

# Will France survive Mitterrand's new alignment with the U.S.S.R.?

by Laurent Murawiec

"To Star Wars, I say no!" the President of France hammered away repeatedly during a more than half hour television interview on Dec. 16, 1984. It was a far cry from his celebrated September 1983 address to West Germany's Parliament, the Bundestag, with its motto, "The missiles are in the East, the pacifists are in the West." What happened in between is the story of the devolution of François Mitterrand, and the slide of France into a situation that parallels its worst moments.

The Socialist President proved a worthy successor of Jimmy Carter as the laughing stock of international affairs when Muammar Qaddafi and Andreas Papandreu hoodwinked him at their joint conference in Crete last December into giving his agreement to the liquidation of France's strategic influence in Chad and Black Africa, earning Mitterrand in the process the eternal scorn of the betrayed Black African leaders.

If it be remembered that Socialists waged the colonial wars of the 1950s, and lost their seats, their honor, and the colonies in the process, history is repeating itself—as a farce. This time, Mitterrand's closest advisers, such as the former Tricontinental (Komintern) official Regis Debray, spent three years detonating a crisis in the remote South Pacific islands of New Caledonia, where Debray's anthropologist friends have created out of thin air an "independence" movement now engaged in civil war-like violence. As in Chad, where a good part of the French military went to the President and requested orders to strike Qaddafi's impudent invading troops, only to be turned down with insults added—"irresponsible warmongers" were the words used—the French troops on the Pacific islands have been instructed to give aid and comfort to the terrorists.

All the rhetoric expended on the subject of France's loyalty to the Atlantic Alliance—to which it still adheres even though the late Charles de Gaulle pulled France out of the *military* command of NATO two decades ago—is overshadowed by systematic evidence of treason. In January 1984, Mitterrand's little noticed but portentous Belgrade speech, which gratuitously praised the Soviet contribution to victory in World War II and the undying friendship of the French and Soviet peoples, heralded this strategic turnaround. The recent

appointment as foreign minister of Roland Dumas, an attorney specialized for 30 years in defending KGB operatives, Freemasonic Sovietophiles, anti-French terrorists, and the like, has only confirmed the new trend. Deputy Foreign Minister Roland Dumas mediated the national humiliation of Crete for his lifelong friend Mitterrand. He was rewarded in early December with full ministerial rank.

As a result, Mitterrand's alignment with Moscow against President Reagan's Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI) has turned the country into a massive strategic liability for the West, in just 15 months.

## MAD deals with Moscow

Within the framework of the Mutually Assured Destruction (MAD) doctrine, Mitterrand and his advisers were more than willing to strike a pro-American pose and boost the stationing of the Pershing and Cruise missiles in neighboring West Germany, as a "flanking" support for the French *force de frappe*. Mitterrand's pretext for turning against his U.S. allies now is that, once thermonuclear terror is undermined and eliminated by the SDI, the small French deterrent force disappears as a strategic factor and France is left vulnerable. This is, of course, lying nonsense, given repeated offers from President Reagan and U.S. Defense Secretary Weinberger to share the development of the beam-weapons defense with the European allies and to use it to guarantee the defense of Western Europe for the first time in two decades. But Mitterrand has chosen to try his utmost to stop the SDI—even while French defense science labs are working hard to keep abreast of directed-energy weapon development.

In opposing the SDI for *apparently* military-technical reasons—the so-called threat to the national deterrent force—France has naturally drifted toward its best-possible anti-SDI ally, the Soviet Union. The strategic "package" sketched above—Africa, the Mediterranean, the southern Pacific—flowed from there, as so many asset transactions effected to seal the alliance. France, as a result of a policy designed to "preserve the independent deterrent force," has therefore maintained the fiction of a deterrent soon to be made obsolete and useless by both the U.S.A.'s and Moscow's own beam

weapon systems, while effectively losing its independence and becoming a strategic adjunct to the Soviet General Staff's planning directorate.

At every time in modern French history that a government has thus abdicated national sovereignty, the result has been to auction chunks of French overseas influence, its arms industry, its high-technology capability, its intelligence services to more powerful rivals and allies. The cases in recent memory, France in the 1930s and the Fourth Republic in the mid-1950s, found the country's healthier segments always turning to foreign forces to gain factional advantage. The hapless rulers, whose policy took all of three years to make France the sick man of NATO, are turning equally abroad, and rush headlong into shameful collaboration with foreign forces to make up for their domestic degradation—as did the Vichy regime of World War II, which mortgaged the country to the Nazis, and the Socialists in the Fourth Republic.

### **Communist and fascist inroads**

One year ago, a strategic expert remarked that France was being primed to repeat its tragic experience of the 1930s—tear itself apart in internal strife, riots, strikes, and possibly civil war, and be so inward-turned that it would forsake any chance of playing a strategically positive role. France today is torn apart internally. Thanks to the Mitterrand government's total subservience to the International Monetary Fund and the powerful interests centered in Swiss banking, unemployment and the rapid spread of what the media have branded "the new poor" have fostered the growth of a radical right bent on race war, under the banner of the philistine adventurer Jean-Marie Le Pen. The "new poor" result from a shocking process of pauperization stemming from permanent under-employment and unemployment and the gutting of entire industrial regions and branches. Capitalizing on this social chaos, at recent local elections in Perpignan, in the south, the Le Pen-supported National Front candidate received an astonishing 40% plurality of the vote in the runoff. Indications were that the Communist Party directed its faithful to vote for the fascist candidate.

The Communist Party has *apparently* been weakened decisively at the polls, sinking within a few years from 22% to 11% of the electorate, its lowest level since 1929. But the French Communists, whose blind obedience to Moscow's every word have made them one of the most powerful Russian tools in Europe, made extraordinary use of the three years they spent in the Socialist-Communist coalition government under Mitterrand, and infiltrated their functionaries deep into the recesses of the all-powerful civil service, including in areas hitherto free of Communist influence, such as the military, the intelligence establishment, the interior ministry, and the arms industry. Communist leaders do not consider the ups and downs of electoral politics as more than a troubling annoyance: What matters is power, and they have grabbed more than their share since Mitterrand ushered them

into government in 1981, for the first time since 1947.

Having kept their powerful labor machine intact, the radicalized Communists, now out of power since late last year and ostentatiously voting against the Socialist government in all major legislation, are preparing strikes and riots with the one objective of destabilizing the country into strategic impotence. Moscow can dangle the carrot in front of Mitterrand's nose of imposing peace upon its bloodhounds.

### **Swiss-dictated economic disaster**

The Socialist government's economic policy dictated by the Swiss monetarist interests is symbolized by the savage, deliberate torpedoing of the country's largest mechanical engineering company, Creusot-Loire. Creusot filed for bankruptcy liquidation last month after six months of bitter, mafia-like wrangling. "Modernization," the catchword of Mitterrand's young and hollow Prime Minister Fabius, demands a violent purge of the economy, which worsens the social situation in turn. The "opposition," the conservative and liberal alliance which ruled the country until 1981, is clamoring for a "liberal" purge designed to achieve the same result. Former President Giscard d'Estaing, whose personal political credibility is virtually nil, hobnobs with the Trilateral Commission and Kissinger Associates; his last Prime Minister Raymond Barre, the most dangerous tool of the Swiss and Trilateral financial interests in French political life, is assembling forces for a "liberal counter-revolution" which would aggravate Fabius's purge; right-wing leader Jacques Chirac is finding it increasingly hard to evoke the memories of General de Gaulle to cover his shallow, opportunistic course.

Not one voice has emerged from the benches of the parliamentary opposition to warn of the Soviet danger, to campaign for a regeneration of the Atlantic Alliance, or to force France into collaboration with the SDI. It is not that France lacks patriotic forces—they are presently in a state of impotent rage, mere reflections of the population at large, whose every layer can list endless scores of complaints at the government and deeply feels the succession of national humiliations inflicted through Mitterrand's agency. No ruler of France has been so despised in living memory.

The result of France's "independent" policy line today may very well end up in surrender as France liquidates its most priceless strategic assets and thus any possibility of real independence. It calls to mind the pathetic case of the huge French Navy in World War II. When the Nazis invaded the yet-not-occupied part of France ruled by the Vichy traitors, in 1942, and were about to reach the giant naval base at Toulon, the admiral in command—for lack of orders from Vichy—ordered the whole fleet to scuttle, which its officers diligently executed. The Vichy regime, started under the banner of Empire, was scuttling the prime instrument of Empire.

Today, the only question is whether French patriots will be able to regain control in time.