

Report from Bonn by Rainer Apel

A monetarist Hitler-Stalin Pact

The Soviets will join the IMF as a policeman against Third World debtor nations.

Never before in its more than 40 years of existence has the International Monetary Fund received so much media publicity as in the days preceding and during its annual governors' meeting in West Berlin Sept. 27-29. Staged riots by left-wing and radical ecology groups against the "looting policy of the IMF" were part of the orchestrated events in Berlin on those days.

Both sides, the IMF session and the riots, were instruments of the same policy. Leading spokesmen of both sides have played a key role in dirty counter-operations against new world economic order spokesman Lyndon LaRouche and outstanding Third World leaders over the past 15 and more years. When Fidel Castro, Willy Brandt and his Socialist International, leaders of the German Lutheran Church, and numerous communist, ecologist, and liberation theology groups surfaced as alleged "spokesmen for the Third World," it was clear that something very phony was afoot.

Why the big show? Remarks by Michel Camdessus, the IMF general director, shortly before the official opening of the sessions in Berlin, revealed that all eyes are on the U.S. election. He said the consolidation of the world debt problem could "no longer depend on an unstable world reserve currency like the U.S. dollar." Camdessus called for reshaped SDRs (special drawing rights), eventually pegged to a basket of several "stable currencies," to replace the dollar internationally.

Next came a dirty deal among

members of the G-7, the group of seven industrialized Western nations, the central bank governors of which met in Berlin before the IMF session. They resolved to keep the dollar stable by coordinated action until early 1989, gaining time to prepare massive austerity for the American people.

The Soviets came onto the scene in Berlin prominently. Chief economist Oleg Bogomolov and Novosti news director Valentin Falin announced Moscow's commitment to join the IMF and cooperate in "efforts to solve the debt problem." Bogomolov said that because of the dollar crisis and the collapse of the Western economies, "Capitalism can no longer hope to solve these severe problems on its own." The Soviets also offered to make the ruble a convertible currency, at least for East-West trade and joint ventures in the Third World.

Most revealing, and surprising for many experts, were Sept. 26 remarks by the former East German ambassador to Sri Lanka, Helmut Faulwetter: "It would be an illusion to hope a new, more just world economic order may come about in the next years. . . . The IMF and World Bank deserve to be criticized for their policy of conditionalities, but they are irreplaceable institutions for the foreseeable future."

What is all this supposed to mean? Moscow is joining in the ranks of Western usury, as a junior partner now, expecting to become the senior partner soon with the projected decline of the United States.

On a parallel track, public attacks on the IMF are to be continued by the

vast array of Moscow-controlled leftist and radical groups in the West and the Third World, to assist in the political destabilization of disliked governments and currents worldwide. Moscow will oversee the looting of the Western economies from inside the IMF.

The Socialist International (SI), with great influence and blackmail potential against numerous leaders of the developing sector and the industrialized nations of Europe, has been assigned a special role in this scheme. What the SI, under the direction of its chairman, Willy Brandt, did to undermine Peru's Alan García, what it did to destroy and distract the anti-IMF ferment throughout Ibero-America since 1982—with the help of Cuban loud-mouth Castro—is now on the agenda for Europe and the Third World as a whole.

Shortly before the IMF governors' session, the SI declared that it had nothing to do with the "movement against the IMF." On Sept. 9, the SI passed its "Berlin Signal," which called for a cosmetic reform of the IMF and World Bank, along the very lines spelled out by IMF director Camdessus and World Bank director Barber Conable two weeks later. No end to the conditionalities policy, the SI declared, but only a "modification" of it, and more "consultation," more say for the debtor nations on "economic adjustment priorities." In other words, debtor governments should be asked what part of their people they wish to murder first.

The net effect of this alliance between the SI, the IMF, and the Kremlin is to be a brutal, one-worldist regime bleeding the economies of the world to death. It recalls the infamous 1939 Hitler-Stalin Pact, which was, after all, an agreement on the joint looting of the entirety of the European continent.