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BUNDESBANK SQUEEZES OUT THE CURRENCY SPECULATORS

March 30 (IPS) — The West German Central Bank, the Bundesbank after warning New York banks against attacking the weaker European currencies yesterday, today sold over 20 million dollars to force a run on the dollar into the West German deutschemark, French franc, and other Western European currencies, foreign exchange sources said. As a result of this intervention, the deutschemark rose by 0.2 per cent against the dollar while the French franc rose by almost 3 per cent to its level of last week before it dropped out of the European currency joint float snake. Even the Italian lira rose marginally against the U.S. currency.

BANKERS EXPECT NEW SNAKE ARRANGEMENT

NEW YORK March 30 (IPS) — Sources here at Manufacturers Hanover, and Brown Brothers Harriman investment house and other major banks believe that "the Bundesbank and the other Europeans, now that they have squeezed the speculators dry, are planning to quietly announce a newly arranged snake next weekend." Commercial customers who borrowed billions in the weaker currencies to speculate on their devaluation over the past two weeks were forced to sell all such holdings quickly at large losses when these currencies instead rose today as the West Germans sold dollars, the sources explained. The bankers expect that the deutschemark will be slightly upvalued and the other snake currencies devalued to widen the present 2.5 per cent distance between them to 3.5 - 4 per cent. The economic consequences of such a slight devaluation would be mild enough to be "politically handled" by European governments, the sources felt.

EUROPEANS LENGTHEN FUSE ON MARCH 31 PAYMENTS DEADLINE

NEW YORK March 30 (IPS) — European private and public corporations, banks, and other foreign borrowers survived the end of the month payments crisis through a combination of rescheduling their foreign debts and making huge speculative profits on the foreign exchange markets, traders said today. The payments crisis would have hit at the end of the month as European companies, in order to buy dollars and German marks with which to pay their external debts, would have been forced to sell off large amounts of their own currencies — francs, lira, pounds.

No such dumping of the weaker (ie all but the German mark) currencies has been observed. A major part of the external debts due on or about March 31 were simply rolled over by creditors, such as oil multinationals or the New York banks, who feared the political consequences of a currency panic from anti-austerity European workers and industrialists, financial sources said today. The crisis was thus postponed until at least next months payments closing date.

European companies made profits off huge interest rates on foreign exchange markets for the weaker currencies generated by the borrowing U.S. speculators. The Americans, the traders report, had intended, when the European currencies were finally forced to devalue, to dump the currencies at a profit. The European companies have borrowed dollars cheaply to pay off their debts while lending out their own currencies to the U.S. speculators who have taken a loss since devaluations have not occurred.

SENATE COMMITTEE IGNORES SAFETY NET

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 30 (IPS)
— The three-and-one-half hour session

of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee this morning failed to include an expected discussion and vote of the so-called safety-net fund. Peddled by both Secretary of State Kissinger and Treasury Secretary Simon, the safety-net proposal ties foreign loans to harsh austerity measures.

Instead, the committee held a wide-ranging discussion which included U.S. policy toward Sweden, Norway, and China. The highlight of the meeting was the assertion of Senator Jacob Javits (D-NY) that China should be opened for trade. "The problem is that they don't borrow," the Senator complained.

HUMPHREY—HAWKINS NOT ANTI—WORKING CLASS ENOUGH; SAY WASHINGTON POST

March 30 (IPS) — A lead editorial in today's Washington Post attacks the Full Employment and Balanced Growth Act of 1976, and asserts that full employment can only be achieved through "dangerous inflation or iron-clad wage controls." Even without the Humphrey-Hawkins bill, the Post editors write, inflationary wage settlements may well turn into the most difficult economic issue with which the next President will have to deal." The editorial goes so far as to blast Sen. Hubert Humphrey, (D—Minn.) the bill's chief sponsor, for "his inability to go to his friends, and some of his best friends are labor unions."

The editorial comments that "inflationary pressure does not come mainly from the direct costs of public jobs. It comes from the effect of a tightening labor market on wage rates."

March 30 (IPS) — Barry Bosworth, an economist for the Brookings Institution, said yesterday that the Humphrey-Hawkins bill "should not be passed in its present form" Bosworth, attacking the bill as being too soft on labor indicated that he expected numerous versions

of the bill containing provisions for wage controls would be forthcoming shortly. He also said he and other Brookings staffers were working with the New York-based economic think tank the Committee for Economic Development, to develop "real anti-inflationary employment proposals."

CHICAGO ECONOMIST AGREES: HUMPHREY-HAWKINS BILL IS "NAZI GERMANY 1934"

CHICAGO March 30 (IPS) — A leading University of Chicago economist said today that he could not see supporting the Humphrey-Hawkins full employment legislation. "I see you've been kicking up quite a storm on Humphrey-Hawkins," the economist told a spokesman for the U.S. Labor Party. "You look at it from the workers' side — I look at it from the capitalists' side, but we come to the same conclusion: it's anti-labor, it's anti-capitalist and hence anti-output. It's Nazi Germany 1934."

NEW YORK TIMES: NOT ONE PENNY FOR WAGE INCREASES

NEW YORK March 30 (IPS) — The editors of the New York Times demand today that the city remain absolutely firm in rejecting the demands of transit workers for a wage increase and warn that failure to do so will have an adverse effect on the ability to enforce austerity here.

"There is little claim," the editors write in today's lead editorial, "for suggesting that the city wreck its painfully wrought design for restoring fiscal integrity by saddling itself with an insupportable new wage pattern under the club of a transit strike threat." The Times points out that the state Civil Service Employees Association will get no more money in either higher wage scales or escalator payments and demands a similar treatment for the Transit workers whose contract expires tomorrow at midnight.

"The adverse effects of higher transit labor costs would spill over into every other part of the budget in the form of 'me too' adjustments for police, fire, sanitation and all other municipal employees," warns the Times, "The austerity figures submitted to the Emergency Financial Control Board last week by Mayor Beame make no

allowance for a penny of wage increases in any of these areas."

ASSAD THREATENING SYRIAN INTERVENTION INTO LEBANON IN NEXT 48 HOURS

WIESBADEN, W. GERMANY March 30 (IPS) — Syrian President Hafez Assad last night issued an ultimatum to the Lebanese left to go along with Syrian ceasefire proposals, or face a stepped-up Syrian intervention into the country, a West German Foreign Ministry source claimed today. If Assad fails to find some political solution to the Lebanese crisis in the coming days, the official said, "this will be the end of the Assad regime and will open the way to a pro-Iraqi government in Syria.

Assad, the source continued, is "in a bind." Internally, he enjoys the full support of the right-wing of the Syrian renegade wing of the Arab Ba'ath Socialist Party, but is facing opposition "from the left-wing in the Syrian Ba'ath Party that works in direct connection with (Lebanese leftist) Jumblatt and is pro-Iraqi." While still a minority within Syria, this group will quickly grow if Assad fails to ram through a Lebanese solution, the source concluded.

SYRIA ORDERED TO INTERVENE IN LEBANON

March 30 (IPS) — The Syrian military is preparing to intervene in Lebanon within the next several hours, according to New York's WINS radio and international wire releases.

The preparations for an imminent Syrian invasion occurred simultaneously with reports today of the heaviest fighting yet in Lebanon between leftist forces and the right-wing Falange. The Lebanese left has taken control of almost all sections of Beirut, Lebanon's capital, as well as strategic outlying regions.

A high-level State Department official admitted today that Syrian President Hafez Assad "does not have much support in Syria if he intervenes . . . If Assad does not succeed in carrying out a successful intervention into Lebanon (wiping out the left — ed.) there is the possibility of a takeover in Syria by pro-Iraqi forces hostile to Assad . . . You're well aware of the fragility of the Syrian political regime."

When asked if the State Department will back an intervention by Syria into

Lebanon, the official responded: "I don't know whether we'll back an Assad intervention, but we won't object to it. There are big risks if Assad goes ahead and intervenes, but we really don't have any other real alternative at this time."

SYRIA HALTS SUPPORT OF LEBANESE PALESTINIAN MOVEMENT

March 30 (IPS) — The Syrian government has ceased supplying arms and food to the Lebanese Palestinian movement, today's Washington Post reports. The move was made to pressure Lebanese leftist leader Kamal Jumblatt to accept the terms of a Syrian authored ceasefire in Lebanon. Palestine Liberation Organization head Yassir Arafat last night presented a four point "peace" package authored by the Syrians to Jumblatt which the Lebanese leader rejected.

The Post also reports that it is "Syrian fury" over what Damascus calls "connivance" between the Palestinians and the Lebanese left which prompted the aid cutoff. The Syrian action, says the Post, is a sign of serious trouble in future Syrian-Palestinian relations. The Palestinians reportedly have at least a three month stock and are also receiving supplies from other Arab countries.

SIXTH FLEET OFF THE COAST OF LEBANON

March 30 (IPS) — Ships of the U.S. fleet are poised off the coast of Lebanon, Pentagon sources confirmed today. The ships are reportedly to evacuate American citizens and fleeing Christian citizens from civil war racked Lebanon. US Navy sources report that the aircraft carriers Saratoga, and Guadalcanal are steaming toward Lebanon, while State Department officials cited in today's New York Times termed the situation in Lebanon as acute and mooted the possibility of an evacuation.

ISRAELI SECURITY FORCES KILL SEVEN ARAB DEMONSTRATORS

March 30 (IPS) — Israeli security forces killed seven Israeli Arab demonstrators today in clashes during an Arab general strike called by the

Communists, the Associated Press reports. The strike was called to protest the government's takeover of about 16 00 acres of rocky, unused Arab land in Galille for Jewish and Arab development projects.

The Arabs were shot to death in four villages as rioters fought troops and police with stones and Kerosene bombs, the AP quotes Israeli police sources as saying.

ISRAELI POLICE ATTACK HOUSE OF GENERAL STRIKE LEADER

March 30 (IPS)—The house of Tawfiq Zayed, the Communist mayor of Nazareth, Israel, was ransacked today by Israeli police, according to New York radio reports. Members of Zayed's family were also assaulted during the attack.

Zayed, a leading member of the Israeli Communist Party and member of the Israeli Parliament, is leading a Communist Party-led general strike in Israel.

ATTACKS ON KISSINGER CONTINUE

March 30 (IPS)—Secretary of State Henry Kissinger and his confrontationalist foreign policies came under renewed attacks from Congressmen and the eastern press today.

*The Baltimore Sun, in a lead editorial, blasted Kissinger's threats against Cuba as "extremely harmful" and warned that they stemmed from a personality which has a "penchant for order, for structure, and for mapping out plans..."

*Syndicated columnist Joseph Kraft warns today that Kissinger is "sacrificing to short-term political gains the long-run African policy that best suits the temperate interests of the United States." Since an outbreak of civil strife in southern Africa could not possibly break out for at least six months for logistical reasons, Kraft writes Kissinger's threats against the Cubans were rhetorical noises made for the sake of the Presidential campaign.

*Senator Mark Hatfield (R-Ore.) delivered a stinging attack against Kissinger on the floor of the Senate yesterday. The Secretary of State's belligerency was dangerous and did not have the backing of Congress, Hatfield said. Hatfield's remarks were reported in several east coast papers.

KISSINGER HAS TOUGH TIME SCHEDULING VISITS TO AFRICAN COUNTRIES

March 30 (IPS)—Sources close to the Secretary of State said today that the Secretary of State Henry Kissinger, is having a very tough time scheduling an upcoming tour of African countries. With the tour slated to begin in two weeks, no definite countries or dates have been scheduled because African governments have not yet replied to an official State Department request to prepare for his visit. "It's all very sensitive," the source reported.

Gram Hove, an editorial staff writer for the New York Times, commented today that he expected that Kissinger would have "a pretty rough passage. I just can't conceive of him going to Nigeria at this point."

TORY MP SAYS BRITAIN SHOULD STAY OUT OF AFRICAN CONFLICT

March 30 (IPS)—British Conservative member of parliament Hugh Fraser warns in a letter to the editor in the March 26 London Times that Britain should not become deeply involved in the southern African crisis. "American interests (in Southern African) are becoming more inimical to the creation of a new and unnecessary front for Western power and diplomacy," Fraser writes.

While admitting that the outcome of the conflict in Africa is far from decided, Fraser cautions that "in any way to precipitate dangers to the crisis point is not only needless but profoundly rash..."

ZAMBIAN PRESIDENT CALLS FOR BRITISH INVASION OF RHODESIA

March 30 (IPS)—Zambian President Kenneth Kaunda yesterday called on Great Britain to send its troops into Rhodesia, today's New York Times reports.

"Genuine intervention by the British is the best thing," said Kaunda, "it would save lives. It would bring the war to a quick end...and if the British are not prepared to do that, they better keep out."

President Kaunda also criticized Soviet intervention into Angola. The Times reports, "He compared Angola today to Czechoslovakia after the Soviet bloc invasion of 1968 and the downfall of Alexander Dubcek."

AFRICAN PRESIDENTS TURN TOWARD QUESTION OF DEVELOPMENT

March 29 (IPS)—Mozambiquan President Samora Machel declared his intention to industrialize his country, a process he called "the secret of eliminating poverty."

In an interview with the London Observer yesterday, Machel said, "We will destroy poverty by a correct economic strategy based on the needs of the people. . . . Our central problem is to destroy the colonial structure which is so deeply rooted. So we have to liberate the minds of the people, liberate their creative initiative. . . . We know that you in the West never wanted to industrialize Africa because that is the secret of eliminating poverty."

Machel's statement followed by several days, his return from a mini-summit of African presidents in Conakry, Guinea, "to discuss the progressive road to development in Africa."

SPD MAOIST ADVOCATES NUCLEAR ATTACKS VIA SUITCASES

March 30 (IPS)—Jochen Steffen, a member of the West German Social Democratic Executive Committee and one of the leading Maoist organizers inside the Social Democracy, told his audience that West German defense costs could be cut by training a 300-man shock-troop in atomic, biological, and chemical warfare. The shock troop would then be used "to carry an atomic bomb in their suitcases and let it explode, for example, in Moscow," Steffen is quoted as saying in this week's issue of Der Spiegel, the West German news magazine.

The Kieler Union political club of conservative Christian Democratic leader Gerhard Stoltenberg immediately commenting on the Steffen proposal said that "conducting war according to Steffen's method contradicts the Geneva Convention," Spiegel reports.

SEATTLE TIMES REMINDS HUMPHREY HIS POLITICAL PROSPECTS ARE NIL

March 30 (IPS)—An editorial in the Seattle Times yesterday commented that Senator Hubert Humphrey (D-Minn.) is "getting a little nervous" now that he has declared that he would be available for the Democratic Party pres-

idential nomination in the event of a stalemate at the party's July convention. "The thought may have occurred to Humphrey, belatedly, that in modern times a major party presidential nomination has never gone to a candidate who passed up the primary trail," the Times speculated.

NEW YORK TIMES COLUMNIST OPPOSES 'BACKROOM DEALS' AGAINST PRIMARY WINNERS

March 30 (IPS)—New York Times columnist Tom Wicker, writing today on "favorite son" presidential candidates, warns such candidates that if they throw their delegate votes to Sen. Hubert Humphrey (D-Minn) "they will

run the risk ... of appearing to seek a backroom choice over a primary winner."

"In a year when the public seems clearly anti-political," writes Wicker, "nothing is much more obviously political and manipulative than a favorite-son candidacy." Emphasizing that "favorite sons and uncommitted slates are, in effect, pro-Humphrey," Wicker states that loss of popularity due to suspicions of backroom deals, or "being run over by a bandwagon gathering speed" are "high risks to take for the reward of nominating Hubert Humphrey."

"The climate does not seem good this year for 'favorite sons'," Wicker says.

CBS IDENTIFIES WORLD WAR II SOLUTION TO GREAT DEPRESSIONS

March 30 (IPS)—A so-called "documentary" on the last Great Depression aired on CBS-TV last night, concluded that none of former President Franklin Roosevelt's New Deal domestic programs had proved successful in getting the U.S. economy going again. The program concluded that the Second World War was "a godsend which rescued the capitalist system" in the U.S., putting the unemployed back to work in defense production.

Two heirs of the famed Duke tobacco family, interviewed by CBS, explained how top capitalists wondered during the last depression if capitalism could survive. The capitalists looked very hopefully towards Mussolini as a model, the Duke brothers unabashedly stated.