

"Watergating" the Police

This blatant attempt by the fascist Echeverria administration to generate an international red scare out of the assassination of a communist by the Mexican political police has been coupled with a move to lay the blame for the whole ugly incident on low-level policemen. It was also announced yesterday that 25 detectives were taken to Military Field #1 for interrogation about the robbery of 20,000 pesos (U.S. \$1,600) in jewels and other valuables from the home of Lilian Jimenez at the time of her arrest. Of those 25, six were apparently held as responsible for the act, although there are conflicting reports that state that 15 policemen were arrested.

This attempt by Echeverria to deflect any criticism around the Moreno affair onto low-level police officials was pushed forward by an article on the Op Ed page of the Jan. 13 Excelsior. In a column entitled "Pinochet en Tlaxcoaque" (meaning "Pinochet, in Mexico"), Raul Prieto correctly hints at the growing Chileanization of Mexico by detailing the case of an unidentified woman who was kidnapped and held for two days by the Mexican political police. He then misleadingly concludes that Mexico's major "fascist enclave" is in the political police.

FINANCIAL TIMES RECALLS NAZI FINANCE MINISTER SCHACHT

Jan. 14 (IPS)--Under the pressure of capitalist collapse, the prestigious international financial daily, the Financial Times, this week began publicly reminiscing about bankers' "good old days" in Nazi Germany.

Devoid of current news--the European and American news pages were devoted to a two-page ad from Minnesota Mining and Manufacturing--the Financial Times Jan. 13 featured an article by top Times commentator Samuel Britten on "How the Doctor's Cure Ended Inflation." The "Doctor" Britten referred to was Hitler's Finance Minister Hjalmar Schacht.

While unwilling to admit outright that world bankers today face a situation comparable to that of Germany in the late 1930s, Britten waxed nostalgic over Schacht's ability to restore capitalists' confidence in the German economy after the ruinous three-digit inflation of the early 1920s. Admitting that "irreparable damage had already been done" by the time Schacht officially took over as Finance Minister for the Nazis in 1934, Britten refused to see Hitler's Gestapo and extermination camps as the logical and inevitable consequences of the Schachtian economic policies pursued throughout the preceding decade.

But in backdoor fashion, Britten recognized that the most important feature of Schachtian economics is the political club

required to back up the looting of the working class--the club provided by Hitler's little army of thugs. Sighing over the impotence of Britain's weak-kneed Labour government, Britten reminded his readers that "The indispensable need to control the supply of money in the face of potentially unlimited Government requirements and the greater importance of public credibility than any mechanistic formula seem as true today as they were then"--in the days of the brownshirts.

In a bid to restore Schachtian confidence in the international monetary system, British Chancellor of the Exchequer Denis Healey is currently in Washington meeting with Nelson Rockefeller and Henry Kissinger. U.S. Federal Reserve head Arthur Burns has also been dispatched to Bonn in order to carry on consultations there with West German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt.

The reported subject of these talks is the respective merits of the Healey and Kissinger plans for recycling Arab petrodollars. Britten's piece on Schacht is a gentle reminder to these gentlemen that they'd better concentrate their attention on building the political muscle to enforce one of these bloodsucking operations, muscle which they obviously lack right now.

STRAUSS PREPARES FOR NEW COLD WAR BY STRENGTHENING FASCIST-MAOIST AXIS

WIESBADEN, West Germany, Jan. 14 (IPS)--Franz-Josef Strauss, neo-Nazi Chairman of the Bavarian Christian Social Union (CSU), is rapidly consolidating both domestic and international allies in preparing a future mobilization for all-out rearmament of the European economy.

The vociferous anti-working class and anti-Soviet Strauss is presently on an official visit to the People's Republic of China. Received with the pomp of a head of state, he is reportedly discussing a "global analysis of the world political situation" with the Chinese, who have previously given their support to NATO as a means of crushing the "Soviet military threat." He will meet with high military leaders to discuss, among other topics, the Mideast situation.

Discussion has not been confined to international issues. Red Chinese Foreign Minister Tschiao also praised Strauss for the 62 per cent majority he received in last year's Bavarian state elections: "This is a sign that you have reflected the opinion of the largest number of friends. The principle of differing opinions is a beautiful thing." For the ruling elements in the Byzantine Chinese bureaucracy, support of fascist Strauss is merely another tactic in their realpolitiking against the Soviet Union.