

more equitable share of the world's economic progress to the developing countries.

They reiterate their determination to pursue a constructive dialogue on this subject, to work in favor of the development and broadening of economic relations between all States and to contribute through their efforts in

insuring for the developing world a rapid and balanced growth.

The communiqué ends by stressing the importance of bilateral economic relations between France and Poland.

Union Of The Left On The Rocks: Lazard Agents Fail

The tripartite Union of the French Left has never been closer to certain collapse than in the past week. The five-year old marriage of convenience of the French Socialist Party (SP), the French Communists (PCF), and the Movement of Left Radicals (MRG), careened toward a final break when the representatives of the tiny MRG abruptly walked out of the major fall summit meeting of the Left Union partners (Sept. 12), declaring their absolute refusal to support Communist amendments to the Common Program, the slender programmatic thread that ties the Union together.

FRANCE

Behind the loud rantings and public hubbub that will surely follow this provocative move, the truth of the matter is that the Union is collapsing because the Lazard Freres-linked Socialist Party of François Mitterrand has utterly failed to impose its own defense of terrorism, energy austerity, and Schachtian economics on the French population. In this situation, the MRG is playing a pathetic role of mediating the deteriorating state of affairs between the SP and the Communists.

The crux of the immediate crisis in the Union of the Left is located in the latest exposure of Mitterrand's personal role in protecting terrorists and the longer term open participation of the SP-linked CFDT trade union in directly organizing terrorist actions, such as the late July demonstration against the construction of Europe's most advanced nuclear reactor, the Superphénix in Creys-Malville. The South German newspaper *Münchener Merkur* blew the whistle on Mitterrand Sept. 13, accusing him of providing the appropriate anti-German climate in France and Europe generally that allows terrorist controllers like Baader-Meinhof lawyer Klaus Croissant to continue their dirty assassination operations against leading pro-development, industrialist spokesmen. The *Merkur* went on to elaborate on Croissant's close relations to the SP Executive Committee.

The CFDT local in the Grenoble area has likewise become the subject of close scrutiny by the French government, which has launched a tentative campaign to rid France of various known terrorist breeding grounds. Grenoble police recently grilled CFDT officials, following a bombing of their office, which has served as the headquarters for the committee that organized the Creys-Malville anti-nuclear energy demonstration. The clear implication of the police questioning was that the

CFDT could well have staged the bombing themselves, since they had publicly encouraged similar terrorist acts.

The bald truth of Mitterrand and the CFDT's ties to Wall Street terrorism in Europe only contributes to an already existing stalemate in the internal relations of the Union of the Left. The French Communist Party, goaded in particular by the base in the CGT trade union, has repeatedly made clear that it will not give the Socialists free rein to run France as a Wall Street satrapy.

Ten days prior to the fall summit meeting, the PCF released a special six-million-copy run of its newspaper, *L'Humanité*, addressed as a "Call to Workers." In that issue, the PCF hit hard at all the major points of contention among the left parties over the revision of the Common Program, in particular elaborating on the PCF's proposals for economic planning and national defense. The entire grid was topped by an introduction from PCF Secretary General Georges Marchais, warning that the SP could *never* be trusted to represent working class interests on its own! The message to Mitterrand and his allies in the Left Radicals could not have been clearer: without the PCF, especially the CGT rank-and-file, the Union of the Left would never get to power; with the PCF, Mitterrand could never hope to monopolize France's economic policies on behalf of his friends at Lazard Freres.

In this light, the sabotage of the Sept. 12 summit meeting by the MRG is nothing more than a preemptive move toward what was an inevitable failure of the Left Union. *L'Humanité* today drew that point specifically by denouncing the MRG action as a "premeditated maneuver" aimed at putting "pressure on the negotiations to stop the pursuit of true discussion and to impose a unilateral diktat."

Just what the French Socialists and Left Radicals have up their sleeve by collapsing the Union of the Left meeting is revealed by French press reports that Mitterrand recently conferred with former Interior Minister and notorious terrorist controller, Michel Poniatowski, on the prospects of reviving Wall Street's favorite political sawhorse, a right-wing Social Democracy for France. The fantastic notion behind such "centrist" coalition is that the gaggle of minor centrist parties in France and Poniatowski's old stomping ground in the Republican Party of French President Giscard d'Estaing could sufficiently counterbalance the combined strengths of the PCF and the Gaullist RPR party. Such a harebrained scheme is no doubt the consensus reached following a flurry of meetings in the United States in August between Socialist Party members, State

Department-linked officials and the Council on Foreign Relations, as well as the result of conversations between centrist leader Jean-Jacques Servan-Schreiber and Henry Kissinger in Washington.

Failing this, however, unctuous Mitterrand is no doubt leaving the door cracked for some kind of continuing tenuous relationship to the French Communist Party. Mitterrand, for one, knows quite well that his cut-and-paste party will not survive a definitive break with the

Communists: therefore, he may think he can use the *threat* of a decisive break and the creation of a centrist coalition to keep the Union of the Left glued together just long enough to win the legislative elections next spring. What Mitterrand is incapable of understanding, however, is that there can be no programmatic basis of agreement in such an arrangement between the pro-development workers of the CGT and Mitterrand's Lazard Freres mentors.

Heath-Thatcher Deal To Boost Tories?

In stark contrast to the ruling Labour Party, Britain's Conservatives have been, at least in public, the model of party unity — until this week. Ostensibly concerned with the issue of "individual vs. collective rights," the Tory party is now engaged in a critical debate which could well decide whether it can muster enough credibility to form a viable alternative to Prime Minister Callaghan's Labour government.

BRITAIN

This is no academic debate for the Tory leadership headed by Margaret Thatcher, whose nickname, the "Iron Lady," has hardly endeared her to much of the British electorate. Thatcher has embarked on a campaign to build her international reputation in a series of foreign tours, the most recent being her just concluded trip to the United States this week. Thatcher made stops in New York, Houston, and Washington, D.C. in an attempt to establish her conservative credentials among bankers, businessmen, and Washington politicians. While Thatcher's strong defense of free enterprise and individualism made the calculated impression on America's conservative heartland, privately many of those involved in meetings with Thatcher expressed uneasiness at her ability to deliver on her good intentions, especially given the strength of Britain's trade unions which are openly hostile to the prospect of a Thatcher government.

In this context, the battle that erupted this week within the Tory party between the so-called moderate wing of the party, largely centered around former Prime Minister Edward Heath, and the self-styled right-wing of the party around those who previously have been the

center of Thatcher's crew in the party, was no accident. Attempts by Thatcher's top policy advisor, Sir Keith Joseph, and her foreign policy speechwriter, the ultra-right winger Robert Moss to force the Tory Party into a tough confrontationist stance against alleged organized trade-union usurpation of individual rights were thwarted by the joint efforts of two Heath stalwarts in the party, Shadow Employment spokesman Jim Prior and Tory Reform Group chairman Peter Walker, and even Mrs. Thatcher herself. If successful, the Joseph-Moss maneuver would have destroyed Thatcher's credibility as a successor to Callaghan, since the major question now bothering the British electorate and politicians alike is what can Maggie offer if the Callaghan strategy with the unions falls through?

Thatcher's support of the moderate faction against her former henchmen in the party strengthens rumors already circulating that Thatcher and Heath may effect a formal reconciliation at this year's Conservative Party Conference, scheduled in several weeks' time. Heath, who still maintains extensive international ties from his prime ministerial days, most notably to European and Arab leaders, is scheduled to give one of the major policy addresses at the conference, his first formal party appearance since he was ousted by Thatcher in 1975.

The Spectator, a conservative-oriented weekly, is already sounding the death-knell for monetarist Keith Joseph's economic strategy, and suggests that a return to Heath's more moderate "incomes policy" approach will form the Tory alternative when the Callaghan strategy fails. Predicts *Spectator* political analyst John Grigg, "it is now very much on the cards that the Tories will revert to such a policy even before the next election, and one consequence of their doing so might be a thorough reconciliation between Mrs. Thatcher and Mr. Heath."