

DUTCH SPECIAL FORCES USE ADVANCED NATO TECHNOLOGY

ROTTERDAM, Nov. 3 (IPS)--According to reports in the popular Dutch daily De Telegraaf, special forces of the Dutch marines used deadly laser weapons for the first time in the history of the Dutch military to free hostages being held in the maximum security prison at Scheveninger, Netherlands. These special marine units, equipped with the most advanced technological weapons, are the product of the radical reorganization of the Dutch military which took place six months ago as part of the general upgrading of both NATO and European armed forces.

This reorganization is being pushed through under CIA-NATO agents such as Italian Defense Minister Andreotti, West German Defense Minister Leber, and, at the top, General Alexander Haig, the Rockefeller front man who took command of all U.S. forces in Europe yesterday. The NATO reorganization will prepare all military units in Europe for the role of internal gestapo police and as special NATO tactical units for "intervention" into the affairs of any NATO country to quell riots and strikes.

The man personally responsible for this reorganization in the Netherlands is Henk Vredeling. In addition to the recent deployment of his special forces, Vredeling two days ago called for the mobilization of 6,000 regular Dutch army troops to assist the crop harvest in the provinces of Zeeland, North Brabant, and South Holland. This kind of "civil action" is a dress rehearsal for the military takeover of production in the very near future--pre-planned by NATO operations. Hundreds of similar preparatory maneuvers are expected throughout Europe, the U.S., and Canada during the next few months.

PCI'S COSSUTTA PUSHES BELLAGIO MILITARY LINE

Nov. 3 (IPS)--Two days ago, the Italian Communist Party's (PCI) infamous rightwing hatchet man Armando Cossutta, head of the PCI group in the Senate, gave a further thrust to the suicidal Rockefeller line of a "European Independent Third Force" laid out at the Bellagio meeting of the fascist Trilateral Commission in October. In announcing phony anti-Kissinger demonstrations in five major Italian cities Nov. 5, Cossutta stressed:

"We don't ask that Italy should have a foreign policy hostile to the U.S.A. nor that it become an enemy [of the U.S.]. The Communists want a foreign policy which is neither anti-Soviet nor anti-American, even within our present location within NATO to which the Communists have been, and continue to be, opposed. Our country must carry out an autonomous and independent role, an active policy of detente, above all in regard to Europe, the Mediterranean area, and the Middle East."

Cossutta further emphasized that the "anti-Yankee" demonstrations of the PCI have nothing in common with actions by the "extreme left" groups, whom he labeled "CIA provocateurs." In view of ten months of virtual silence toward the extraparliamentary left, while the PCI has insisted that "all terrorist violence is from the right" and while the Italian left grouplets drew closer to the Communist Party, Cossutta's call for police action against the left can be aimed only at one group. This is the European Labor Committees, which have been agitating for the ouster of Cossutta, PCI leader Giorgio Amendola, and other PCI CIA operatives from the world Communist movement--on the basis of a pro-Soviet, international revolutionary alternative.

PCI PARTY RANKS PREPARED FOR "PROGRESSIVE COUP"

Nov. 3 (IPS)--Desperate to maintain some left credibility while executing a far-right turn, the national Italian Communist Party (PCI) leadership this week walked into a trap set by the newly "progressive" Defense Minister of Italy Giulio Andreotti. Andreotti, a NATO puppet, has been orchestrating "revelations" of rightwing coup plots among highly placed military figures over the past several months. As an outcome of these exposures, General Miceli, ex-head of Italy's Defense Information Service, was arrested Nov. 1 for political conspiracy, while rumors that there would be a military coup Saturday Nov. 2 flew through Italy and especially through the trade union ranks.

Predictably, the PCI exhibited exactly the kind of apolitical bravado which would ensure the round-up and massacre of their cadres were such a coup to actually take place. The word went out from national party headquarters that party militants should not sleep at home in their own beds that night. Meanwhile, in cities such as Turin, trade union meetings were called off for the week on the pretext of the fear of a coup. In Bologna, PCI leaders bragged that in the event of a rightwing attempt, they had access to arms--not the rusty rifles of the World War II Resistance days, but the "arms of the State!"

Such self-delusion of the part of the PCI local leadership dovetails precisely with the CIA-Rockefeller scenario laid out at the Trilateral Commission's secret Bellagio meeting in October--for "progressive" military dictatorships throughout Europe, with the complicity of working class parties.