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NEW SOLIDARITY International Press Service

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FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE ZEITUNG SAYS SCHMIDT ON HIS WAY OUT

April 10 (IPS)--In the lead editorial in the April 8 Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung, editorialist Fritz Ulrich Fack enumerates the West Cerman Social Democratic Party's (SPD) recent political setbacks and notes that SPD Chancellor Helmut Schmidt "has peculiarly, for some time now, been acting without power and decisiveness." Fack concludes that, "It is more questionable today than ever before whether the next Federal Chancellor will be named Helmut Schmidt."

TERRORIST VIOLENCE MOUNTS IN ITALY

ROME, April 10 (IPS)--In the latest incident in terrorist violence which has been escalating over the past week in Italy, large bands of thugs launched over 20 fire bomb attacks against Christian Democratic Party and police offices in Rome yesterday, leading to battles with police. Also yesterday, a large factory in Milan was set on fire, with damages running into millions of dollars.

Italian papers have charged that the violence is being manipulated, terming it a "new strategy of tension." The Socialist Party paper, Avanti, yesterday wondered "if there is not a directive behind this succession of bloody incidents" and charged that only "naive people" can "miss the coincidences behind the intensification of social and political tension in the country."

Directly referencing leading Atlanticist Gianni Agnelli's Fiat empire in connection with the violence, today's edition of the Milan financial paper Il Fiorino noted that "the newspapers controlled by certain big industrial groups...pour understanding and tears over the inspirers and protagonists of the guerrillas." Il Fiorino also demands to know why Interior Minister Cossiga (a cousin of Communist Party general secretary Enrico Berlinguer) is "keeping silence while Italy is burning."

PCI EMPHASIZES ITS COMMITMENT TO AUSTERITY

April 10 (IPS)--An editorial in today's Unita, organ of the Italian Communist Party, complains that the ruling Christian Democratic Party rejected the PCI's aconomic austerity proposals yesterday "on the grounds that the government needed more 'rigorous' economic policies...while a quick glance at all the Communist positions Combined IPS 04.10.76/page two

is enough to verify how concrete the PCI proposals are...in terms of national investment and responsible assumption of austerity measures."

BALTIMORE SUN: BONN THREATENING TO JUNK COMMON MARKET IF AUSTERITY NOT PUSHED

April 10 (IPS)--A news analysis in today's Baltimore Sun states that "Bonn's failure" to force agreement on Common Market austerity programs at the recent meetings of Common Market heads of state and foreign, finance and agricultural ministers "is expected to reinforce the feeling in West Germany that the Common Market is not worth the price."

The article notes that "the community monetary arrangement is in total disarray, with Britain, Ireland, Italy and now France out of the system intended to maintain stable exchange rates." The West Germans are particularly irritated, the Sun continued, by the "budget and agricultural price support system," with Bonn complaining that the system "does not take into account the series of monetary revaluations that have taken place since 1969" and feeling that it is paying 600 million dollars per year too much.

"Failing to get an adjustment in its contributions, Bonn tried to limit the budget increase in 1977 to 10 per cent," the Sun stated, but "only Britain supported the German 10 per cent proposal."

West German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt rejected a proposal by Belgian Prime Minister Leo Tindemans for "two-tier progress" with the healthier countries in the "European convoy" leaving such weaker nations as Britain, Italy and Ireland behind. Schmidt countered that, in the Sun's words, "the problem with Mr. Tindemans' analysis is that the European convoy actually has nine speeds, with the German ship leading the pack."

The article particularly noted French Gaullist resistance to joint European austerity programs.

SOVIET MILITARY PAPER ANNOUNCES SUPPORT FOR FIGHT AGAINST WHITE COMMUNISTS

April 10 (IPS)--The Soviet military paper Red Star stated its direct support for the efforts of leading Communist Party theoretician Mikhail Suslov and his allies to oust polycentrist agents from the leadership of the Western Communist Parties, in a major feature article April 1. The article printed word for word Suslov's attacks on the "White Communists" in his speech before the Soviet Academy of Sciences March 17, without identifying the source of the statements: "The enemies of our revolutionary teachings have more and more frequently begun to array themselves in Marxist clothing. Borrowing certain positions from scientific socialism, they interpret them at random, slander real socialism, try to castrate the revolutionary essence of Marxism-Leninism and replace it with bourgeois liberalism."

Suslov's speech has been the focus of intense factional debate and was explicitly attacked by Italian Communist Party Secretariat member Giovanni Cervetti.

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TETHER CHARGES U.S. WITH MANIPULATING ITALIAN AND BRITISH ECONOMIES

April 10 (IPS)--In a second warning on the lessons of Italy for Britain, noted Financial Times columnist C. Gordon Tether yesterday charged U.S. Treasury Secretary William Simon with directly manipulating the economies of Italy and Britain. Highlighting Simon's recent visit to Italy, Tether notes Simon's threat that international support for Italy was "conditional on Italy setting its house in order." And since the U.S. "can exercise a considerable influence on determining the conditions for the granting of aid," he continues, "the Italians are obviously going to have to devote a lot of their attention in the shaping of their recovery plans to what Washington thinks."

On the implications for Britain, Tether points out that since foreign credit terms are among the factors determining British exchange rate policy, "Britain herself is also feeling the weight of the U.S. Treasury's new crusading zeal. For nothing nowadays plays a bigger part in shaping this country's general economic policies than the behavior of its exchange rate."

Tether says that Simon is carrying out his blackmail policy "with seemingly reluctant connivance of the White House."

STATE DEPARTMENT, CIA, NATO, NSC: GISCARD A DEAD HORSE

WASHINGTON, D.C., April 10 (IPS)--Officials from the U.S. State Department, NATO, the CIA and the U.S. National Security Council held an emergency meeting following the French county elections last month in which the French Socialist Party scored substantial gains from the parties of President Giscard's majority, to discuss the fact that, in their view, Giscard "is a dead horse."

Well-informed sources said that the participants at the meeting, including CIA Deputy Director Vernon Walters, expressed the view that "he is now too much under Gaullist pressure, and he has less freedom to move toward our positions...He has been too soft toward the left, and it was a real mistake...Now, we need another man in France, with more support and freedom to act."

The sources reported Walters as saying that "of course Giscard has been too soft with the French left, but now we have no other choice than to avoid any kind of provocations against him. Frontal attacks against Giscard would be too dangerous for us....I know he is not reliable, but we cannot dump him brutally....Provocations against the French left, as those of (President) Ford and (Secretary of State) Kissinger (who have publicly stated their opposition to any entry of the French Communists, electorally aligned with the Socialists, into the government), are very dangerous, too. ...For the time being, a low-key approach toward France is more appropriate. We are on a powder keg."

GISCARD WOOS GAULLIST DEPUTIES

April 10 (IPS)-At a lunch he gave yesterday at the Elysee palace to the Gaullist deputies, French President Giscard d'Estaing de-

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livered a carefully worded speech laced with unusual pro-Gaullist rhetoric. According to Le Figaro today, after paying homage to the "Fifth Republic institutions" established by General de Gaulle, Giscard called for the defense of the "independence and dignity of France...which imposes itself beyond all interests and ambitions," thus refering to the core of Gaullist principles. Furthermore, Giscard congratulated his audience for the "popular nature of (their) electorate" and the fact that they "have been able to mobilize, not through a conservative language, but by advocating social cohesion." The president concluded his speech by underscoring that "de Gaulle was neither a conservative nor a conformist."

FORMERLY PRO-GISCARD GAULLIST TERMS FRENCH PRESIDENT "SINKING SHIP"

PARIS, April 10 (IPS)--A diplomatic source reported today that a leading member of the French Gaullist UDR party, who once supported the pro-Atlanticist UDR faction of Prime Minister Chirac, now believes that "we of the UDR must disengade ourselves from this sinking ship" of the government of President Giscard d'Estaing. Asked in a conversation recently if he would continue to support Chirac, Giscard's leading Gaullist supporter, this UDR personality replied that, being no "fool," he certainly would not and insisted instead that Gaullists should fight to preserve their essential ideals in terms of an independent foreign policy and non-confrontationist posture toward the working class. The source added that provided the French Socialist Party would support such independent foreign policy he would consider it favorably.

WASHINGTON POST SAYS COUP POSSIBLE IN TURKEY

April 10 (IPS)--Indicating the possibility of a military coup in Turkey, today's Washington Post reports that "the political violence reached a new peak this week prompting a call for army intervention to restore law and order. According to the Post, Turkish senator Mucip Atakli, a member of the military junta that overthrew Premier Menderes in 1960, has cabled army ground forces commander Gen. Namik Kemal Ersun asking the army "to take the necessary measures to put an end to this blood-spattered administration (of conservative Prime Minister Suleiman Demirel) that is leading the nation to a civil war."

Reporting escalating violent student clashes in Turkey, the Post notes that in the past 16 years the armed forces have twice used student unrest as the pretext to oust "conservative" governments and adds that since the economic conditions of the country continue to deteriorate and the students are becoming more frustrated over the lack of employment opportunities, the campus violence and the clashes are expected to increase.

According to the Post, Prime Minister Demirel responded to questions recently about the possible imposition of martial law by saying that a declaration of martial law would not be possible at least before the next Turkish National Security Council meeting on April 17.

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RADICALS EXPECTED TO SWEEP MONDAY ELECTIONS IN WEST BANK

April 10 (IPS)--"Radical Arab groupings...are expected to sweep to power in several West Bank towns" in elections on Monday, April 12. yesterday's Jerusalem Post predicts.

Reporting findings of a Post survey taken this week, Post Middle East correspondent Anan Safadi notes that throughout the week radicals aligned with the Palestine Liberation Organization and the outlawed Jordanian Communist Party have carried out an "active election campaign," forcing an "evident retreat" by Israeli-aligned "moderates." In the past week alone, Safadi claims, 31 moderates, considered front-runners up until now, have pulled out of the electoral race.

ISRAELI NEWSPAPER ATTACKS GOVERNMENT SUPPORT OF RIGHT-WING MARCH

April 10 (IPS)--Given "the ascendance of militancy among the West Bank Arabs," yesterday's Jerusalem Post comments, the Israeli government should withdraw its authorization of a march into the West Bank area by Jewish religious fanatics from the Gush Emunim movement scheduled for April 18.

"It is reasonable," the usually pro-government Post continues, "to expect unavoidable confrontations between the Israeli military and the radical elements on the West Bank" if the march is allowed to take place. Further, "it would seem foolhardy to invent an additional cause for confrontation...which only serves to increase antagonism to Israel among its friends abroad—and among the Arabs of the (occupied) territories."

The main backer for the march within the government has been Israeli Defense Minister Shimon Peres, a warhawk closely allied to the Rockefeller family and Secretary of State Henry Kissinger.

ISRAEL WILL NEVER DEFAULT ON ITS DEBTS, ECONOMIC ADVISER SWEARS

April 20 (IPS)--Commenting on recent reports in London's prestigious capitalist weekly, the Economist, that "Israel is defaulting on its debt payments," Israeli Finance Ministry economic adviser Ephraim Dovrat insisted that "there has never been and never will be such a thing." In an interview in yesterday's Jerusalem Post, Dovrat angrily stated, "Israel has always paid its debts on time. We have no problems in receiving loans and, in fact, we have just rejected one--from David Rockefeller."

During the same interview, Israeli Finance Minister Yehoshua Rabinowitz noted that Israel is now receiving only short-term, not medium-term, loans, but "when the internatonal economic climate has changed, we will be able to get better loans."

Rabinowitz at the same time defended his resistance to imposing harsher austerity measures in the following terms: "If I took the harsher line, the society would disintegrate socially, emigration would increase far beyond the present figures and the will to fight would decline. This is exactly what we are trying to prevent."

Israel's debt service payments over the coming year will be 1.5 billion dollars, while the total national debt will reach 9 billion dollars.

WASHINGTON POST CLAIMS SYRIAN GENERALS TELL ASSAD TO PUT UP OR SHUT UP IN LEBANON

April 10 (IPS)--The Syrian Military High Command has reportedly demanded that President Hafez Assad either end his "controversial mediation effort in Lebanon or move decisively to have Syrian desires respected by warring factions in Lebanon," according to today's Washington Post, which cited rumors which are widespread in Damascus.

KISSINGER ENDORSES SYRIAN TROOP MOVEMENT INTO LEBANON

April 10 (IPS)--Today's Washington Post reports that Secretary of State Henry Kissinger gave tacit U.S. approval to Syrian troop movements into Lebanon by telling the Senate Foreign Relations Committee yesterday that Syria had moved about 1000 troops to a customs post inside Lebanon to "keep the lid on things in Lebanon." Kissinger further told reporters that "there is still risk of outside intervention which we are trying to prevent and which a political decision will make unnecessary." Kissinger also said that "progress is being made on a political solution but the situation is still dangerous."

At the same time, today's New York Times reported that Kissinger's special envoy in Lebanon, L. Dean Brown, is bolstering the Syrian effort "by coaxing the Christian leadership into a Damascusshaped settlement."

NEW YORK DAILY NEWS STORY SAYS "CUT PEST CONTROL BUDGET AND WATCH RATS MULTIPLY"

NEW YORK, April 10 (IPS)--Citing New York City Health Department official Randy Dupree, an article in today's New York Daily News said that a "rampant increase of the city's rat population could result from proposed cuts in the city's 3.8 million dollar pest control program." Already the rat control division has been receiving complaints from areas of the city from which they "never received calls before," said Dupree. "That means to me that rats are already on the increase."

The city is now proposing to cut the 1976-77 rat control budget rat control staff of 600 to 340 and generate a loss of an additional 500,000 dollars in funds from the Federal government. "Estimates," said the Daily News, "have placed the city rat population at eight million...(where) there are 1,000 hard-core blocks in the city where there are anywhere from 10 to 25 rats per person." The News notes that while female Norwegian rats (the breed that comprises the majority of New York City rats) only live for one year, each can produce up to 64 offspring, and further reports the sighting of the "super rat" two years ago in the South Bronx which is "capable of consuming 10 times the ordinary type of poison as an ordinary rat."

CONGRESS VOTES FOR "GUNS, NO BUTTER"

April 10 (IPS)-The House yesterday passed the defense bill authorizing 33.3 billion dollars to buy more ships, tanks, planes and missiles in the fiscal year beginning Oct. 1. According to today's Washington Post, the bill passed by a 198-52 vote after a debate around the theme sounded by Rep. Bob Wilson (R-Cal): whether Congress is going to let American military strength deteriorate "in the face of a massive expansion in Soviet military capacity." The bill, which authorizes about one-third of the overall defense budget, is 528 million dollars more than the Defense Department requested and 8.4 billion dollars over the amount Congress appropriated for fiscal 1976.

Also yesterday, the Senate Budget Committee tabled the proposed health and welfare budget increases because of the already swollen budget allotment to defense.

SENATE PASSES FLU VACCINE BILL TIED TO SLAVE LABOR JOBS PACKAGE

April 10 (IPS)--The Senate yesterday passed an emergency appropriations bill allotting 135 million dollars for vaccine to combat the swine flu and 1.8 billion dollars for slave labor youth and other public service jobs. Quick House approval of the measure is expected early next week.

Yesterday the Baltimore Sun reported that most of the slave labor appropriations added to the bill had been previously requested by President Ford, who also initiated the flu vaccine program.

ISRAELI MANUFACTURERS HEAD CALLS FOR RATIONING IN ISRAEL

April 10 (IPS)--Avraham Shavit, head of Israel's Manufacturers' Association, this week called for a "system of rationing" to be introduced into Israel, the April 8 Jerusalem Post reports.

In a speech before the Jerusalem Economics Club, Shavit insisted that rationing measures would have "psychological" rather than "economic" significance and would "bring home to the public the gravity of the country's economic situation and create a more realistic atmosphere," according to the Post.

FORD ADMINISTRATION CONTINUES TACTICAL RETREAT FROM LABOR

April 10 (IPS)--In its lead editorial today on the "Crisis in the Mails," the Baltimore Sun indicates that President Ford may continue his administration's tactical retreat from confrontations with the labor movement which began with the Teamsters' settlement. Speaking of proposals to subsidize the huge U.S. Postal Service deficit, the Sun said that the Ford Administration is "leery of any subsidy that might offer gigantic postal unions a target in wage negotiations" but "is even more wary of payless election-year paydays and has budged from its opposition to any increase in the subsidy." The Sun says the Administration will "have to budget further if an indispensable national service is to survive a time of immense change in national communications."

End of Combined IPS for Saturday, April 10, 1976