



NEW SOLIDARITY International Press Service

COMBINED EDITION

P O. Box 1972, G.P.O.
New York, New York 10001
Editorial (212)279-5950
Customer Service (212)564-8529

NEW SOLIDARITY INTERNATIONAL PRESS SERVICE (IPS)

SUNDAY, MARCH 4, 1976
WEEKEND EDITION

I. PRIORITIES

WEST GERMAN PRESS: CURRENCY BREAKDOWNS WILL LEAD TO TOTALITARIANISM

April 4 (IPS)—"Has it come to the point in Europe," asked Gunther Gillessen in the lead editorial in the Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung yesterday "that national currency breakdowns and other national disasters are occurring, creating a destructive chain reaction against domestic order, which will lead to the fatal participation of totalitarian parties in liberal states?" Lamenting the "increasing threat to physical security, especially in the Mediterranean," Gillessen says that this will continue until "Europe realizes, too late, that only a common solution is possible."

In a similar editorial yesterday, the Frankfurter Rundschau said that because of the collapse of the European Community summit meeting in Luxembourg, there is the danger of "radicalization" in Italy, France and Great Britain, which would lead to import restrictions and, in the long run, to a division of Europe into capitalist and anti-capitalist social communities.

The lead editorial in yesterday's Sueddeutsche Zeitung noted the failure of the Luxembourg summit meeting, and concluded: "It is not that there is a lack of readiness to force through the tough conclusions, but that there is a lack of political power."

EEC COMMISSION CHIEF CALLS FOR ENFORCEMENT OF AUSTERITY IN W. EUROPE

April 4 (IPS)—Francois Ortoli, the Chairman of the European Economic Community Commission, has deplored the fact that wage costs have risen too rapidly in Western Europe and at a diverging pace in every European country, according to the conservative French daily Le Figaro yesterday. To solve this "major problem," Ortoli called for "discipline, freely accepted but firmly implemented, analogous to that accepted by countries asking for a loan, with proper legal procedures and, if necessary, the cutting of EEC assistance."

SCHMIDT SEES NO PRINCIPAL DIFFICULTIES TO A GRAND COALITION

April 4 (IPS)—The latest issue of Der Spiegel, the West German news magazine, quotes West German Social Democratic Chancellor Helmut Schmidt as stating for the first time that he has no objec-

tions to a "Grand Coalition" government between the Social Democrats (SPD) and the conservative Christian Democrats (CDU), as long as fascist Franz Josef Strauss and his supporters in Strauss' Bavarian Christian Social Union are excluded. "I do not see... principal difficulties, in working out a common line with people like Barzel, Katzer, or Kiep (all corporatist CDU leaders)... The difficulty lies in people like Strauss, Filbinger and Carstens (the latter two being right-wing CDU leaders)." Schmidt also said that he would not exclude, "in the long run, a coalition between the SPD and the CDU, with the exclusion of the CSU."

Such a government would closely resemble the pro-austerity coalition under Chancellor Heinrich Brüning which helped pave the way for Hitler's assumption of the Chancellorship in 1933.

SOVIET PAPER: NO SALT AGREEMENT MEANS "UNRESTRAINED ARMS RACE"

April 4 (IPS)—The Soviet Armed forces daily Red Star writes today that failure to conclude a new Soviet U.S. strategic arms (SALT) agreement because of Pentagon insistence on developing the cruise missile, will lead to an "unrestrained arms race." The statement was reported on WCBS radio in New York this morning.

SOVIETS SEEK EXPLANATION FOR REPORT PLACING U.S. SHIPS NEAR LEBANON

April 4 (IPS)—The Soviet Union has officially asked the United States for an explanation of reports that U.S. naval ships of the Sixth Fleet are "on their way to the shores of Lebanon," according to a dispatch from the Soviet news agency, TASS, reported in today's Washington Post. The Soviet request was delivered by the Soviet embassy in Washington.

TITO CALLS ON PALME TO JOIN NON-ALIGNED GROUP

April 4 (IPS)—Yugoslav President Josip Broz Tito invited Swedish Prime Minister Olof Palme to become a member of the non-aligned group of nations during his visit to Sweden last week, according to Swedish radio reports April 1. Tito, who was accompanied by Yugoslav Foreign Minister Minic, told Swedish press that Sweden, together with Yugoslavia and France, would "form an important bridge to the Third World."

Atlanticist Palme, who has assiduously cultivated an image as a friend of the Third World, declined Tito's invitation, but declared Sweden will become an "active observer" in non-aligned talks.

SWEDEN FOREIGN MINISTER BACKS DETENTE AND SPIRIT OF HELSINKI

April 4 (IPS)—Speaking before the Swedish Parliament on the same day as a meeting between Yugoslav President Tito and Swedish Prime Minister Olof Palme and members of his cabinet, Swedish Foreign Minister Sven Andersson called for adherence to detente and the spirit of the Helsinki agreement on European Cooperation and Security. Andersson also cited the New World Economic Order and disarmament as the alternative to international war. Andersson, who has increasingly aligned himself with pro-development industrial-

ists in Sweden recently, also met with Yugoslav Foreign Minister Minic, but no details of their meeting were released.

Andersson's speech was cited favorably in the German Democratic Republic daily Neues Deutschland for its support of detente.

BANK OF ENGLAND RESERVES DROP 16 PER CENT IN MARCH

April 4 (IPS)—The Bank of England spent 16 per cent of its total reserves attempting to shore up the pound sterling during the month of March, according to the April 1 London Times. The dollar value of the pound dropped from 2.02 to 1.92 dollars during March and then a further 4-1/2 cents to 1.87 in the first two days of April. The Bank of England's total reserves stood at 5.9 billion at the end of March, down by 1.1 billion dollars from a month earlier. This loss of 1.1 billion was equal to almost the entire International Monetary Fund loan which was made in January to help Britain finance her foreign trade deficit.

MAX DEAN ANNOUNCES USLP CAMPAIGN FOR FLINT CONGRESSIONAL SEAT

FLINT, MICH., April 4 (IPS)—Max Dean, noted labor lawyer and civil rights leader, will announce his campaign for United States Congress, 7th District (Flint) Michigan, on the U.S. Labor Party ticket at a press conference here Wednesday, April 7. Mr. Dean will challenge incumbent Rep. Donald Riegle (R-Mich). Dean is a member of the Executive Board of the Labor Organizers Defense Fund.

REACH PACT FOR REMAINING TEAMSTERS

April 4 (IPS)—Secretary of Labor W. J. Usery yesterday announced a tentative agreement between the International Brotherhood of Teamsters and the remainder of the trucking industry which was not included in a tentative agreement covering mostly Midwest drivers reached April 2, according to today's Washington Post. The Post said that details of the agreement were withheld pending a ratification vote by drivers, but that the terms closely paralleled the April 2 contract which granted drivers a 1.65 dollars per hour wage increase and an unlimited cost of living escalator.

According to today's New York Times, both Usery and President Ford hailed the settlement as a victory. The Times added that Usery had refused to comment on whether he considered the settlement inflationary, but did say that it would affect nationwide rubber and construction industry negotiations later this spring.

NEW YORK TIMES ASSAILS REPORTED TEAMSTER CONTRACT

April 4 (IPS)—A New York Times editorial yesterday assailed the reported tentative Teamsters contract settlement. "There is little occasion for public gratification over the reported terms of the tentative wage accord," the Times said. "The uncapped cost-of-living escalator," the Times complained, "will give the members of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters a free ride on this inflationary express."

(MORE)

At the same time, the Times worried that the strike by the Teamsters, which met with great sympathy among U.S. workers, was beginning to spread rapidly. The partial settlement, the paper said, "eases a grave threat...(which) had begun to spread..."

PREDICT NY CONTROL BOARD WILL REJECT NEW YORK CITY TRANSIT PACT

April 4 (IPS)--Sources close to the New York City Emergency Financial Control Board quoted in the New York City press yesterday said that the Board may reject the proposed contract between the New York City Transit Authority and the 32,000 member Local 100 of the Transport Workers Union on the grounds that the rest of the city's municipal workers, whose contracts expire June 30, will demand similar terms. The contract grants zero wage increase, and a one cent increase in hourly pay for every 0.3 per cent increase in the consumer price index. The contract also provides for a joint labor-management productivity board, but the cost of living increases are not formally tied to productivity increases.

According to an aide to Mayor Beame quoted in yesterday's New York Times, "I don't see how the board can approve it unless they really isolate it from the municipal union situation or unless they require the productivity savings."

The New York Post yesterday quoted "another key adviser" in the negotiations as saying privately that the EFCB would "probably" veto the pact, and that "still others predicted the plan would undergo stiff modifications to formally tie the cost-of-living raises to productivity in an effort to avert similar demands from the city's own 250,000 union members."

ECONOMIST: ASSAD'S ARMY WILL REVOLT AGAINST INTERVENTION IN LEBANON

April 4 (IPS)--The latest issue of the British financial weekly, the Economist, says that "if Syrian President Hafez Assad decided to send his men to fight Lebanon's Moslems, his own officers might join with the left wing of Syria's powerful Baath party to throw him out." The Economist emphasized Assad's isolation in the face of growing leftist sentiment in Lebanon and within his own country, and noted that Assad is eager to preserve Syria's influence over...Lebanon...but outright intervention could imperil his own regime."

MORATORIUM BETTER THAN WAR, SWISS INDUSTRY HEAD SAYS

April 4 (IPS)--Etienne Junod, the president of the powerful Swiss Industry Federation, told a Geneva Chamber of Commerce audience this week that industrialized countries may have to grant the developing sector nations a moratorium on debts totalling 142 billion dollars, according to the April 2 Financial Times of London. A moratorium would be "better than having a war," Junod explained.