

Mexico, BRD warn U.S.

Nation told to wake up to Carter's insanity

On Feb. 13 Mexican President Jose Lopez Portillo issued a sharp alarm to the world about the Carter Administration's drift into strategic insanity and war. "The United States has not yet established its energy policy," President Lopez Portillo told interviewer Joseph Kraft on the eve of Carter's three-day trip to Mexico. "We could generalize from the energy area to other areas. I believe that the United States is living at the zero hour..."

Four days earlier, the Mexican President had used a press conference in Mexico City to emphasize the lunacy now reigning in Washington: further U.S. errors in international politics, Lopez warned, would be "madness or violence." One day later, Mexican Foreign Minister Santiago Roel drove the point home by denouncing the "paranoid mysticism" and "territorial ambitions" from which certain "other countries" suffer. Roel concluded his remarks with a direct message to the American people designed to jolt the nation back into sanity: "I think the best thing you can do is wake up."

It is clear that the Carter Administration's blundering has already served to wake up America's Atlantic allies to the aggravated danger of war. Secretary of Defense Harold Brown's announcement that the U.S. has adopted James Schlesinger's counterforce doctrine, complete with its possible use of first nuclear strike against the Soviet Union, was delivered officially to the West German government this week. The response was an expanded session cabinet meeting on Feb. 14 to discuss not only Brown's announcement, but the Iran crisis and recent panic-mongering of an international oil shortage. Social Democratic Party caucus leader Herbert Wehner, who has recently made European-wide

headlines with his stinging criticisms of NATO, was called into attendance. West German Defense Minister Hans Apel, also a severe critic of what he has characterized as NATO provocations against the Warsaw Pact, attended as well and will soon leave for Washington, D.C.

Meanwhile the West German daily *Handelsblatt* reported that the Carter Administration is in disarray, lacking "coordination between the hands, the feet and the head."

Taken together, these Mexican and

European characterizations of Washington policy as insane and rudderless are tantamount to endorsements of the assessment of U.S. Labor Party Chairman Lyndon H. LaRouche. As LaRouche first alerted the nation in early February, Carter's criminal war alliance with China and the ongoing successful destabilization of Iran and other Middle East oil producers, has brought the world closer to the brink of nuclear war than the 1962 Cuban Missile Crisis.

Persian Gulf chaos builds toward superpower conflict

The Feb. 14 raids on American embassies in Iran and Afghanistan by "Marxist-Leninist" and Moslem Brotherhood fanatics respectively have set the stage for a U.S.-Soviet showdown over the Persian Gulf during the days ahead. Combined with escalating British and Israeli intelligence destabilizations in Iran, the continuing tension around the planned Bhutto execution in Pakistan, and the regional shock waves created by the recent U.S. visit of Chinese Deputy Premier Teng Hsiao-ping, these incidents have created a far worse danger of thermonuclear war than existed at the peak of the 1962 Cuban Missile Crisis.

This danger is a direct by-product of the astounding American government response to the two embassy takeovers. The "provisional government" of Ayatollah Khomeini was effusively praised for rescuing Amer-

icans from "communists." Soviet advisors in Afghanistan, however, who helped coordinate a government rescue team against the Muslim Brotherhood kidnapers of American Ambassador Adolph Dubs were denounced for "callous disregard" for American lives when the terrorists assassinated the ambassador. Warren Christopher both blasted the Soviets, with Carter "expressing in the strongest terms the shock of the U.S. government over the role played by Soviet advisors to the police of Kabul."

Moslem Brotherhood connection

U.S. anger would be better directed at London, China, and the Ziaul Haq clique in Pakistan. The Afghani terrorists are, according to the most reliable information available, members of the fanatic Jamaati Afghani, the Afghani branch of the same Jamaati Islam that runs Zia in

Pakistan and that is committed to the overthrow of the Taraki regime in Afghanistan. Taraki has repeatedly identified the threat to his regime as coming from both the rightist Moslem Brotherhood and the "ultra-left." It is widely known in intelligence circles that both extremes of the Afghani political spectrum are under the complete control of British and-or Chinese intelligence.

It is evident in British and U.S. press coverage of the "radical Shiite threat" to established governments in the oil-rich Persian-Arabian Gulf area and to the Soviet Union itself how these extremists will be deployed in the future. The Feb. 15 New York Times ran a special feature profiling the potentialities of rebellion among the Muslims within Soviet borders. This is the updated version of a decades-old British Foreign Office strategy to use "Islamic counterinsurgency" as a means of carving up the Soviet republic.

The pulse-center for Persian Gulf unrest is post-Shah Iran. Throughout the week, since the Feb. 11 "surrender" of the armed forces to the Khomeini-

centered rebels, the country has been in extreme turmoil. No less than 25 armed guerrilla bands are roaming the country ignoring appeals by the newly appointed Bazargan government to turn in their arms. A Feb. 12 news article in France's *Le Figaro* described the situation as "worse than Beirut in 1975" during Lebanon's civil war.

The same *Figaro* piece strongly intimated that an army "conspiracy" had been responsible for the sudden "surrender" which turned upwards of 100,000 rifles over to a disorganized population. More exactly, the conspiracy centered in the Israeli-connected Air Force leadership, which, according to Feb. 13 New York Times accounts, defected to the revolution immediately after Air Force "rebels" under their control had drawn the armed forces into a losing and demoralizing combat on an air force base near Teheran.

The treason by the Air Force leadership, in particular Lt. Gen. Rabii, was designed to prevent a deal to stabilize Iran that was growing out of negotiations last week between former Prime Minister Shahpur Bakhtiar

and Bazargan. With that deal demolished and Iran in chaos, the same Air Force circles can use Iran as a base to deploy "Shiite" terrorists against neighboring regimes, possibly disrupting the region's strategically crucial oil resources in the process.

A related goal of Rabii and his cohorts is to create the conditions for a bloody military coup. An unnamed "senior Iraqi official" cited in the Feb. 1 Arabic-language *Al-Mustaqbal* journal stressed that the situation in Iran "awaits the emergence of another General Zahedi" — a reference to the Iranian general who crushed the nationalist Mossadegh government of Iran in 1953 — "who can quickly settle the issue. This will only take place after the streets of Iran are flooded with blood and after the country has gone through the woes of a civil war."

This analysis is coherent with Soviet press accusations of Chinese and American joint planning for a military coup in Iran, coordinated out of the two countries' embassies in Teheran.

—Mark Burdman

Pakistani Supreme Court grants Bhutto 10-day stay

The Pakistani Supreme Court ordered an 11th hour stay on the execution of ousted Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto on Feb. 14. As the case now stands, Bhutto's defense attorneys are permitted to use this ten-day period to prepare an argument requesting a judicial review, and the Supreme Court will consider whether to hear their argument on Feb. 24. The same court last week ruled by a 4-3 margin to uphold a legally flimsy lower court verdict to hang Bhutto for alleged conspiracy to murder a political opponent.

Observers now view the 10-day period as critical for the ruling military junta, which is already under considerable international pressure to

grant Bhutto clemency. However, it is considered very unlikely that the judiciary will overturn its own verdict.

Following the long-delayed verdict against Bhutto last week, and Bhutto's own absolute refusal to ask Chief Martial Law Administrator Gen. Ziaul Haq for clemency, both supporters and opponents of the still-popular leader expected his hanging this week. International messages urging Gen. Zia to spare Bhutto's life came from virtually every world leader: Soviet President Leonid Brezhnev, U.S. President Jimmy Carter, Pope John Paul II, French President Giscard d'Estaing, to name only a handful.

But to date, Gen. Zia, the only of-

ficial who can exercise executive clemency, has rejected the overwhelming opinion that Bhutto's hanging is unjust, and ignored growing indications that the death of the former chief of state would trigger the disintegration of Pakistan into civil strife.

Former president speaks out

Late last week, the junta suffered an unexpected political setback inside Pakistan itself. Former President Fazal Elahi Chaudhury, the man who retired last September to permit Gen. Zia to become head of state, told the press in Islamabad that he had tried unsuccessfully to reach Gen. Zia to give him a statement on the dangers of executing Bhutto. Chaudhury reported that since he failed, he would release his statement to the media. In part it read: "With the situation in the neighboring countries being what it is, Pakistan is in danger of being engulfed in a very unhappy predicament. Any