



NEW SOLIDARITY International Press Service

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NEW SOLIDARITY INTERNATIONAL PRESS SERVICE (IPS)
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I. PRIORITIES

WEST GERMAN CHANCELLOR BACKS DEUTSCHEMARK REVALUATION

March 19 (IPS)--West German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt indicated that he supports revaluation of the deutschemark in a speech to a gathering of the Association of Independent Businessmen in Bonn yesterday. Schmidt stated that "social security in West Germany is the major reason for the competitiveness of the economy which has made the West German Mark a candidate for speculations about revaluation."

Speaking of the Italian situation, the chancellor stated that "since a conservative policy has not moved anywhere in 30 years" Italy "must now conclude a historical compromise with the Communists."

Schmidt's first public statement endorsing the revaluation of the deutschemark, a move which is considered suicidal by export-oriented West German industrialists, met with ridicule from the Association president, Herion. Herion told Schmidt that there is no "upswing" in the West German economy, and warned the chancellor "not to be deceived by your own propaganda." The Frankfurter Rundschau commented editorially that for the first time the Association, which is characterized as Helmut Schmidt's "shock troops" for economic propaganda, now supported Schmidt "out of a sense of duty rather than conviction."

BRITISH DEFENSE MINISTER EARMARKS COUNTERINSURGENCY UNITS FOR NORTHERN ITALY

March 19 (IPS)--A British government White paper on Defense issued by Defense Minister Roy Mason earmarks units of the British Army's Special Air Services counterinsurgency troops, along with Royal Air Force and other army units, for NATO service in the heavily-industrialized "red belt" of northeast Italy, according to yesterday's London Times. The Special Air Services are notorious for brutal counterinsurgency operations in Northern Ireland.

Mason also proposes to allocate two commando groups totalling 5,000 marines to the defense of Norway, the Times reports. The Times says that the deployment involves winter training for one of the units. In addition, the Times reports, "Britain may ask Norway for permission to station equipment on Norwegian soil." Norway presently prohibits the stationing of any NATO equipment or personnel in that country.

DANISH DEFENSE CHIEF FOR STATIONING NATO TROOPS IN DENMARK

March 19 (IPS)--The Chief of the Danish Unity Command, General Vegger, has called for a major shift in Danish defense policy by allowing NATO troops and nuclear weapons to be stationed on Danish soil, according to the Danish newspaper Jyllandsposten. Vegger also proposed that in an upcoming military maneuver on the island of Odense, "that the whole population be involved," similar to a recent emergency maneuver which took place in Sweden. Veggers made his proposals in light of what he claimed is an "alarming increase in the buildup of the forces of the Warsaw Pact."

OTTINGER AND SCHLESINGER COLLABORATE FOR CONVENTIONAL ARMS BUILDUP

Washington, D.C., March 19 (IPS)--Rep. Richard Ottinger (D-NY) in an interview today confided that former Defense Secretary James Schlesinger had played a decisive role in converting him from a liberal "Pentagon watcher" into a primary Congressional advocate of massive conventional arms buildup in the U.S. and Europe. "Schlesinger was here speaking to the Members of Congress for Peace through Law and come to think about it, Schlesinger really was the one who turned me around," Ottinger said. "I have spent a lot of time with Schlesinger. He was the one I was after heavily last year for brandishing nuclear weapons all over."

Now, however, according to Ottinger, Schlesinger "thinks we should get the bulk of our nuclear weapons out of Europe," and has renounced his commitment to "limited nuclear war." "He is coming to believe we should substitute conventional forces for nuclear weapons reliance," the Representative said.

Ottinger dismissed the possibility that the Soviet union might perceive such an arms buildup as a threat to the Warsaw Pact, saying, "We would tell them that what we are thinking is how to reduce the likelihood of nuclear war. Show them we're really interested in reducing nuclear weapons."

The New York Representative also volunteered that a number of other Congressmen and Senators had also been "turned around" by Schlesinger and his associates remaining in the Defense Department, and now support expanded conventional arms. These include Sens. Symington (D-Mo), Cranston (D-Calif), Proxmire (D-Wisc), and Reps. Zablocki (D-Wisc), and Moss (D-Calif), Ottinger said. Ottinger himself declared he is making a strong organizing effort to convince others.

ITALIAN FINANCIAL PAPER CALLS ON THE GOVERNMENT TO RESIGN

March 19 (IPS)--On the opening day of the national congress of the ruling Italian Christian Democratic (DC) Party yesterday, the Milan financial paper Il Fiorino called for the government of Premier Aldo Moro to resign immediately. Linking its call to Moro's just-announced austerity measures--the second set of austerity proposals

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within as many weeks in Italy, Il Fiorino stated: "...the government must resign now that they have identified themselves with the Mussolini policies; and the subsequent resignation of the government would force today's DC congress to make real decisions...there is a most urgent need of new air, of programs and of new men..."

SWISS BANKING SOURCE SAYS ITALIAN CURRENCY RESTRICTIONS VIOLATE CONSTITUTION

WIESBADEN, W. Germany, March 19 (IPS)—A Swiss banking source said today that the recently passed Italian law prohibiting the export of currency effectively suspends constitutionally guaranteed rights by permitting police to arrest and prosecute persons suspected of monetary misbehavior.

The source also predicted that the bank of Italy, which has already defaulted on its obligations to Italy's commercial banks, would raise its prime lending rate to 18 percent.

PCI CALLS FOR AUSTERITY

March 19 (IPS)—At an economic policy forum organized by the Italian Communist party two days ago, PCI secretariat member and leading party ideologue Giorgio Amendola stated that of all Italian political parties, only the PCI is in a position to demand "hard sacrifices from workers" and "democratic rationing of meat," according to the PCI daily L'Unita.

In yesterday's L'Unita, PCI economist Luciano Barca put forward a solution to Italy's economic problems which called for the centralization of all credit lines in the hands of the national treasury, the extension of financial aid to regions only for projects already underway, tax increases, and cutbacks in consumption.

KRUPP EXEC TERMS PCI "FASCIST"

WIESBADEN, W. Germany, March 19 (IPS)—A top executive of West Germany's Krupp steel works said today that Wall Street's "Italian policy is the same as (German Deutsche Bank president and later Hitler's finance minister) Schacht's in 1923, and many others after the war." Speaking of the Italian Communist Party, which is bidding to enter the Italian government, the source added that "Sure the PCI is fascist," describing the PCI program as "more the 1933 policy" of Schacht.

The executive also said that there are limits to the amount of economic pressure that West Germany will tolerate from the U.S. "As they say in dialectics, there comes a point when quantity changes into quality," the executive stated. "If you go beyond a certain point... well...you must stay within certain limits. I know that the Americans think like that...until now it has remained in tolerable limits... They must be aware that there are limits."

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WEST GERMAN INDUSTRIALISTS' PRESS: PCI IS FASCIST

March 19 (IPS)—The latest issue of the northern West German industrialists' press organ, the Deutsche Zeitung, has commented on Atlanticist efforts to consummate the "Historical compromise" participation of the Italian Communist Party in the Italian government, saying "The Italian Communist Party is a surrogate for fascism."

GAULLISTS INVOKE ARTICLE OF FRENCH CONSTITUTION
TO SHUNT ASIDE CHIRAC

March 19 (IPS)—Yesterday's France Soir reports that a political struggle is emerging in France around Article 20 of the French constitution. Under this article, authority to "determine and conduct the policy of the nation" rests with the Prime Minister, currently Gaullist party (UDR) member Jacques Chirac, and not the President of the Republic, Atlanticist Giscard d'Estaing. France Soir correspondent Pierre Sainderichin indicates that anti-Atlanticist Gaullist layers are working through the recently appointed political advisor to Chirac, Pierre Juillet, to make use of this Article to force acceptance of their political line.

At the same time, today's Le Monde reports that Gaullist Deputy Olivier Guichard has called on the Prime Minister to convene a political convention of the parties participating in the present coalition government, as a demonstration that "under the Fifth Republic, cohesiveness was always inspired by the Prime Minister."

In response to these Gaullist moves, Senator Marcillacy, who has links to both the UDR and the Socialist Party, called for the abolition of Article 20, so as to avoid an "institutional crisis in the government" and the establishment of a "full Presidential regime."

CASTRO TELLS WEST:
ANGOLA IS EXAMPLE OF PROLETARIAN INTERNATIONALISM

March 19 (IPS)—In his speech to a meeting of four leftist heads of state in Conkary, Guinea this week, Cuban Premier Fidel Castro declared that "there exists one revolutionary camp, one revolutionary movement, and one proletarian internationalism, and if the imperialists are interested in finding out what proletarian internationalism means, let Angola be a prime example," according to the German Democratic Republic daily Neues Deutschland today.

Speaking to a gathering which also included President Sekou Toure of Guinea-Conkary, President Luis Cabral of Guinea-Bissau, and President Augustinho Neto of Angola, Castro also declared that "If, as a consequence of the intentions of the South African racists to keep part of Angolan territory under occupation, the Cunene Dam (in southern Angola) is turned into a battlefield, the war is extended into Namibia, if Black Africa organizes a multi-African army to deal with apartheid once and for all, South Africa will bear full responsibility."

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**SOVIETS ATTACK PCI THEORETICIAN BY NAME;
OPENLY POLEMICIZE AGAINST "HISTORICAL COMPROMISE"**

March 19 (IPS)--The Soviet Union yesterday released a 56 page attack on a well-known Italian Communist Party (PCI) theoretician, Luciano Gruppi, in a polemic against right opportunism which marks the first time in recent years that the Soviets have attacked a Western European Communist Party official by name. The article, originally printed last November, is a polemic against the PCI's "historical compromise" formula, under which the PCI made a bid earlier this week to enter an Italian coalition government on the basis of a vicious austerity program.

There is a sharp distinction, the article says, between the PCI's "strategy of compromise at any cost, even at the cost of renouncing the Communist Party's own principles," and the "possibility of the parliamentary road" to state power under total workers' control. "To motivate the model of socialism without the dictatorship of the proletariat (as Gruppi does--ed.) is not possible without arriving at a falsification of Marxist-Leninist doctrine, of the history of the Soviet Union and the other socialist states," the Soviets charge. Gruppi's admitted intellectual adherence to the CIA-created "Dubcek experiment" of 1968 in Czechoslovakia is cited in the Soviet article.

The Italian daily Corriere della Sera printed long excerpts of the Soviet pamphlet today.

PCI RESPONDS TO SOVIET ATTACK

March 19 (IPS)--L'Unita, the organ of the Italian Communist Party (PCI), today responded to a 56 page pamphlet attacking PCI theoretician Luciano Gruppi which was issued by the Soviet Union yesterday. L'Unita claimed the pamphlet "wants to annul the national sovereignty (of the PCI) in favor of internationalism measured by one's attitude towards the Soviet Union." L'Unita termed the Soviet polemic "grotesque."

MARCHAIS "NOT CONCERNED" WITH SUSLOV ATTACKS

March 19 (IPS)--Secretary General Georges Marchais of the French Communist Party (PCF) commented to a French radio correspondent today that "he is not concerned with the statements" of Soviet Politburo member Mikhail Suslov, who yesterday implicitly criticized the PCF and the Italian Communist Party in a speech attacking "revisionists, opportunists and nationalists in the communist movement."

Instead Marchais stated that "socialism in the colors of France is an actuality for us....The society which we want to build could not be Russian, Cuban, Chinese; it will be French. I do not feel any more concerned with the other statements of

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Suslov relating to proletarian internationalism."

NEW YORK TIMES FRETS OVER GROWING IRAQ INFLUENCE IN LEBANON

March 19 (IPS)--The Syrian government increasingly fears that "a leftist-dominated Lebanon would seek autonomy from Syria through support from their Iraqi Baathist rivals," the New York Times reports today. According to Times reporter James Markham, "the primary confrontation" in Lebanon now is that between the Fatah guerilla group of Yasser Arafat and Syria, with Syria now "trying to stem the ascendancy of a coalition of leftists and Palestinian groups that in some cases appear to have Iraqi or Libyan backing."

According to one Lebanese journalist cited by Markham, "Syria is bound to throw all its weight into the balance to suppress the threat of an ultramilitant Hanoi in Beirut."

All this, Markham concludes, has led to a reversal of roles, with "the leftists and Palestinians...revolting against the 'Syrian occupation' while the Phalangists (Lebanon's Christian rightists--ed.) go to Damascus for a last plea."

BURNS CALLS FOR SLAVE LABOR AT FULL EMPLOYMENT CONFERENCE

WASHINGTON, March 19 (IPS)--Armed with 1000 copies of a virulent slave labor speech he delivered in Atlanta six months ago, Federal Reserve Chairman Arthur Burns today repeated the contents of that speech, exhorting Sen. Hubert Humphrey's (D-Minn) Full Employment Conference in Washington to undertake a massive public service jobs program. Burns advised that unemployment compensation be disbanded and all unemployed put to work at below minimum wages for 50 dollars a week.

Humphrey offered no objections to Burns' proposals but was overheard in a Capitol Hill elevator observing, "I like Arthur but he doesn't give speeches anymore--he gives us the best of vintage Arthur Burns."

Columbia University manpower specialist Eli Ginsberg, author of the 1946 Full Employment Act, seconded Burns at the hearings, agreeing that unemployment compensation to the jobless should be cut off and they should be put to work. Furthermore, Ginsberg observed, other categories of presently unused potential workers should also be put to use: housewives, students, the elderly.

Presidential economic advisor Alan Greenspan criticized the scheme, observing that limited unemployment benefits for short periods are necessary to recycle the labor force.

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FBI ORDERS RAPE ATTACK AGAINST BOSTON LABOR PARTY MEMBER

BOSTON, March 19 (IPS)--Lisa Gibbons, 15-year-old Labor Party member and daughter of former U.S. Labor Party candidate for Mayor of Boston Bob Gibbons, was attacked by a would-be rapist this morning in Boston. Gibbons, who has been the subject of FBI surveillance for at least a year and a half, was grabbed by an unidentified white male while she was walking on her normal route to school in the Jamaica Plain district of Boston. Miss Gibbons shouted and frightened her attacker off. She was not hurt.

During August of 1974, FBI agents visited Miss Gibbons' grandparents in Concord, New Hampshire and told them that Lisa and her mother were both active in the Labor Party in an attempt to terrorize the grandparents.

It is probable that the targeting of Miss Gibbons this morning occurred through the use of wiretaps, since her brother, who usually walks with her, told a USLP member over the phone the previous night that he was not going to school today, inadvertently informing the police or the FBI that Miss Gibbons would be alone this morning. The incident has been reported to the Boston police.

ANGOLA REFUSES TO BUY DOLLARS

NEW YORK, March 19 (IPS)--A well-known candy manufacturer, which uses its corporate treasury to speculate on the foreign exchange markets, attempted today to purchase 7 million dollars worth of Angolan escudos from an Angolan bank with U.S. dollars. The Angolan bank telexed back to the candy company that they were not buying the now beleaguered dollar.

End of Priority section, Combined IPS, March 19, 1976