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I. International

POLISH TRADE MINISTER OFFERS LARGE RAW- MATERIALS FOR TECHNOLOGY DEALS TO MEXICO

MEXICO CITY, March 5(IPS)—Polish Trade and Maritime Economy Minister Jerzy Olsowski, presently in Mexico heading up a trade and technical delegation declared that Poland recently concluded a 20-year, 4 billion dollar trade agreement with Brazil, and that he hoped to strike a similar deal with Mexico during his visit according to Excelsior March 1. In an interview, the Polish minister elaborated that "...I cannot speak for all of the Comecon, but this is Poland's policy for all of Latin America." One of his top aides noted that "this is the first time that so important a minister from Poland comes to Mexico, and he comes to make effective the agreements signed by President Echeverria (with the Comecon) during his trip to the socialist bloc, and so that things do not remain in paper only." Mexico is one of a handful of countries outside of the Socialist bloc to have special trade agreements with the Comecon.

LAOS CHARGES CIA MURDERED THAI SOCIALIST LEADER

March 5, (IPS)—The government of the Peoples Democratic Republic of Laos expressed their deep sorrow over the death of Dr. Boonsanong Punyodyana, the leader of the Socialist Party of Thailand who was assassinated Feb. 27, and charged that "lackeys of the American Central Intelligence Agency" were behind the murder. According to the March 2 Bangkok Post, the government of Laos, in broadcasts over Veintiane Radio, said that although Dr. Boonsanong's death was a great

loss for the socialists, "their struggle will continue." The broadcast also said that the Thai general elections scheduled for April 4 "will never happen."

Dr. Boonsanang, who was murdered by unidentified rightists on Feb. 27, had visited Laos last October for Laotian Independence Day celebrations and had strongly supported cooperation between Thailand and the communist Indochinese states.

Neus Deutschland, the German Democratic Republic daily, reported today that over 10,000 persons demonstrated in Bangkok in memory of the Thai socialist leader.

CAMBODI SHOWS BOMB DAMAGE TO FOREIGN AMBASSADORS

March 5 (IPS)—Cambodia's Radio Phnon Penh yesterday reported that the Cambodian government had organized a trip of 13 ambassadors of foreign countries to the provincial capital of Siem Reap, which was bombed last week by U.S. planes. According to UPI, the broadcast said that the ambassadors of North Korea, Cuba, South Vietnam and Zambia had denounced the activities of "North American imperialists" following an inspection of the town, and that the Swiss and Yugoslavian ambassadors had also been on the trip. The broadcast said that the diplomats were sobered by "the scenes of destruction that were worse than described." Cambodian Foreign Minister Iengsary headed the tour.

VIETNAM PLEDGES SUPPORT TO ANTI- IMPERIALIST FORCES IN THAILAND AND SOUTHEAST ASIA

NEW YORK, March 5 (IPS) — Commenting on the recent meeting of the Association of Southeast Asian

Nations, Nhan Dan, the newspaper of the Vietnam Workers Party, said this week that "a new struggle, very sharp and highly complex, is taking place between the peoples of these countries on the one hand and U.S. imperialism and the other forces of reaction on the other," according to the March 3 Financial Times of London. Nhan Dan indicated that the Vietnamese people would support all movements to "thwart all schemes of U.S. imperialism and reaction."

Yesterday, according to UPI, Nhan Dan issued a very strong denunciation of aggressive acts by U.S. imperialism "and its proteges," Thailand in particular. The article identified the activities of counterrevolutionary groups in South Vietnam, the U.S. bombing of the Cambodian provincial capital of Siem Reap on Feb. 25, the blowing up of a bridge in Laos on March 2, and the use of people evacuated from all three countries for subversion, as demonstrations of how "North American Imperialism" continues to constantly assault the three countries, and warned that all provocations will be responded to in full.

ANGOLAN MINISTER REJECTS "OFFERS OF ECONOMIC AID FROM IMPERIALISTS"

March 5 (IPS) — Iko Carreira, Defense Minister of the Peoples Republic of Angola, declared yesterday that the pro-Soviet government of Angola is "prepared for imperialist splitting maneuvers," such as Western "offers of economic aid" designed to "corrupt certain layers of the population, especially the urban petit bourgeoisie." In an interview published in the German Democratic Republic newspaper Neues Deutschland yesterday, Carreira recalled how "Western imperialists had overlooked several things in their calculations" of MPLA political and military successes in Angola, in particular, the "support of the Angolan

people for the MPLA and the extraordinarily important factor of international solidarity, which hastened our victory."

Carreira said that now "imperialism will try to weaken our revolutionary spirit with offers of economic aid. They want to corrupt certain layers of the population, especially the urban petit bourgeoisie. They want to divide our broad anti-imperialist front. Therefore we must firm our ranks, above all the MPLA... We have to be as resolute on the ideological-political and economic front as on the military front. We are prepared for imperialist splitting maneuvers.

INDIAN MINISTER CALLS FOR FORMATION OF ASIAN ORGANIZATION SIMILAR TO OAU

March 5 (IPS) — Indian Foreign Minister Y. Chavan has called for a meeting of the Asian group of Non-Aligned Countries prior to the entire group's meeting in Sri Lanka this coming August to put together a unified position on crucial regional issues, according to a Prensa Latina report yesterday. Chavan's proposal also separately called for the consideration of formation of an Asian organization, similar to the Organization of African Unity.

In an interview with Yugoslav daily Politika yesterday, Chavan indicated that at the recently concluded talks of the committees of the Conference on International Economic Cooperation (CIEC) Paris, the discussions did not follow the agreed upon framework of the Group of 77 in Manila, Chavan met two days ago with the Yugoslav ambassador in New Delhi, at the same time as the Indo-Yugoslav Economic Commission was called into session at Belgrade, Yugoslavia.

II. Continental

RCMP INVESTIGATES LABOR PARTY ON "OLYMPIC TERRORISM"

March 5 (IPS) — The Montreal office of the North American Labor Party were visited by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police on March 3 as part of a full police mobilization in the province of Quebec. RCMP officer Bellanger asked whether the NALP is planning to disrupt the

Olympics or hold demonstrations during the games, which will be held in Montreal in late July.

Under the pretext of protecting the Olympics from "terrorism," the RCMP, Provincial Police and Montreal police have been "interviewing" hundreds of people on targeted lists of trade unions, civic organizations, "certain ethnic groups" and "all known protest groups." These police terror operations coincide with a major armed forces mobilizations, which one military spokesman termed Canada's biggest effort since the Korean War.

Also under the cover of "Olympic security," the Trudeau government recently passed emergency immigration legislation to severely restrict "free border" access to the country.

III. Special Report

SUPREME COURT IN NEW ATTACKS ON BILL OF RIGHTS

March 5 (IPS) — The U.S. Supreme Court has issued five decisions over the past three days which severely impinge on First Amendment and due process rights.

Three of the rulings directly infringe on First Amendment rights and will immediately effect U.S. Labor Party organizing and election activity. These three cases involve the elimination of First Amendment rights on shopping centers, narrowing the defense against libel suits, and granting immunity for prosecutors even if they violate the civil rights of citizens.

First Amendment rights at shopping centers eliminated in the court's ruling in **Hudgens v. NLRB**, in which the court's majority ruled that a union cannot picket a store in a shopping center against which it is striking. In 1968, the court had ruled in the **Logan Valley** case that shopping centers were public access places where first amendment rights should be protected. In the 1972 **Lloyd** case, this view was partially rolled back, and the job was finished in **Hudgens**. In dissenting opinions, Justices Brennan and Marshall argued that the **Lloyd** had not overturned **Logan Valley**, and that **Logan Valley's** guarantees should continue to be the law.

The 1968 court decision has been frequently used by the U.S. Labor Party in asserting its first amendment rights at shopping centers, including during the

highly-effective boycott of Kresge and K-Mart stores conducted during the fall of 1975.

In a second decision, the Supreme Court sharply narrowed the grounds of defense against libel suits. By narrowing the definition of "public figure," the court has opened up the press to more and heavier libel suits — a move which will invariably have the effect of making the press much more cautious. The defense that the person allegedly libeled is a "public figure" has been a common and long-recognized defense against libel suits and has been used by the Labor Party and New Solidarity in defending itself against at least four libel suits such as that filed against them by UAW president Leonard Woodcock. The defense of truth, the primary legal defense strategy of the Labor Party, has not been overruled by the court.

In a third significant case, the court has ruled that prosecutors are immune from civil damages suits even in cases of flagrant violations of the rights of defendants. For example, this means that the prosecutor in Richmond, Va. who has prosecuted U.S. Labor Party candidate Alan Ogden numerous times in false charges is immune from liability. Only last week, the Labor Party had mapped out a tactic of suing the Bristol, Conn., prosecutor for his malicious prosecution of false arrest cases. This tactic is now apparently ruled out by the Supreme Court in a major move toward legitimizing police-state methods.

In another case, the Court sharply curtailed the constitutional rights of defendants to a jury of their peers, by ruling that potential jurors could not be questioned about racial prejudice except under "special circumstances."

And demonstrating clearly the court's role in enforcing austerity and slave labor, the court unanimously upheld a New York law which says that a person who applies for welfare within 75 days of quitting a job can be denied welfare on the presumption that he quit the job in order to apply for welfare.