

implicitly indicated that he considers that subject worthy of discussion. What the Americans say, we say it too: it is no good for there to exist Atlantic countries with Communists in the government. It is true however that the Portuguese case has demonstrated that it would have been a mistake to exclude Portugal from NATO, because in this country the Communists have participated temporarily at the government."

Another question: "Mr. Brandt, the criticism of Italy which the Chancellor (Schmidt) made during a recent TV interview have been criticized in the Federal Republic. Should the Chancellor not have expressed himself that way?"

Answer: "I believe that what the Chancellor stated was totally obvious. During a brief trip to Rome, I was able to convince myself that down there (in Rome) all the agitation which they speak of here (in West Germany) either was not there or it has run its course some time ago."

The worry about not appearing "different" from Schmidt is more than evident: Brandt could not show this worry in a

better way. The chief is Schmidt: there exists no remaining doubt about that. Brandt admist therefore, even if he did not say so explicitly, that the Chancellor's attack on the Christian Democracy, for the way it has indirectly favored the Communists by its conservative policy, did not do after all any thing but his duty as the head of a European state which believes itself to have special responsibilities."

In light of the discussions that he had in the past few days in Rome at the Institute of International Affairs (IAI) with different Italian politicians among whom it is said in Bonn, were some Italian Communist Party representatives, his words require a new political meaning. Brandt confirmed to his interlocutors that the formation of a government with Communist participation will be faced in the United States by a prejudicial opposition which is not limited to the Kissinger circles, and which could manifest itself in the month of May — after the foreseeable resignation of the Moro government — in a new and harsher form in connection with the NATO Naval maneuvers in the Mediterranean and the NATO land maneuvers in the area of Trento and Trieste.

## Soviets Warn Against NATO Moves in Western Europe

*May 1 (IPS) — Leading Soviet commentator V. Matveev warned this week of the threat of a Chilean-style coup in Italy accompanied by the establishment of fascist regimes in Western Europe.*

*This unprecedented article entitled "hot Spring of Western Europe" was printed in the official government daily Izvestia on April 27 and is excerpted below.*

In the not too distant past, between the First and Second World Wars, the economic crisis in the capitalist camp evoked dictatorial fascist regimes in several Western countries, as a weapon to suppress the masses, repress the trade unions, and overcome the internal contradictions of the capitalist system through war.

It is beyond argument that the deterioration of matters in the economic area is, under present circumstances also, evoking a strengthened tendency in the bourgeoisie to use iron fist methods against the progressive forces and workers in general.

These are the intentions and plans of extreme reaction. However their opportunities are more limited compared to what they used to be.

The extreme reactionary circles applied maximum efforts to prevent the conviction of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE, the Helsinki Accords), and when they failed, to undermine it and doom it to failure. But it didn't work! Now these same forces have made the results

of the conference the object of their attacks, insinuations and slander.

It cannot be said that this malicious campaign has been entirely without influence. It is disorienting a part of the public, and in some cases worsens inter-state relations also, as in the case where French television showed a film distorting our life ...

Unable to achieve the desired results on the international scene, the extreme reactionary forces are trying to compensate inside their countries. Here they have a broader field, since they have greater leverage domestically — at times acting jointly with groupings of the big bourgeoisie which have a more moderate position in questions of foreign policy.

The London bourgeois paper, the Sunday Times published an interview March 21 with former CIA chief W. Colby. The latter, not standing on ceremony, said that the CIA had spent huge sums in Italy to fan an anti-communist campaign there, not stopping at financing neofascist grouplets. Colby said meaningfully that Italy "has a Pinochet (the Chilean fascist dictator)."

The growth of influence and authority of the communist parties in the masses, the prospect of their participation in the governments of the West evoked barely veiled threats from NATO commander (Alexander) Haig and some highly-placed U.S. officials.

## Johns Hopkins Dean Says Coup 'Very Real' in Italy

*May 1 (IPS) — Robert Osgood, Dean of the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS) this week granted the following interview on the Italian situation and the possibility of a coup in Italy to a source who passed it on to IPS. FIAT owner Gianni Agnelli, a principal in the Atlanticist coup plans for Italy, sits on the international board of directors of the SAIS.*

Question: Dean Osgood, one of the major debates in U.S.

policy circles concerning how best to deal with the Italian crisis centers on the question of whether the Italian Communist Party (PCI) should be permitted to enter the government. What is your opinion?

Osgood: I think that PCI entry into the government, the "historical compromise," is definitely in the cards... it will possibly happen in the fall. The real question, however, is not whether the Communists enter the government, but what

happens after they do. The U.S. would undoubtedly try to maintain normal relations with Italy, I believe, but will have to figure out how to sell this to the Congress and the population. Although having Communists in the Italian government will raise difficulties for NATO — Berlinguer's protestations to the contrary — the real issue is domestic policy. I myself don't share the optimism of other U.S. academics about the PCI's ability to impose austerity. The PCI has an extremely militant labor base, and it won't be able to implement measures such as wage controls.

**Question:** What do you think the Soviet response to the Communists entering the government will be?

**Osgood:** I assure you, both the Russians and the U.S. are going to have a heck of a lot of trouble... The Russians can't be very happy by the PCI's ascendance to power in a pluralistic democracy, especially when the party has made so many concessions already, for example, to NATO. And when you combine this with the French Communist Party's defection — well...

**Question:** I've heard a lot of talk recently about the possibility for a right-wing coup in Italy, especially in light of the expected downfall of the Moro government. Do you think this is a possibility?

**Osgood:** Oh, yes... The possibility for a coup is very real. I

gather things have come to a point in Italy where the much-vaunted ability of the Italians to muddle through from crisis to crisis no longer holds. Having the PCI in the government is one thing, but a fascist coup is something else. Even so, we could live with whatever emerges. By the way, do you know when the elections will be held? Well, it certainly looks like elections or a coup, don't you think? We were planning to have a conference at our Bologna center for the first week in June, but it looks like we'll have to call it off since most of the politicians who were planning to attend will probably be out campaigning...

**Question:** The coincidence of the escalating terrorist activity in Italy, the May NATO maneuvers, and talk about a coup seems very ominous to me. What's your thinking?

**Osgood:** Well, regarding the NATO maneuvers, you really should never underestimate how things have a way of becoming something that they weren't originally intended to be. Italians I speak to very often use the Chilean analogy in talking about a possible coup in Italy, but I can assure you that there is no American involvement in coup plans for Italy as there was in Chile. What I'm impressed with is how little the U.S. can do in the situation... I guess we could make things worse... Afterwards, of course, there is the question of economic aid, and we could exert pressure that way...