

tion in the Ontario Hydro lines blacked out the entire Northeast. Exactly where this year's blackouts and power cuts are slated to hit is not yet determined. As Gathercole admitted, "We will have to play it by ear."

PRESS BLACKS OUT TRILATERAL BELLAGIO MEETING;  
CORRIERE DELLA SERA PRINTS STORY ON MEETING'S SECRECY

Oct. 20 (IPS)--When New Solidarity International Press Service first broke the news of the Trilateral Commission's secret conference at the Rockefeller Foundation-owned Villa Serbelloni in Bellagio, northern Italy last week, the press maintained a total, coordinated blackout. Except in New Solidarity, this meeting to develop psychological warfare strategies against the Soviet Union was not reported.

The pressure created by the Labor Committees around this meeting throughout the press and the working class forced the Ital-press at least to give nominal coverage to the story. Reporter Pietro Sormani from the Milan daily Corriere Della Sera--partly owned by the family of leading Rockefeller agent Giovanni Agnelli--was assigned to check the story out. On his first call to Villa Serbelloni, Sormani was told by a spokesman that the meeting was merely a "cultural affairs" discussion. After consultation with Labor Committee organizers (who told him to stop being such a sucker), the reporter tried again. This time, a Trilateral public mouthpiece gave an even more ridiculous story: That the meeting was convened to discuss a book which had been reviewed by the Associated Press Oct. 15. Nevertheless, this enterprising, investigative reporter produced the following account (in translation):

"Yesterday at Bellagio an international conference dedicated to examining relations between the USA and Europe was concluded. Organized by the 'Council on Foreign Relations' and by Johns Hopkins University, it brought together last Tuesday about 15 scholars from five different countries, among them the Italian Giorgio La Malfa, Professor Brzezinski of Columbia University in New York, Die Zeit director Theo Sommer, and Michael Tatu of Le Monde. The meeting took place at Villa Serbelloni where a 'Center for Study and Conferences' of the Rockefeller Foundation has its seat. The event in itself is in no way exceptional. Every year in Bellagio, at least a dozen meetings of this type take place, all at a high level, in which even representatives of Eastern European countries sometimes participate. It is a question of private meetings from which the press is excluded: In this way the secrecy and hence a greater freedom of expression is guaranteed, in the intentions of the organizers. Let us recall that the 'Council on Foreign Relations' is a private association which

publishes among other things 'Foreign Affairs,' the most authoritative review of American international policy (in which Kissinger and ex-President Nixon have written).

"The exceptionality is in the fact that this time the conference was the object of harsh attacks by an international organization called 'International Labor Committees' of communist and anti-American tendency. It has criticized by means of press releases sent out in various countries both the secrecy of the meeting and the theme of discussion which would regard presumed fascist-type plots in Europe and all kinds of forms of 'psychological warfare' against the Soviet Union. The participants are accused of 'conspiracy at the service of the CIA.' These accusations have been sharply refuted in the circles of the conference, which on account of their absurdity did not even consider them worthy of a denial. The discussion, they state, had an academic character, which did not carry by any means the adoption of concrete measures: The type and the fame of the participants, all coming from university centers, are a guarantee of this besides. The only point on which the accusations have some foundation is that of secrecy: Even this morning at Villa Serbelloni they denied knowing about the conference. The episode shows to what point political passion can lead one's judgment astray. Probably not alien to the phenomenon is the government crisis which exists today in Italy and the 'coup' psychosis which recent revelations have spread in broad layers of the population. To ignore it would not be a good journalistic service: Instead, it must be eradicated by eliminating the causes which produced it, and to this end also greater publicity can serve, escaping even the slightest suspicions of a plot."