

NEW SOLIDARITY INTERNATIONAL PRESS SERVICE

U.S. Political Newsletter



'Great Debate' Hoax Disgusts Electorate

Oct. 8 (NSIPS) — The failure of either Jimmy Carter or Gerald Ford during their Oct. 6 "Great Debate" on foreign policy to address the single most important foreign policy issue facing the U.S. — the fact that the International Monetary Fund hovers a hairsbreadth from total collapse — has horrified much of the U.S. electorate, demoralized pro-growth industrial supporters of President Ford, and intensified interest in the campaign of U.S. Labor Party candidate Lyndon LaRouche Jr. The obvious bankruptcy of both the Democratic and Republican candidates has forced the national press to increase its coverage of the USLP International Development Bank proposal drafted by LaRouche. Broader sections of the population report that the USLP "is the only one talking about the issues." In the aftermath of the debate, even bastions of the Lower Manhattan propaganda line like the New York Times have conceded that the U.S. population either boycotted the debate charade or was revulsed by its banality.

In a statement issued Oct. 7, LaRouche observed of the stage-managed hoax: "None of the actual issues of global strategy and national security was stated.... Viewing the performance last night, I realized that had I been on the podium debating those two, I could have won the Nov. 2 election in a single night."

The Set Up

The debate itself was rigged by political forces associated with Vice President Nelson Rockefeller as the staging ground for destroying the Ford campaign.

On the eve of the debate, the federal General Accounting Office released a report charging that Ford may have been responsible for the unnecessary deaths of 41 GIs killed in the May 1975 Mayaguez affair, thus handing Carter a prepackaged "Quemoy-Matsu" issue. Mayaguez, engineered by Kissinger and Rockefeller from beginning to end, is now transformed into a life-saving device for the gasping Carter campaign as an issue capable of swindling the vast pro-peace sentiment of the U.S. population behind his bandwagon while Ford is left holding the Kissinger albatross.

In a moment of hysteria Oct. 6, New York Times columnist James Reston admits that the real debate — which Ford and Carter won't touch — is at the International Monetary Fund meeting in Manila, The Philippines. There finance ministers, he says, call for industrial nations to pay attention to "the class war between the rich nations and the poor nations, already underway."

Reston's confession is not news to most of the U.S. working class and U.S. industrialists. Over the past week, major national press including the Gannett chain and the Baltimore Sun have given extensive coverage to the Labor Party's program and the party's role in spurring Third World proposals for debt moratoria and the new world economic order. Breaking precedent, the Baltimore Sun Oct. 5 published an op-ed article from Balti-

more USLP congressional candidate William Salisbury on the imminent collapse of the Eurodollar market, the destruction of the Rockefeller banks, and the speech of Guyanese Foreign Minister Frederick Wills before the United Nations General Assembly which called for debt moratorium and the IDB. The Gannett chain's Rochester Democrat followed with a 1400-word op-ed by Lyndon LaRouche, the USLP presidential candidate, hitting the same points. Immediately after the debate, WQXR radio in New York, "The Station of the New York Times," aired a half-hour pre-taped interview with LaRouche.

Reports from steel plants in Baltimore and Philadelphia and auto plants in the Midwest indicate a smouldering rage at the bottom-level Ford-Carter campaign and an immediate recognition of the urgency of the IMF-Eurodollar collapse and the IDB. One Baltimore steelworker put it, "I know more about issues from you than either Ford or Carter."

At the same time, regional industrial interests, led by the Chicago faction, have moved tentatively in the same direction. Speaking in San Francisco Oct. 4, Commerce Secretary Eliot Richardson called for a large-scale increase in U.S. trade with the Comecon countries, particularly in the capital goods sector. The report on which Richardson's call was based was prepared by the president's Export Council, which includes a cross section of non-Rockefeller-controlled heavy industry.

The Stupid Captive

With the working class, significant national press, and Ford's own industrial base lined up against Rockefeller, a stupid Ford has remained under the heel of Secretary of State Kissinger and Vice President Rockefeller. Rockefeller is moving rapidly with everything he has to destroy the Ford campaign and the pro-development sections of the GOP machine. Twenty-four hours before the start of the debate, the General Accounting Office, an outfit run by Rockefeller's National Security Council, released a report on the 18-month old Mayaguez incident which charges that Ford failed to exploit all diplomatic possibilities before sending U.S. troops into action. Detailed information that Mayaguez was set up via the CIA's private corporation Sea Land has been in the public domain since New Solidarity first published it in May 1975. Suddenly, as Mayaguez broke, the New York Times discovered that Henry Kissinger was extremely unpopular with the American population and announced that Jimmy Carter would concentrate on attacking Kissinger, thus forcing Ford to defend the bastard. The widespread coverage of the GAO's Mayaguez report, which completely covers up the responsibility of Kissinger and then-Secretary of Defense Schlesinger for the "show of force" is expected to provoke a tidal wave of revulsion against Ford.

The GAO is directed by Elmer Staats, formerly a Brookings Institution social fascist in the 1930s and a National Security

Council member in the 1950s. The GAO report left no doubt about the overriding motivations of the wrecking operation against Ford. Simultaneously, the GAO released another report attacking officials of the Export-Import Bank for "conflict of interest" infractions. The GAO assault was preceded by the Rockefeller-Carter Watergate operation that forced Agriculture Secretary Earl Butz from office and a rash of Institute-for Policy Studies operations against the Arizona Republican Party, Senator Hugh Scott (R-Pa), former Republican campaign staffer Bo Calloway, and Midwest grain operators.

Within 48 hours after the debate an Internal Revenue Service audit of Ford's 1972 tax returns was made public by a Carter supporter who alleged that Ford had used campaign funds for personal expenditures, and Special Prosecutor Charles Ruff continues to "investigate" Ford's campaign practices as a Michigan Congressman.

Press Admits Debate a Fraud

As Watergating accelerated against Ford following the Presidential "debate," Wall Street media reported that Carter had "won," breaking the "momentum" of the Ford campaign and revitalizing the Carter camp by capitalizing on the President's East European gaffe and decision to abandon the peace and progress theme sounded in Kansas City in favor of narrow appeals to ethnic voters. Such post-debate euphoria quickly evaporated, and by today, the Wall Street Journal, Baltimore Sun, Washington Post, and New York Times were all

admitting that the majority of the electorate is fed up with both Ford and Carter, who had demonstrated no substantive foreign policy differences in their debate and had scraped bottom in their appeals to the ignorant. The Sun today upbraided both candidates, commenting: "Perhaps many politicians think it is fair game to play for votes in this manner. But we believe both candidates toyed in a reprehensible manner with principles and causes many Americans hold dear. Theirs was not Presidential conduct at its best." Reston meanwhile nervously observed that a majority of voters polled in the LeHigh Valley did not watch the debates and may not vote, leaving the outcome of the election up to "accidents and secondary issues."

Ford Supporters Demoralized by Stupidity

Dismayed and disgusted by the President's refusal to purge Kissinger, Attorney General Levi, and other Rockefeller saboteurs in the Administration and sound a clear call for peace and development based on real industrial growth, Midwest and Southwest Republicans and Congressmen dejectedly commented, "If we don't do something, then Carter will win and it will be all over — war." A number of Chicago-based bankers and Congressional Ford supporters complained that Ford was trapped by his pathetic realpolitiking, with the result that demands of GOP regional leadership that Rockefeller and Kissinger be removed from office were being ignored, and Ford was getting stuck with responsibility for their traitorous policies.

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