
U.K. Strategy

Why was Thatcher kept in office?

by Christopher White, Contributing Editor

British Chancellor of the Exchequer Geoffrey Howe secured passage for the third and toughest deflationary budget yet presented by the government of Margaret Thatcher in a House of Commons vote on March 17. For the first time 30 of Thatcher's own Conservatives abstained from voting on crucial features of the package; others voted against.

The rebellion in the ranks of Thatcher's ruling Conservative Party, motivated by increasing recognition of the butchery that is being perpetrated on the wreckage of British industry, disguises the fact that an increasingly desperate and cornered British oligarchy has given Margaret Thatcher another guaranteed six months in which her so-called experiment with the Friedmanite Nazi cure for their depression can be continued.

Sticking with Thatcher

Thatcher is at this point ruling the wreckage of Britain in a de facto coalition with the radical "workers' control" wing of the British Labour Party associated with the high priest of British dissidence Tony Wedgwood Benn. In the public accounts of the fights leading up to the March 17 passage of the Howe economic package, such an alliance between the two extremes of the public British political spectrum had become a subject of discussion in that country's press.

As was pointed out by Peregrine Worsthorne, columnist for the London *Sunday Telegraph*, the radical capitalist-roaders of the Thatcher free-trade school and the radical workerites of Tony Benn's faction share an antipathy to policies of government backing of industry to secure industrial progress and economic growth. Worsthorne juxtaposed the Thatcher-Benn combination with the opposite approach to political economy followed by the French, the Germans, and the Japanese.

However, the fact remains that despite the squawks of opposition to be heard from such cabinet ministers as Prior, Gilmour, Carrington, Pym, and others, the decision has been made to prolong the agony into the fall of the year. By that time it is to be expected that entire chunks of the remains of British industry will have been consigned to the not-so-metaphorical garbage can, and unemployment within Britain will prob-

ably be in the range of 4 to 5 million, between 15 and 20 percent of the working population.

The bigger gameplan

The decision to reprieve Thatcher at this juncture is not so much based on an assessment of what ensues if the psychotic Friedmanite is kept in office—the disaster signs are all over the place—but on what the perverted policy-makers among Britain's section of the oligarchy considers will be lost if Thatcher is tossed out.

London is now attempting to maneuver the Reagan administration into Phase II of the destabilization of the potentials unleashed within the U.S. by the election of Ronald Reagan last November. It was, of course, Thatcher ally Tony Wedgwood Benn who outlined the two-phase project—which was adopted at the conference of the Socialist International in Washington, Dec. 5-7.

Benn projected that in the first phase Reagan could be manipulated into adherence to the high interest rate, anti-industry and antifarming policies of Federal Reserve Chairman Paul Adolph Volcker, and be what he called "Thatcherized," or discredited, in the eyes of the U.S. population. At that point, Phase II, a wave of terrorist violence and urban confrontations, could be unleashed over the spring and the summer of 1981.

This international faction is based on the neo-Malthusian genocide doctrines avowed most concentratedly by the Thatcher government in Britain, which is its leading instrument globally.

The decision to keep Thatcher in office, in short, signals an upgraded determination on the part of that international faction, identified otherwise by the rallying points of the oligarchy such as the Club of Rome and the World Wildlife Fund, to keep Reagan on his present politically disastrous course.

This decision has been made as President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing of France made the international fight against the suicidal consequences of Thatcher's monetarist doctrines the leading edge of his re-election campaign in France, and as the efforts of leading U.S. Democrat and economist Lyndon LaRouche to pull together an international coalition to reverse the genocidal consequences of the monetarist doctrines of Thatcher and her international factional allies achieve new public prominence in his tour of Mexico.

It must therefore be assumed that the British decision to maintain Thatcher is part of a broader package to push ahead at all costs—rising international opposition to their hideous strategy thus discounted.

The British Parliament's budget vote can thus be properly viewed as the harbinger of a new wave of international networks and dirty tricks, for which the climate has been prepared internationally since December by the activities of the Socialist International allies of Thatcher's controllers.