



# NEW SOLIDARITY International Press Service

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## I. Priorities

### IMF TO BECOME "WORLD POLICEMAN"

WASHINGTON, D.C., April 12 (IPS)--The new articles of the International Monetary Fund (IMF), due for ratification by member nations' finance ministers by April 30, will turn the organization into a "world policeman...(whose) powers have been broadened from the mere policing of external actions...to surveillance over member countries' internal economic affairs," according to the latest issue of the influential Money Manager financial weekly.

The new articles, as read by IMF Director Johannes Witteveen to the press last week, lay down criteria for domestic austerity programs throughout the world to ensure "a stable system of exchange rates."

An IMF spokesman confirmed today that the program is essentially that demanded of European heads of state by West German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt at last week's European Common Market meeting: stabilize exchange rates of currencies by instituting severe domestic credit restrictions, wage ceilings, budget and services cuts and raising taxes.

In the IMF's terms, IMF members' economic policies, monetary systems and balance of payments equilibrium (i.e., imports and exports), and exchange rates will be subject to IMF control.

It is made clear that, under the new articles, any disapproval by the IMF of a nation's fiscal policies will immediately lead to a complete cut-off of not only IMF and other government credit, but also all bank credits under the articles, since the IMF has traditionally been "a catalyst of world opinion," in Money Manager's words. IMF spokesmen agreed that "we can refuse credits... to Spain, Italy, Britain, others whose balance of payments we finance."

### NEW YORK TIMES HITS EUROPEANS' LACK OF WILL TO IMPOSE FASCISM

April 12 (IPS)--The New York Times' leading European Commentator, Flora Lewis, today states that the incapability of present West European governments to impose fascist levels of austerity as "more a psychological than a factual loss of ability to deal with events, a loss of will." Lewis particularly scores French Presi-

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dent Giscard, West German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt, and British Prime Minister James Callaghan for sabotaging the austerity drive.

Lewis states that such a lack of will is all the more contemptible now since "it comes when their worst economic troubles are beginning to subside, when none are burdened by the colonial wars that bled them in the 1950s and 1960s, and when none are confronting the open social turmoil of the previous decades." After having dismissed all of the possible excuses of Western European heads of government for their inability to implement fascist looting, Lewis adds that even they acknowledge the need for fascism: "Some say they are convinced their own people would rally impressively to clear, ringing declarations of grand policy, and then they offer dozens of reasons why that is impossible now."

#### FORD WARNS AGAINST NUCLEAR WAR

April 12 (IPS)--In a campaign tour in Texas over the weekend, President Ford attacked his GOP rival Ronald Reagan for Reagan's get-tough with the Russians rhetoric, according to yesterday's Chicago Tribune. "Let us attempt to work out our differences on the negotiating table, rather than in a desperate duel that would leave the world in ashes," Ford said. "A thermonuclear war today would mean death and destruction on a scale so vast that we can hardly comprehend it," he concluded.

#### SOVIET GENERAL WARNS USSR CAN DEFEND AGAINST CRUISE MISSILES

April 12 (IPS)--In an interview with the Soviet government daily Izvestia on April 11, the Deputy Commander of Soviet Air Defense Forces, Koldunov, foreseeing the possibility of a full-scale cruise missile buildup by the U.S., said that his forces are capable of defending against the cruise missiles.

Last week the Soviet Army daily Red Star warned that if the cruise missiles are built, the conclusion of further strategic arms limitation (SALT II) accord would be virtually impossible.

#### SCHLESINGER DECLARES RETURN TO COLD WAR

April 12 (IPS)--Former U.S. Secretary of Defense James Schlesinger, speaking on NBC's "Face the Nation" yesterday, stated that the end of detente "absolutely" meant a return to the cold war policies of the 1950s. But, Schlesinger added, in response to a reporter's question, "without the emotional exchanges" that characterized the 1950s.

Schlesinger also said that the U.S. would continue to negotiate with the Soviet Union on certain issues, but said that no agreement on limiting strategic arms (SALT) would be reached this year.

Speaking of the current anti-Maoist strikes and demonstrations

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in China, Schlesinger termed China a "quasi-U.S. ally" without which the present global balance of power would not stand. He also recommended that the U.S. publically warn Cuba that if it intervenes anywhere in the world as it did in Angola, the U.S. will impose "sanctions" without announcing what form the sanctions would take. Schlesinger said that "American will" is about to assert itself.

Schlesinger stated that he is advising four major presidential contenders, President Ford, Ronald Reagan, Jimmy Carter and one other Democratic presidential candidate whose name he would not disclose.

#### WASHINGTON POST COLUMNIST ATTACKS FORD, DEFENDS KISSINGER

April 12 (IPS)--Washington Post columnist Joseph Kraft wrote yesterday that "President Ford's handling of the storm beating around Henry Kissinger raises yet again deep questions about his capacity to run the country. For Mr. Ford and his closest associates have let the Secretary twist slowly in the breeze at a time when he alone can perform vital services...There may be--there probably is--important work to be done in the Middle East and on arms control before the election."

#### SAFIRE HITS FORD FOR NOT GOING AFTER ROCKEFELLER, KISSINGER LAWLESSNESS

April 12 (IPS)--New York Times columnist William Safire today attacks President Ford's coverup of Henry Kissinger's and Nelson Rockefeller's illegal removal of key transcripts from the National Security Council classification system to Rockefeller's Pocantico estate vault. According to Safire's account, the material is known as Kissinger's "inner file," and includes conversations between the Secretary of State and President Nixon, Soviet Ambassador Dobrynin and other foreign officials.

Nelson Rockefeller, confronted by Safire in an interview, weakly explained, "Henry's a friend." Safire states Rockefeller claimed he knew nothing about classified documents and further refused to allow Safire to interview the man who runs his vault.

"Behind the stone wall...there is an important story of conversations the public or at least key government officials are entitled to know," Safire said. President Ford, "who ostensibly offers FBI help to Congress for plugging its leaks, has assigned nobody to look into this major breach of national security," Safire continues. "But it is Gerald Ford's vice president who winks at the rule of law in handling intelligence; it is Gerald Ford's National Security Advisor who refuses all comment at an abuse of power he was surely aware of; it is Gerald Ford's Secretary of State who treats the nation's secrets as his personal secrets, and it is Gerald Ford's cover-up that must be exposed."

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#### JUMBLATT'S HEADQUARTERS SURROUNDED BY SYRIAN TROOPS

April 12 (IPS)--Lebanese leftist leader Kamal Jumblatt called for Arab League intervention in Lebanon yesterday after Syrian forces surrounded his headquarters in Alley, east of Beirut.

Within hours yesterday after the left accepted an extension of the Lebanese ceasefire, Syrian troops along with 80 tanks and armored personnel carriers pushed 10 miles inside Lebanon into the central Bekaa Valley town of Chtaurra on the Beirut-Damascus road.

Jumblatt had emphasized that the left's agreement to the ceasefire was contingent on the withdrawal of Syrian troops from the country. In a statement issued yesterday, Jumblatt warned that Syria has built up a force of 6000 troops in Lebanon since the January ceasefire began and that the Syrian actions will provoke an Israeli counterintervention.

Jumblatt's statement was reported by United Press International today.

#### WASHINGTON WILL FIGHT TO PREVENT LEFTIST LEBANON AT ALL COSTS

NEW YORK, April 12 (IPS)--A leading U.S. journalist said today after contacting Washington officials on the stepped-up Syrian intervention into Lebanon that "People (in Washington) don't want a leftist Lebanon, and will fight it at all costs, since a leftist Lebanon would undoubtedly be pro-Libyan, pro-Iraq, pro-Fatah. Having rejected a Syrian intervention, we will try to put together what existed before, a Christian-Moslem coalition with some reformist add-ons, the Syrians are supporting this, and are threatening to enforce it militarily....If that doesn't work, I don't know if anybody here has any idea what to do."

#### SYRIAN INVOLVEMENT IN LEBANESE CRISIS CONTINUES TO WEAKEN ASSAD REGIME

April 12 (IPS)--The success of the left in Lebanon is increasing domestic pressure on Syrian President Assad, who has been attempting to contain the leftist offensive, according to yesterday's Baltimore Sun. Assad has come under heavy pressure from the left wing of the ruling Syrian Ba'ath Party to liberalize his domestic policies, the Sun states, and has responded by ordering police to round up a number of rightists in Damascus. The Sun also quotes a Syrian government official as saying, "Lebanon is becoming a quagmire for us, the same way Vietnam became for the U.S. All our plans--from our Mideast strategy to economic development--could be sacrificed because of the fighting here."

#### U.S. COORDINATES SYRIAN AND ISRAELI ACTION ON LEBANON

April 12 (IPS)--The U.S. embassies in Tel Aviv and Damascus have

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maintained a "hot line" between Syria and Israel to mediate between the two states since Syria sent the first 1000 Palestinian Liberation Army troops into Lebanon in January to stop the left, reports a Washington Star article quoted in today's New York Times. "Syria has been consulting Israel," says the Star and "the Israelis have secretly indicated they will not stage an invasion of their own." The Times reports today that, despite the step-up of Syrian activity in Lebanon, Israel has indicated that it will take no action. Israeli Defense Minister Shimon Peres has retracted a statement he made several months ago, promising an invasion if Syria moved into Lebanon.

#### MEXICAN GOVERNMENT AND PEASANTS HIT LATIFUNDIOS IN MASS MEETING

CIUDAD OBREGON, MEXICO, April 12 (IPS)— High government officials and the heads of Mexico's national peasant alliance, the Pacto de Ocampo, addressed over 3,000 peasants in a mass rally in this northwest city two days ago, and made united calls for a constitutional reform to limit landholdings of irrigated land to 20 hectares. This would effectively collapse latifundios (large landholdings) of the key agricultural states of Sonora and Sinaloa and open the way to agrarian reform measures recently sponsored by the government of president Luis Echeverria.

The rally was the culmination of several days of tense negotiating between government officials, peasant leaders and latifundists in the wake of a major land seizure in the region April 7. The peasant ferment building around the land seizure has now been focussed into support for the government's legislative program, which is to be considered at a special session of Congress called by President Echeverria for early May. Spokesmen for the right wing have immediately indicated bitter opposition to any plans to lower the legal limit for individual holdings.

#### PERU GOVERNMENT DECLARES STATE OF EMERGENCY IN MINING ZONE; ALLOWS ARBITRARY FIRINGS

April 12 (IPS)— The Peruvian government officially declared the nation's entire mining industry in a "state of emergency" April 10, charging that strikes in the mining sector "gravely affect production and the obtaining of foreign reserves, at a time when Peru confronts serious difficulties in its balance of payments." Under the "state of emergency"—the first declared in mining in the seven years of military government—national job stability laws are suspended to allow employers to fire any employee involved in any kind of "paralyzation" judged to be illegal. Trade union rights are also sharply curtailed.

The decree was reported in yesterday's Cronica, the government daily.

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NEUE ZURICHER ZEITUNG AND WEST GERMAN EMPLOYERS DEMAND  
HARD LINE AGAINST THIRD WORLD

April 12 (IPS)--The Neue Züricher Zeitung, an influential Swiss daily, and a major West German employers association, the Bund Deutsche Industrie, today called for absolute intransigence b against Third World demands for debt moratoria and a New World Economic Order. The Swiss newspaper belittled the progress of Marxism in developing nations and declared, "We (the West) can manipulate the Third World." The Bund Deutsche Industrie demanded that the Bonn government stick to an intransigent anti-development position at the Nairobi United Nations Conference on Trade and Development conference scheduled for August.

BANKER SAYS NO CONCESSION FOR DEVELOPING COUNTRIES  
AT NAIROBI UNCTAD MEETING

NEW YORK, April 12 (IPS)--A vice-president of Chase Manhattan Bank is reported to have informed an investment firm in New York City that there will be "no general concessions" at the coming Nairobi United Nations Conference on Trade and Development meeting with Third World nations. All debt issues will be negotiated "case-by-case" under "very tight control," the banker said. "What the International Monetary Fund will tell them (the developing countries) is that all it can give them is temporary facilities. Wherever possible, repayment will be tied to a source of foreign exchange." Even IMF negotiations will cover only those countries where heavy investments can be salvaged by tying loans to future commodities; other countries will be left to starve.

NEW YORK TIMES CALLS FOR REJECTION OF NYC TRANSIT SETTLEMENT

April 12 (IPS)--Today's New York Times assails the tentative New York City transit settlement reached March 31 in two lead editorials titled "A Transit 'Mistake'...Imperils the City." The editorials, which attack the cost-of-living clause in the proposed contract as well as transit workers' wages in general, call for the state's Emergency Financial Control Board to either reject the settlement or force its renegotiation with tough mandatory productivity standards.

Stating that it is not acceptable to compare the Transit Workers' piddling cost-of-living gain with the 30 percent Teamster wage victory, the editorial attacks President Ford's chief economic advisor Alan Greenspan for his characterization of the Teamster settlement as non-inflationary, and says that the Transit settlement threatens to drive the city into bankruptcy.

Calling for a tough stand, the editorials ask New York to emulate "San Franciscans, standing fast against coercion by striking transit workers and other embattled municipal unions...Even the threat of a general strike ...has not so far broken their resolution..."

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## FRENCH COOPERATION MINISTER PRAISES CHINESE MODEL TO THIRD WORLD COUNTRIES

April 12, (IPS)--At a forum given by French Finance Minister Jean-Pierre Fourcade, French cooperation Minister Jean de Lipkowski and other French government officials April 9 in Paris, all speakers agreed that the developing countries should not "seek profound but impossible transformations of international socio-economic relations," and should opt instead for "gradual constructive progress." The latter can be achieved, said de Lipkowski, if the Third World adopts a mode of development "closer to the Chinese than to the Japanese." The Japanese mode, he added, "entails too ambitious an industrialization" and "the disappearance of the means to feed oneself." Their remarks were reported in yesterday's issue of Le Monde.

## WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION IN COVERUP OF BURMA PLAGUE

WASHINGTON, D.C. April 12 (IPS)--The World Health Organization is now covering up the extent of plague in Burma, with that organization suddenly revising its own earlier account of 924 plague cases downward to 124 cases, the Burmese government's official count. One official for the U.S. Center for Disease Control commented: "There must be an on-the-spot investigation. The World Health Organization is in Burma at the sufferance of the Burmese government and will say what the government allow it to. Otherwise all we are getting is a totally confusing picture of the outbreak."

The U.S. Consulate in Rangoon through the State Department has put out various conflicting low figures: 40 cases of plague and 5 deaths, 115 cases and 15 deaths, and 270 cases and 27 deaths. Last year the World Health Organization in collaboration with the State Department--installed Ethiopian dictatorship covered up an epidemic of cholera which later spread to other countries throughout Africa.

A Burmese embassy official in the U.S. said today that they are aware that the situation is serious and know that Burma needs assistance.

## SEATTLE TIMES WARNS OF PLAGUE-CARRYING FLEAS IN THE U.S.

April 12 (IPS)--The Seattle Times April 10 corroborated the potential for rapid spread of plague in advanced capitalist sector countries in an article which reveals that fleas in the U.S. have increased enormously since the general use of DDT was outlawed four years ago. The article admits that bubonic plague of the Middle Ages was caused by fleas abandoning sick rats for human hosts, and that bubonic plague in the 20th Century has periodically wiped out a portion of the world's rat population.

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## VANCOUVER TEAMSTERS SETTLE, RAIL, MEATCUTTER STRIKES BREWING

VANCOUVER, April 12, (IPS)—Striking Teamsters here voted to accept an 18 percent wage increase over a two-year contract, ending their British Columbia-wide strike. The settlement was well above the 10.6 percent government wage guidelines and a recent 14 percent meatcutter wage settlement.

Vancouver railway workers, also organized by the Teamsters, rejected binding arbitration today in their contract dispute and are contemplating serving a 72-hour strike notice on employers. The meatcutters of Vancouver's Woodwards plant gave such 72-hour notice yesterday, and are demanding a 25 percent per year wage increase. In Nanaimo, Canadian Union of Public Employees locals 681 and 401, representing teachers, are already out on strike.

## II. INTERNATIONAL

### CZECH PAPER CALLS PCI "SPECIAL CASE"

April 12 (IPS)—The Czechoslovak party paper Rude Pravo has published a categorization of its relations with Western European communist parties over the past four years, defining three groups: parties with whom the Czechoslovak party has comradely relations, parties with which such relations are being initiated, and parties which have necessitated "special attention." The NATO-led Italian and French parties belong to this third category, said Rude Pravo. Santiago Carrillo's Spanish Communist Party was not mentioned at all.

### PRAVDA BLESSES PCI AUSTERITY PROGRAM

April 12 (IPS)—The Soviet party daily Pravda printed a lead international news article April 10 which quoted extensively from the NATO-run Italian Communist Party (PCI)'s most recent political declaration on the Italian crisis. Pravda presented the PCI's economic program—in actuality a program for fascist austerity—as a series of "measures in the interest of the broad popular masses."

### NOT A SINGLE UNION TO BACK HEALEY PROGRAM SAYS SUNDAY TELEGRAPH

April 12 (IPS)—Fears for the success of the British austerity budget are growing as the London Sunday Telegraph reports that "not a single union thinks the proposed level (of wage controls) is even worth considering, let alone a basis for negotiation." Chancellor of the Exchequer Denis Healey offered the trade unions a deal to limit wage increases to 3 percent in exchange for tax cuts that will not even begin to match the country's double-digit inflation rates. The Sunday Telegraph believes that the final target to be too high for the Government to reach its anti-inflation target."

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## SWINE FLU EPIDEMIC THREATENS LATIN AMERICA

April 12, (IPS)--"The flu will arrive in 1977 and there is no way to prevent it," reported Brazil's leading newspaper O Estado de Sao Paulo, April 9, blaming the situation on a complete lack of "financial and technical resources to prevent a flu epidemic." The national Health Minister states that up to now no case of the swine flu has been recorded, and there are only reports of normal influenza cases, yet, "if this type of flu becomes more lethal," O Estado stated, "the Health Ministry will not be in a position to eliminate it."

## "CORDON OF DEATH" AGAINST RABIES IN BRITAIN

April 12 (IPS)--The British government is making plans against the inevitable importation of rabies-infected animals from continental Europe, as British farmers are fearing the spread of the disease to their stocks. According to the London Sunday Telegraph, the Department of Agriculture is planning to destroy all wildlife within a five-mile radius of a rabies outbreak, and eliminate the movement of all animals including pets, within 12 miles. One farmer stated bluntly that "It is not a case of 'if' rabies breaks out here, but 'when'."

## UDR LEADER TO VISIT THE U.S. APRIL 19

April 12 (IPS)--Yves Guena, a long-standing member of the French Gaullist Party (UDR), and the leading contender for the post of UDR general secretary, will head a Gaullist delegation scheduled to visit the United States beginning April 19, according to yesterday's Washington Post. Yves Guena is a close collaborator of French Prime Minister Jacques Chirac, who just launched a violent propaganda campaign against France's left-wing parties, and has consistently stifled all UDR opposition to the Atlanticist policies of French President Giscard d'Estaing.

## NEW "SOUTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION" PLANNED IN ARGENTINA

April 12 (IPS)--Preliminary negotiations between the United States and Argentina towards joint naval maneuvers in the south Atlantic Ocean were begun last week at the Argentine naval base of Puerto Belgrano. According to a Prensa Latina news dispatch, both the new commander of the U.S. South Atlantic Command, Admiral Sagerholm, and his predecessor Admiral Ellis, met with top Argentine naval officials to discuss plans for next September's "Operation Unitas XVII" which will include Brazilian and Uruguayan air and sea participation as well.

The Argentine daily Clarin reported this week that what was officially termed a "courtesy visit" by Brazilian naval commander Admiral Henning to Puerto Belgrano, despite official claims to the contrary, "...is considered by well-informed sources to far exceed in importance any matter of mere protocol, (and) can be directly related to the strategic importance of the South Atlantic."

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The Clarin article, the first of a series of articles and editorials on the alleged threat of Soviet/Cuban invasion of the South Atlantic, claims that "the fall of Angola with the marxist orbit, made possible due to open Cuban intervention, has sounded the alarm for the leaders of the western world...This African country...has assured the Soviet presence in the South Atlantic. However, the South Atlantic is not in a NATO zone of influence and only three western countries can maintain vigilance in this immense area: Argentina, Brazil, and South Africa."

ISRAELI PAPER FORGIVES VORSTER'S WARTIME NAZI SYMPATHIES,  
WELCOMES HIM TO ISRAEL

April 12 (IPS)--Commenting on South African President John Vorster's current visit to Israel at the invitation of Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, the Israeli newspaper Yediot Aharonot recalled Vorster's sympathies for the Nazis, according to yesterday's London Observer, "but only to reject it as a reason for not welcoming him."

End of combined IPS for April 12, 1976.