

USLP Detroit Rally Poses Necessity for Mass Organization

by Marcia Merry

DETROIT, March 16 — The LaRouche/Evans Presidential Campaign Midwest Rally at Cobo Hall here today marks an historic step in the development of international forces to implement the international program which must save the human race from Rockefeller's fascism. The assembly of over 450 hard core organizers, representing 10 states from 35 U.S. and 3 Canadian cities, from Illinois to New York, deliberated for more than 8 hours on the Rockefeller Red Scare thrust now underway and the necessary working-class counteroffensive.

Candidates LaRouche and Evans posed organizers the immediate task of building a mass-based Party of 100,000 in North America this year, outlining the world program we must implement by developing a North American working-class leadership force of advanced workers, farmers and specialist collaborators. A mass Party in the U.S. is necessary to make sure that a crash fusion energy project is launched; that agricultural production here and abroad is expanded — the basis for developing the labor power of the Third World; and that urgently needed industrial expansion is begun.

The leadership of the North American working class recognized the significance of the initiatives for international tactical deployment and program development workers are taking on this continent as greetings to the rally were read from Marcello Zocalli for the "Unity for Socialism" tendency in Europe and from the European Labor Party.

Presidential candidate Lyndon LaRouche opened today's session with a full report on the gathering

threat that the Rockefeller forces will commit atrocities against the Communist Party of Portugal. He described the internationally coordinated Red Scare campaign centered on likely Rockefeller military moves in Portugal, as "the most massive black propaganda drive since Hitler...With this alone you know something is being planned." Rally participants voted unanimously to send a telegram of support to the Portuguese Communist Party. The telegram calls on all Communist Parties and other workers' organizations to mobilize in defense of the PCP.

This preparedness to assume active responsibility for humanity was the underlying theme of the discussion of the organizing process which LaRouche conducted today, as it was at the Strategic Studies class he gave here last night. "The people who are responding to what we are proposing on the basis of the moral sense of humanity — their understanding of what has to be done...the people who can say, 'If this is what has to be done, then we'll do it,' — that's the vanguard. That's who's around us now."

Candidate LaRouche projected the necessary exact scale of the organizing task we must undertake to ensure a successful workers government by 1976, and to ensure that necessary transitional policies of debt moratoria and expanded production are implemented starting now. A core group of 100,000 Labor Party organizers must be welded by the end of this year — and around them a periphery of 5 million. By the 1976 election we can expect a vote of 33-35 per cent — enough to establish a workers government! Working-class organizing must guarantee that there are elections.

EDITORIAL

Portugese CP Victory: Police State Unmasked

March 15 — The Communist Party of Portugal, with the active support of communists in France and West Germany, has ripped a gaping hole in the Rockefeller strategy of "fascism with a democratic face." By actively organizing for a program of expanded tractor and agricultural production in opposition to its coalition partners, the PCP has forced the ruling Armed Forces Movement (MFA) to declare open military rule. The Rockefeller-created charade of parliamentary democracy in Portugal has been discarded, leaving the fascist rulers exposed and vulnerable to a continuing drive for international socialist program by the European workers' movement.

The MFA's declaration of its permanent political control over the country is a concession of defeat in a battle over program — a battle which began in earnest the first week of February this year. At this time the PCP declared its opposition to the MFA's "program of economic and social policy," a program of corporatist control over investment, wages and prices, and of "collective sacrifice." Through conferences of workers and peasants throughout the country, the PCP began to mobilize against austerity and for expanded production of tractors, fertilizer and mechanized agriculture in collaboration with other Western European workers' movements.

After the first week of PCP mobilization the MFA tried to silence the voice of programmatic sanity coming from the PCP. Mario Soares, CIA agent and official "left" cover for the military government in which the PCP participates through only one minister without portfolio, attacked the communists for disrupting national unity. Terrorism was fomented through CIA-controlled right- and left-wing gangs and blamed on the PCP. With constantly louder and more insistent warnings, the MFA threatened the PCP with direct and indirect repression. But the PCP refused to capitulate.

Fearing that the PCP, aided by its international allies would begin to split the rest of their austerity coalition apart, Rockefeller ordered his puppets in the MFA leadership to stage a transparently phony coup attempt, blame Spínola, and then expose themselves as the military dictators they are. While the state council, controlled by the MFA, has always had the power to overrule the cabinet, the MFA has now publicly asserted its permanent political control over the country. The military junta, headed by CIA-trained generals known for their successful counterinsurgent activities and slaughter in the Portuguese African colonies, also announced that 1) it has the powers to ban all political parties that are not in the best interests of the country; 2) that it can reject presidential candidates; 3) that it can veto legislation, and, 4) that it has complete control over the economics and defense ministries. The farcical "elections" for a constituent assembly are still scheduled to be held on April 12.

The shouts of the bourgeois press about the MFA's nationalization of banks and insurance companies and the PCP's mass electoral rally in Lisbon, should be dismissed as pure red scare slanders, designed to strengthen the hand of fascist forces, including the MFA, in their planned clampdown on the PCP. The "communist" threat of nationalization per se is nonsense. As for the electoral rally, it can only be construed as a threat to the extent that the MFA is not serious about holding the elections!

Why It Didn't Work

What Rockefeller counted on in Portugal was that the world communist movement would restrict itself to choosing between the hard cops (48 years under the Salazar-Caetano dictatorship) and the soft cops (military forces trained in top counterinsurgency methods in the Portuguese African colonies). It is primarily to the credit of the Portuguese Communist Party, led by Alvaro Cunhal and bolstered by the political support of especially the East German Communist Party and high officials in the PCP, that Rockefeller has not been successful. These parties had in turn been influenced by the strategic and intelligence estimates of the Labor Committees. To quote ICLC chairman Lyn Marcus, "If we were to think like

Brezhnev, we would have to write off the human face, and that we're not prepared to do.'

The primary propagandists for the Rockefeller strategy have been the CIA-controlled Second International agents in the Portuguese Socialist Party, which along with the Popular Democratic Party controls nearly all the media in that country, and the Amendola-Segre-Pajetta faction of the Italian Communist Party. By creating the manic illusion that the Spinoza coup and subsequent "popular measures" like the free work holiday sponsored by the MFA were victories for the working class, the CIA spokesmen have tried to set up the working class to become depressed at the MFA's increasing resort to police power. The PCP's continued drive for a program of economic development, as opposed to the MFA's austerity measures, provides the way out of this manic-depressive rollercoaster.

Since at least the beginning of 1975 the Portuguese Communist Party leadership, a leadership persecuted by torture and jailings and confined to underground activity for decades, has differentiated itself from the ruling coalition and fought for socialist program.

In stark contrast to the miserable Soviet-supported performance of the Chilean CP, the PCP has denied the MFA its needed left cover. Intimidated by the threat of military takeover, the Chilean CP tried to hide itself behind the skirts of Socialist Party vacillator Salvador Allende. It condemned all anti-government organizing as counterrevolutionary, even the groping pro-socialist efforts of the MIR, and eventually even prevented workers from arming for self-defense against the coup. The lawful result of this activity is now evident in Chile, where the party has been decimated and the population is ground down in despair. The PCP's clear voice for socialist program makes such a scenario in Portugal an impossibility.

Now the MFA can no longer play the role of invisible enforcers of a Reesian fascist state, waiting in the wings to crush working class forces with overwhelming, aversive force. The officers of the MFA have been forced out of their isolated barracks and on to the center stage of real politics. Here they can have no monolithic unity, but will begin to split up and refract under the pull of the class struggle in the society as a whole. Hard line deaths' head SS types will split from plebian fascists of the Gregor Strasser model, while junior officers will be drawn by their units into populist support of peasant rebellions and land seizures. The army as a whole and the MFA will polarize as did the Russian armed forces during 1917, to the point where only a tiny minority will follow the directives of Rockefeller and his second international henchmen. If the PCP can win over workers and peasants along with petty bourgeois strata to an international program of economic reconstruction, it will simultaneously win over the vast majority of the armed forces. Fascism with a human face is now impossible in Portugal.

Taking it from Here

Top social fascist and Second International agents have announced — correctly — that "what happens in Portugal will establish a precedent for Spain, Italy and Greece, and will not fail to make itself felt with profound repercussions in France." It is now incumbent on the world communist movement which we are creating to spread the Portuguese victory so that it determines the course of development in those countries — by educating communist leaders on how to recognize and do battle with "fascism with a democratic face," by leading the fight for real international development programs. If the ruling NATO agents in Greece, Britain, Turkey, and Israel are exposed for what they are — at the same time that we establish a real PCI and dump CIA-agent Giorgio Amendola — we will have cleared the way for an international programmatic united front.

The Communist parties still stand paralyzed — unwilling and unable to conceptualize by themselves an international strategy around a program that can win. No clearer confirmation of this could be had than the response of PCF Politburo members today to the Labor Committees' briefing on the threat to Portugal in Rockefeller's red scare madness. "You cannot allow the PCF to remain silent in this present situation," the ELC executive member concluded in her speech to the young communists assembled. An ELC

organizer was cheered when he addressed the French Young Communists on the treachery of the Second International today. 6500 leaflets were grabbed up in a Brussels demonstration of 10,000 people. Jusos and DKPers in West Germany, left social democrats in Sweden, Communists and left social democrats in Denmark — all are stirring with the excitement about the class struggle now being generated by the Labor Committees' international united front strategy. The leaders within these parties are stepping forward and committing themselves to move.

The PCP's future totally depends upon the creation of such a united front. To bring the Iberian peninsula up into the twentieth century, to develop its land and population into productive contributors to humanity, requires the material and political resources of Western Europe and the Soviet bloc. The muscle which the PCP has to bring to bear against the fascist MFA is the political muscle of a European communist movement united around competent economic development. Without the self-conscious creation of such a movement around expanded production based on the Euro-Ruble and East-West trade, Portugal could indeed suffer a bloodbath and non-stop looting of the population.

With minimal aid the PCP has courageously stepped beyond its borders and exposed the military behind Portugal's democratic face, giving its comrades around the world a vital lesson. It's up to us to take the next step, by organizing the world government of reconstruction which is demanded to secure this victory.