



NEW SOLIDARITY International Press Service

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NEW SOLIDARITY INTERNATIONAL PRESS SERVICE
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I. PRIORITIES

IL FIORINO WARNS ITALY FACES OIL BLACKMAIL

FEB. 13 (IPS)—ITALY'S OIL RESERVES ARE DOWN TO A FOUR TO TEN DAYS' SUPPLY, THE FINANCIAL DAILY IL FIORINO WARNED TODAY, AND THE NATION IS FACED WITH ENERGU BLACKMAIL BY THE MULTINATIONAL OIL COMPANIES. THE ARTICLE REPORTS RUMORS "ABOUT OIL TANKERS THAT WERE HALTED WAITING FOR THE (FINANCIAL AND GOVERNMENTAL) SITUATION TO REACH A CONCLUSION."

THE PAPER CONCLUDES: "ONE THING IS CERTAIN: THE OIL IS REACHING ITALY IN VERY SMALL QUANTITIES WHILE THE COMPANIES HAVE BEGUN THE FIGHT AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT...BY MARCH WE WILL BE LEFT WITH AN ALMOST NIL SUPPLY. THE FIGHT BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT AND THE OIL COMPANIES WILL HAVE TO REACH A SOLUTION."

U.S. TROOPS PUT ON ALERT TO THREATEN W. EUROPE

FEB. 13 (IPS)—IN AN ATTEMPT TO INTIMIDATE WESTERN EUROPE AND PARTICULARLY ITALY INTO ACCEPTING U.S. BACKED AUSTERITY POLICIES, U.S. TROOPS IN EUROPE WERE PLACED "ON THE SECOND HIGHEST ALERT STATUS" FROM 0700 TO 1700 HOURS YESTERDAY. THE STORY WAS CARRIED BY THE ITALIAN PRESS AGENCY, ANSA, AND CONDUITED ALL MAJOR ITALIAN PRESS.

ANSA, WHICH IS LINKED TO ATLANTICIST AND FIAT OWNER GIANNI AGNELLI, CLAIMS THAT THE INFORMATION WAS RECEIVED FROM ITS BONN, WEST GERMANY OFFICE WHICH WAS IN DIRECT CONTACT WITH THE U.S. MILITARY COMMAND IN HEIDELBERG, WEST GERMANY. MILITARY PERSONNEL THERE DESCRIBED THE EVENT AS "A ROUTINE MANEUVER," ANSA REPORTS.

SPOKESMEN FOR THE DEPARTMENTS OF STATE AND DEFFENSE IN WASHINGTON, D.C. REFUSED TO CONFIRM OR DENY THE REPORT. HOWEVER, ONE SOURCE CONTACTED IN THE STATE DEPARTMENT, WHEN ASKED WHETHER THE TROOPS WERE LIKELY TO HAVE BEEN ALERTED IN RESPONSE TO WARSAW PACT PROVOCATIONS OR TO ENFORCE THE COLLECTION OF DEBT, REPLIED, "DEFINITELY, THE LATTER."

ITALIAN FINANCIAL DAILY CALLS FOR NEW WORLD ECONOMIC ORDER

FEB. 13 (IPS)—IN AN ARTICLE HEADLINED "A NEW ECONOMIC WORLD ORDER IS THE ONLY WAY OUT FOR THE FUTURE OF HUMANITY" WHICH APPEARED IN TODAY'S EDITION OF THE ITALIAN FINANCIAL DAILY IL FIORINO, PHILIPPE LE COROLLIER WRITES THAT "ONLY A TOTAL OVERTURNING OF THE INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER AND THE ADOPTION OF NEW FORMS OF DEVELOPMENT COULD ALLOW THESE (DEVELOPING) COUNTRIES A REAL TAKEOFF." WITH THE WORLD FACING A CRISIS OF HUNGER, HE CONTINUES, "SLOWLY EVEN THE RICH COUNTRIES HAVE BEGUN TO ADMIT THE

NEED OF A NEW ECONOMIC WORLD ORDER." IN AN IMPLICIT CALL FOR THE U.S. TO JOIN IN THE EFFORT, HE COMMENTS POSITIVELY ON THE FACT THAT THE U.S. IS ENCOURAGING FARMERS TO PRODUCE INSTEAD OF PAYING THEM NOT TO PRODUCE.

CRITICIZING THE ROCKEFELLER-SPONSORED "GREEN REVOLUTION" FOR SERVING ONLY TO CREATE AN ARTIFICIAL MARKET FOR U.S. PRODUCTS, LE COROLLIER CONCLUDES BY QUOTING AN AGRONOMIST'S ESTIMATE "THAT THE WORLD CAN INCREASE ITS FOOD PRODUCTION FIVE-FOLD.... IT WOULD BE NECESSARY TO INVEST NEARLY \$30 BILLION FROM 1975 TO 1985 TO INCREASE THE FARMING LAND IN THE UNDERDEVELOPED COUNTRIES FROM 7.5 MILLION TO 9 MILLION SQUARE KILOMETERS, AND \$60 BILLION TO USE WATER RESOURCES MORE FULLY...IT IS TRUE THAT IT IS A MAJOR EFFORT, BUT IT IS SMALL IN RELATION TO THE LEVEL OF WORLD SPENDING FOR ARMAMENTS."

SCHMIDT, GISCARD ANNOUNCE SUPPORT FOR FRANC

WIESBADEN, WEST GERMANY, FEB. 13 (IPS)—FOLLOWING THEIR MEETING ON THE FRENCH RIVIERA, WEST GERMAN CHANCELLOR HELMUT SCHMIDT AND FRENCH PRESIDENT VALERY GISCARD D'ESTAING HAVE DECLARED THAT THEIR COUNTRIES' CENTRAL BANKS WILL CONTINUE TO INTERVENE IN THE CURRENCY MARKETS TO KEEP THE FRENCH FRANC AND THE DEUTSCHMARK WITHIN THE PRESENT AGREED-UPON "SNAKE" LIMITS.

THEIR DECISION, REPORTED EARLY THIS AFTERNOON OVER GERMAN RADIO, IS A CONCLUSIVE REJECTION OF PRESSURES EMANATING FROM ATLANTICIST BANKING CIRCLES FOR A DEVALUATION OF THE FRANC AND/OR CORRESPONDING DEUTSCHMARK REVALUATION. IN THE PAST FEW DAYS, SUCH PRESSURES HAVE MET WITH OUTRAGED RESPONSES FROM KEY EUROPEAN BANKING CIRCLES BECAUSE OF THE COLLAPSE OF TRADE AND POLITICAL STRUCTURES WHICH WOULD ENSUE FROM SUCH A MOVE.

YUGOSLAVIA PUSHES SOVIET, EAST BLOC PARTICIPATION IN NORTH-SOUTH TALKS

NEW YORK, FEB. 13 (IPS)—THE YUGOSLAV DELEGATION AT THE NORTH-SOUTH TALKS ON THE NEW WORLD ECONOMIC ORDER IN PARIS HAS CALLED FOR THE PARTICIPATION OF THE SOVIET UNION AND ITS COMECON ECONOMIC PARTNERS IN THE NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN THE ADVANCED SECTOR AND THE THIRD WORLD, ACCORDING TO AN INFORMED DIPLOMATIC SOURCE IN NEW YORK. SUPPORT FOR THE YUGOSLAV INITIATIVE WAS UNANIMOUS AMONG THE "GROUP OF 19," THE GROUP OF COUNTRIES REPRESENTING THE THIRD WORLD, THE SOURCE REPORTED.

THE IMMEDIATE ATLANTICIST REACTION TO THIS DEVELOPMENT, THE SOURCE STATED, CAME FROM FRENCH PRESIDENT GISCARD D'ESTAING, WHO SUGGESTED THAT THE SOVIETS SHOULD SIMPLY BE KEPT INFORMED ABOUT THE PROGRESS OF THE PARIS NEGOTIATIONS.

TRIFFIN CONFIRMS CENTRAL BANKS DISCUSSING PLANS FOR GOLD-BASED MONETARY SYSTEM

NEW YORK, FEB. 13 (IPS)—YALE ECONOMICS PROFESSOR ROBERT TRIF-

(MORE)

FIN CONFIRMED TODAY THAT THE EUROPEAN CENTRAL BANKS ARE DISCUSSING A SYSTEM TO CLEAR GOLD AMONG THEMSELVES AS A MEANS OF INTERNATIONAL PAYMENTS TO REPLACE THE BANKRUPT U.S. DOLLAR. HE ALSO CONFIRMED THAT THE GROUP OF 19 DEVELOPING NATIONS AT THE ONGOING MEETING OF THE PARIS CONFERENCE ON INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION IS PUSHING FOR A SIMILAR PROPOSAL FOR A GOLD-BASED MONETARY SYSTEM.

PROF. TRIFFIN REPORTED THAT THE MEETING IN BASEL, SWITZERLAND OF CENTRAL BANKERS UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE BANK FOR INTERNATIONAL SETTLEMENTS (BIS) WAS DISCUSSING PLANS TO "ABANDON THE DOLLAR TO THE MARKET" AND THEREBY FORCE A DEVALUATION WHILE TAKING STEPS TO SET UP A GOLD CLEARING SYSTEM. "THAT IS EXACTLY WHAT THEY ARE DISCUSSING," THE YALE PROFESSOR TOLD IPS. "THIS IS WITHIN THE CONTEXT OF THE BIS STRATEGY TO PREVENT THE COLLAPSE OF GOLD. THE BIS WILL BUY GOLD, BACKED UP ESPECIALLY BY THE BANQUE DE FRANCE COMMITMENT TO REPURCHASE THIS GOLD."

TRIFFIN ALSO STATED THAT THE WEST GERMANS SEEM COMMITTED TO FIND SOME MEDIUM OTHER THAN THE DOLLAR FOR INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND PAYMENTS. EARLIER IN THE WEEK HE HAD STATED THAT IT WAS HIS UNDERSTANDING FROM HIS CONTACTS IN EUROPE THAT "THE GERMANS WOULD RATHER SEE THE DOLLAR FLOAT THAN EUROPE DESTROYED."

TRIFFIN IS A KEY ECONOMIC ADVISOR TO ATLANTICIST-LINKED INVESTMENT BANKS. HE HAS PREVIOUSLY BACKED A PLAN TO USE THE INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND'S PAPER CURRENCY, THE SDR, AS A BASIS FOR A NEW MONETARY SYSTEM.

ITALIAN CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY LEADER EMPHASIZES TIES TO SOCIALISTS; MEETS WITH MEXICAN PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA

MEXICO CITY, FEB. 13 (IPS)--THE VICE PRESIDENT AND DEPUTY OF THE ITALIAN CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY (DC) PAOLI BARBI, IN STATEMENTS HERE IMMEDIATELY PRIOR TO A MEETING WITH MEXICAN PRESIDENT LUIS ECHEVERRIA YESTERDAY, SAID THAT THE DC WAS ALWAYS READY TO UNITE WITH THE SOCIALIST COUNTRIES, ACCORDING TO THE PROGRESSIVE MEXICAN DAILY EL DIA YESTERDAY. BARBI ALSO STATED THAT: "THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF ITALY WOULD NOT HESITATE TO ALLY ITSELF WITH THE SOCIALISTS TO RESOLVE THE ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL CRISIS WHICH THE COUNTRY IS CURRENTLY PASSING THROUGH," BUT STRONGLY REJECTED ANY ALLIANCE BETWEEN THE DC AND THE COMMUNISTS IN ITALY.

BARBI MET WITH ECHEVERRIA YESTERDAY EVENING AT ECHEVERRIA'S OFFICIAL HOME, LOS PINOS. PRESENT AT THE TALKS WERE MEXICO'S PRO-DEVELOPMENT MINISTER OF NATURAL RESOURCES FRANCISCO JAVIER ALEJO, MINISTER OF THE PRESIDENCY, OVALLE, AND MEMBERS OF AN ITALIAN TRADE MISSION.

ITALIAN MAGAZINE CALLS ON NATION TO SEEK NEW ALLIES TO BACK UP DEBT MORATORIUM MOVE

FEB. 13 (IPS)--WRITING IN THE ITALIAN MAGAZINE L'EUROPEO, ALDO

(MORE)

SANTINI STATES THAT ATLANTICIST BLACKMAIL MAY FORCE ITALY TO DECLARE A DEBT MORATORIUM, AND WARNS THAT ITALY MUST SEEK NEW ALLIES TO PROTECT HER FROM THE RETALIATORY MOVES THAT WOULD RESULT. STATING THAT "ITALY HAS \$13 BILLION IN DEBTS ABROAD," SANTINI CONTINUES: "THE USA (TOGETHER WITH WEST GERMANY) DOES NOT HIDE THE FACT THAT IF OUR POLITICAL CRISIS SHOULD REACH A SOLUTION THAT DOES NOT SATISFY THEM, OR WORSE, THAT DISGUSTS THEM, THEN ITALY WOULD BE ABANDONED, WITH THIS RESULT: THAT WE MAY CHOOSE NOT TO PAY THE DEBTS. BUT," HE CONTINUES, "WE WOULD NEED OTHER AID."

ITALIANS MUST SOLVE THIS QUESTION, SANTINI SAYS, "OUTSIDE OF THE IMF, THE EEC (COMMON MARKET), THE FEDERAL RESERVE AND THE PAYERS FOR WASHINGTON, ARE THERE OTHER SUPPORTERS THAT CAN (AND WANT) TO KEEP A COLLAPSED, LAZY COUNTRY SUCH AS OURS ON ITS FEET?"

ITALIAN METALWORKERS BLAST MORO'S AUSTERITY

FEB. 13 (IPS)—THE ITALIAN METALWORKERS FEDERATION (FLM) WILL ISSUE A STATEMENT TODAY BLASTING PREMIER ALDO MORO'S AUSTERITY PROGRAM, THE ITALIAN SOCIALIST PARTY PAPER AVANTI SAID YESTERDAY. THE FLM, ONE OF ITALY'S LARGEST UNIONS, IS THE ONLY ONE WHICH IS COMPOSED OF ELEMENTS OF EACH OF ITALY'S THREE MAJOR UNION CONFEDERATIONS, THE CGIL, UIL AND CSIL.

AVANTI REPORTS THAT "THE DOCUMENT THAT WILL COME OUT TOMORROW WILL SAY 'NO' TO MORO'S PROPOSAL OF FREEZING INCREASES IN WAGES, TO HIS TX POLICIES (WHICH WILL TAX SOLVENT FIRMS TO SAVE OTHERS FROM BANKRUPTCY—ED.), WILL PASS SIMILAR JUDGEMENT ON HIS RECONVERSION (LABOR MOBILITY—ED.) POLICY, WHICH IS JUDGED TO BE LACKING IN 'FIRM GUIDELINES WHICH DEFINE WHO IS MOBILE,' AND WHICH IGNORES THE 'RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN MOBILITY AND PRODUCTIVE RECONVERSION'."

AVANTI SAYS THE STATEMENT WILL ALSO TERM THE PROGRAM FOR YOUTH SLAVE-LABOR EMPLOYMENT "ABSOLUTELY INADEQUATE."

AVANTI ADDS THAT THE FLM WILL BACK UP ITS STATEMENT WITH "STAGGERED STRIKES."

END OF LATE IPS PRIORITIES
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