

# Energy war is on

As we prepare to go to press June 21, there are increasing signs that the United States and the United Kingdom will run into major opposition at the Tokyo monetary summit to their plans to sink the world into a low-energy, Malthusian nightmare.

West Germany's Chancellor Helmut Schmidt, until days ago playing the role of a compliant "Atlantic partner" willing to go along with the Carter Administration oil hoax, has signaled what surprises may be in his pocket at Tokyo by scheduling a visit to Moscow before and after the summit. He is now calling for the June 27 meeting—bringing together the seven leading noncommunist industrial nations—to take up the idea of East-West cooperation for expanded energy production. Japanese representatives in Mexico on June 20 told the press, for the first time ever, that Japan endorses Mexican President Lopez Portillo's call for dealing with "energy as the responsibility of all mankind," and that the Mexican proposal would be a central topic of discussion at Tokyo. This followed reports in the Japanese press that French President Giscard would come to Tokyo with a "grand design" for world peace and development, and had undertaken a number of initiatives to organize Japan on board France's program for rapid nuclear energy development, ending speculation on the Rotterdam oil "spot market, and solving the oil problem through close cooperation between consuming and producing countries.

One day later, Giscard stunned a national French television audience by declaring that France was ready, in the event of an "energy war," with alternative sources of petroleum outside the channels controlled by the Anglo-American oil multinationals—a reference to the coopera-

tive relationship France has worked out particularly with the Saudi regime.

The "war" has already broken out. One day after the European Community's energy ministers endorsed France's proposal for controlling the spot market, the oil multinationals walked out of oil-price negotiations with the Italian government and threatened to cut off supplies unless Italy accedes to a 50 percent price increase to consumers.

If those four countries—Japan, France, West Germany and Italy—use Tokyo to push through an energy growth policy, or, in case of a Tokyo stalemate go ahead with their own "grand design," the perilous spiral of the United States and Britain into fascism will be quarantined from pushing the rest of the world into full-scale war. The European and Japanese partners really don't have much choice.

The U.S. Congress, for example, is currently considering an amendment to the 1950 Defense Production Act, which would place all defense and energy decisions under direct presidential edict. This is equivalent to the Nazi enabling act of 1933

which gave Hitler full dictatorial powers. The pretext for the amendment is being provided by the Independent Truckers work stoppage and ensuing food shortages that have already resulted, in some states, in the calling out of the National Guard. At the same time, the U.S. Senate hosted Felix Rohatyn with his demand that a \$200 billion boondoggle for synthetic fuels—pioneered not accidentally, by Hitler's Germany—be set up "binding on labor and business" and to be financed by Japan and West Germany.

A resounding "no" to such programs at Tokyo, and the concomitant decision to move full speed ahead with "Phase Two" of the European Monetary System to develop the Third World by recycling the growing OPEC petrodollar surplus into nuclear energy-based growth, would not only put Washington's victims of "energy war" on a winning footing. It would also bring quickly onto the side of such a peace and development strategy a host of progress-oriented Americans who are fed up with the Great Oil Swindle of 1979 and its political authors.

—Nora Hamerman

## The Week in Brief

**Secretary of State Cyrus Vance plans to send in the U.S. Marines to Nicaragua under the cover of an Organization of American States intervention force—to save the organized crime syndicate known as "Dope, Inc." that operates through the Nicaraguan National Guard.**

Vance's call came June 21 in a plan to the Washington, D.C. meeting of OAS foreign ministers, where he insisted that an "inter-American peacekeeping force" be dispatched

at once to oust dictator Somoza and set up an "interim government" that would save Somoza's National Guard from destruction. Other points in the program, a carbon copy of the one that guided the 1965 U.S. invasion of the Dominican Republic, included "embargo of all arms" and "relief and reconstruction funds."

The invasion plan is also a threat to Mexico. One month ago Energy Secretary Schlesinger at a Paris press conference said that the current "bal-