

## Report from Paris by Sophie Tanapura

### France under the Andropov gun

*Communist Party swings into 'anti-Atlanticist' mode against Mitterrand and finds bedfellows on the right wing.*

France, potentially the United States' best strategic partner in Europe, has been targeted for destabilization and destruction by Yuri Andropov and his neo-conservative odd bedfellows.

When the French government opted to stand by President Reagan on the stationing of Pershing and cruise missiles in Europe, the French Communist Party made clear that it intended to sabotage French defense policy by building a "peace movement" regrouping every terrorist and ecologist outfit on hand. A June 19 "peace" orgy of hundreds of thousands in Paris is now in the works. The campaign moved into high gear especially after President Mitterrand signed the Williamsburg security document, by which the West and Japan came out united in face of various Soviet provocations such as the "mini-sub" affair off the Swedish coast, as well as the Soviet threat to station SS-20s, SS-22s, and SS-23s in Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia and East Germany.

Partners in the ruling coalition with Mitterrand's Socialist Party, the Communists have said in so many words that they will "stick with the government" as long as they can push "peace from within and peace from without."

After Williamsburg, Communist Party (PCF) chief Georges Marchais went on television and accused Mitterrand of having reintegrated France into the NATO military structure! Marchais argued that since France was "de facto" a NATO member, it must

go to the Geneva strategic arms negotiations, and along with "the neutral countries of Europe," push for the type of disarmament accord that would paralyze Reagan's defense policy.

Since the middle of May, the PCF has undergone a rapid shift, accepting for the first time the Soviet request that the French nuclear *force de frappe* be included in U.S.-U.S.S.R. negotiations. This was publicized by international affairs man Maxime Gremetz, who, however, still maintained as of May 16 that France would not participate in Geneva.

Government spokesman Max Gallo bluntly responded that it was out of the question for France to go to Geneva, and that in "playing with fire, the PCF might get burned." In case explanations were needed, Prime Minister Pierre Mauroy announced that if the PCF (and cohorts in the Socialist Party) continued questioning government policy, there would be a vote of confidence.

In denouncing Mitterrand as "Atlanticist," Marchais is using a term dear to Gaullism. During the early years of the Fifth Republic, President de Gaulle created a *force de frappe* which, like Reagan's anti-ballistic missile beam weapons beam policy, was a defense policy intended to provide a science and industry driver for the nation. In so doing, de Gaulle fought the combined forces of the "Atlanticists," those who maintained that France was better off as a semi-rural economy within the framework of a

zero-growth NATO structure. At the time, of course, the Communist Party was against the *force de frappe*.

Today, nothing bothers the PCF more than the statements coming out of the French military in favor of developing laser technologies, such as the chief of the Air Force General Capillon's statement at the Ecole Polytechnique in Paris last week, or Colonel Debas in *Figaro* June 3.

The Communists' hatred of that new *force de frappe* is shared by the Red moles in the Socialist ranks, as well as by the ultra-rightists, those strange advocates of anti-Soviet crusades who happen to agree with the Kremlin's position on all key strategic issues.

The Reds' Atlanticist partners come from the ultra-rightists regrouped around Marie France Garaud and her "Institut International de Geopolitique," which just concluded a colloquium on "War and Peace" with the participation of Zbigniew Brzezinski and former French Premier Raymond Barre. But Garaud is just the window dressing of an operation inside Mitterrand's own government, headed by Attorney General Pierre Arpaillage, formerly a prominent figure of the Fourth Republic's Justice Ministry, nominated to his present post of Attorney General by Justice Minister Robert Badinter, a notorious terrorist sympathizer.

Garaud's institute is the mouthpiece for luring France back into NATO and backing NATO's policies for conventional build-up, rapid deployment forces, and so-called limited nuclear warfare—precisely the policies Reagan's new ABM defense policy is designed to end. Strangely enough, the Kissingerian Georgetown University crowd that runs the Institute has many channels of communication that converge in Moscow.