

press corps what he thought of the Carter Administration stand on the dissident question. Taittinger expressed hope that the Belgrade conference, which will be a follow-up to Helsinki, will not turn into a circus where participants would content themselves with setting up Commissions on American Indians rights in the reservations, or the rights of Soviet mathematicians. Answering American criticisms towards the French government policy of ignoring dissidents, Taittinger replied: 'France has no lesson to learn from anyone, especially on the question of refugees, since it is she who, proportionally, welcomes the greatest number of refugees from all political tendencies. President Carter has perhaps been a bit too hasty, but he is soon going to realize, no doubt, that the spectacular is not sufficient to have an impact in the big international game.'

On the Bergland Wheat Deal

Neue Zürcher Zeitung, Swiss financial daily comments March 1: "U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Robert

Bergland's statements have been in a disturbing form ever since he came into office demanding regulations on some prices and markets. The U.S. position on the wheat cartel would sabotage the western negotiating positions at the North-South conference on raw materials.... The first weeks of the Carter Administration have been characterized by various mistakes. President Carter should explain Bergland's statements."

Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung writes March 1: "Bergland's position is undermining the credibility of the western countries at the North-South conference. This makes it more difficult to explain to the Third World that world markets must be organized along the lines of the free market economy."

Sueddeutsche Zeitung writes March 1: "Bergland's aim is not so much to control markets and prices, but to use wheat as a weapon against the OPEC oil cartel, during the negotiations about the price of oil and the volume of oil deliveries."

Carter, Interpol Thwarted In Drive On Schmidt Cabinet

WEST GERMANY

The Carter Administration would be willing to provoke an international crisis around the city of West Berlin in order to break up West Germany's advanced nuclear power industry, charged the leading Ruhr industrialist daily *Handelsblatt* Feb. 25. Addressing Carter's insistent sabotage efforts to force either West Germany or Brazil to cancel a joint treaty for importing \$4 billion worth of nuclear power equipment to Brazil, the daily stated, "If Brazil stands firm (against U.S. pressure) and the United States then brings in its role as the most important ally for protecting Berlin, for better or for worse, we would have to give in."

At a recent meeting of the stockholders of the Rheinischewestfälische Elektrizitätswerke, the largest utilities corporation, prestigious Deutsche Bank chairman Hermann Abs warned of the very grave consequences which await heavy industry if the government caves in to Carter's demands for cancellation of the Brazil deal (see above).

Interpol Wants Control

Simultaneously, the Rockefeller-controlled secret service apparatus Interpol is now embroiled in a fierce skirmish with the cabinet of Chancellor Helmut Schmidt, which is moving to cut off Interpol schemes for gaining more direct control over the Verfassungsschutz (Agency for the Protection of the Constitution), the strictly domestic arm of West German intelligence, operating

under the jurisdiction of the Federal Interior and Justice Ministries. In the past ten days, two major scandals were ignited by Interpol-linked networks to begin a public campaign to "change the laws" governing Verfassungsschutz activities.

A Czechoslovakian consular official named Simko, who was stationed in the city of Cologne, suddenly flew to London Feb. 24 to turn himself in as a spy. Simko's testimony is being used to discredit détente and East-West trade; at the same time that Simko issued a list to the West German press of alleged Czechoslovakian agents — all of whom were economics aides — Christian Democrat Werner Marx, a Rockefeller-linked Atlanticist, publicly stated that the case proved that détente as a whole was a myth, and demanded that Chancellor Schmidt cancel a pre-planned state visit by Czech Prime Minister Husak.

The Schmidt cabinet denounced Marx's statements as "exaggerated" on Feb. 26, and succeeded in getting the story played down in the press and media. However, the same day, an even larger public uproar was provoked by *Der Spiegel* magazine, a conduit of Interpol "intelligence leaks." The Feb. 28 issue of *Der Spiegel* charged Interior Minister Werner Maihofer with illegally bugging the apartment of a former nuclear physicist suspected of having links to international terrorist organizations behind the December 1975 shoot-out at the Vienna conference of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC). The specifics of the story around Dr. Traube, the physicist, have a number of discrepancies. However, the scandal is being pushed to create a hullabaloo around Verfassungsschutz infringements of "human rights." *Der Spiegel*, for example, ran an

analysis of Verfassungsschutz legal jurisdiction which states that although the Basic Laws allow for the agency to exist, they do not govern what it is permitted to do, forcing it to employ "KGB methods."

In addition, an array of "left-wing" organizations, headed by the agent-ridden youth organizations of the Social Democratic and Free Democratic parties, are demanding that Interior Minister Maihofer resign. Social Democrat Peter Von Oertzen, a long-term, documented leader in "left-wing" Rockefeller networks, is even sponsoring a law suit against allegedly illegal collaboration between the Verfassungsschutz and the Bundes Nachrichtendienst (Federal Intelligence Service, the international investigatory body which interlocks with the CIA).

Chancellor Schmidt's cabinet has made considerable progress in turning this latest scandal around, and using it against its initiators. The Christian Democratic parliamentary opposition, through its judicial expert Friedrich Vogel, withdrew a request for Maihofer's resignation March 1, and now is giving him official backing on the grounds that there was sufficient cause for alarm to justify the bugging. The overriding consensus in the national press is that a full-scale investigation of the laws governing intelligence activities is justified, but Maihofer committed no infringement of the law. On March 4, Federal Attorney General Buback reported that he is considering taking *Der Spiegel* magazine to court for 'high treason' for publishing top secret documents.

Pro-Nuclear Camp Strengthens

For the first time this week, key spokesmen of industry and government have endorsed the necessity for research into fusion power. During a television debate March 2, Christian Democrat Gerhard Stoltenberg, leader of the pro-growth industrialists forces, identified fusion power as "the real chance for the future and...a real alternative." Virtually the same words appeared in the *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung* lead editorial on energy Feb. 28.

Within the Social Democracy, the influence of West Germany's environmentalist movement called the "Citizens' Initiatives" group is clearly on the wane. In a major shift reflecting the regional effects of a concentrated national debate on the merits of nuclear power recently started by the government, the Stuttgart regional SPD organization elected a pro-fission nuclear physicist this week as their party chairman.

In closest coordination with the British cabinet, the pro-nuclear energy forces in West Germany are beginning to broaden their offensive to include a European-wide push to salvage government-financed research and development programs. Stoltenberg's regional newspaper, the *Kieler Nachrichten*, prominently endorsed the British avionics corporations model for a NATO early warning system, and rejected the U.S. AWACS model. On March 3, the *Financial Times* predicted that the early warning project "threatens to become another source of friction between Bonn and the new U.S. Administration."

A European Strategy For Israeli-Arab Cooperation

West Germany's Frankfurter Rundschau Feb. 26 reviewed in detail the progress achieved by the Euro-Arab dialogue since its inception. Correspondent Erich Hauser wrote from Brussels:

A railway line across the North African coast passing through Casablanca to Cairo; a road- or railway link from Cairo to Khartoum (Sudan); a bridge or tunnel from North Africa to Europe via Gibraltar — these are only a few of the bold projects which are being sounded out in the dialogue between the European Community and Arab League.

Mammoth contracts for West European industry and construction corporations also promise to emerge from the planned expansion of Arab port ...in addition to a broad program for housing construction in a few Arab countries... Between April and June, the various Euro-Arab expert committees for these plans will convene in a series of meetings. The decision to do this was reached at the recent meeting of the General Commission of both sides in Tunis. It was the second meeting of its kind: the first occurred on May 20 in Luxemburg.

Since the Copenhagen summit conference of the European Economic Community in December 1973, during which the chiefs of state declared their readiness to open dialogue with the Arab nations as

a result of the shock effect of the oil crisis, there has been much discussion and planning, but still little action. ...The EEC states...knew, despite frequent disruption attempts by former Foreign Secretary Henry Kissinger, that the dialogue had to continue, without disappointing the Arabs, but also without compromising their relationship to the USA and to Israel...

Agricultural problems in the highly populated Arab countries are also part of the dialogue. Priority items are the plans of the Somalians and the Sudan for their agricultural economy. As soon as a Mideast or Palestinian peace is brought about, Israel's rich experience in irrigation, agrarian development and solar energy could fill out the broad-sweeping European-Arab plans for the future.

The EEC has been able to conclude a cooperation on agreement with Israel despite the dialogue with the Arabs, without endangering talks with their Arab Mediterranean partners. Perhaps, thereby Europe has prepared a long-term regional cooperation between the still hostile neighbors; for, the Arab states as well as Israel have need for industrially developed trading partners in the future — for their major import markets for products which they have in surplus or which for lack of consumer purchasing power and high import needs they have not yet been able to sufficiently market.