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COMBINED ISSUE

I. PRIORITIES.

GAULLIST BARON SANGUINETTI CALLS FOR NEW MONETARY SYSTEM.

MARCH 14 (IPS)--Following today's county election run-offs in France, which confirmed last week's gains by the "united left" Socialist (SP) and Communist (PCF) Parties, Alexandre Sanguinetti, former general secretary of the Gaullist UDR party, thanked the PCF "for politicizing the elections." "In one sense, this will make us more intelligent perhaps," Sanguinetti said.

Directly addressing PCF politburo member Rene Piquet in a radio interview, Sanguinetti denied that the economic situation was the principal factor in the left's gains, arguing instead that "French society is not at all adjusted to the modern world." Acknowledging that unemployment is a serious problem, Sanguinetti stressed, however, that "the creation of a new international monetary system is the most urgent task...We must struggle for it...In fact, you, the left, have no policy at all in regard to this problem at this time; we are much more credible than you."

JOBERT MAKES ATLANTICISM KEY ISSUE IN CANTONAL ELECTIONS.

March 14 (IPS)--The political party of former French Foreign Affairs Minister Michel Jobert is currently making the issue of "atlanticism" the uppermost political question in the concluding round of this weekend's local cantonal elections. Jobert's Union of Democrats has adopted the political tactic of withdrawing their candidate in cantons where confirmed anti-atlanticist Gaullist or left candidates are running, but keeping their candidates where no such firm anti-atlanticist candidate is already running.

According to yesterday's Le Monde, Jobert's party has been joined in this campaign by the left Gaullist Union of Young Progressives of Pierre Messmer and Rene Lacombe. The UJP is also known to have close ties to certain factions of the French Communist Party (PCF).

BADILLO REITERATES CALL FOR DEBT MORATORIUM AND RESTORATION OF SERVICES.

March 14 (IPS)--On CBS-TV, Channel 2 in New York today, Congressman Herman Badillo (D.-Bronx) reiterated his call for total moratorium on all New York City debt and declared that the maintenance and restoration of services must have priority of city revenues. Badillo said, "I disagree with the Emergency Financial Control Board that any service should be cut in order to pay debt ser-

vice. I support a total moratorium on all debt. The first priority is to maintain and restore services that have been destroyed to meet debt payments."

In a debate with Rep. Norman Long (R.-Nassau) Badillo outlined the "fraud of the Federal bailout" (of New York City) in the strongest terms -- "it is a farce to believe that the 'bailout' helped the city; to the contrary...the City is a disaster from this, having cut at least 25,000 jobs, and putting at least 500 million dollars not toward reducing the deficit, but all of it went to paying debt-service."

When Long said that debt moratorium would mean "New York City would be cut off from credit," Badillo replied: "Don't be ridiculous, the banks aren't giving New York any money now and they are not themselves able to do so! The Banks do not have the right to dictate the conditions of life to the rest of the population." In his conclusion, Badillo declared, "Debt moratorium is the only answer. Right now services have to be the first priority. If debt payments have to wait 50 to 75 years, so be it."

RON DELLUMS ENDORSES DEBT MORATORIUM
BEFORE BERKELEY SWAMPERS.

BERKELEY, CALIF., March 14 (IPS)--Speaking before a large public audience at a church in Berkeley two nights ago, Congressman Ron Dellums (D.-Oakland) interrupted his own speech to make the following statement: "There are three members of the U.S. Labor Party here. I want to say that I fully agree with the U.S. Labor Party stand on debt moratorium. My friend, Ken Meade, introduced it into the California Assembly this week. I'm not an economist, but I'll be meeting with economists this week. If I can put it into the proper form I will introduce it to the House."

Dellums later referenced the Martin Luther King assassination, in what was clearly meant as a defense of himself, stating "Martin Luther King was allowed to exist as long as he didn't get involved in economic issues."

TIMES CORRESPONDENT REPORTS "EUROPEANS WORRIED
ABOUT U.S. WILL".

March 14 (IPS)--New York Times Paris bureau chief Flora Lewis writes today that Europeans are increasingly concerned "about the willingness and ability of the United States to sustain a coherent foreign policy as leader of the West." Lewis quotes a high-ranking French government official as asserting "American superiority and urge to expand has receded because of Vietnam. The vacuum is being filled by increased Soviet expansionism." West German Foreign Minister Hans Dietrich Genscher, she reports, said on television recently that "the United States should make the limits of permissible (Soviet) behavior clear." West German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt is quoted as worrying about "the leadership crisis" of the West.

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Appearing in the Times along with the Lewis article is an excerpt from the transcript of discussions between British Fabian H.G. Wells and Soviet Communist Party Chairman Josef Stalin in 1934. The excerpted dialogue, in which Wells attempts to convince Stalin that U.S. President Franklin Roosevelt was a socialist, ends with Stalin emphasizing: "Capitalism is rotten to the core...the revolution, the replacement of one social regime with another, has always been a struggle, indeed a struggle to the death."

CIA'S COLBY DISCUSSES WHITE COMMUNIST STRATEGY
IN WEST EUROPE.

March 14 (IPS)--In an interview with free-lance journalist Oriana Fallaci carried in the March 11 edition of the Colombian social-democratic magazine Nueva Frontera, former CIA director William Colby explained the "White Communist" strategy of the Italian Communist Party (PCI) and its counterparts in France and Spain.

In response to Fallaci's question on the difference between Portuguese Communist Party leader Alvaro Cunhal and PCI head Enrico Berlinguer, Colby said: "The Italian Communist Party is today the same as it was in the times of Gramsci and Togliatti; that is, a party that tries to build a bridge between the Soviet and the Western systems, seeking to have a foot in both camps. The PCI has always pretended to be very revolutionary in order to keep in step with the hard image of totalitarianism, and at the same time has always pretended to be very Italian to fill the vacuum in the rest of Italy."

However, Colby continued, despite Berlinguer's subservience to the West, "the question is not of having or not having confidence in individuals. The question is their political goals. Right now, with a Western Europe united and strong and protected by American interests, the political goal of the communists is to become a part of Western Europe. Tomorrow, if Western Europe has economic problems or if there is a change in leadership of the Soviet Union, their political goals could change and they could return to being more authoritarian or more loyal to the Soviets."

FORD ASKING FOR STEEL IMPORT CURBS.

March 14 (IPS)--President Ford will call upon Japan and several European countries this week to voluntarily restrict their exports of steel to the United States, according to today's Washington Post. Japan has already threatened retaliation to the move, perhaps through quotas on U.S.-produced aluminum if the U.S. imposes steel quotas, the Post reports.

Administration officials, the Post said, are conscious that the imposition of steel import quotas would cause domestic inflation. The protectionist International Trade Commission proposed such quotas in January, charging that U.S. domestic steel production was hurt by "unfair competition" from steel imported from abroad.

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UNITED KINGDOM BALANCE OF PAYMENTS PICTURE DETERIORATES.

March 14 (IPS)--A jump in Britain's balance of payments deficit from 100 million dollars to 250 million dollars between January and February was announced by the Department of Industry yesterday. The deterioration is a sharp reversal of the trend toward narrowing the gap between imports and exports which Britain has negotiated over the past few months.

Exports fell by 44 million dollars while imports rose by 100 million dollars to a new all-time record of 4 billion dollars, indicating there has been a total rundown in manufacturers' inventories. The Financial Times, which quotes the figures in a lead article, takes this to indicate that "the economy has not only reached the end of the recession in output but has turned around more sharply." Nevertheless, the trade balance is "by no means as good as the Government would like," the Financial Times says.

PCF VOTERS SPLIT ON SUPPORT TO SOCIALIST CANDIDATES.

PARIS, March 14 (IPS)--Lionel Jospin, national organizer for the French Socialist Party (SP), today praised the discipline of the French Communist party (PCF) electorate, whose votes in France's county election run-offs today often resulted in the victory of SP candidates over those of President Giscard d'Estaing's majority coalition.

But another Socialist Party spokesman complained that in some areas, such as the City of Chatellerault (Central France), massive abstentions by PCF voters allowed the victory of Gaullist or other majority candidates. "The policy of vote transfers did not go too well," he said.

END IPS COMBINED ISSUE FOR MARCH 14, 1976.