

## Carter rebuffs Soviet, European peace initiatives

by Konstantin George

The Carter administration ignored offers made repeatedly by the Soviet Union last week for a mutual pullback from confrontation in Afghanistan, and flaunted the arming "through the CIA" of Chinese-supported Afghan rebels. The Defense Department backed up this rebuff with the deployment of two U.S. carrier taskforces in the Persian Gulf, and the announcement of the decision to go ahead with sales of sophisticated military equipment to China.

These provocative and militarily stupid moves have brought the world to the edge of nuclear confrontation, a fact being recognized by such diverse policy advisors as George Kennan and Daniel Moynihan.

Current Carter policy, as demonstrated by National Security Advisor Zbigniew Brzezinski and Defense Secretary Harold Brown, is all the more wreckless or "incalculable" as West German officials have dubbed it, given the loud and determined rejection of such confrontationist policies by the United States' European allies, with France in the lead.

The perception that Carter's policies will detonate world war has been stated by numerous French officials and brought home to the American public this week by French veteran diplomat Raymond Offroy who is visiting New Hampshire as a guest of Democratic primary contender Lyndon LaRouche.

### Carter press conference

At a press conference on Feb. 12, President Carter strongly rebuffed both the peace and detente initiatives

of the Soviets and the warnings of European officials and the more sober voices among American political figures. The President rejected any possibility of a peaceful settlement to the Afghanistan crisis, announcing that the U.S. goal was a "United Nations peace keeping force" in the region.

President Carter then opened a new area for potential crisis provocation by stating that the United States "has under consideration sending aid," not excluding military forces, to post-Tito Yugoslavia.

Defense Secretary Harold Brown followed up the press conference with a special interview in the New York Times Feb. 15, in which he announced that the U.S. "possesses a credible deterrent in the Persian Gulf," to enforce the "Carter doctrine." Brown's explication of the "credible deterrent" reveals the complete accuracy of the heavy criticism leveled against the Carter proclamation as "dangerous," "stupid," and "unenforceable short of all-out nuclear war."

Brown, a former McNamara "Whiz Kid," stated that the so-called "credible deterrent consists of two carrier task forces, two solitary B-52 bombers, and 1,800 Marines," who will not even be stationed in the Gulf until a month from now.

Sober military estimates ridicule such nonsense. The latest issue of Business Week quotes John M. Collins, defense analyst for the Library of Congress, on the reality principle for the Persian Gulf region. Collins cites that the U.S. forces in the region are there as a "tripwire deterrent" only, and have no realistic combat function:



*Harold Brown, U.S. Defense Secretary, mounted atop an outmoded Soviet tank in use by the Chinese Peoples Liberation Army, during his recent visit to Peking.*

## The Soviet Union's offer that the U.S. turned down

The U.S.S.R. has disclosed through diplomatic channels an offer to withdraw their troops from Afghanistan if certain reasonable efforts and guarantees are met to stabilize the South Asia region.

"Much depends on the U.S. and China," said Soviet Ambassador to Japan Dimitri Polyanski. "The present situation in Afghanistan can end in the near future, unless the two countries try to escalate it." Ambassador Polyanski reported that a Soviet troop withdrawal could begin as early as the end of February if—and only if—the United States and China stop interfering in the internal affairs of Afghanistan.

The same offer is coming from channels at the Soviet Mission to the United Nations. The *New York Times* on Feb. 12 quotes high-ranking officials at the mission that the U.S.S.R. may soon begin a "substantive and meaningful" troop withdrawal from Afghanistan in exchange for "guarantees" that would ensure that Pakistan cease its military aid to Afghani rebels.

Since the Soviet Union initiated its military action in Afghanistan they have made clear that they have "no long-term designs over Afghanistan." A *Pravda*

commentary by Y. Zhukov on Feb. 10 indicated that as soon as the situation in Afghanistan is stabilized, "as soon as Washington and China stop meddling in Afghan affairs," Moscow would be willing "in the interest of peace" to negotiate a troop withdrawal. "Only if the U.S. stops interfering in Afghani affairs will the Soviet Union, on request of the legitimate government of Afghanistan, begin the pull-out of its limited military contingent from Afghanistan ... so that Afghanistan can continue its policy of developing its economy and the realization of democratic transformations under still calmer conditions."

The next day, *Pravda's* Bonn correspondent V. Mikhailov made special mention of the role America's Western allies are taking to neutralize the dangerous policies of the Carter administration. The West German government, together with other West European countries, said Mikhailov, "is paying more and more attention to the idea of creating an alliance among the countries of the Persian Gulf, not to please Washington... (They are) recognizing very well that the Anglo-Americans, under all the anti-Soviet noise and rhetoric, are trying to take control of the energy supply sources of Western Europe and Japan and in this way acquire new means of pressure on them ... preventing the development of the competitive power of these countries which is dangerous for the American monopolies."

U.S. troops are equipped for only three days of combat, after that they'll get chewed up, then this could be one for table stakes (i.e., all-out nuclear war) in a hell of a hurry ... the Russians have IRBMs in the Transcaucasus and no one in the U.S. Navy wants to discuss the survivability of its carrier groups if it comes to nuclear war.

While Brown pursues a losing chicken game against the Soviets in the Gulf, the administration is systematically provoking a confrontation through increasing the flow of arms to Afghan guerrillas, and readying the supply of modern military equipment to China itself.

It is front page news throughout the U.S. press that the U.S. "through the CIA," has already funneled more than \$40 million in arms, including laundered weapons of originally Soviet manufacture, to the Chinese-supported Afghan rebels. The massive U.S.-Chinese arms flow into Afghanistan, with Pakistani complicity explains the recent reports of "increased guerrilla fighting." The arms flow has been coupled with sending across the Afghan borders thousands of armed Muslim fanatical tribesmen from the sanctuaries in Pakistan and China.

Afghan "rebel leaders" are now in Washington, D.C. meeting with unnamed "Carter advisors" requesting another \$20-40 million in aid. Others, according to the Egyptian Defense Ministry, are being trained and armed at camps in Egypt.

According to information received by this news service, one "rebel leader," Khan Zia Nassry, an Afghan with U.S. citizenship who has been traveling back and forth between Pakistan and the U.S. for the past year, was in Washington this past week for a meeting with White House officials and people in Congress. Zia Nassry, who was recently expelled from Pakistan for declaring a government in exile not favored by the Zia regime, was also in Egypt less than two months ago, where he had a highly publicized meeting with officials, including the Defense Ministry.

### The China card

Perhaps the most dangerous of the confrontationist activities of the past week in the perception of Soviet military strategists is the escalation of the "China card." The Defense Department, with the agreement of the White House, has announced that "within a few weeks" the administration guidelines allowing U.S. military sales to China will be ready. It has already been stated that sales in the works for "over the horizon radar" to monitor Soviet missile sites, "sophisticated electronic gear," "advanced jet engines for Chinese fighter bombers," and other sensitive military equipment are slated for approval.

The Soviet and European initiatives to revive detente, the U.S. arming of China, and the international warnings against the Carter administration's suicidal war provocations are all detailed in this package.



## Kennan warns of war

A high-level source in British foreign policy circles said yesterday that the "LaRouche card" might be the only safe option for the United States. The source's views resemble closely recent public warnings by old State Department hand George Kennan. The British source stated that he had never before believed he would find himself expressing agreement with London LaRouche on anything of importance. However, he added, LaRouche had been proven right and most European experts wrong on the depth of the present war-danger. "Carter, Kennedy or Bush" are unthink-

able, the London expert noted; "We underestimated...how far the psychosis in leading U.S. circles has gone."

Similarly, George Kennan's recent public warnings echo LaRouche's analysis, given on nationwide half-hour television broadcasts. Kennan's points, made on CBS-TV's "60 Minutes" program, are:

(1) the current U.S.-China alliance has placed the Soviets in an awkward position, and the Soviet move into Afghanistan was primarily directed against a Chinese threat;

(2) we are closer than ever before to World War III, although it is not imminent;

(3) if World War III were to occur now, the Soviets would win it;

(4) if the Soviets invade China, the U.S. should stay out of the conflict.

Kennan also called for the firing of National Security Advisor Brzezinski, whose "flight forward" response to the Soviet Afghanistan move was termed psychotic by LaRouche during a nationwide television broadcast last month.