

While providing a scapegoat for U.S. food shortages this winter, the Ford-Rockefeller attack on the Soviet Union goes beyond the food issue. Rockefeller described his own Oil Hoax, one of the major reasons for agricultural collapse, as "the most revolutionary change that has taken place without war in the history of the world." Announcing that the very existence of capitalism is in jeopardy, Rockefeller outlined a complete program to meet the "oil crisis," ranging from massive labor speed-up to labor-intensive Project Independence energy projects and his world food program. Rockefeller's speech has initiated an international red-baiting campaign to destroy any worker-farmer opposition to this slave labor regimen.

EUROPE: EEC MINISTERS ARRANGE CAP DEMISE

Oct. 4 (IPS)--"CAP may never be the same again," remarked British Foreign Minister Callaghan following the brief emergency meeting of EEC Ministers in Luxembourg two days ago. Callaghan's comment referred to the psychological victory scored by the West German and British governments in forcing France to concede to a review of the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP). The French government also agreed to take no further unilateral measures to aid its farmers, in exchange for the West Germans' approval of the 5 per cent European-wide farm price increase. The weakened Giscard government still retains the option of blaming the desperate plight of French farmers on Helmut Schmidt, thereby hoping to ride through renewed peasant demonstrations.

The unusually short Luxembourg meeting was clearly a staged affair, the agreement having been worked out in advance between London and Bonn. Another unusual feature was the participation of British Foreign Minister Callaghan, who claimed responsibility for introducing the "compromise," and of West German Foreign Minister Genscher. According to the Financial Times, Schmidt had requested the foreign ministers' presence as overseers. Schmidt cannot rely on his own Agriculture Minister Ertl who threatened to resign, when Germany first opposed the 5 per cent increase, out of supposed allegiance to his Bavarian base. Both German and British financial press have been calling regularly for the "reform" of the CAP guaranteed price system and the forced bankrupting of thousands of "nonessential" European farmers.