

Narita is trying to meet with U.S. energy czar James Schlesinger to voice Japanese opposition to any U.S. anti-nuclear policies. The Japanese visit to Canada will follow up on the talks concerning the transfer of nuclear technology now underway in Tokyo with Canadian officials.

The Japanese-European moves have led to a cooling off of some of the Common Market's protectionist fervor against Japan. Indications of this shift came in a document that the West German Economics Ministry is preparing as an official memorandum to the EEC in February. The West Germans, according to the Jan. 26 *Journal of Commerce*, warn that simple restrictions of Japanese exports to the EEC alone cannot solve the Europeans' problem. Since "confrontation can hardly provide desired results," the West Germans will call on the EEC nations to compete with Japan by exporting

high-technology goods to Japanese buyers. The West Germans point out that Japan has recently eased some of its tight import restrictions in response to EEC requests and that with continued pressure the Japanese will open up even more.

Finally, Japan's powerful Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) is also looking West. MITI has decided to set up its own domestically financed oil major modeled after Italy's ENI. The MITI plan, which involves the creation of a federation of domestic corporations around the government-controlled Japan Petroleum Development Corporation, "is similar in nature to Italy's powerful hydrocarbon corporation ENI, or what may be alluded to as becoming an international oil company of a 'Japanese origin,'" commented the Jan. 18 *Japan Economic Journal*.

## China Political Front Strangely Silent; Regime Boosts Science And Technology

Last week marked the fourth week of a political silence that settled on Peking in the aftermath of the demonstrations of Jan. 8-16 that demanded the restoration of Teng Hsiao-ping to power and the purge of additional Maoists. During this period, no high-level policy statements or significant public speeches have been made by any of China's top leaders.

The failure of Teng, who is supported by the senior Army commanders and most of the Communist Party apparatus, to appear following the popular call for his return, is regarded as mysterious, and can only mean that there is some last-ditch opposition to him within the Politburo, perhaps including Party Chairman Hua Kuo-feng himself. If the long silence means what similar silences have meant in the recent past, dramatic leadership changes may be in the offing, but so far no substantial clues have appeared to indicate what such changes might be.

In contrast to the political hiatus, press releases concerning science and the economy have continued to flow, laying out the new anti-Maoist policies. Reprinted below are excerpts from several New China News Agency (NCNA) releases on the need to upgrade the economy and to put special emphasis on advanced technology.

The degree of China's commitment to employ advanced technology in industry was revealed by Roland Berger, a British trade consultant who represents a large group of British firms doing business with China and who returned Dec. 1 from his latest visit to China. As reported in the *Christian Science Monitor*, Berger said that most of 1977 will be needed to recover from the disruption of recent years after which there will be "a rather speedy takeoff" toward modernization. Before his delegation's departure for China in November, Berger said they were instructed: "Don't bring anything we've seen before.

Bring only sophisticated equipment." The delegation brought high-technology goods that hadn't even been shown in Britain.

China had requested 29 highly specialized lectures from the British groups, and brought people from far-flung provinces to attend. More than \$3 million worth of equipment was purchased on the spot. Moreover, the Chinese minister for foreign trade answered a question on whether China would resume imports of entire plants from the West by saying, "Certainly. It is in our minds to buy complete plants." Berger said the top priority fields of the Chinese are in aerospace, petrochemicals, high-precision instruments, and certain transportation sectors.

Sketchy reports from Tokyo indicate that China cannot yet afford to increase its oil exports beyond the 6 mt in 1976, but a Japanese delegation negotiating the oil purchase said that this was because China needs the oil this year to rectify damage done to the economy; China is preparing for much larger oil sales by 1978, the delegation said, in an article in the *London Financial Times*.

Indicating a new emphasis on large-scale water control and conservation projects largely abandoned in the last 15 years, a Jan. 19 article discussed several such large projects and implied that much more was needed in this area in the future.

In a major break with the Maoist era, the *People's Daily* Jan. 21 published on its front page letters of criticism of the paper from its readers. The comments permitted indicated a commitment to revise the style and content of the paper eliminating the features that have made the press little more than a deadening thought-control instrument against the Chinese population for the past decade. One factory worker lambasted an article

about his factory as full of errors, and called for the paper to "pay attention to the accuracy of your reports and not make factual errors in future." Another letter called for news items and for more simple, straightforward writing. An editor's note confessed that up to now,

the press has been abominable. The editor promised to eliminate the "stereotyped" style used heretofore and blamed the Maoist "gang of four" for their "smelling, lengthy, and monotonous" articles.

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## 'Gang of Four' Exposed For Obstructing Research

*The following excerpts are from the NCNA's Jan. 15 article entitled, "Peking University Professor Exposes Crimes of 'Gang of Four' in Obstructing Research on Basic Theories of Natural Science."*

"Abusing the portion of power they had usurped, the "Gang of Four" tried at all times to sabotage the revolution in education and obstruct theoretical research in natural sciences...."

These are remarks from a recent article in the *Peoples Daily* by Professor Chou Pei-yuan, Vice-chairman of the Revolutionary Committee of Peking University.

Premier Chou, on his part, repeatedly stressed the importance of paying attention to the study of and research on such theories. He once told the professor: "You should run the faculties of sciences at Peking University well and raise their basic theoretical level." (*Excerpts from Professor Chou's article follow:*)

"What arguments did the 'Gang of Four' put forward to oppose premier Chou's instructions on strengthening the study of and research on the basic theories of natural sciences? Their arguments boil down to two: one, 'basic theories used to be lauded to the skies by bourgeois scholars' and 'that is a prejudice left over by old education and should be discarded'; two, with regard to theory, only 'Marxist philosophy is basic theory.'

"The first argument is empirical. It negates the leap from practice to theory and denies that theory guides practice. When referring to practice, the 'Gang of Four' laid undue stress on practice in production and ignored scientific experimentation. They wanted to substitute school-run factories for laboratories and physical labour for laboratory work. The second argument is dogmatic. They looked upon Marxist philosophy as a dogma and applied it indiscriminately everywhere without going into the depth of matters...."

"As pointed out by Chairman Mao, Marxism can only include but not replace the theories of atom and electron in physics. Both empiricism and dogmatism are revision of Marxism-Leninism."

"We must rally closely round the party central committee headed by Chairman Hua, thoroughly denounce the crime of the 'Gang of Four,' train for the party and the people large numbers of science workers who are both red and expert and strive to raise our basic

theoretical level of natural sciences, and work for the early realization of the modernization of agriculture, industry, national defence, and science and technology."

## "Chinese Scientists Of High Energy Physics Pledge To Do Job Well"

*What follows are excerpts from a Jan. 20 NCNA release entitled "Chinese Scientists of High Energy Physics Pledge to do Job Well."*

"In commemorating the first anniversary of Premier Chou's passing away, staff members of the Institute of High Energy Physics under the Academia Sinica recalled his concern for China's high energy physics research and pledged to do their work well as part of their efforts to promote the research of fundamental sciences.

"Such researches are of vital importance to modernizing China's science and technology and to catching up with and surpassing advanced world levels," they said....

In 1972, Chou told the Academia Sinica that it must take up fundamental sciences and theoretical researches and combine theoretical researches with scientific experiments and that high energy physics must be made a major subject of research....

The 'Gang of Four, however, poked their noses into the Academy of Sciences and tried in a thousand and one ways to interfere with and undermine the researches of high energy physics...They even did not allow people to mention the fundamental sciences and accused those who did so as "restorationists." They forbade the scientific workers to improve their professional proficiency and study theory and attacked those who did so as practising "the revisionist theory of productive forces" and as "devoting themselves to professional proficiency alone while giving no heed to proletarian politics." They did not allow people to mention the four modernizations, including the modernization of science and technology, let alone the drawing up of a plan for the development of sciences.

"By negating fundamental sciences," said Chang Wen-yu, a veteran scientist and a leading member of the institute, "The real purpose of the 'Gang of Four' in trying to prevent us from carrying out fundamental science researches was to force us to trail behind foreigners at a snail's pace forever and keep China's science and technology in the state of backwardness as in semi-feudal and semi-colonial old China."

## “Foreign Trade Workers Denounce Crimes Of ‘Gang of Four’ ”

*The following excerpts are from a NCNA release Jan. 14 entitled “Foreign Trade Workers Denounce Crimes of ‘Gang of Four’.”*

“In the course of nationwide criticism of the “Gang of Four,” China’s foreign trade workers review the country’s trade achievements and condemn the gang for attacking Chairman Mao, Premier Chou En-lai and the party central committee headed by comrade Hua Kuo-feng around the question of foreign trade, particularly the export of petroleum....

The responsible central bodies had worked out a careful plan to achieve an over-all balance in 1976 between the production of fuel and consumption. The plan had been approved by the party central committee. Even though the “Gang of Four” assented to the plan, in practice they threw a spanner in the works. Take the example of Shanghai and Liaoning province. They instructed their adherents to change over certain units that were fueled by coal to using petroleum. They then shifted responsibility for the resulting oil shortage on to others as examples of poor planning and excessive exports. One of their Liaoning placemen added more than one hundred oil-using units above the state plan; Shanghai consumed one million tons of crude oil above its allotment.

In disregard of the state plan for oil allocations, the “Gang of Four” compelled the central department concerned to allow Shanghai to intercept oil tankers and divert oil being shipped to other provinces and cities. The interference and sabotage organized by the counter-revolutionary gang deliberately disrupted the state plan

and caused a waste of huge amounts of petroleum so that some enterprises in some provinces and cities had to bring production to a halt and some rural areas had difficulties. They also affected China’s export of petroleum and jeopardized China’s international credit rating....

The time is the beginning of 1976 and the issue is the export of petroleum. This was a time when China’s crude oil output had increased very rapidly, especially during the great proletarian cultural revolution. Not only could China’s current needs be met but some export was feasible. It was in view of the overall circumstances and possibilities that the party central committee headed by Chairman Mao had arrived at the decision to export a certain amount of petroleum.

On March 2, 1976, the big careerist Chiang Ching, at a meeting that she called behind the back of Chairman Mao and the party central committee, alleged China’s Petroleum “is all being taken off to other countries” and “is being bartered away to big capitalist countries.” She went so far as to say that “China has agents of foreign capital” and “a comprador bourgeoisie....”

Chiang Ching irresponsibly declared: “By exporting petroleum China is shifting the international energy crisis on to the chinese people” and “has saved the first and second world.” Yao Wen-yuan fabricated the slander that the state council was “leasing” China’s natural resources “to foreign countries” and “is engaged in national betrayal.”

The “Gang of Four” at the conference also launched attacks on the decisions taken to import complete sets of equipment. Chang Chun-chiao contended these contracts fiercely, saying: “We are importing too many major items, a whole bunch of things all at once. You had better make a self-criticism, or you won’t satisfy us.”