

Bennecker's analysis, that Haig's strategy would fail to impress the Soviet Union, was not mentioned at the second day of the conference, but the topic changed from ridiculous wonder-weapons to the second Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty (SALT II). U.S. Senator John Tower (R-Tex) led the attack on the present version of the agreement, playing to Christian Democrats in the audience by reminding them that it would only take 34 negative votes in the U.S. Senate to block passage of SALT II. Several U.S. Congressmen in the audience made no objections to Tower's statement. The West German daily *Die Welt* reported that all the second-day speakers attacked SALT II on the allegation that it would expose Western Europe to attack by Soviet medium range rockets by prohibiting European use of these missiles for three years.

No one mentioned, however, that it is only Britain that really wants SALT II to collapse so that cruise missiles in Europe, developed with American funds, would extend the range of Britain's own independent nuclear arsenal.

But continental European countries like West Germany, exemplified by Leber's downplay of that missile, consider the cruise missile as yet another target on their territory that they could well do without.

Ironically, on the day of the conference attacks on the projected SALT II agreement with the Soviet Union, West German State Minister Hans-Jürgen Wischnewski, a high official in Helmut Schmidt's Chancellery, met with leading East German officials in Berlin for a session that had been long delayed by the publication of the fraudulent East German dissidents' manifesto in the weekly *Der Spiegel* magazine. An official West German spokesman described the meeting as "clearing a couple of hurdles out of the way" for future discussions. The official East German daily also supported the meeting, stating that "the normalization of relations between the two countries will proceed on the basis that the (West German) Federal government continues to be guided by the treaties that have been signed."

—James Cleary

Tory Gov't In The Wings Prepares Fascist Policies For Britain

Preparations are now underway in London to dump the vacillating, "middle-of-the-road" government of Prime Minister James Callaghan and install a Tory regime, more attuned to notions of British "supremacy" and duly capable of carrying out British Round Table policies for Cold War and domestic fascism. Although Callaghan has managed to placate the London financial community by breaking the trade unions via three years of "voluntary" wage restraint, the Labour Party's cover of "economic growth" stands in the way of the outright looting schemes now demanded by monetarist forces. Nor could the Labour Party throw off its pro-detente posture to steer Europe toward a renewal of Cold War hostilities.

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For this reason, a fascist government in the wings is now being prepared, to be headed by Kissinger protégé Margaret Thatcher, ably assisted in the foreign policy sphere by former Prime Minister Edward Heath. The much publicized rapprochement between the two supposed arch rivals — Heath and Thatcher — which took place last weekend following Heath's talks with Kissinger in the U.S., fueled speculation that the Tories were tightening ranks preparatory to a General Election.

Former Tory Cabinet member Enoch Powell — Britain's most notorious fascist ideologue — is also being encouraged to return to the Conservative fold in time for the election campaign.

Although Callaghan is not mandated to call an election until October of 1979, the shakiness of Labour's electoral

pact with the tiny Liberal Party and the environment of racial hysteria which has been generated recently to boost Thatcher's popularity, makes an early election "inevitable" according to most political commentators. Should Callaghan be forced out of office prematurely, the Tories would immediately begin to carry out the directives of their City of London controllers, from a fascist solution to the economic crisis, to an assertion of British right to dominate the policies of the European Economic Community and NATO. The outlines of Tory policy have been already spelled out in numerous speeches, articles and documents, cited below:

Foreign Policy

In foreign policy, the Tories have one key goal: to foster an atmosphere of Cold War between Western Europe and the Soviet Union, which would not only undermine East-West negotiations on arms reductions, but would throw a spanner into the delicate Middle East peace talks. Heath has already proposed the setting up of a European (i.e., British-dominated) military force to patrol the Mideast during the key transitional period. This would not only effectively eliminate both the U.S. and the Soviet Union from the picture, but would most likely fuel new hostilities. In an editorial page feature published in the *Sunday Times* of London on Jan. 13, Heath warned that if current peace initiatives failed, the Arab countries would turn instead to the Soviet Union for supplies, and issued the directive that Soviet incursions, whether in the Middle East or Africa, must be stopped at all costs.

The Tories have already demanded EEC intervention to prevent the participation of the Italian Communist

Party in Italy's political affairs. Round Table member and Conservative spokesman on foreign affairs Douglas Hurd argued last week that the EEC heads of government must take steps to plug up the "gap" concerning political freedoms in the EEC's founding principles — a scarcely veiled warning that Italy should be expelled from the European Economic Community if it compromised those principles by allowing Communists into the government.

Defense Policy

Always the proponent of a "strong defense posture," Thatcher with the aid of her top defense experts has been actively living up to her nickname of the "Iron Lady" in demands for renewed defense expenditure and major overhaul of Britain's NATO commitments. At the same time, in conjunction with key agents of influence in Europe, she and her defense experts have been fostering the strategy of a united European defense posture as a guard against any "sell-out" of Europe by a U.S.-Soviet agreement on SALT.

Julian Critchley, a top defense strategist in the Tory party, recently told the German paper *Keiler Nachrichten* that NATO's current policy of flexible response must be replaced with a new "retaliation policy" based on Israel's preemptive methods. He further demanded that NATO in Brussels must have its finger on the nuclear button, independent of U.S. control.

Economic Policy

In major speeches of Tory party representatives and their allies in the Confederation of British Industry and various City of London establishments, little attempt has been made to disguise the fact that the fundamental aim of a Tory government's economic policy would be to maintain Britain's financial strength internationally while systematically paring down the remnants of its domestic productive industries.

Crucial to this debate is the question of the use of the substantial funds from North Sea oil supplies, estimated to add several billions of dollars to government coffers each year for the next 10-15 years. Although the debate is still continuing, the Tory party and friends are strongly countering the pressure being put on the Callaghan government by the trade unions and constituency base of the Labour Party to use the funds for investment in industry and new energy sources, specifically nuclear power. The stated position of the Tories is to use the revenues for tax cuts to industry to improve their cash flows (essentially insure continued rollover and payment

of high industrial debt) and a policy of paying off central government debt from the currently bloated balance of payment surplus.

Concurrently, they are calling for the lifting of all exchange controls on outflows of capital from Britain to promote the build-up of British assets abroad — essentially a repetition of the imperial policy of buying up foreign assets on the cheap. Publications like the *Financial Times* and *Economist* have become the most vocal champions of this policy, urging British investors to cash in on "bargain basement" prices on U.S. stocks in particular as long as Wall Street and the dollar remain weak.

Domestically, Tory Party spokesman on economic affairs Geoffrey Howe has launched a brutal attack on the power of the trade unions in Britain, making it very clear that under a Tory government, the unions could not "hold the country to ransom." Citing the continuing level of high employment, Howe (the architect of the Heath government's labor relations strategy which ultimately led to its fall during the 1974 miner's strike) has suggested that a return to free collective bargaining following the Labour government's years of "social contract" with the unions could force a new perception of reality among union members faced with the choice of lower wage increases or immediate firings.

Immigration Policy

The Tories have indicated that they intend to place the blame for Britain's high unemployment rate squarely on Britain's large Asian and Indian immigrant population. This was made clear by Thatcher herself in a TV interview last weekend in which she called for a "clear end" to "coloured" immigration in order to preserve "fundamental British characteristics." People were afraid that Britain might be "rather swamped by people with a different culture," Thatcher explained. "The British character has done so much for democracy, law and has done so much throughout the world... We are a British nation with British characteristics. Every country can take some small minorities and in many ways they add to the richness and variety of this country. But the moment the minority threatens to become a big one, people get frightened," she hastened to add.

Thatcher's views on race echo those of the avowedly fascist extremist group, the National Front, which has been gaining adherents recently and is directly responsible for most of the major outbreaks of racial tension which have erupted in Britain. Enoch Powell is known to be close to the political ideas of this group which also advocates the use of paramilitary tactics against "leftist radicals."

—Marla Minnicino,
Pamela Goldman