

Kissinger 'decoupling' gains in European elections

by Rainer Apel and Nora Hamerman

Henry Kissinger and his comrades in Moscow won a victory June 17 that most Americans undoubtedly didn't notice. That victory occurred in the European parliamentary elections, where the anti-American, pro-Moscow forces won significant gains. The electoral results in Germany, Denmark, France, Britain, and Italy show a conclusive picture—advances for the Nazi-Communist forces of the radical "right" and radical "left" in every major country of NATO.

Thus less than two weeks after the 40th anniversary of D-Day brought President Reagan to Normandy to renew pledges of American commitment to the old continent's defense, the Western Alliance that emerged from the defeat of Nazism was on the verge of crumbling. The blame for this lies squarely with those, such as Kissinger and his business partner, Lord Peter Carrington, who have worked to block the one policy that could ensure Europe's defense and reverse the economic depression engulfing the West—an "arms race" based on the new strategic doctrine centered on beam-weapons defense, proclaimed by President Reagan on March 23, 1983.

It is no mere coincidence that the weekend after the European elections Carrington, who has organized a conspiracy of foreign ministries to threaten to split from NATO over the U.S. beam-defense policy, formally took office as NATO secretary-general, nor that the same week was chosen by Kissinger-crony Sen. Sam Nunn (D-Ga.) for his provocative attempt to legislate a reduction in U.S. military commitment to Western Europe (article, page 50).

These moves fit into the scenario Kissinger put forward in a notorious March 5 *Time* magazine article, to "Europeanize" NATO by cutting U.S. troop levels. Under this scenario, Western Europe will soon be a de facto satellite of the Soviet bloc—coupling the unparalleled economic power of the Eu-

ropean Community to the Warsaw Pact war machine in a single, Kremlin-ruled superpower.

The parties that gained most in the major nations were the KGB-penetrated West German Greens, the racist French National Front, the British Labour Party, and the Italian Communist Party. If these forces succeed in carrying out the plans for social chaos which they now advocate, they will accelerate the process of severing Western Europe from the United States, and turning it over to Soviet hegemony.

Most dramatic was the success of the Italian Communist Party, which became the dominant party in that country. While the PCI does not have a very significant lead over the Christian Democracy, its victory increases its power to make an electoral deal with that section of the Christian Democracy that has been groveling before Moscow. That section is led by Giulio Andreotti, the first European foreign minister to join with the Soviet government in calling for an end to the U.S. beam-weapons program. Hiding behind the skirts of the "conservative" Christian Democrats, the Italian Communists are well placed to dictate foreign policy in a key NATO country.

In Great Britain and Denmark, the Social Democrats who have been carrying on a love fest with the Soviets scored major gains in an atmosphere in which America-bashing is becoming a national sport.

Barometer of shifts in electorate

Under conditions of a severe and worsening economic crisis and the undeniable threat of Soviet advances on the continent, the usually ho-hum European elections this spring became a battleground for ideas. The continent-wide race to elect representatives from the 10 European Community countries to sit in the European Parliament in Strassburg is not

decisive in itself, since that institution is relatively impotent. Western Europe is still ruled by national governments of sovereign states, despite the efforts of various "European federalists" and "regionalists."

Now, the results of the June 17 vote are being read as a barometer of radical shifts in the electorate that could shift those national governments in the near term.

The votes clearly represented a protest against the austerity regimes in power, and the emerging coalition will make use of that to sow confusion and discord. Growing labor unrest, strike waves, and budgetary deficits, coupled with plans for brutal austerity against steel, shipbuilding, construction, textiles, and agriculture will provide enough pretexts for those who want to paralyze the European Community.

The case was proven already on June 18, one day after the elections, when the European Trade Union Congress announced solidarity and possible strike support actions throughout Europe for the striking German metalworkers for June 19 and June 26.

These moves towards mounting social unrest on the labor and farmer front, which threaten West Germany now, form a pattern throughout the rest of Europe—documented by the losses for all governing parties.

- The British Conservatives who, under Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, have sought a head-on confrontation with industrial labor in Britain, European Parliament to the opposition left-wing Labour Party.

- In France, the two government coalition parties, the Socialists and the Communists, lost about 11% of the vote together, while the bourgeois opposition bloc gained. But the big winner of the French vote was Jean-Marie Le Pen, whose National Front (not even founded by the time of the last European elections of 1979) tallied a shocking 11% with a populist program mixing racism, xenophobia, anti-abortion, and anti-Europe platforms (see article, page 32).

- In Denmark, the same picture as in France: The People's Movement Against Europe came out of the vote as the strongest party of all, and although the participation of a decidedly anti-European movement in the European elections is an absurdity in itself, the movement will occupy 5 of the 16 seats Denmark has in the European Parliament.

- In the Netherlands, the governing Christian Democrats lost several percent to the oppositional Socialists, and the ecologist Greens gained one seat in the European Parliament.

- In Belgium, the Greens won two seats, and the right-wing separatist Flemish Nationalists won another two of the country's total of 24 seats.

The Italian Communists profited from the emotional sympathy wave whipped up around the sudden death of their party secretary-general Enrico Berlinguer, who died one week before the election day. For the first time since they entered elections as a parliamentary party in 1945, the Communists overtook the traditionally biggest party in Italy, the Christian Democrats, who lost more than 5% of their 1979 vote levels

to fall below 34% and slightly below the Communists' total.

Since all the other five coalition parties in the government of Socialist Premier Bettino Craxi lost votes, too, this erosion of public confidence in the government is generally expected to lead to early new elections in Italy. Any new government in Italy would either include the Communists, or be dependent on their good will to an extent never before seen in postwar politics.

German crisis

In West Germany the results were equally alarming, despite the fact that the leading Nazi-Communist party in that country, the Free Democratic Party, suffered a crushing defeat. Coming up rapidly on the political horizon was the Green, or environmentalist, party, which soared to a level of 8.5%; with the addition of several allied smaller parties, they would have tallied 10%.

The Greens are not about to take over Germany themselves, but, with their rabidly anti-American line, they are moving rapidly into alliance with the country's second major party, the Social Democrats, throughout West Germany. The Christian Democratic government is about to be profoundly shaken by the loss of its partner in the FDP, as well as by the strike wave spreading throughout the country. SPD spokesmen are already predicting a new government by December, most likely in alliance with the pro-Moscow, neo-Nazi Greens.

The liberal Free Democratic Party has been in a crisis ever since its chairman, current foreign minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher, forced them out of their longstanding coalition with the Social Democrats and into a coalition with the now governing Christian Democrats on Oct. 1, 1982. The party's vote percentage has fallen from 10.6% in the national elections of 1980 to 5.2% in the national elections of March 1983, and in all state-level elections held since then, they have fallen below the mandatory 5% threshold required by German election laws for entry to parliaments. The European elections confirmed this trend, with the Free Democrats fielding no more than 4.8% in spite of heavy transfers of "sympathy votes" from the Christian Democratic constituency.

Germany's Chancellor Helmut Kohl is now faced with the inconvenient fact that his government majority depends on a coalition partner which has failed all elections in the past 15 months, that is, a partner no longer existing as a parliamentary factor in German politics. Kohl's Christian Democrats lost 3.2% on June 17, which is another indicator of the growing unpopularity of his austerity government.

The defeat is balanced out only by the 3.4% loss which the opposition Social Democrats suffered—most of it going to the Green Party. The Green Party got 8.2% and established themselves as the third factor in German politics. They will send four terrorists among their seven deputies to the newly-elected European Parliament, one of them being Brigitte Heinrich, a former logistics officer for the Baader-Meinhof Gang of terrorists.