

Schlesinger Document Confirms: Nuclear Strike Plan Operational

May 25 (IPS) — While U.S. Defense Secretary Schlesinger used this week's NATO meeting in Brussels to literally buy off growing European opposition to Rockefeller's "limited nuclear war" confrontation with the Soviet Union, a document has been given to IPS by sources in Washington which confirms that the mechanism for such a unilateral U.S. first strike is fully operational within NATO.

The document, an unclassified statement by Schlesinger entitled "The Theatre Nuclear Force Posture in Europe," exposes the RAND-Rockefeller insanity in detail. Correctly noting that the Warsaw Pact is still fully committed to and trained in full nuclear retaliation in the event of nuclear attack by anyone on Pact territory, the document goes on to claim — in spite of evidence to the contrary — that the Soviets would back down from such a strike and that it is therefore "impossible to rule out NATO first use of theatre (tactical) nuclear forces."

Transcontinental Brainwashing

Press reports from Brussels indicate that the NATO Military Committee meeting this week was nothing more than a brainwashing session to enforce acceptance of the most-manifestly insane elements of the Schlesinger document. Armed with fraudulent RAND Corporation studies, Schlesinger — backed by the British and Dutch Defense Ministers — attempted to convince the rest of NATO's European contingent that the Alliance enjoyed "a slight advantage" over the Warsaw Pact in conventional forces. The reaction to this by IPS Weekly 5/27/75

Europe's anti-Rockefeller military officers — all of whom know that the Pact effectively outnumbers NATO five to one — has not yet been reported.

Also, the fictional question of the Warsaw Pact's new "offensiveness" — one of the rationales of the Schlesinger document — was discussed at length.

Most importantly, all debate on the insane strategy was couched in terms of increased conventional arms production — an attempt to buy off the growing resistance to Rocky's military and economic suicide by European industrialists with the promise of vast new arms contracts. Schlesinger demanded that NATO military budgets would have to be maintained even at the expense of social services, and was backed in this by the West German and Belgian Ministers before he led a goulsh discussion on all the new — completely useless — weapons systems that the Alliance would need. Discussion of standardization of NATO weapons was coupled with how this huge boondoggle could be split up among European sub-contractors.

A coordinated action to squelch or brainwash opposition was also carried out in the U.S. Although the report has allegedly been made available to five Congressional Committees, known foes of Schlesinger — most of them extensively briefed by the ICLC — have been kept in the dark. House Armed Services Committee member Ron Dellums told IPS this week that he had never seen the document; so did Senator Joseph Biden of the Foreign Relations Committee.

Other potential opposition was hustled out of the country on Defense and State Department-sponsored junkets to NATO bases and the Mutual Balanced Force Reduction Talks in Vienna. There, such Rockefeller opponents as James Leggett (D, Cal) will be purposely terrified by tales of imminent Soviet invasion. A Defense Department spokesman was forced to admit to IPS this week that "Trips like this aren't usual."

Although the publication of the document at this time is an attempt by Rockefeller to present the world's parliaments with a thermonuclear fair accompli, it effectively aids only the Great Debate on Rocky's policy now being opened by the ICLC and Communist Parties internationally. All of the last several weeks' propaganda by the ICLC on the Rockefeller push for such a doctrine is now corroborated in depth. More importantly, every parliamentarian and military official within and without NATO now has a signed confession by Rockefeller and his RAND henchmen that they are irretrievably insane — that they believe their own myths of a Soviet backdown and have already set into motion the mechanism that would bring this psychotic fantasy to its thermonuclear conclusion.

In addition to the above-cited, hysterical assertions of a change in Soviet policy and the possibility that NATO would last more than 24 hours under a general Warsaw Pact assault, the document confirms that the "communications for command and control of nuclear forces" is key to the mechanism to launch a nuclear strike. The document does not mention that such "command and control" — the means by

which Rockefeller, using a puppet like NATO Supreme Commander Alexander Haig, could unilaterally order such a strike — has been in effect for 18 months since the creation of a new tactical air command structure directly under Haig.

This is all completely known to every rational military officer in the United States and Europe. This faction of the military — which had already leaked and confirmed a version of the document to IPS several

weeks ago — can now only become enlarged and emboldened by Rocky's dash for suicide.

The same is true for the industrialists that Schlesinger has so assiduously attempted to buy off: they came to their original position of opposition to Rockefeller around the realization that his policies meant their destruction. The bribery is already offset by the necessitated public corroboration by Rocky of all that the ICLC has said.

These two elements combine with the now-massive working-class pressure to stop Rocky cold, and have begun to effect the parliamentarians who are now seeing the Great Debate on its appropriate life-and-death terms. One of the first to break has been Congressman Dellums, who declared to IPS on Thursday, "I've always thought of myself as a humble man. I never thought of myself as an internationalist; but I have to do whatever is necessary to save people from being blown up."