

Europe, Soviets concur on detente, A-power

On the way to and from the Tokyo summit, top West European leaders stopped in Moscow for urgent consultations with the Soviet leadership on how to prevent U.S.-British energy policies from plunging the world into war. Even the fact of these extraordinary meetings has been blacked out of virtually the entire U.S. press.

The leaders of West Germany, France, Italy, and the Soviet Union are all agreed that if the Tokyo summit fails to counter the Anglo-American bloc, fails to restrict the speculative explosion on the Rotterdam oil spot market, fails to develop nuclear energy alternatives—then the stage will be set for U.S. military action against the Arab oil-producing countries, or other “crisis” measures that could quickly lead to World War III.

As the cornerstone of their war avoidance strategy, the leaders of continental Europe have committed themselves to an East-West program for the massive development of nuclear energy.

What is remarkable in this is the high degree of coordination between the Western Europeans and the Soviets. The Soviet Union is also committed to a massive East-West energy development program, which was endorsed by the annual heads of government meeting in Moscow June 27 of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance (CMEA), the socialist sector economic alliance. Energy development was one of the principal topics on the meeting's agenda, and Soviet Premier Aleksei Kosygin in his report to the Council emphasized that special attention should be devoted to the development of nuclear power engineering.

The same day, the Soviet Energy Minister gave a press conference where he called for linking the electricity grids of Eastern and Western Europe, a measure which he said could help to save energy through better distribution of electricity during peak period.

West German Chancellor Schmidt, in a three-hour meeting June 25 with Soviet Premier Kosygin and

Giscard hits Carter on relations with Soviets

The following are portions of an interview with French President Giscard d'Estaing in Newsweek July 2.

Q: *The Tokyo summit will be the latest in a series.... Yet it is hard to discern any real convergence among European, American and Japanese policies....*

Giscard: The results have been uneven.... [At] Rambouillet summit ... we made a start on coordinating our actions on the currency exchanges with the aim of achieving the greatest possible stability; at the Bonn summit, last year ... we set additional growth targets. Neither of these results was applied in a really rigorous way.... The Tokyo summit, unmistakably, will be the energy summit. It will be judged a success or failure depending on what we decide on that subject.

Q: *Do you sense any improvement in Soviet-American or Soviet-European relations as a result of SALT II...?*

Giscard: During my recent trip to the Soviet Union, I formed a favorable impression. So far as we are concerned, the policy of detente continues in the same spirit as in preceding years. I was able to discuss with Mr. Brezhnev certain hot spots around the world, and I determined that, in several cases, our analyses were similar or, ... could be made compatible. On the other hand, when you speak of the general evolution of detente, I have not observed, in global terms and especially in terms of U.S.-Soviet relations, any favorable evolution.

...I think the U.S. and Soviet Union need to deal frankly with each other on a whole series of world problems. In the recent period, we have not had the feeling that there has been the opening of such a dialogue between the two of them.

Q: *On the Soviet side?*

Giscard: No, on the American side.

Q: *You have proposed a summit-level "trialogue" among European, Arab and African leaders, a forum from which the U.S. and Canada are excluded.... Doesn't this approach prefigure new models of decision-making. Do you foresee the day when subjects as important as the energy crisis may be treated, in large part, in the absence of the United States?*

Giscard: I think we are heading toward an organization of the world that will be appreciably different from the organization we have known. For my part, I'm delighted to see it.... We are heading toward a different sort of organization, because we are seeing the emergence of new, more numerous power centers.... There is a Mediterranean zone, in the broad sense, which has always existed through human history.... It includes part of Western

Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko, stressed the urgency of continuing detente. The leaders discussed "all issues of world politics," according to radio reports—including energy and raw materials cooperation. Schmidt endorsed the new strategic arms limitation treaty (SALT II), and called for "speeding up" the Vienna talks on arms reduction in Central Europe.

The West German leader urged the speedy implementation of one of the key features of his war-avoidance policy: the 25-year trade and development agreement concluded with Soviet President Brezhnev in May 1978, which paved the way for the formation of the European Monetary System.

Following his meetings with the Soviet leaders, Schmidt underlined to the press the importance of his proposal for an international energy conference which would include the USSR, and also of the Soviets' own development of nuclear power: "I don't believe that it is appropriate for me to publish the final ideas of the Soviet in this field," Schmidt said. "It is crystal clear that the Soviet Union, if it had to plan only for itself, would be relatively independent, with its own energy resources—coal, gas and nuclear power plants. But there are other countries in the CMEA, other communist countries in Eastern Europe, which the Soviet

Union has to take into account, and which have to secure their entire energy supply.

"I have no doubt that the communist countries also suffer from the energy crisis, that they are working on common plans for the future, ways to solve their supply problems. The problem posed to the Soviet Union is basically the same as that posed to us: Coal is important, but without nuclear energy it is impossible." The Soviets are anxious for West German companies to help construct nuclear plants in the U.S.S.R. in exchange for raw materials, Schmidt said.

Andreotti: more nuclear reactors

Italian Acting Premier Giulio Andreotti announced on television before leaving for Tokyo that he will go to Moscow on his way home, and discuss there energy cooperation with the Soviets. This will include, he said, the construction of a joint Soviet-Italian nuclear reactor, to be located in a country midway between Italy and the Soviet Union.

Europe, part of the Middle East, essentially the Arab countries, and Africa. These are groupings that ought to come to know one another and to work together.

Q: *Do you share the concern that some people have expressed about Chancellor Helmut Schmidt's apparent reluctance to offend Moscow?*

Giscard: No, I believe that, fundamentally, the orientation of the Federal Republic remains the same as before. On the other hand, there is an understandable attitude on the part of Germany and of her Chancellor. Germany does not wish to appear as the spearhead of military preparations directed at the Soviet Union.

Helmut Schmidt on energy and war

What West German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt thinks of the poli-

tics of the Carter administration and its ally Israel, he spelled out in an interview to the *Jerusalem Post*, printed on June 22. "I have no understanding at all of the settlements policy of Mr. Begin," Schmidt said. "Israel is on a very dangerous path... If Israel goes on with its present political course, it will be difficult to remain a friend. Israel will be further isolated and will lose its friends," he warned.

On oil policy he warned the U.S. again: "Getting oil by using military force, as was suggested by some American politicians, is completely unrealistic... And as far as Israel is concerned, I regret its total dependence on the U.S., for since the Johnson era, the U.S. is very unpredictable."

He also attacked Israel's policy toward Germany: "I agree with Mr. Begin that the Germans should have

a bad conscience about Hitler and the Nazi past. Contrary to Mr. Begin, though, I think that bad conscience should not be the reason for West Germany's support of Israel."

West German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher, flanked by the Iraqi ambassador to Bonn, was asked in a TV interview if the BRD Mideast diplomacy is designed to secure oil supplies. He answered, "absolutely not. The basis of the BRD's political efforts are fundamentally to secure peace, and that means a comprehensive and lasting peace." West German policy is supported by France "and other EEC nations," he added. "Solving the oil problem is fundamentally achieving a lasting peace, and nothing less."