

by 15 percent to protest the EDF's (National Electricity Company) nuclear fission plants construction program. The choice of the target was not made at random since the company has a large nuclear fission program, aimed at supplying 25 percent of the country's energy needs by 1980. While Giscard himself launched the nuclear program two years ago, he seems to be having second thoughts since the election of Jimmy Carter, as was otherwise indicated by his brake on export of nuclear technologies. This ecology movement is remarkably well-organized, boasting a newspaper, "Super-Pholix", a pun on the name of the French fast breeder reactor "Super-Phoenix," and even a clandestine radio station. It consists of various extreme left grouplets under the same leadership team of Atlanticist agents who direct the newspapers "Libération" and "Le Sauvage" (the ecology supplement to *Le Nouvel Observateur*). Both publications are closely tied in with the terrorist-running U.S. Institute for Policy Studies.

As the municipal elections approach, both the pro-Carter Socialist Party and the Giscardian *Républicains Indépendants* (RI) have associated themselves with the

anti-nuclear campaign. For example, two well-known zero-growthers are running for municipal councillor on the Paris electoral lists of RI mayoral candidate and Industry Minister Michel D'Ornano: Jean Pierre Colli, a foremost advocate of solar power and windmills, and Phillipe de St Marc, an aristocratic fellow traveller of the agents who launched the Maoist grouplets in the early 1970's.

As for the Socialist Party, following the endorsement of the Schlesinger energy rationing program for France by SP executive member Michel Rocard, local SP elected bodies are voting against nuclear installations in the Drôme Valley, while the Socialist wing of the CFDT Union is engaged in an array of provocative strikes in the key centers of the French nuclear industry including the La Hague recycling plant. While the possibility of a Socialist Party-RI government has been mooted repeatedly in the past, the strange alliance is proceeding rather cautiously at this point for fear of a backlash of business and labor into the Gaullist and Communist camps.

## British Cabinet Reshuffle Strengthens Callaghan's Hand

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### BRITAIN

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British Prime Minister James Callaghan sprang a major political surprise this week by naming a young and relatively unknown cabinet minister, Dr. David Owen, to the pivotal cabinet position of Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary. Seizing the opportunity provided by the sudden death of former Foreign Secretary Anthony Crosland, Callaghan announced a number of other minor but critical changes in the composition of his cabinet command structure. Callaghan will now command a greater amount of personal authority over both economic and foreign policy decisions, and can curtail the maneuvering room of ranking party officials who still stand in the way of a with Atlanticist control.

Callaghan's emphasis that Owen's appointment is intended to be permanent was a slap in the face for Chancellor of the Exchequer Denis Healey; during the negotiations for the IMF loan, Healey was most vociferous in his support for the IMF's tough austerity measures, which were ultimately rejected by a cabinet majority. Healey has made it known that his ambition is to be named foreign secretary, an ambition now likely to go unfulfilled.

Healey's standing in the cabinet was further undermined by the appointment of his assistant, Joel Barnett, to cabinet rank, supposedly to ease the pressure on the overtaxed chancellor. Following recent

revelations on how the Bank of England and Treasury Civil Service — the areas for which Barnett is immediately responsible — have connived to undercut the economic policies of elected Labour governments, Barnett's appointment will give Callaghan the ability to directly control their potentially disruptive activities.

Barnett's advancement has also split the Treasury's power down the middle, separating its straight financial policy-making role from its economic policy responsibilities. Such a split, the rule in most other European governments, has received strong support in the last two weeks from such knowledgeable sources as former Conservative Prime Minister Edward Heath and Cabinet Secretary Sir John Hunt.

To compensate for Owen's youth and relative inexperience, Callaghan will reportedly be taking direct control of foreign affairs, especially in the upcoming high-level economic summit of western nations, the Helsinki talks, and the meeting of Commonwealth nations in June. Callaghan has decided to strengthen further Britain's international role by designating a vocal supporter of the new world economic order, former Overseas Development Minister Frank Judd, as Owen's number two man at the Foreign Office. The appointment of pro-Third Worldist and African specialist Judd, plus reports that the new Foreign Minister Owen will visit Africa, indicate that the British are ready to make fresh moves to resolve the Rhodesian crisis.

Despite reports that Owen is close to pro-U.S. elements within the Labour Party's right wing, the tightly controlled set-up at the Foreign Office will make it difficult

for Owen to contradict Callaghan's foreign policy strategy. In fact, one of Owen's first international successes was the recent negotiation of the widely heralded fishing rights agreement between the European Economic Commission and the Comecon, which established relations between the two trading blocs for the first time.

According to Whitehall sources, Callaghan has shrewdly appointed left-wing Labour MP Judith Hart to

be Judd's replacement as Development Minister. By giving her ministerial responsibilities, Callaghan will effectively muffle one of his most outspoken critics, and ringleader of the left-wing opposition within the Labour Party to key aspects of the government's policy. Hart's most recent attack on the government has been over the deportation of ex-CIA agent Philip Agee and journalist Mark Hosenball, on whose behalf Hart testified during their hearings.

## Brokdorf Peace Improves Outlook For West Germany's Nuclear Generating Program

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### WEST GERMANY

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The absence of violent incidents at the Feb. 19 demonstration of environmentalist groups at the nuclear power plant site in Brokdorf, Schleswig-Holstein, may represent the turning point in West Germany's battle to realize its domestic nuclear program. A mere 8,000 radicals appeared at the site itself, while another 30,000 demonstrated peacefully in the nearby town of Itzehoe.

Two days previously, Chancellor Helmut Schmidt delivered a special televised address calling upon the nation to boycott the demonstrations as "almost an act of terrorism." Schmidt accused the "Citizens Initiative" and other environmental groups of creating a climate of hysteria in which discussion was "virtually impossible," and stressed his conviction that "Nuclear power means job security and high living standards for all households."

The major question now facing those government officials, industrialists and politicians from every party who support fission power development, is how to create the political atmosphere necessary for tying the environmentalists' hands and reversing the court decisions currently blocking a large proportion of domestic nuclear plant construction. This will include the neutralization of influential anti-growth factions within the Federal ministries of justice, interior, and science and technology. Gerhard Stoltenberg, Prime Minister of Schleswig-Holstein, has already made some moves in this direction by hauling two leading environmentalists into court on charges of advocating violence.

However, the main immediate point of access to cleaning out this nest of Naderite worms is the so-called "left wing" of the Social Democratic Party (SPD). Günther Jansen, chairman of the Schleswig-Holstein SPD, has presented the most convenient public target to date. Interviewed in this week's *Der Spiegel* magazine, he directly accused Chancellor and SPD Vice-Chairman Schmidt of "going around a few too many times with foreign

industrialists and bankers" instead of following the zero-growth clauses incorporated in the party's official program. Five prominent regional trade unionists thereupon issued an official protest against Jansen and apologized to Schmidt that their party "did not have the courage to bear responsibility" for the government's program. One week previously, Stoltenberg — a Christian Democrat — had called upon such SPD members to make themselves heard. This week, Stoltenberg went further to recommend that the SPD find a suitable replacement for Jansen.

The federal government has also made some progress in terminating the Lower Saxony government's capricious balking on approving a site for the projected West German nuclear fuel reprocessing center. Lower Saxony Prime Minister Albrecht has finally given conditional approval to the least favorable site at Gorleben, only 5 kilometers away from the East German border. The federal government has nevertheless used this to give the go-ahead for preliminary drillings at all five possible sites.

An editorial in the conservative *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung* Feb. 22 has attempted to define more clearly the broader political goals of the nation's pro-development groupings. Rational people, it says, must realize that what is occurring is an "uproar against progress... not merely against nuclear energy, but against a technological revolution." What is needed now is a "grand coalition as a way out of the blind fear of nuclear energy," and not merely a party coalition. "Instead of fissioning the population," it says, "what we need is a political fusion of the population around its core." It concludes with a call upon parliamentarians to actively represent their constituencies in order to stop the growing influence of the "non-elected citizens' initiative lobby."

Schmidt expects that one month more progress on all these fronts will be able to create wide acceptance of his new energy program, to be presented March 23.

In the face of this, the noises from the environmentalist camp has become decidedly more shrill. National Ci-