

Editorial

Three strikes and you're out

There is an eerie resemblance between the shape of Anglo-American politics today and the blunders that led to World Wars I and II. The sons and grandsons of those who played the Great Game and almost lost two times before, are again trying to realign international alliances in accord with their notions of balance-of-power politics. Grossest among this new generation of players is, of course, Henry Kissinger.

The First World War was detonated by a crisis in the Balkans, and the Second was set off by the continuing economic warfare against Germany (Versailles), which laid the ground for imposing Hitler on the German people. A similar process forced a political shift in Japan to bring in the militaristic clique that ended up aligned with Hitler.

The gamemasters of that day hoped that the Germans and the Russians would fight it out, leaving Great Britain to pick up the pieces. Despite the miscalculation which led them to overlook the potential of a Hitler-Stalin Pact, and forced Great Britain to enter the war directly, disaster did not follow, because the Roosevelt government in the U.S. was fully committed to supporting the British, and U.S. economic muscle was adequate for the job.

There is an old adage that those who refuse to learn from history are doomed to repeat their mistakes; but there is nothing to say that they will be bailed out each time. The politics of late April have been characterized by willful blindness to the realities of Soviet politics—as usual—and a policy of undermining the governments of Japan and Germany.

To make matters worse, the U.S. administration is threatening armed intervention into Panama if it does not like the election outcome. According to present U.S. doctrine, if the candidates supported by General Noriega win, this is proof that vote fraud took place, and is unacceptable to the Bush regime. Either you vote as Big Brother tells you—or else!

The U.S. and British press over weeks have tried to create a groundswell to force out Japan's Prime Minister Takeshita. Now they openly applaud a situation in which a weaker Japanese government will have to turn

its attention to affairs at home, and cease intervening on a global scale. They foolishly believe that the government will become more malleable to Western raids on the Japanese Treasury and so on.

Reality will soon prove otherwise. The Japanese have been good friends to the American people, and honorably remembered their debt to General MacArthur, but it has been too long since the United States had a political leader with half the General's stature. The kind of calculated insults now being heaped upon Japan may well generate anti-American sentiment and the policies which that would imply.

Similarly with the Federal Republic of Germany: The British and Americans with their rhetoric for modernization, combined with the practical moves to decouple the U.S. from Germany, are engineering a split in NATO, and creating a mood in Germany for appeasing the Soviets, as characterized by the Kohl government's hysteria against the Lance missile, a missile which would penetrate the East bloc rather than landing on German soil. A continental European bloc is now in process of formation including the Scandinavian nations, Italy, Spain, and even in part France, which is backing the Federal Republic against the strident demands from Washington and London.

Meanwhile we learn that the Soviets have been gassing their own citizens—as reported in the Soviet press itself. How does the Western press respond to this latest atrocity? It is impressed with the freedom of press reporting now developing in the U.S.S.R.! The truth is that the Soviet Union is going through a process of Russification which will make them a far more deadly enemy than Hitler. The flaunting of terror tactics against the Georgians by their Russian overlords is just a taste of what awaits the rest of us, if we do not get the fools like Henry Kissinger out of power.

A policy of destroying allies and propitiating enemies; or worse yet, considering our allies to be enemies and our enemies to be friends, will mean the destruction of Western civilization. The United States is rapidly squandering the potentials it had to call upon in 1941, nor are there any replacements waiting in the wings.