

Opening the Italian flank

As we go to press, Italy is about to hold the national parliamentary elections that had to be scheduled last March when the City of London engineered a collapse of Giulio Andreotti's government. But the June 3-4 elections may hold a major surprise for the British enemies of Andreotti and his prodevelopment allies in the Communist Party. Events of the past week indicate that the republican forces of Italy may emerge as the strongest and assume a leading role in an unprecedented break by broader Western European forces with the London-Washington war axis.

The first signal was the visit of Saudi Crown Prince Fahd to Italy, following his stops in Paris and Bonn; the Saudi leader assured the energy-dependent Italians of increased petroleum supplies, bringing Italy into the French-Saudi campaign to shut down the speculative Rotterdam "spot market," the primary source of the current oil-price crisis.

The second signal was the sharp rebuff that Andreotti, still Italy's caretaker Premier, gave to a euphoric Cyrus Vance on his stopover in Rome on the way back from the first implementation ceremony of the fatal "Camp David" war accord between Israel and Egypt. When Vance pleaded on behalf of Camp David, Andreotti spoke only of an EEC plan for European development aid to Arab countries including the Palestinians, saying this was the key to Mideast and global peace.

The third signal is the broad publicity which is being given to the Italian organization of the European Labor Party, which is fielding parliamentary candidates in the Rome, Milan and Ascoli Piceno areas. The ELP has targeted Italy's third-largest party, the "kingmaker" Italian

Socialist Party, as a major covert supporter and controller of terrorists on behalf of the British crown and the native Italian "black aristocracy." Moreover, the ELP is conducting a high-profile fight for nuclear energy development against the "environmentalist" deindustrializers for whom the PSI is, again, Italy's major institutional representative.

The ELP, known in Italy as the Partito Operaio Europeo has played a widely recognized role in guiding Italy's antiterrorism efforts which, over the past year, were the principal joint achievement of Andreotti's wing of the Christian Democracy in the government, and a like-minded dominant faction of the Berlinguer-led Communist Party of Italy. Prodevelopment forces in both mass-based parties have indicated that they expect the ELP to displace the PSI as the third major party in Italy—beginning with ELP victories in the June 3-4 election.

ELP candidates' appearances, statements, and, in particular, their attacks on PSI candidates have received regular coverage in all of Italy's leading newspapers, including feature articles on the party in Italy's

newspaper of record, *Corriere della Sera*, in *La Notte*, Milan's leading newspaper, and numerous others. The coverage clearly anticipates the party winning several seats.

The momentous significance of such an outcome lies in the fact that the ELP has demanded *European intervention into U.S. politics* as the centerpiece of its campaign against the British monarchy and its Italian accomplices. ELP General-Secretary Fiorella Operto in a speech over TV Olterpo, said ... "I, Fiorella Operto, General Secretary of the European Labor Party in Italy, am asking Prime Minister Andreotti to make Italy the first country to invite U.S. presidential candidate Lyndon H. LaRouche to visit for necessary consultations.... We are the American party in Italy, not Jerry Brown's America ... not the Kissinger America, not the America of Bob Dylan and Joan Baez, but the America of Franklin, Hamilton and Washington... The Italian community in the U.S. and the millions of Italians here who want us to build up a powerful nation based on technological and economic progress, must support the candidacy of LaRouche.

The Week in Brief

The leaders of Francophone Africa on May 22 unanimously endorsed French President **Valery Giscard d'Estaing's** proposal for a **Euro-Arab-African conference** on peace and development in the final communiqué of the Sixth Franco-African Summit Conference in Kigali, Rwanda.

Giscard's proposed a conference of Western Europeans, Africans and the Arabs to "**discuss the means to more tightly link their destiny ...**"

according to Giscard's speech at the conference. He proposed a "comprehensive approach" linking "African governments recognized by the Organization of African Unity and the Arab world as it is recognized by the Arab League." Giscard's formulation pointedly **excludes Egypt and Israel, South Africa and Rhodesia.**

The association would be **political**, not strictly economic, linked by a "charter of solidarity" and giving the participants "a chance to no

longer be stakes in the global rivalry between the powers.”

The dialogue proposal was accompanied by an outline of France's economic development proposals for Africa, in which Giscard implicitly **rejected the World Bank's "appropriate technology" ideology**, saying that France would give priority to projects in Africa which would create jobs in France, and would emphasize **French export of high technology capital goods** similar to the recent Franco-Mexican oil-for-nuclear-technology agreement.

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The Ayatollah Khomeini took Iran a few steps closer this week to the brink of a New Dark Ages. According to Iranian sources, in a recent speech, Khomeini gave official sanction to **drug addiction by proclaiming that smoking opium is not forbidden** by the Koran.

At the same time, Iran announced the **cancellation of over \$34 billion in industrial development projects**, including two highways, a railroad system, a Teheran city center, an airport, and Iran's entire nuclear energy development program. In the southern port city of Bushehr, two almost completed nuclear power plants will be converted into grain silos, according to the *Washington Post*.

Worse yet, Khomeini's Iran has begun to **fragment** according to the design of British intelligence's **Bernard Lewis plan**. As Khomeini's fascist komitehs take more and more control away from the government of Prime Minister Bazargan, **violence has broken out in several provinces**. The latest was in Khuzestan, the Arab-inhabited oil-producing area, where local militias battled the troops of the Khomeiniacs. Observers noted the **possibility of a British-run shutdown of Iran's oil production**.

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Announcing that **"there are no differences"** between British and American views on southern Africa, U.S. Secretary of State **Cyrus Vance** hint-

ed broadly after four days of meetings in London last week that the **U.S. would follow the lead of Her Majesty's Foreign Secretary Lord Carrington**—toward diplomatic recognition of white supremacist Ian Smith's "internal solution" in Rhodesia.

"I would have to say that there is a new reality," Vance solemnly intoned. "We must recognize that there is."

The 'new reality' was spelled out by the *Daily Telegraph* May 23—banner headlines proclaimed the imminent return of the **British imperial flag** to Salisbury. The Thatcher government is openly preparing for outlaw state Rhodesia's return to the Commonwealth, once **Bishop Abel Muzorewa** has been formally installed as the blackface front man for Smith, South Africa and the Queen. Already Lord Carrington has dispatched three new diplomatic emissaries to Africa, including de facto ambassador to Rhodesia **Derek Day** to pave the way.

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An **emergency economic aid package of \$1.45 billion** was offered to the financially strapped Turkish government last week by **14 countries** meeting in Paris under the auspices of the Organization of Economic Cooperation and Development. Billed by much of the press as "unexpectedly generous," the aid offer is, in fact, an **attempt to blackmail** the government of Prime Minister **Bulent Ecevit** into implementing austerity dictates of the **International Monetary Fund**. Unless Ecevit drops his long-standing resistance to the IMF measures, the \$1.45 billion will not be disbursed.

Pressure on Turkey to acquiesce to IMF-OECD demands is also coming from NATO. The first agenda item this week for just-retired NATO commander **Alexander Haig** is a trip to Turkey to strongarm the Ecevit government into line. Last week, both Haig and Joseph Luns, NATO Secretary General, sounded the alarm about Turkey, calling it the

most critical security problem facing the West today.

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Mexico's President **Jose Lopez Portillo**, touring the soon-to-be-completed nuclear plant of Laguna Verde May 29, announced that **electrical growth** will be programmed to reach an astounding **13.3 percent per year**, up from the already high 10 percent currently programmed for the next decade.

Why the increase? The just-approved **National Industrial Development Program** needs it to convert Mexico's surging oil revenues into industry. Nuclear energy will play a big role in electricity expansion, stated Lopez Portillo, and nuclear director for the Federal Electricity Commission said plants are now under study for "Toluca, Poza Rica and Manzanillo."

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Andean Labor Party officials, in a Bogota, Colombia press conference have denounced the May 27 **ransacking of their office** as harassment, intimidation and sabotage of the party's political work in that nation. Essential equipment was stolen from the organization during the incident.

The ransacking of the office, said the party spokesmen, fits into a pattern of preparations for a **military coup d'etat in Colombia**; the numerically small Andean Labor Party has been a principal propaganda force warning that those rightwing **oligarchs who are demanding legalized export of marijuana** by Colombia are the forces behind more widely recognized preparations for a coup.

Colombia has been in a "state of siege" or emergency for months, during which massive **repression** of all opposition parties by oligarchy-allied military elements has been occurring.

The Andean Labor Party spokesmen pointedly warned press representatives in Bogota that the ransacking of their office may well be preparatory to **jailing, torture or murder of their party's organizers**.