

Eye on Washington by Stanley Ezrol



Haig pushes Britain's 'integrated structure'

Although President Reagan's advisers successfully convinced him to travel through a European shooting gallery to attend the Versailles summit meetings, the chief policy designer for that trip, Secretary of State Alexander Haig, seemed unable to coherently describe what he expects the President to achieve in Europe other than surrendering this nation's sovereignty over strategic and economic policy.

At a June 1 White House press briefing on the trip, Haig described it as "all part of an integrated structure—economic, political, and security-related in the Atlantic Community of nations, including Japan." Haig and Treasury Secretary Donald Regan then outlined the various schemes for increasing IMF/NATO control over policy which they and their collaborators in Britain and the European Socialist International intend to impose on Reagan, the United States, and continental Europe.

After Haig announced that he

would revive his failed attempts to place Europe's trade and credit policies under NATO control, I asked, "Will you push so far that you leave relations with continental Europe in a shambles the way you have relations with Latin America?"

Haig flushed red and forced himself to chuckle, slurring out the words, "I believe you're making an observation, a judgment. Perhaps I'm not clear on the comparison you're making."

I replied, "Your mentor, Henry Kissinger, has said that the special relationship with Britain is so important that it should take precedence over our other relations, including those with continental Europe. You yourself have echoed this view in criticizing a patriotic American President, Eisenhower, for his actions in the Suez crisis where he acted against Britain's violation of international law."

At this point Haig objected, as I knew he would. Although Haig's career in national politics was nurtured by Henry Kissinger during his two terms as acting President, and although his "geopolitical" approach to policy is almost identical to Kissinger's, he resents being called Kissinger's protégé because he apparently believes that as a descendent of Anglo-Saxon nobility, he is racially superior to Dr. Kissinger.

"Mentor?" Haig asked. "I'm not sure I would agree with that." Finally he decided to attempt to answer my question. "To address the first part, the substantive part of your question," he began, "'Will we push to the bulkhead on these [trade and credit] questions?' There are several aspects. . . . One is a question of prudent economics of the problem . . . Europe has a tremendous over-exposure in this area [of East bloc lending]. . . . Our experience is, this is not going to

redound to the benefit of Europe. . . . It is the responsibility of the United States to state its views clearly on this subject."

Is Palme calmer?

Later that afternoon, I attended a press conference held by three of Haig's Socialist International allies: Cyrus Vance of the Council on Foreign Relations, David Owen of Her Majesty's Labour Party; and Olof Palme, the leader of the Swedish branch of the Socialist International.

Vance, announcing the release of a report titled *Common Security, A Blueprint for Survival* by the Independent Commission on Disarmament and Security Issues, known as the Palme Commission, expressed his appreciation for Reagan's recent "initiatives" on arms control, which he said converge on the policies of the commission (see National News). The latter, he said, had been cleared through "sections of the Soviet government" by Georgi Arbatov, the Soviet representative to the commission.

In summary, the commission recommended reducing the military strength of nations while beefing up the "peace-keeping" forces at the disposal of the United Nations Security Council.

When I challenged Palme on his refusal to debate Kerstin Tegin-Gaddy, chairman of the European Labor Party in Sweden, whom he had accused of being a fascist on Swedish national television, in light of his own adherence to Adolf Hitler's economic policies (see *EIR*, May 25), all Palme could think to say was, "I was not aware [you were] part of this thing, the European Labor Party," and stand silently with a maniacal grin on his face.