the bourgeois press hailed this "liberalizer" who was long overdue. *Pravda* and the world Communist Party press joined the chorus. Portuguese Socialist Party head Mario Soares declared that he would return immediately to Lisbon after several years in exile in Paris.

### *Monocled Macho of Lisbon*

Who is Antonio de Spínola? The U.S. working heard of him only this past March when his book *Portugal and the Future* caused such an uproar that several hundred army captains were arrested and Spínola himself was removed from responsibility only two months after being decorated with the highest medals ever awarded a Portuguese officer. However, Spínola has been around for a long time, carefully watched and groomed by experts. Since his youth he has been involved in one form or another of anti-working-class, anti-communist fascist warfare. He fought with Franco's fascist insurgents in the Spanish Civil War. He next went to Nazi Germany for the finishing touches on his military training under Hitler, who sent him to Stalingrad as a special observer for Nazi SS forces.

### *"Taming the Natives"*

Taking his Nazi education back home in the early 1950's, Spínola became the head of and main strategist for the National Republican Guard (the Portuguese Gestapo), where he became known for his ruthless repression of the labor movement and peasantry of Portugal. He was shipped to Africa in the early 1960's to establish and coordinate the most sophisticated counterinsurgency operation possible, using his Nazi background. In the colonies of Angola and Guinea Bissau he stood out as a brilliant counterinsurgent who skillfully mixed psywar with brutal repression and torture. Among his feats:

- Forming counterinsurgency armies composed of black soldiers led by white officers;
- Instituting iron discipline in those armies;
- Razing entire Angolan villages suspected of harboring rebels;
- Offering "special concessions" to all rebels who wished to give up the struggle and return to slave labor on the Portuguese *latifundios* (large land holdings) or mines;
- Directing the murder of Soviet protege Amílcar Cabral, leader of the PAIGC (Popular Action for the Independence of Guinea and Cape Verde);
- Establishing *aldeamentos* (strategic hamlets) which divided and enslaved the native population.

### SPINOLA: SMILES AND BLOOD

Quotation from a statement by Amílcar Cabral, assassinated leader of the PAIGC, January 1973:

"Spínola is not a new element in Portuguese politics ... Spínola belongs to a group of officers of the extreme right — fascist — who would like to take the helm of Portugal. We know that Spínola and Kaulza de Arraga want to be President of the Republic."

#### *On Psychological Warfare*

"Spínola introduced what we call the war of Smiles and Blood into our country. Smiles, affection, demagoguery towards those Africans under his control. Napalm, barbarous crime, terrorism, destruction, assassination, poison — that is the Blood. Spínola will not achieve his political hegemony in Portugal on the basis of the crimes he has committed against us; for we will cover him with shame and defeat him in the battlefield."

*Cabral was assassinated by a Portuguese agent a few days after making this statement.*

White-gloved, whip-carrying Spínola belongs to the people who own and direct Portuguese and colonial economics. The de Mello family of the Companhia Uniao Fabril owns or controls all major means of transportation, including the TAP (Portuguese Airlines), the pharmaceutical, cellulose, electric, hydroelectric, insurance, cattle, tin, steel, iron, copper and diamond industries. They also own the publishing house which "dared" to print Spínola's book in February. Their bank, Banco de Totta, is one of the largest financial institutions in Portugal, with a subsidiary bank in Angola (Banco de Angola). It is affiliated with the Standard Bank of South Africa, which is one of the key investors in the huge Camorra Bassa dam in Mozambique.