



NEW SOLIDARITY International Press Service

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NEW SOLIDARITY INTERNATIONAL PRESS SERVICE (IPS)

COMBINED ISSUE
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I. PRIORITIES.

GAULLIST LEADER DEBRE DECLARES FRENCH CRISIS OUT IN OPEN; CALLS FOR NEW GOVERNMENT

March 23 (IPS)--Gaullist baron and former French Premier Michel Debre said today that the crisis in the French government is now out in the open and called for the formation of a new government of "public safety." In a statement in today's conservative French daily, *Le Figaro*, Debre describes the "disastrous domestic reality" brought about by the policies of the current French government of pro-Atlanticist President Giscard d'Estaing. Giscard's policies, Debre states, "have been marked by a constant hyperinflation whose economic, social and political consequences are visible and which does not experience any real slowdown." He terms the foreign policy of Giscard "no less anguishing" and says that both Giscard's "Atlanticism, that is, submission to the U.S.," and "neutralism" are unacceptable. The Gaullist leader then lays out a program for industrial growth, agricultural expansion and social cooperation.

"The crisis is open," he concludes. "Once again a choice need be made: either of a government of public safety, based on the authority of the State, financial rigor, social solidarity, national independence, or of a slide towards social desolation, economic weakening, foreign submission....We are in a melee and, from now on, events will go fast."

Debre went on radio tonight to appeal for mass support for his proposal. "What I want is the formation of a government of 'public safety,' i.e., an emergency government which would implement the following program in the period ahead:

- a monetary policy capable of firming up our currency,
- a policy of social progress,
- a firm family policy,
- a firm policy of national independence."

Debre specified that he did not want an "austerity policy" but rather one of social progress and expansion. He called for an incomes policy like that under the late French President Charles de Gaulle whereby the unions would agree to wage limits in exchange for more jobs, through industrial expansion and guaranteed income.

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FRENCH INDUSTRIALIST ATTACKS U.S.,
SAYS NEW MONETARY SYSTEM IS NEEDED

March 23 (IPS)—Acting as official spokesman for the French National Employers Association (CNPF), steel magnate Jacques Ferry today called current and past tariff negotiations dysfunctional, "without the establishment of a new and equitable monetary system." In an interview in today's French daily, Le Monde, Ferry said, "There is not much sense in negotiating new tariff reductions in a world which knows such monetary instability." At several points in the interview, the industrialist attacked the U.S. government's policies.

He described the negotiating attitude of the United States at the GATT trade talks on international trade now taking place in Geneva, as giving "the impression of wanting to bend the negotiation to purely American political considerations." Ferry warned against an "American drift" towards protectionism and defended expanding international trade as allowing "the remarkable expansion of Western economies during the 25 years following the war." Ferry stressed that the CNPF will continue to support efforts to "set up a monetary system sheltered from shakeups and imbalances."

WFTU CALLS FOR WORKING-CLASS SOLIDARITY
IN FACE OF WORLD MONETARY CRISIS

March 23 (IPS)—The World Federation of Trade Unions (WFTU), the Soviet-linked international labor organization, today issued the following call for working-class solidarity in the face of the monetary crisis:

"The WFTU will soon publish a communique calling for international action and solidarity in face of the crisis of the capitalist monetary system.

"For the WFTU, the last period of the crisis signals a deepening of the crisis, the cause for which is to be looked for in the policy followed by the governments and the leaders of the multinational companies of the Western world.

"This new disturbance will lead to new price increases, aggravation of unemployment and new attempts to block wages in the capitalist countries. In the underdeveloped countries which are still in the orbit of imperialism, these perspectives are: increase of international prices, a diminution of export possibilities, growing indebtedness.

"For the WFTU, there is the necessity and possibility for struggles beyond national borders, an economic policy in its international context which must be destroyed.

"The WFTU calls for international action and solidarity for:
--opposing the disastrous policy of the multinational companies,
--fighting the devastating effects of the present international

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monetary system,

--imposing a profound democratization of international monetary institutions, to fight the hegemony of the United States;

--installing a fundamentally new monetary system on a world level...with the participation of the socialist countries and the underdeveloped countries."

The statement was published in today's L'Humanite, the newspaper of the French Communist Party.

BALL TERMS CALLS FOR NEW MONETARY SYSTEM "PROPAGANDA"

March 23 (IPS)--Leading Wall Street investment banker and Wall Street economic policy strategist George Ball said in an interview today that recent calls for a new international monetary system by such people as Gaullist leader and former French Premier Michel Debre were "just propaganda."

Asked by a French correspondent to comment on Gaullist leader and former Prime Minister Michel Debre's declaration of war today against the Atlanticist government of French President Giscard d'Estaing, Mr. Ball declared that "Debre after all is a doctrinaire, an extreme Gaullist who does not have any serious following." Although the Western press unanimously admits that Giscard's government is presently shaking under the weight of a growing anti-Atlanticist offensive from key Gaullist forces led by Debre, Mr. Ball denied there was "any crisis" in France, asserting that "Giscard still has support" while the "Gaullist position has been shrivelling up over the past three years." "Since he has left Matignon (i.e. the residence of the French Premier), Debre has been a lonely voice," Mr. Ball remarked. "I would not take what Debre says seriously. He is a semi-comic figure."

YOUNG GAULLISTS REVEAL PERSONAL FAILURES OF PRESIDENT GISCARD

PARIS, March 23 (IPS)--Bernard Loth, President of the Gaullist youth group in France, the Union of Youth for Progress, at a press conference here today exposed the three recent "personal failures" of pro-Atlanticist French President Giscard d'Estaing. Loth described Giscard's defeat in the recently concluded cantonal elections as revealing the French people's desire for "a great national design." Loth also listed as Giscard's failure the refusal of the Gaullists to vote for the Tindemans plan for European integration. Finally, Loth insisted that a return to a fixed exchange rate for the French franc "is indispensable," attacking the Giscard government floatation of the French currency.

Citing the "disappointment of the French electorate with their President, Loth described Giscard as "a weathercock" and urged the Gaullist UDR party to "accentuate even more its spirit of independence," tomorrow's edition of Le Monde reports.

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March 23 (IPS)--Referring to speeches denouncing the Atlantic Alliance recently made by French Prime Minister Jacques Chirac and Foreign Minister Jean Sauvagnargues, a lead New York Times editorial today warns the U.S. State Department that "no country enjoys being lectured to by outsiders on how to cope with its problems." Although "Communist sharing in national power carries risks" for Italy, France and NATO, the U.S. government's "steady stream of public warnings" weakens European Atlanticists, the Times editors write. "Politicians usually friendly to the U.S. take over from the Communists in denouncing it."

GROWING FEAR ON CURRENCY MARKETS THAT
WEST GERMANS WILL NOT UPVALUE D-MARK

March 23 (IPS)--Traders on the international currency markets are fast giving up hopes that West Germany will upvalue its currency, the deutschemark, foreign exchange sources reported here. Both the deutschemark and the Swiss franc, whose value had soared on the markets when the dumping of U.S. dollars developed over the last two weeks, today depreciated by one per cent against the dollar as speculators began liquidating their over-stocked holdings of the two currencies.

Sources at the major money center banks interpreted the new trend on the money markets as a reflection of West German industrialists "giving West German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt notice" that they will not tolerate a further destruction of their export markets through an up-valuation.

LONDON'S FINANCIAL TIMES CONCEDES A MONETARY SYSTEM DOESN'T EXIST

March 23 (IPS)--In an op-ed column in the March 20 Financial Times of London, Anthony Harris wrote, "We do not now have a single system which can be said to be functioning or breaking down." Under conditions where there is no international monetary system in place, similar to the 1941-44 World War II period, Harris adds: "What has happened in the last fortnight is not a crisis, but a rather sudden adjustment." Implying that the currency devaluations were Wall Street engineered, he points out that the sterling has stabilized at exactly the level recommended by the Rockefeller-connected National Institute of Economic and Social Research and similarly the French franc at a parity-level against the deutschemark that prevailed before France joined the European currency "snake" last July. Harris, however, fails to take into account the massive dumping of dollars verging on a run on that currency over the past fortnight.

HANDELSBLATT PUSHES EAST-WEST TRADE ON EVE OF MOSCOW MACHINE TOOL FAIR

March 23 (IPS)--West Germany's leading industrialist daily Handelsblatt praised U.S. industrialist Brook McCormick, chairman of the Chicago-based International Harvester Corporation, today for creating a minor economic revival in the firm's orders and

profits through expanded trade with the East bloc. McCormick has been a leading figure in U.S. industrial circles pushing for rapid expansion of such trade.

The article appears days before Federal Economics Minister Hans Friderichs leaves for Moscow to attend a 9-day West German machine tools industrial exhibition there.

WEST GERMAN INDUSTRIALISTS OPENLY STATE: MASS STRIKE MAJOR PROBLEM

March 23 (IPS)--The key issue in the present round of wage negotiations in the West German metal industries is whether or not the right to engage in wildcats is "legal," according to a front-page analysis in today's West German industrialist newspaper Handelsblatt. The paper also ran an editorial commentary on the current situation in Italy which predicted that the present industrial strike wave there "will be much more explosive" than that in 1969 because of the harsh austerity measures which have been imposed.

FINNISH UNIONS BREAK WITH GOVERNMENT AUSTERITY

March 23 (IPS)--The Finnish Food Producers Union and the Dockers will strike this Friday to protest ongoing wage negotiations being carried out within government austerity guidelines. The Finnish Communist Party is influential in both unions. The strike action was reported by today's Swedish Radio.

SUN COLUMNIST: KISSINGER SPEECH MARKS SHIFT IN STRATEGIC DOCTRINE

March 23 (IPS)--Baltimore Sun political columnist Henry Trehwitt today termed the speech by Secretary of State Henry Kissinger last night in Dallas as a major shift in U.S. strategic doctrine. Kissinger has abandoned the "Nixon Doctrine," which along with providing military aid to U.S. allies had relied on meeting a Warsaw Pact nuclear attack with a full nuclear strike, i.e., mutually assured destruction (MAD), Trehwitt writes.

KISSINGER THREATENS: U.S. WILL TAKE "RISKS" TO PROVE ITS STRENGTH

March 23 (IPS)--Speaking last night before the Dallas, Texas World Affairs Council, Secretary of State Henry Kissinger said that the U.S. must be prepared to demonstrate her strength to her allies by showing a "willingness to take risks."

"Other nations must not be led to doubt our strength or resolution," Kissinger told his audience, "for how others see us determines the risks they are prepared to run and the degree to which they are willing to place confidence in us."

The Secretary of State then proposed that the U.S. return to a strategic military doctrine similar to the 1960s "flexible response." "In a crisis," Kissinger said, according to a trans-

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script of the speech, "the President must have choices other than capitulation or resort to strategic weapons."

"Under the umbrella of nuclear equivalence, testing and probing at the local level becomes more likely," Kissinger stated. "Hence, over the next decade we must increase and modernize our forces -- air, land and sea -- for local defense -- our strategic capability for local and regional defense is essential to us and together with our allies, we must build up these forces."

Kissinger gave token support to majority black rule in Rhodesia, but added that U.S. "cooperation is not available to those who rely on Cuban troops," in a reference to black political organizations in Rhodesia. He then reiterated his warning: "The U.S. will not accept further Cuban military intervention abroad."

MILITARY ECONOMY COULD LEAD TO FASCISM IN WEST, LONDON PAPER CLAIMS

March 23 (IPS)--Defense correspondent for the London Observer, Andrew Wilson, warns in the March 21 issue that efforts by Western nations to maintain parity with the Soviets in conventional weapons could destroy Western democracy. "NATO is never going to match Soviet arms levels, or Soviet manpower, without becoming a massive military society based on an economy as wasteful as that of Russia itself," writes Wilson. "If it were so foolish as to attempt to do so it would find itself fighting not the Russians but its own people. It would, in short, have to become fascist."

TIMES SAYS ADMINISTRATION CONSIDERING RENEWED HEMISPHERIC BOYCOTT OF CUBA

March 23 (IPS)--The New York Times reports today that "Administration officials have suggested that if Cuban forces were introduced into the Rhodesian situation, action might be taken in this hemisphere (Latin America) to reimpose the hemispheric economic and diplomatic boycott of Cuba, which was lifted last year."

ROCKY THREATENS EUROPEANS ON ALLOWING COMMUNISTS TO JOIN GOVERNMENTS

March 23 (IPS)--Vice President Nelson Rockefeller charged today that the United States would have to review its relationships with any Western European government that included Communists, according to the New York Times. Speaking in Paris, Mr. Rockefeller denied that NATO Supreme Commander Gen. Alexander Haig's recent threats against Western Europeans on the consequences of their allowing Communists into their governments were equivalent to interfering in the internal affairs of those countries. Apparently alluding to heated protests by French leftists against the warnings as being interference in French affairs, Mr. Rockefeller added that French politicians are using Gen. Haig's statements for their own purposes.

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Vice President Rockefeller visited Paris as part of his world-wide tour which will include visits in Southeast Asia, Australia and a number of other countries.

ALGERIA, ANGOLA COOPERATE ON PETROLEUM PRODUCTION

March 23 (IPS)--A team from the Algerian national petroleum company, SONATRACH, has arrived in Angola for discussions with the Angolan government, according to today's Journal of Commerce.

The Algerian government has offered to make all its expertise available in starting an Angolan national oil company and in negotiations with Gulf Oil and other international oil companies, the Journal reports.

BANGLADESH LOOKING TO U.S. FOR ARMS

March 23 (IPS)--The government of Bangladesh is looking to the United States for arms supplies, the State Department confirmed yesterday. A State Department spokesman said that the Bangladesh government "has talked to us about Bangladesh's need for arms in general but there have been no specific requests." The spokesman claimed the U.S. had no intention of providing either grants or credits for arms purchases by Bangladesh but "we would consider granting licenses for commercial purchases of communications and transportation equipment." The spokesman refused to comment on the impact of such sales on relations between Bangladesh and India, whose alleged threat to Bangladesh was cited in the Washington Post yesterday as the motivation for arms purchases.

The State Department confirmed that Vice Marshal Tawab, the chief of the Bangladesh Air Force and a former NATO officer who played a leading role in the August murder and overthrow of the government of Mujibar Rahman, will come to the U.S. within the next 10 days.

LABOR LEADERS FLEE ARGENTINA WHILE PERONIST GOVERNMENT AGONIZES

March 23 (IPS)--In the midst of growing rumors of a military takeover within the next 72 hours, the Argentine daily La Nacion reports today that many top official labor leaders, including the head of the powerful CGT (General Confederation of Labor), Casildo Herreras, left the country over the weekend and are now in Uruguay.

Simultaneously, Prensa Latina, the Cuban press agency, reports today that other labor leaders are packing their belongings and running away with their families to unnamed locations within and outside the country. The situation in the national Parliament is also an "exodus," Prensa reports. Legislators are reportedly going there just to collect their personal belongings and then leave.

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A FRIEND AT CHASE MANHATTAN?
SADAT MAKES DAVID ROCKEFELLER EGYPT'S FINANCIAL ADVISOR

March 23 (IPS)--David Rockefeller has agreed to become an "informal" financial advisor to Egyptian President Anwar Sadat following the Egyptian President's request that Rockefeller make Egypt more attractive to investors. According to yesterday's Boston Globe, "Rockefeller told Sadat...that he wanted to study the Egyptian economy more closely" and that Egypt would have to accept financing conditions from the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund before getting funds from Chase Manhattan.

"David is taking a look at the long-term cure for the Egyptian economy," the Globe quotes William Simon, U.S. Treasury Secretary, as saying. According to Simon, Rockefeller's relationship to Egypt is a "normal relationship between banker and client." The Globe notes that Chase Manhattan is already the fiscal agent for Israel.

EGYPTIAN PAPER PUSHES AUSTERITY,
DETAILS IMF CONDITIONS FOR COUNTRY

March 23 (IPS)--In a March 19 article entitled "The Meaning of Austerity," Egypt's semi-official Al Ahram newspaper comments that austerity "does not only mean limiting consumption but also means that the government has to control spending and to change the form of consumption for individuals." Among the examples of recommended austerity measures, Ahram suggests that the Egyptian family "start to get rid of the living room and its 'expensive' furniture."

On the same page, Ahram notes that the proposals laid down by the International Monetary Fund delegation that just left Egypt include a devaluation of the Egyptian currency, a "review" of the long-standing policy of granting subsidies for essential goods, and the assigning of "experts" from the IMF to "draw up special measures in financial policies and budget imbalances."

OPPOSITION TO ASSAD LEBANON POLICY GROWS IN SYRIA

March 23 (IPS)--The Syrian government's support for Lebanese fascist President Suleiman Franjeh is "puzzling to many Syrians" and is provoking a "growing debate" within the Syrian Baath Party, New York Times reporter Henry Tanner reports today from Damascus.

According to Tanner, "Syrian frustrations over Lebanon come through clearly in conversations," as it has become clear that Syria has no favorite Lebanese personality on whom it can rely for the implementation of its policies." This intersects with a developing collapse in Syria's relations with the Lebanon-based Palestinian guerrillas upon whom Syria "depends heavily...for carrying out its Lebanese policies," Tanner notes.

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HOUSE UNIT SLASHES FUNDS FOR PIKE LEAK INVESTIGATION

March 23 (IPS)--A House Administration subcommittee voted unanimously yesterday to cut the proposed 350,000 dollar appropriation for the House Ethics Committee investigation into the leak of the Pike Committee report down to 150,000 dollars. An amendment offered yesterday during the Accounts subcommittee deliberations by Rep. Augustus Hawkins (D-Cal), which also passed, requires that 75,000 dollars of the 150,000 dollar allotment go to pay legal fees of persons called to testify in the investigation. According to the New York Times, the Congressman who proposed that the budget be reduced to 150,000 dollars, Samuel Devine (R-Ohio), and the rest of the subcommittee members opposed the original funding as a "boondoggle."

NEW YORK MAYOR BEAME GIVES NOTICE; CITY TO PULL OUT OF SOCIAL SECURITY

March 23 (IPS)--New York City Mayor Beame yesterday filed notice that the city intends to withdraw city workers from the Social Security system at the end of two years. The move would "save the city 200 million dollars annually," according to city officials and would leave 113,000 city workers with a diminished retirement income. Workers with less than 10 years of contributions to Social Security would lose all Social Security benefits.

Victor Gotbaum, chairman of the Municipal Labor Committee and head of AFSCME District Council 37, attacked the Mayor's proposal for having "defaulted morally. He's trying to deprive hundreds of thousands of city workers of their retirement benefits."

UDALL SUPPORTS BADILLO, DELLUMS ON DEBT MORATORIUM

NEW YORK, March 23 (IPS)--Responding to questions after a speech at a public fund-raising event here, would-be Democratic Presidential candidate Rep. Morris Udall (D-Ariz) declared his support for the debt moratorium calls of Representatives Herman Badillo (D-NY) and Ron Dellums (D-Cal). "I support them. I support debt moratorium. I think it's more saleable," Udall said. "But Humphrey-Hawkins (the Full Employment and Balanced Growth Act of 1976) can make it through Congress. Debt moratorium won't."

END OF COMBINED IPS FOR TUESDAY, MARCH 23, 1976
