



# NEW SOLIDARITY International Press Service

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## Terror On Capitol Hill

WASHINGTON, D.C. Feb. 28 (IPS)— The Harriman-Rockefeller cabal moved this week to create a witch hunt atmosphere on Capitol Hill. Using the manufactured controversy over the leak of the House Intelligence Committee's "sealed report" on CIA activities as a touch off point, a spate of legislation calling for Congressional self-policing was proposed to isolate and terrify those Senators and Congressmen who might dare speak out on controversial issues — such as debt moratoria and world reconstruction. The frightened Congress would then be ready to place a rubber stamp on various "enabling acts" that will set up a domestic police state — and effectively legislate Congress out of existence.

Last week, talk of an impending Third World debt moratoria swept the Hill. State Department agents and a gaggle of Congressional "inside" men set up a series of seminars on the debt question to lay down the line — the dollar debt must be repaid.

By the beginning of this week, reports began circulating among Congressional office staffs that "everyone in Congress was against debt moratoria" and debt rescheduling. Reporters were channelled by staffers to so-called experts on the debt question. Mentioned as experts were most notorious State Department debt collectors including Sen. Hubert Humphrey (D-Minn.) and Senate Foreign Relations Committee staffer Dick Moose — the same people who had been organizing last week's seminars.

But such flim flam operations are not enough to keep Congress in line. While the State Department twists their arms in one direction, their constituencies are pulling in the opposite direction. Back in their home districts, they are confronted with support for the Labor Party's program for debt moratoria and World development despite the lies being peddled to the contrary by the State Department operatives. An aide to a Republican Congressman from Massachusetts reported that the Congressmen "had been beating the bushes" among bankers, economists and community leaders and had decided that the U.S. Labor Party's International Development Bank proposal and Emergency Employment Act (EEA) were the only serious programs around (but being a Republican he wouldn't introduce them.) The House Freshman Caucus meanwhile this week pasted the logo of New Solidarity (the newspaper of the U.S. Labor Party) on its door.

And with the voters already angry, front page newspaper reports this week of impending municipal bankruptcies and figures showing a collapse of U.S. trade over the last quarter of 1975 were enough to make many Congressmen realize that they had been fed a lie about a "U.S. recovery" — one of their principal justifications for inactivity.

As a spokesman for the Harriman-linked Marshall Field interest in Chicago said this week "The fundamental problem with our democracy is that it is constituency based."

The cabal has therefore upped its pressure on Congress, hoping that the witch hunt can buy them some time.

Following passage last week of a resolution calling for a Congressional investigation of the now-suspended CBS reporter Daniel Schorr (who leaked the House Intelligence Committee report to a New York weekly newspaper), the cabal's "liberal press" turned its guns on Washington. Up and down the east coast papers ran editorial comment demanding that Congress "clean up its own house" and punish those of its members responsible for the leak. By week's end, the House Ethics Committee had been stamped into considering and FBI investigation of the Schorr case.

The investigation of Schorr threatens to expand at any moment to include members of the now-disbanded House Intelligence Committee as Committee members are privately acknowledging. It is common knowledge on Capitol Hill, that the Pike Committee staff, inherited from long-time CIA "protector" Rep. Lucien Nedzi (D-Mich.) had on it former FBI and Justice Department agents. These people are now in a good position to set up Committee members. The cabal knows it must keep the Pike Committee muzzled and keep attention focussed on the national security "leakers," rather than the illegal national security apparatus.

This self-policing hysteria pushed through the Senate Ethics Committee legislation proposed by Sen. Sam Nunn (D-Ga) which would create a Joint-Senate-House Intelligence Oversight Committee. The proposal would also give the Senate Ethics Committee the power to censure or expel any Senator who leaks "classified" material. The definition of classified was left unspecified. Senator Charles Percy (R-Ill) was singled out by the Chicago press as the Congressman responsible for working out this "compromise" between the White House and the Senate. The same Sam Nunn is also sponsoring the Judicial Tenure Reform Act which would open up the judicial system to McCarthyite attacks. The legislation would establish an apparatus of federal judges which could remove "incompetent" justices from office without the impeachment process, thus destroying the traditional, constitutional "independence" of the court system.

Meanwhile, former FBI agent Rep. Don Edwards (D-Calif) is planning to use the confusion on Capitol Hill to let him slip the Government Accounting Office's (GAO) proposed FBI guidelines through his Judiciary Subcommittee without testimony from the centrally targetted "subversive" group

— the U.S. Labor Party. (See special report this issue, for analysis and details). With widespread press lying about the GAO guidelines, the cabal hopes this legalization of a gestapo network will pass quickly by Congressmen who are pre-occupied with defending themselves from each other.

There are already signs that this attempt to turn the Congress into a remake of the Nazi's Reichstag is backfiring.

Congressional reaction to the police state GAO report has been sharply critical. Rep. Herman Badillo (D-NY) charged, "Yes, there are violence prone people in the country, like Lee Harvey Oswald, Jack Ruby and Sarah Jane Moore, and they were all FBI agents." Rep. Drinan (D-Mass) called the guidelines "the return of the House Internal Security Committee (a holdover from the McCarthy era, abolished just last year)." Rep. Chris Dodd (D-Conn) also attacked the guidelines as "outrageous." All three, acknowledged in some way, that the Labor Party stood in the forefront of the fight to stop the police state. One Rep. John Sieberling (D-Oh) has been targetted by the Labor Party as the swing man on the committee — the man whose role may decide the fate of the guidelines and who therefore needed a push from the Labor Party machine. In a discussion with Labor Party representatives yesterday, Sieberling said that although he did not agree with the Party, he would protect first amendment rights — but would not elaborate how he was going to do that.

Rep. Bella Abzug's (D-NY) Individual Rights Subcommittee (of the House Government Operations Committee

which is in possession of documentation from the Labor Party and others, of massive continued FBI, CIA, and National Security Agency (NSA) wiretapping, harrassment, and surveillance) has just subpeonaed five intelligence agents for failure to turn over documentation of government receipt of transmissions from private telex companies.

Abzug, picking up where Pike left off, may be preparing for a constitutional showdown over this evidence of FBI-CIA domestic harrassment.

She authored and circulated a letter in support of Schorr and of freedom of the press. Abzug and the 12 other Representatives who signed the letter, called for the release of the full Pike report and charged the Administration with a "cover-up."

Rep. Robert Leggett (D-Cal), a long-time opponent of Atlanticist military policies, has responded to charges that he is being investigated by the Justice Department for receiving favors from the South Korean government, by calling for an investigation of the Justice Department, charging that someone illegally leaked this information for political purposes.

But most Congressmen remain silent on both the debt question and on the police state attack on the Congress and constitutional government. It is on this cowed and terrified "silent majority" that the Harriman-Rockefeller cabal are pinning their hopes of Congressional submission to their non-policy. Meanwhile, with the world economy falling apart, the U.S. Congress has yet to take decisive action — and their time is running out.