

# Carter in

He sojourned to France, and was snubbed again. The lower-level officials who met with him were themselves forced to show him the door, once he came out with the trade-war ultimatums fed to the U.S. from London.

This is not the preferred way of the French and the Germans, but they know that world war or peace lies in their hands. The U.S. will either follow their lead, or face hideous consequences indeed.

—Nancy Spannaus

## 1. France gives Carter a foreign-policy lesson

While the government of President Valery Giscard d'Estaing continues to give its fullest backing to the immediate implementation of the European Monetary System, Giscard and his colleagues are also making an international issue of the evident rottenness of the core of Carter Administration foreign policy, the so-called Camp David process.

In sharply worded statements last week, statements largely unreported by U.S. media, the French President and his Foreign Affairs Minister, Louis de Guiringaud, denounced Israel's pact with the supposedly Nazi Christian militias in Lebanon, and warned that continued escalation of tensions in the Mideast is pushing the world dangerously close to thermonuclear war. Without attacking, as yet, Carter and his advisors in so many words, the French charges hit at the guts of the U.S. Administration's disastrous foreign policy.

Both Giscard and Guiringaud were careful to emphasize that the danger of war does not lie in any aggressive intentions of the Soviet Union, nor of the United States. Instead, Giscard stressed that it is China — that is, Zbigniew Brzezinski's favorite geopolitical playing-card — that is actively, brazenly preparing for nuclear holocaust.

## Guiringaud blames Chamounists, Israelis for Lebanon war

*In an Oct. 16 statement following a meeting with the Anglo-American Press Club, Minister Guiringaud charged that Camille Chamoun's Christian militias, armed and advised by the Israelis, are responsible for the current bloodshed in Lebanon. Guiringaud also denounced the plans to partition Lebanon, part of an anti-Soviet balkanization of the region which is the "secret" side of the deal Carter presided over at Camp David. Significantly, Guiringaud was careful to stress that the Chamoun group does not represent the Lebanese Christians, but only a very particular, and very ugly, geopolitical strategy. Here, excerpts from the French Foreign Minister's statement:*

It is the Christian militias who set off the fighting in Lebanon. The militias of Camille Chamoun bear responsibility for the violence of the last two weeks. We have to see where responsibilities lie. I do not want to absolve the Syrians, who reacted very harshly, but we know that the militias were prepared for this fight. We have known this since last September. Their forces were well retrenched in the Ashrafiyeh neighborhood, and by launching his attack, Chamoun took very great risks for the Christians.

Chamoun has behind him 5,000 people, out of a population of 500,000 to 600,000 Christians who disapprove of his crazy clique. Our ambassador has expended great efforts to try to convince him that the future of the Christian community does not lie in an impossible war with Syria, but in an entente between Lebanese.

There is no question of France sending military contingents to Beirut. We have to tell the Christian militias that they cannot count on international support. I fear that Mr. Chamoun has received very bad advice from a neighboring capital. He received Israeli Sherman tanks last September. The Israelis are carrying out combat against many neighbors, and negotiating a treaty with Egypt. They think it's good to have the only other neighbor that counts (Syria — ed.) tied up in Lebanon.

I don't think that Syria wants to annex Lebanon in

its totality or in part. Syria wants a Lebanon in which order would be reestablished. (The militias must give up) the outrageous dream of partition, and they must no longer be encouraged.

We have intervened in Tel Aviv to ask them not to give their encouragement to the militias. The United States has also intervened in this direction.

When the fighting between Lebanese stops, the presence of the Syrians will become obsolete and a national Lebanese army can be reconstituted. If we can get the Christians to give up an unrealizable and suicidal dream, we can bring peace to Lebanon and get the Syrians to pull back part of their troops. But the latter will not pull back as long as the militias manifest their intention to take up combat against them ....

The very fact that the Soviets voted this resolution (by the U.N. Security Council for a cease-fire — ed.) constitutes a public signal of advice that Mr. Leonid Brezhnev gave to President Assad in Moscow ....

(The objective of the Beit-El-Dine conference of Foreign Ministers from countries participating in the Syrian-led Arab peace-keeping force in Lebanon — ed.) is to try to find a formula for establishing contact between the Christian militias and slightly more neutral elements — like the Sudanese and the Saudis — with the hope of convincing the Christian militias to moderate their attitude and to renounce a struggle which makes no sense, which is not supported by the Christian population, and which can only lead to partition.

## Giscard warns of world war

*In a special interview broadcast nationally in France, Oct. 16, President Giscard elaborated the global strategy behind Guiringaud's intervention, a strategy coordinated with and echoed by his European Monetary System partner, West German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt, and Japanese Prime Minister Takeo Fukuda.*

*Putting his nation forward as one of the three major world nuclear powers and one of the five major industrial powers, Giscard set out an overview of the world strategic situation and its solutions far superior to anything that has come out of the Carter Administration since the joint U.S.-Soviet communiqué on the Middle East a year ago. Although he did not attack Carter, Giscard's orientation was clearly meant to force Carter into acting for world peace.*

*The transcript from which the following excerpted translation was taken appeared in the Oct. 17 edition of Le Figaro.*

*Q: There is the problem of nuclear war. As the chief of state ultimately responsible for the nuclear weapon, you are forced to think about risk. Do you envision circumstances in which a nuclear war could be set off*

*in which France would be implicated?*

*A: This is a very serious question, a question which all leaders must ask themselves. One of the great events in the history of humanity are wars .... France was twice devastated, depopulated since the beginning of this century. I recently told the (French) government: at all times, leaders must ask themselves "does there exist the threat of a conflict?" There are two nuclear powers outside of ourselves, the United States and the Soviet Union. France is presently the third nuclear power, far behind the other two, but still third. Before the English. And also before the Chinese, even though it is probable that the scientific and technological progress of China in this area is, in my opinion, beyond what is generally thought ....*

*I personally know well the President of the United States, Mr. Carter and the President of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet, Mr. Brezhnev. I have met them several times and I consider that at the present time neither of these great world leaders is preparing an aggression of the nuclear type. I weigh my words. I say this for Mr. Carter and I say this also for Mr. Brezhnev....*

*Q: So, the fact that we say that detente is something that depends on the policy of the Americans and the Russians ...*

*A: (interrupting) From the standpoint of the question you are asking, that is to say of the preparation of a nuclear aggression, this is not of concern. But there are situations of tension or of danger in the world and which could develop in the years to come. We have two great foyers of tension. There is on the one hand the relations between the Soviet Union and China, and on the other the whole of the situation of instability in the Middle East, either as a result of on-going conflicts or because of political instability in such or such part of the region.*

*Q: I think that at the Rambouillet seminar (of government ministers this summer) you posed the question of knowing what they (the ministers) thought about the possibility of a Sino-Russian conflict.*

*A: I think that we must always think about big possibilities, you know that the Chinese talk about it. When you meet a high Chinese leader he talks to you about it, whether or not there is a probability of war or not, most of them think that there is such a probability .... I think that the great leaders of the world are not preparing an aggression of the nuclear type. It is important to know that there are situations of instability, but that these situations can be contained within certain limits. This does not imply a situation of serenity. I think that there will be crises, but everything will be done to contain these crises within a certain level ....*

*Q: You speak of a France which must win (economically speaking) over others. That is to say, over the new competitors of the Third World.*

*A: Not at all. I said that France must win over the*

group of comparable countries. Competition for us is not something which we wage with the countries of Southeast Asia or with Latin America. It is a competition which we carry out with the Americans, the Germans, the Japanese ....

When I was Finance Minister (during the 1960s — ed.) I had set as a personal goal that France, from the economic standpoint, overtake Great Britain. I remember our big debates with the British, and we were always behind. I said to myself that we must overtake them .... I think that if we do what is necessary, we can be on the same order of economic development and economic power as West Germany within 10 years. This is winning, by catching up with the strong. Looting the weak is not winning.

## 2. Brezhnev also has a lesson for Carter

French government radio recently characterized Soviet President Leonid Brezhnev's intentions as geared to teaching the United States a lesson in world affairs. The Soviets' Mideast diplomacy and the French Foreign Ministry's dramatic condemnation of the Lebanese fascist "Christians" and support for the moderating role of Syria signal that Paris and Moscow are seeking the same route to stopping the bloodshed in Lebanon, working parallel and in cooperation.

At the same time the efforts of Schmidt and Giscard to fill the policy vacuum left by the Carter Administration both by restoring the world monetary system, as well as by vigorous diplomatic intervention into the worst areas of instability, mesh with the core policies of the Brezhnev leadership in the USSR.

Those policies were affirmed most recently in the communiqué issued by Brezhnev and the leader of the Italian Communist Party, Enrico Berlinguer (see below). Overriding the "ideological" issues, which ostensibly are central to relations between Communist Parties, Brezhnev and Berlinguer situated their agreement on the matter of assisting the solution of the Third World problems of economic development and of peace.

Brezhnev and Soviet Prime Minister Kosygin are taking personal charge of Soviet diplomatic activity vis-à-vis the Middle East. In recent days they have received President Boumediene of Algeria and the brother of Jordan's King Hussein. The Soviet goal is to bring Middle East negotiations back on track towards a Geneva conference, in accordance with the USSR's responsibilities as Geneva cochairman. Brezhnev himself recently cited Soviet resolve to act on these responsibilities.

Endorsement of the European Monetary System

plan for currency stability and economic recovery is yet to be issued from Moscow, and the party daily Pravda remains officially opposed to the EMS. Yet the Soviet economy is already fully geared up to join in by virtue of the extensive economic agreements in effect on a bilateral basis with France and West Germany, and under negotiation with Japan. The Soviet-West German economic commission has held an early fall meeting to chart implementation of the Schmidt-Brezhnev 25-year-cooperation agreement signed between the two country's last May, and the Soviet-French commission has planned a tripling of trade in the next two years. Negotiations with the Japanese are scheduled, including both trade and banking officials.

Moreover, recent attention in Soviet specialized journals on the trend to a gold-based international monetary system (see *Executive Intelligence Review*, Sept. 26 to Oct. 7) reflect the lively support for the EMS which exists within the Soviet policymaking elite.

### The Brezhnev-Berlinguer communiqué

*From Moscow Oct. 8, the Soviet news agency TASS, issued an English translation of the official joint communiqué signed by Italian Communist Party General Secretary Enrico Berlinguer and Soviet Premier Leonid Brezhnev. Portions are reprinted here.*

...As a result of the conversations that took place, the following joint communiqué was adopted.

Representatives of the CPSU and the ICP (Italian Communist Party—ed.) had a wide-ranging exchange of views on key problems of the present-day international situation.

...Noted was a joint concern over the slowing down of detente and international cooperation, the slowing down which was resultant of the activities of certain imperialist, militarist and reactionary circles and which brought about a growing threat of a new spiral of the arms race.

The delegations of the CPSU and the ICP emphasized an urgent necessity to take new and energetic efforts to give a new impulse to the process of detente and international cooperation, consolidate in Europe the constructive results achieved at the European conference in Helsinki, through full implementation of all the provisions of the Final Act.

In this respect, of major importance would be real measures aimed at preventing an intensification of the arms race. The two sides consider that a valuable contribution to attaining this goal would be provided by an earliest completion of the Strategic Arms Limitation Talks, by concrete headway at the Vienna talks on the reduction of the armed forces and armaments in central Europe, by a consistent implementation of the recommendations of the UN General Assembly's special session on disarmament....