

The European election agenda

Following French President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing's dramatically successful Moscow summit with Soviet President Brezhnev, the prospects for continental Western Europe to stem the tide toward war have brightened for the first time in months. What comes to mind is the Bonn summit of one year ago between Brezhnev and Chancellor Helmut Schmidt, where Giscard's closest European partner committed his nation to detente with the Soviets and economic cooperation to develop the Third World.

That war-avoidance strategy was confirmed again in Moscow April 25-27, with the crucial new feature that the French and Soviets agreed to set up formal coordinating mechanisms to keep regional "hot spots" from flaring into full-scale war.

Just two months after the May, 1978 Bonn summit, Schmidt and Giscard led the European Community in establishing the European Monetary System, the key to which was the proposed European Monetary Fund to extend credit for great industrial projects in the developing sector. Yet, neither of the two leaders mobilized their nations around that policy for economic recovery and peace.

An eleventh-hour chance to do so, moving off the momentum of the Moscow summit, is provided by the June 10 elections to the European Parliament. And the strongest direction for effective action in that electoral forum is offered, ironically, by the small European Labor Party—the only political force organized on a continentwide basis that is backing Schmidt and Giscard's policies.

As is widely recognized, only a Europe led by the combined weight of France and West Germany is capable of enforcing the program of the still unrealized European Mone-

tary Fund, and defeating the City of London's aim to hurl the globe into a new Dark Age of economic and political disintegration.

The British oligarchy makes no secret of its plans to use the elections for Strasbourg and the May 3 British national elections as the combined lever against the "Gaullist illusions" of Schmidt and Giscard.

Legally, the Strasbourg assembly is only a consultative body consisting of nationally elected delegations from the nine Common Market countries. But both Tory Prime Minister-elect Margaret Thatcher and Otto von Hapsburg, the head of the Pan-European Union, have stated their intention of turning it into a forum for the cause of Europe's "regional ethnics," such as the Basque terrorists, and using these groups as a battering ram against the centralized European states and the Warsaw Pact. A top Thatcher advisor, Reginald Steed, regaled 250 Eastern European exiles and West European monarchists at the PEU's April 28 Congress in Wiesbaden with promises of a coordinated NATO-Peking war buildup.

What makes Hapsburg's gaggle of old Nazis and "greenies," danger-

ous is the fact that neither Schmidt nor Giscard can count on their own parties for institutional support. Topsy Willy Brandt is running the European Parliamentary campaign of Schmidt's Social Democracy so as to mirror the regionalist and environmentalist politics of the PEU on the "left." The candidate heading the Strasbourg slate from Giscard's coalition is Education Minister Simone Veil, who is opposed to every facet of Giscard's policy.

With 36 European Parliament candidates in West Germany and Belgium, and complementary national election races in Sweden and Italy, the European Labor Party is rallying the Western Europeans to insist that their leaders break openly with the bellicose lunacy of Washington and London and establish a "superpower for peace." The way to do this, argues ELP West German chairman Helga Zepp-LaRouche, is for Schmidt and Giscard to publicly support the 1980 presidential candidacy of the American economist who developed the theory on which the European Monetary Fund is based—Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr.

—Nora Hamerman

The Week in Brief

As of May 3 both the *New York Times* and the *Washington Post* had totally **blacked out** French President Giscard's Moscow summit with Brezhnev and the text of their historic communiqué. A wag pointed out that the two newspapers delayed coverage of last year's Schmidt-Brezhnev summit until months after the event. *EIR's* exclusive report is in our INTERNATIONAL section.

But while the U.S. "newspapers

of record" were not informing their readers of the **best chance** of saving the nation from nuclear war, they did not fail to deliver **threats** to the **Western Europeans** should they pursue an independent foreign policy. Fresh from the April 27 meeting of the Bilderberg cult in Austria, **George Ball** in the April 29 *New York Times* ascribed the "**Angst**" of over-rapid **economic growth** to Western Europe, warning that an **Iran scenario**—i.e.,

terrorism—might soon engulf the continent.

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Senator James McClure (R-Idaho) attacked President Carter's plan to divert production away from gasoline to heating oil. "What this means," McClure told Congress April 26, "is that the Administration is planning to create a gas shortage this summer. For what reason, we can only conjecture.

"We have here a clear pattern developing on the part of the Administration to create an energy shortage which will then drive up demand and trigger the necessity for gas rationing in the U.S. this summer. And that just happens to occur at the time the Senate Energy Committee is asked to approve the standby rationing plan; at the same time the Administration says, 'but we have to plan or desire to put rationing into effect'."

McClure noted that the Carter gas hoax also coincides with a letter the President just sent him repudiating the McClure-Carter agreement of last summer for continued funding of the Clinch River Breeder Reactor project. The Senator linked this to the overall reduction of nuclear power in the U.S. under conditions of tightening oil supply.

McClure's statement followed his personal ultimatum to Energy Secretary Schlesinger to produce for Congress in one week the data to back up the Carter allocation policy. On May 2 a spokesman for the Senator said he has acquired no reply from Schlesinger.

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After arriving back in Paris from his trip to Moscow last week, French President Valery Giscard d'Estaing says he will tour France to tell his countrymen of their historical task—to turn Europe into "a superpower for peace." Using the vehicle of the June 10 elections to the European Parliament, Giscard is working to

win the French to his program for European cooperation based on the European Monetary System and an East-West detente axis that could lead to realizing a Europe "from the Atlantic to the Urals."

On May 4, Giscard goes to the southwest of France, where he will address the question of Spain's entry into the European Community. On May 8 he will attend the commemoration of France's national heroine, Joan of Arc, who led French armies to repel English invasion. From there, Giscard travels to Alsace, where he will issue a major speech on the European Monetary Fund.

International diplomacy will then take the French leader to Africa for the Francophone countries' summit May 12-22, and then to Greece May 28, where he will preside over the ceremonies for that country's entry into the EC.

Japan's Premier Masayoshi Ohira arrived in Washington this week for the pilgrimage that all new Japanese premiers must make to the shrine in America. Only a few weeks ago Ohira made a visit to the Yasukuni Shinto shrine which humors Japan's war dead, days after it was revealed that the shrine had secretly entered the names of Japan's top war criminals, headed by Premier Tojo, on its list of honored dead. Do the two visits have a connection?

The answer might be found in the ample expanse of Henry Kissinger, who passed through Tokyo on his way to Peking and stopped long enough to chat with his good friend Ohira. Kissinger let it be known that now is the time for Japan to rearm—not independently mind you but in close cooperation with the United States (and Peking...shush)—to meet the "Soviet threat" from the north. Ohira promptly announced that he wants a "qualitative improvement" in Japan's military muscle.

The press says the big agenda item for Ohira and Carter will be trade and economic issues. But Ohira's desperate offers to solve the outstanding economic questions be-

fore the June Tokyo economic summit have already been rejected. Trade is only the club. It is Japan's adherence to the continuation of the International Monetary Fund system, its separation from the emergent European Monetary System, and its shoulder-to-shoulder stand on such strategic issues as Camp David and the China card that the Administration really seeks.

Back in Tokyo, not a few Japanese politicians, like former premier Takeo Fukuda, and businessmen are angry over Ohira's "sellout" and are sharpening their samurai swords—looking for a chance to ambush Henry Kissinger's loyal friend.

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South African Prime Minister P.W. Botha's government is in the process of expanding its military range of operations throughout southern Africa. Calling this the establishment of "a community of interest" against outside pressure, Botha and his faction in the South African military are setting up the machinery to extend their military presence into especially Rhodesia and Namibia in order to preserve the South African economic system of apartheid.

In January 1977 Botha proposed that South Africa had to "choose to live dangerously" by striking out in its own interests, regardless of reaction in the West. The South African newsweekly *To The Point* reported April 27 that an officially sponsored conference to establish this defense community will be held later this year.

Bishop Abel Muzorewa, who has been declared winner of the election staged recently in neighboring Rhodesia (Zimbabwe), pledged his interest in joining South Africa's defense community: "If we felt that the interest of Zimbabwe would be better served by even having a defense treaty (with South Africa) that is a thing we would look at, very seriously, too."

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