



U.S. POLITICAL
NEWSLETTER

NEW SOLIDARITY International Press Service

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The Paralysis of the Government in Washington

by Criton Zoakos

Feb. 13 (IPS) — A massive political crisis is about to erupt in Washington as a result of the combined impact of three impasses in government functioning: a four-way factional deadlock in President Ford's White House, the resignation of the U.S. Congress to a state of virtually unshakable apathy towards the present world and domestic economic crisis, and the near detonation stage reached in the proceedings around Congressional intelligence investigations.

What most foreign governments as well as political analysts have so far failed to take into account in efforts to arrive at a competent estimation of political processes in the United States is the fact that policy formulation and implementation in this country has for a long period been conducted by a conspiratorial arrangement which has been assigning pre-choreographed roles to both Congress and the White House in order to maintain its own invisibility.

As a result of the ruling-class fight around the nuclear strategy issue (which also accounts for the "Halloween massacre" last fall), this invisible government arrangement has now broken down to four visible factions who are at war with each other. This state of affairs accounts for the miserable failure of the dollar-deutschmark axis tactic. As announced last week by the Wall Street Journal, the Money Manager and other financial mouthpieces, the West German-U.S. axis was supposed to enforce throughout Western Europe a one-shot 20-30 per cent reduction in living standards to prop up the world dollar-denominated debt structure.

Right now, the executive branch of the United States government is caught hopelessly in a deadlock among four groupings which disagree on nearly all but one issue, the need to urgently hush up the now explosive intelligence investigations. These four factions are the Averell Harriman-George Ball grouping of New York banking interests; the Rockefeller-Kissinger group; forces around former President Richard Nixon which have returned to Washington; and President Ford's tiny rapidly shrinking base of personal influence. Ford's base is sometimes associated with the Chicago industrialist factions which with the support they threw behind Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld last fall made possible the victory of the Harriman-Ball-Kennedy strategy of flexible response over the Schlesinger doctrine of "limited" nuclear war.

Ironically for Messrs. Harriman et al., their ability then to significantly diminish Rockefeller's political clout in both the White House and Republican circles generally has made the present Nixon comeback possible. Right now, significant forces in the Ford cabinet, including Secretary of the Treasury Simon as well as the Secretaries of Agriculture and Interior, are solidly in Richard Nixon's camp. This newly emerging camp also includes high officials in the White House, the Domestic Council, and the Council of Economic Advisors.

This Nixon comeback since the Halloween Massacre is now having the effect of paralyzing the Harriman-Ball strategy of retrenchment from the Third World and concentration of defenses in the Atlantic Community proper. Purely for reasons of personal pique, Nixon will continue to go to the limit exploiting memories of his old China policy in order to facilitate a domestic political comeback. Thus the present Nixon caper has had the effect of checkmating the foreign policy initiatives of the only group of financiers that could have replaced the temporarily defeated Rockefeller machine, the Harriman-Ball group.

Since the beginning of the New York bank's offensive against Italy and the rest of West Europe, they have been carrying out their policy relying only on those instruments of coercion available to them through their professional channels without the possibility of drawing on the full resources of the foreign policy-making apparatus of the executive.

Congress Forced to Drop Out Of Politics

Accompanying the hopeless policy paralysis in the ranks of the invisible government last week, there was a virtual overt resignation of the U.S. Congress from any and all issues of the real political universe. USLP spokesmen on Capitol Hill last week encountered an unprecedented climate of misinformation, bewilderment and unwillingness to face up to the critical situation both in the international markets, the domestic economy, and their political implications.

Since Feb. 9 the most fierce battle of financial warfare has been raging throughout Western Europe. However, not one single solitary Congressman or Congressional aide, especially in such relevant committees as Banking and Currency, International Relations, and so forth, even knew what was

going on in the international markets, or had concerned themselves with actual policy formulation. All efforts of USLP spokesmen and specialists to open up the issue met with universal reluctance to broach the subject.

The air of apprehension on Capitol Hill, as occasional political spokesmen more or less freely admitted, was directly due to the fact that no word has been coming down the pipeline from the behind-the-scenes spokesmen who usually mediate policy between the invisible government and Congress. There is a certain eerie climate of impotence and bewilderment, as a result, reminiscent of the state of mind that overtook the Kerensky cabinet in its last days.

Nonetheless, this climate of fear and indecision is not at all unrelated with the actual terror operations that the invisible government is presently carrying out to protect its control apparatus from the menacing inroads of primarily the Pike Committee. It is public knowledge that members of the Pike Committee are continuously subjected to personal threats. For the most part of the last two weeks, they have been completely inaccessible to the public.

The Lid About to be Taken Off the Invisible Government

The Pike Committee either already has, or is close to having, the complete picture of precisely how the invisible government has been controlling the United States population. This includes information on the total control of the country's mass media by intelligence agencies — a control that goes way beyond the miniscule, tame revelations so far made public concerning Walter Cronkite, John Chancellor, and the so-called list of 200 top CIA journalists. The Pike Committee findings have also penetrated through the actual role of the CIA in the Watergate hoax with leads that could easily establish conspiratorial collaboration between the Rockefeller family and the Kennedy family covert operations capabilities. Lastly, it is very likely, according to circumstantial evidence available to the ICLC, that the Pike Committee may have developed material that could lead to resolution of all ambiguities behind the assassination of President Kennedy and to revelation of CIA activities and infiltration in the Soviet Bloc of the "Schwarze Kapelle" type, i.e. CIA operations that are made to look like Soviet intelligence operations against the U.S. — as for example, a full investigation of the alleged defector Yuri Lysenko would probably reveal.

At this point, it becomes crystal clear what choices Congress is now facing which have unleashed an unprecedented wave of fear over Capitol Hill. The choice is the following: if the Pike Committee's findings are silenced by invocation of *raison d'etat*, the domestic operations aspect of the invisible government — including total control of the mass media and social engineering operations against Congress itself, such as those undertaken by the super-secretive Earle Foundation — will be sanctified by Congress and will thus guarantee the immediate imposition of a fascist police state with the Congress' complicity.

The other choice is for Congress to put up a fight and make its findings public at which point the post World War II invisible government apparatus in this country will be destroyed. This latter option will force Congress to take up its presumed Constitutional responsibilities and without relying on the policy resources of the invisible government shape the

necessary policies to get the country out of its present grave crisis. This prospect inspires absolutely paralyzing terror among those members of Congress whose intellectual endowments range from the mediocre to the outright incompetent.

Nonetheless, as tens of thousands of citizens have been requesting from the intelligence community copies of the files maintained on their persons according to the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act, the awareness of a massive conspiracy that has been manipulating the country is rapidly taking concrete political shape. What is terrifying Messrs. Rockefeller, Kissinger, Kennedy, Church, Nixon, Harriman, Ball et al. is that the lid of approximately 30 years of secrecy is about to be taken off and a veritable social volcano is about to toss them out of power.

Catalytic Impact of the U.S. Labor Party

Many of the Labor Party's collaborators on the issue of economic development and other potential allies have tended to err on the unique catalytic impact of the Labor Party in coagulating this above process. A mere review of harassment statistics against our organization in especially recent weeks leaves no doubt that the number one objective of all combined fractions of the invisible government apparatus, most emphatically including Kennedy's muscle in the CIA, FBI, LEAA, the Mafia, and the agents in the trade-union and Social Democratic layers, is to contain the USLP's explosively growing influence in the broader strata of the working population. This battle is still being fought and has not been decided yet. If the USLP, with its limited material resources is finally defeated in this effort, there will be absolutely no chance for survival among any still fighting forces in Congress.

If, on the other hand, we are successful in our counter-punch operations against this massive harassment, certain now-seemingly surprising developments will follow. To understand such likely future developments one must now consider another battle that has already been fought between us and the combined forces of the so-called invisible government, a battle which we have already virtually won. This concerns the contest over actual economic program and scientific competence to analyze, predict, and treat actual economic processes. Indisputably, even according to testimonies and admissions of Congressional insiders, every Rockefeller-Kennedy et al controlled think tank has been discredited in the eyes of Congressional circles when their record has been compared against the record of analyses, predictions, and policy recommendations of the U.S. Labor Party.

What is preventing this acknowledged intellectual hegemony of our forces from being realized in the shape of actual policies or policy debate is the overwhelming climate of fear and intimidation that has now reached a new climax in the effort to silence and disband Congressional investigations into the gross illegalities of the so-called intelligence community. Breaking the operations of containment and harassment of the U.S. Labor Party is now in the direct interest of all those forces both in this country and abroad who are concerned with avoiding the descent of fascist dictatorship in this country and with the tasks of building a productive new world economic order that goes beyond the shambles of the Atlantic community.