

Perilously close to nuclear war

How death-cult politics brought the world to the brink

While most of the world was blissfully unaware of it, nuclear war loomed as a near-reality during the weekend before Thanksgiving. In the space of a few days, British oligarchical forces and their allied spokesmen in the U.S. heaped provocation on provocation on the Soviet Union and Cuba. Soviet President Brezhnev's stern warning to a visiting delegation of U.S. Senators that, if the U.S. continued to incite bad feeling between the two countries, the Soviet Union was prepared to respond, was quickly followed by U.S. press hysteria regarding the presence of Soviet-produced MIG 23 aircraft in Cuba.

At nearly the same time, the U.S. and Britain began naval maneuvers off the coast of Cuba. Shortly thereafter Cuban troops were reportedly placed on "alert" status. East-West confrontation was perilously close.

What pulled the world back from the brink? It is known that West German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt, one of the founders of the EMS, called President Carter on Sunday. And shortly thereafter, Carter acted to tone down the strident official U.S. statements over the MIG issue. Apparently, the combination of EMS intervention and the Soviets' firm warnings was sufficient to stop the U.S. from going for a showdown.

Some may feel that this series of events was just coincidence. This news service, however, has long identified certain British financial and intelligence networks as preferring nuclear holocaust to the loss of their financial and political power that the establishment of the

European Monetary System would precipitate. They now have more reason to worry than ever, as the EMS took significant steps toward implementation with the Nov. 20 announcement by the European Community that a \$70 billion development fund has been created. (For details see our **ECONOMICS** and **INTERNATIONAL** sections.)

That the enemies of the EMS would indeed risk nuclear holocaust can hardly be doubted following the murder-suicide of some 900 members of the cult led by San Francisco politician Jim Jones in Guyana last week. The Jones cult represents in miniature the politics

of the British oligarchists — and lawfully so. It is no chance occurrence that the publicized list of Jones's backers and endorsers includes the name of almost every prominent opponent of the EMS in the United States.

Some may feel that it was the good will of Providence that allowed the Thanksgiving holiday to pass by without disaster. However, trusting the avoidance of war to divine intervention is a risky business. The emergence of a strong political and financial leadership willing to collaborate with the European Monetary System would be a far better insurance for peace.

NATO attacks its own 'southern flank'

A coup plot against the policies of King Juan Carlos I of Spain was broken up by the Spanish government of Prime Minister Adolfo Suarez on Nov. 17. The harebrained plot, based on a plan to enter the presidential palace, take Suarez and the cabinet hostage, and demand a military takeover, was timed to occur while Juan Carlos was on his 15-day tour of Mexico, Peru, and Argentina. The explicit purpose of that tour is to establish Spain as the mediating link between the emerging European Monetary System and Latin America.

The coup that wasn't

The "coup" was not intended to be an actual military takeover. It was

so poorly organized that military intelligence networks had informed the Prime Minister of the plot by Wednesday, Nov. 15, according to official government reports. By the following evening, Defense Minister Gutierrez Mellado, the army general staff, and Prime Minister Suarez had met and decided the plot was not a major threat. By Friday morning the plotters had been arrested. King Juan Carlos confidently left for Latin America.

The plot has given the Spanish government a welcome opportunity to purge the two paramilitary services most heavily involved in it, the Civil Guard and the National Police. Ten have been arrested and the government announced an in-