

International Intelligence

Europe

Sweden 'shocked' by lockout of entire labor force

Swedish workmen, 770,000 of them, have been locked out of their work places in what the international press is billing as "the end of a long era of labor peace" in the nation. In a country of 8 million, about one quarter of the total workforce was effected. At present, industries completely shut down include shipping, mining, forestry, metallurgy, textiles, and all heavy industries.

The only job categories in the private sector not affected are chimney sweeps, barbers, musicians, and insurance industry employees. Government workers remain on the job. All maritime traffic has stopped with the exception of one ferryboat to Denmark.

Spokesmen on both sides of the dispute say that the shutdown of Sweden's economy will last for five full workdays "at minimum," in the words of an employers' representative. Gunnar Nihlson, a labor spokesman, proclaimed, "The Swedish model is dead," to a rally of 40,000 workmen in Stockholm. "Labor and capital can no longer cooperate in the fine old spirit."

The decision to force a shutdown of the economy was clearly taken some time ago at a very high level, perhaps outside of Sweden. The country has long been treated as a "test-tube" for the mass-scale "social engineering" and "crisis management" projects of the Tavistock Institute in London, the center of the British intelligence psychological warfare division. The immediate cause of the lock-out was labor's anger when Swedish management, remarkably, refused to offer Swedish workers more than a 2 percent wage increase.

The "crisis management" opportu-

nity the shutdown presents to "social engineers" was heralded by the following passage in the May 2 New York Times:

"Many Swedes, who had long regarded their way of life as a model of social justice and the triumph of reason in solving industrial disputes, seemed saddened and stunned by a return to confrontations that they believed they had learned to put aside forever. For some, the strikes and lockouts appeared in the Swedish context almost as a complement of the more threatening big-power rivalries of the times."

French minister calls for advanced R and D

The impact of space programs on medical research, and the spinoffs for speciality steel from work on nuclear fast breeder reactors, are two examples cited by French Industries Minister André Giraud in a speech at a European Parliament colloquium in Strasbourg April 28. His theme was the necessity of NASA-style crash programs of advanced research for leading nations.

"Planetary ambitions and grand designs are not dead," Giraud declared, despite the tendency to attack them as "gobblers of capital"; they are "motors of industry and innovation" with direct benefits in upgrading the economy, and this upgrading should be accompanied by "a systematic effort to favor the transfer of technology" to developing nations. It would be "a major error," he added, to measure the impact of massive programs by ordinary accounting methods.

Science, he continued, is essential to national independence, strategy, and forums on the "industrial tissue" of an economy. A government must know how to use it as "the vectors of progress

of material civilization." Technology is the key to both working conditions and genuine conservation of energy.

A Zionist lobby for France?

A new Zionist organization was inaugurated in France this month. The "Jewish Renewal," European sources say, is the first step to building a Zionist lobby machine in France to undercut French President Giscard d'Estaing's pro-Arab Mideast diplomatic initiatives. The movement, headed by Haghdim Burg, is allied with Israel's ultra-right wing Herut Party, a faction of the ruling Likud Party, and is close to Israel's ultra-hardliner Yuval Neeman.

The French Jewish Telegraph Agency has released a report challenging the "Jewish Renewal" and another of its key organizers, Avi Primor, for trying to set up a machine which would include an Anti-Defamation League chapter and a B'nai B'rith chapter. The views being voiced by the JTA are reportedly those of the powerful Rothschild family. The JTA release condemned Primor for publicly attacking the Rothschilds, who from time to time have backed a softer policy towards the Arabs than the Israeli leadership.

Mideast

Brown denies Soviet role in raid cancellation

Speculation that there may have been much more than helicopter malfunctions involved in the scuttling of the U.S. Iran mission was fed dramatically Thursday when top Pentagon officials took the trouble to issue a public denial that

Soviet military intervention had played any role in that decision.

According to Defense Secretary Harold Brown, it is a "flat untruth" that the Soviets had forced the canceling of the mission by threatening to send Mig-21 fighters to attack the rescue aircraft. "The way they (the Soviets) found out is that we told them" after it was over, Brown insisted.

Brown's denial did little to stifle the rumors which abounded in Washington and European capitals of a U.S. back-down in a Carter-Brezhnev hotline confrontation. In fact, the failure of Brown to accompany his flat denial with any credible explanation for the precipitous haste of the U.S. withdrawal, during which equipment and documents were left behind along with the bodies of U.S. servicemen, has only fanned the flames of such speculation.

Khomeini militants riot in gulf emirate

The same day that the U.S. invasion into Iran became public, riots broke out in the Arab emirate of Bahrain, a tiny island state just off the Saudi Arabian coast in the Persian Gulf. The riots were led by pro-Khomeini Shi'ite fundamentalists and were sparked by erroneous reports from Radio Israel and then Radio Teheran that the Bahrain government had allowed the U.S. to use its naval facilities to conduct the intervention. The U.S. press similarly misrepresented the facts.

The Shi'ite population which dominates Bahrain and their religious brethren in other Arab emirates that share the Arabian peninsula with Saudi Arabia have been the focus of agitation by Khomeini to overthrow the various Arab royal families ruling these emirates. This agitation, according to Washington sources, could "spill over" into

the Shi'ite communities in Saudi Arabia which work primarily in the Saudi oil fields, not far from Bahrain.

The sudden resignation of the United Arab Emirates Foreign Minister Ahmad Khalifa Suweidi is seen as a setback for the moderate Arab leadership in the gulf. Suweidi resigned as a result of a rivalry with the Prime Minister of the Federation whose state, Dubai, maintains close ties to Iran.

U.S.S.R.

Gromyko attacks Zia for fostering hostility

Andrei A. Gromyko, the Soviet Foreign Minister, while appearing before the French press, delivered a scathing attack on Pakistan's President Zia ul-Haq for allowing Pakistan to be the training ground for "foreign interference" against Afghanistan. Gromyko repeated Moscow's charges that Pakistan is systematically arming and training rebels with the help of representatives from "certain countries"—and he claimed that the U.S. knows who those "certain countries" are. Gromyko also charged Pakistan for continuing "hostile relations" with Afghanistan promoting calculated destabilization of the area.

Gromyko's remarks have no doubt constituted a serious intensification of Soviet criticism of Pakistan's continuing provocation of the Afghanistan situation. Recently, President Zia had turned down Afghan Premier Babrak Karmal's friendly proposal to defuse the crisis and expedite the Soviet troop withdrawal by holding a trilateral talk between Iran, Pakistan, and Afghanistan. The reason behind President Zia's rejection of Karmal's proposal is reported to be the U.S. State Department pressure on Zia to accept a 4-point U.S. proposal to "neutralize" Afghanistan.

Briefly

● **JAPAN'S PREMIER** Masayoshi Ohira and President Carter signed a five-year agreement on direct collaboration in a broad array of basic scientific research May 2 in Washington. No new research or funding for existing research is provided, however. Rather, ongoing research projects in both countries will become joint projects through direct participation of both countries' scientists. The Carter administration indicated that it feels that the most important aspect of the agreement is the provision for "consultations" before the results of the research are commercially applied—give the U.S. potential veto over advances in Japanese applied technology coming from the research stipulated in the agreement.

● **SADEGH GHOTBZADEH**, Iran's foreign minister, said that his country "would not negotiate with terrorists" in response to the raid on Iran's embassy in London where Iranian diplomats are being held hostage. Armed Iranian Arabs seized Iran's London Embassy this week to demand the release of 91 Iranian Arab prisoners held by the Khomeini regime. Ghotbzadeh said that the prisoners would be executed if the siege of the London Embassy was not soon ended. He did not mention the fate of the 53 American diplomatic hostages being held in Iran.

● **A GAS CARTEL** may soon emerge as a sister to the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC). That's the word from Algiers, where six members of OPEC met last week to draw up an agreement on gas pricing and production policy. The agreement will be submitted to the next OPEC ministerial meeting in June. Gas producing members of OPEC have recently been raising gas prices to bring them in line with crude oil prices.