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## *The Peace Movement*

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# Euro-leadership invades U.S. cities

by Lonnie Wolfe

On March 12, eight leaders of the European peace movement arrived in the United States. They included two Italians involved in planning this month's demonstrations in Sicily, Parliament member Giancarla Codrignani, head of the Italian Foreign Relations Committee, and Rev. Enrico Chiavacci, of the Theological Institute of Florence. The eight joined West German Dorothee Solle, Visiting Professor at Union Theological Seminary in New York, who has been proselytizing in the United States for the past five months. They are here for a two-week tour of 50 American cities, with public and private engagements, to build the U.S. peace movement and coordinate its actions with the planned spring upheavals in Europe.

The tour formally began with a public event March 20 at New York's Riverside Church, addressed by Monsignor Bruce Kent, the head of Britain's Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament, and Rev. Volkmar Diele, a Protestant minister who directed the Action/Reconciliation meeting that ran last October's 250,000-person demonstration in the streets of Bonn. The speeches, keynoted by Riverside's chief minister, the Rev. William Sloane Coffin, a veteran of the 1960s anti-war movement and a supporter of Ayatollah Khomeini's Muslim Brotherhood, were a call for urgent, demonstrative action in support of the European peace movement's efforts to block the deployment of cruise and Pershing II missiles. "A mass movement in the United States is crucial to our success," Monsignor Kent told the audience of 300 mostly veteran anti-war activists.

Later that evening, Kent and the others were more forthcoming in a private reception held at the Union Theological Seminary. They boasted that they, as Europeans, had played a key role in setting up the American movement. They bragged of forthcoming private meetings with the *New York Times* editorial board, with the Council on Foreign Relations, and with unnamed State Department officials.

Kent and the others stressed the "strategic importance" of the Sicilian deployment to block the cruise missiles in Sicily—at all costs. The so-called peace leaders further confirmed reports that representatives of the German and Italian movements met with Libyan dictator

Muammar Quaddafi while he was in Austria meeting with Socialist International leader and Austrian Chancellor Bruno Kreisky. Such meetings were necessary, they pointed out, since the movement would seek support in any quarter. One peace leader dismayed his American hosts by unabashedly lauding the Libyan regime.

The European peace leaders identified former Attorney General Ramsey Clark, who demonstrated for Khomeini in the streets of Teheran, and Daniel Ellsberg, the former Defense Department official who leaked the "Pentagon Papers" to the *New York Times*, as coordinators for joint U.S.-European operations.

On March 22, the Italian members of the tour flew out to a meeting in Colorado sponsored by the SANE organization. Ellsberg, who accompanied German peace leaders on a recent "secret" trip to Egypt to meet with Muslim Brotherhood circles, was to attend the meeting.

### **The American gear-up**

The two-week tour of the 10 Europeans is designed to feed into efforts to gear up the American movement. Joining Kent on a tour of the East Coast is Toni Livingsage, who organized the December Copenhagen "mass rally." Diele will lead a tour of the West Coast. In his entourage will be Dan Smith, British head of the European Nuclear Disarmament; Andreas Zumach, responsible for Action/Reconciliation in West Germany, and Rev. Laurens Hogebrink, Executive Board member of the Dutch Interchurch Peace Council.

The coming-out party of the U.S. movement is a scheduled mass demonstration in front of the United Nations special session on disarmament on June 12 in New York City. The European leadership, along with representatives of the Japanese peace movement, have promised to send thousands. To help build this demonstration, European peace leaders have announced that demonstrations targeting President Regan's trip to Europe in June will feature American speakers.

On March 20, Riverside Church and other peace movement centers began "non-violent" training for the June U.N. demonstration, including how to use personal belongings as weapons against the police.

On March 27, a number of groups within the American coalition are sponsoring a demonstration in Washington against U.S. involvement in El Salvador. The week of April 24-May 2 has been dubbed "National Days of Resistance" and will feature forums on campuses throughout the country, some of which will involve Europeans. On May 1, the left wing of the movement, grouped in the "All Peoples Congress," a coalition of anti-Reagan and terrorist-linked groups, plan a "mass march" on Washington. The organizers of the American movement and their European counterparts stress these events building the June demonstration, which will "make or break" the movement here.