

EARLY EVENING EDITION APRIL 30, 1976

NEW SOLIDARITY International Press Service

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I. PRIORITIES

RED STAR ISSUES SHARP WARNING OF IMPERIALIST DANGER

April 30 (IPS) - The Soviet Military daily Red Star published an editorial of unusual sharpness April 2, stating that "the experience of the revolutionary movement of recent years has shown that if a real threat arises to the rule of monopoly capital and its political henchmen, imperialism will do anything. It is prepared to trample under foot both the sovereignty of states and any legality, not to mention humanity. Slanders, deception of the public, economic blockades, sabotage, payoffs and threats, terror, use of neofascist forces for murder of political figures, programs — this is the arsenal of contemporary counterrevolution, which always acts in alliance with international imperialist reaction. Particular danger for mankind is posed by the attempts of the aggressive circles of imperialism to subvert detente, to strengthen the arms race.'

EUROCURRENCIES TO PLUMET IN MID-MAY WITHOUT GERMAN HYPERINFLATION

NEW YORK, April 30 (IPS) — Every European currency except the West German mark will plumet to new exchange rate lows by mid-May as the foreign exchange reserves of the French, Danish, and other central banks fall below the level needed to support their current values, foreign exchange traders said here yesterday.

"The French franc has been so steady that it's unheard of for the past three weeks...I can't believe it's not completely artificial," said one. "The central bank must be buying francs; they spent maybe another 600 million dollars or more in April—its a phoney market." France expended close to 4 billion dollars of its non-gold exchange reserves before leaving the European currency snake March 21, and was left with some 3.5 billion as of that date. France owes 2 billion in German marks to the Bundesbank due in mid-May in addition to its April losses.

"I expect a huge drop all of a sudden, the reserves will be used up," the trader continued. "Any day now, everyone will be selling, and no buyers."

"Denmark is the same," the source continued, "the krone is overvalued, the economy is a wreck." Denmark owes 1.5 billion marks to the Bundesbank this week, a sum equal to half Denmark's foreign reserves, and has been supporting the krone too.

"Sweden has huge loans of 400 million dollars or more coming due at the end of June—that will cause a big sale of their currency. Italy—The lira has nowhere to go but down. The snake will fall apart."

"The only hope," the source concluded, "is for the Germans to roll over their loans and extend new ones for use in currency support to the rest of Europe."

GERMANS MAY DUMP DOLLAR IF INFLATION WORSENS

BALTIMORE, MD, April 30 (IPS) — The West German government might "join the gold bloc with France" if its currency becomes hyperinflated under current dollar hegemony, according to the European Institute at Johns Hopkins University. "Until now, the Germans have gone along as a junior partner in the dollar system, pouring good money after bad into Italy and the rest of Europe for political stability," a source said today. "But the inflationary effect on the mark may soon push them away from the U.S."

CHURCH CAMPAIGN CIRCULATING CIA SMEAR OF USLP IN IDAHO

April 30 (IPS) — A "volunteer" from the Frank Church for President Campaign attempted to break up a speaking engagement by a U.S. Labor Party representative in Moscow, Idaho yesterday. David Boucher entered the forum identifying himself as a student from Washington State University in Pullman, Washington, "interested in Marxism." Boucher then announced, "My friends in the IWW in Pullman say you're CIA."

When the function of Church's latest intelligence committee report was outlined as both a cover-up of CIA activity in the Mideast and Italy and itself part of that CIA activity, Boucher began to exhibit paranoid behavior. Jumping up, he shouted, "That's not true, I know Senator Church would not do that; I was with him last week in Nebraska." He then began slandering the USLP as connected to the John Birch Society.

Boucher later reappeared at the site of a Labor Party rally screaming "Communists."

MEXICAN LABOR LEADER GALVAN CALLS FOR "PROLETARIAN DEFENSE COMMITTEES", PROGRAMMATIC UNITY

April 30 (IPS) — Mexican left-wing labor leader Rafael Galvan issued a call for a 'National Worker, Peasant and Popular Congress' to form a 'national council for proletarian defense' yesterday in the Mexico City press. The Galvan communique stresses the need for worker, peasant and popular sectors "to coordinate their struggles, to organize and arm this (worker) upsurge with the programmatic elements which help the impulse of their revolutionary activity."

In an interview the day before, Galvan has called for worker organization in the face of the 'explosive' nature of the present situation in Mexico, and warned of "the risk of an outbreak of violence...which could lead us to fascism." Key to preventing this, Galvan added in the interview is mobilizing behind President Echeverria's pro-development policies against the mounting right-wing offensive, and "creating consciousness among workers so that their struggle develops within the context of the law."

The National Worker, Peasant and Popular Congress, to be held May 14 through May 16 in Mexico City, says the Galvan communique, "will seek to unify the process of programmatic elaboration...to provide the masses of workers with a common program

establishing the tactical procedures which will lead to the joint action corresponding to the need of strengthening the struggle toward popular and national objectives."

UNIONS NO LONGER CONTROL WORKERS' VOTES SAYS NEW YORK POST

April 30 (IPS) - The collapse of Senator Henry Jackson's presidential campaign in Pennsylvania has dramatized "once more the inability of the AFL-CIO hierarchy to 'deliver' the vote of its rank and file," New York Post editorial page editor James Wechsler states in a column today entitled "Labor's Love Lost. Predicting that "these circumstances will render it more difficult for the oldline labor legions to mount a credible belated offensive in Humphrey's behalf," Wechsler states that "the more intriguing question in retrospect is why big labor's analysts were so oblivious to Jackson's weaknesses in their own union halls."

FEDERAL MOVE THREATENS TO END ILLINOIS UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION MAY 20

CHICAGO, April 30 (IPS) — The Chicago Director of the Illinois Unemployment Insurance Fund has announced that all unemployment compensation in the state may end as of May 20 as a result of a Federal decision not to extend a 3.9 million dollar loan to the fund. The granting of federal loans to state unemployment funds has been a routine practice in the high unemployment of recent years.

Director Haughey stated that "if it comes down to May 20 without the extra 3.9 million dollars, I have no choice but to shut down the entire unemployment compensation program," according to yesterday's Chicago Tribune.

Department of Labor regional administrator Richard Gilliam claimed that the Federal Government's denial of the loan is a retaliation for the state's failure to implement "key programs." The U.S. has charged that Illinois is five months behind on its work load, and has doubled the cost of its computer facilities by centralizing them. The state reports that its workload has increased by 4000 per cent in the past year.

In another development, the Tribune also reported that three state pension funds are bankrupt. According to the First National Bank of Chicago, the funds are 3 billion dollars in the red.

II. INTERNATIONAL

WHILE KISSINGER IS IN AFRICA, U.S. MERCENARIES FIGHTING FOR RHODESIA ARE ACTIVATED

April 30 (IPS) — While Secretary of State Henry Kissinger has been issuing claims of support for black majority rule in Southern Africa he has simultaneously activated U.S. mercenaries fighting for white Rhodesian Prime Minister Ian Smith's forces. According to Voice of the German Democratic Republic radio today, one hundred mercenaries from the United States who are either former members of the U.S. armed forces or CIA special forces have been activated in Rhodesia. They are reportedly part of a special expeditionary force to take action in areas in which the African liberation forces are active.

Dr. Eliot Gabella, a Rhodesian liberation leader, has confirmed that the American mercenary forces were fighting with the Rhodesian government forces according to the Daily Telegraph yesterday, charging that Secretary of State Henry Kissinger omitted mention of these forces in his touted Lusaka address on U.S. policy for southern Africa.

KISSINGER TO CREATE "SOUTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION"

April 30 (IPS) — The creation of a South Atlantic Military Alliance, dubbed the South Atlantic Treaty Organization (SATO) by its proponents, which would consist of the countries of the southern cone of South America and Southern Africa, is "more than possible," according to a dispatch by EFE, the Spanish news agency, which appeared in the Venezuelan newspaper El Nacional of April 27. Discussion of the military alliance first appeared publicly after the visit of U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger to Brazil in early March. The Brazilian naval minister then proposed its formation and a set of strategic perspectives to the Argentine government later that month.

EFE reports that the purpose of the creation of a SATO would be the study of "the conflicts enclosing the Panama and Suez Canals" and that the alliance would be aimed at the "recuperation of the strategic value of Cape Horn and the Straits of Magellin in the southern area of America as a means of communication between the atlantic and pacific oceans."

The orginal plans for the alliance were discussed at the Montevideo meeting of U.S. and Latin American military leaders in October of 1965 and will be further advanced at the Organization of American States meeting scheduled in June in Santiago. Chile, which Kissinger will attend. The latest talks took place at the meeting recently held at Puerto Belgano in Argentina, attended by Argentine military officials and the U.S. South Atlantic operations commander. The outcome of the meeting was the decision to apply the outlined perspectives of a South Atlantic military alliance to the upcoming "united operation" of the South American and U.S. navies.

ANTHONY LEWIS ATTACKS KISSINGER'S CAMBODIAN WAR MONGERING

April 30 (IPS) - New York Times columnist Anthony Lewis today blamed Secretary of State Henry Kissinger for the "cruel, useless destruction" of Cambodia resulting from the 1970 U.S. bombing of that country. Charging that there were no excuses of "ignorance or inadvertence" in making the decision to invade Cambodia, Lewis said, "Indeed, the very way the invasion was announced suggested that its well-spring was not reason but obsession....Mr. Kissinger said his own assistants who opposed the invasion were insufficiently 'manly' and showed 'the cowardice of the Eastern Establishment'." Mr. Lewis also pointed out that Kissinger prolonged the war, saying, "When the end became inevitable, in 1974, Mr. Kissinger still refused to work for a settlement that would mitigate the damage. His policy was to fight to the last Cambodian."

DAILY EXPRESS ATTACKS JACK JONES' "DUNKIRK SPIRIT" CALL

April 30 (IPS) — London Daily Express columnist George Ffitch yesterday attacked trade union leader Jack Jones, architect of the union's "social contract" with the government, for calling for the "Dunkirk Spirit" of accepting austerity, rather than falling into Weimar-style inflation. Ffitch, who charges Jones and his friends with having "very selective memories of the war to want even its spirit to return," reminds Jones that for most people the war is no pleasant memory.

Sharply, Ffitch asks, "Which tube (subway) station do you suggest we all bed down in tonight, Jack, to avoid the crush of inflation and escape those horrible falling pounds?"

ARMED THUGS STORM UNIVERSITY OF PUEBLA IN MEXICO, KILLING ONE PERSON

April 30 (IPS) — A group of 150 armed thugs continue to occupy the Administration Building of the State University of Puebla in Mexico, after storming the campus two nights ago killing at least one person and wounding at least half a dozen others. According to the Mexican daily El Sol yesterday, the gunmen are holding around 50 hostages. Mexican President Luis Echeverria is scheduled to visit the city of Puebla to head a May 5 national holiday celebration.

PERUVIANS DENY PERU IS BEING TAKEN OVER BY THE CUBANS

WASHINGTON, D.C., April 30 (IPS) — Peruvian Ambassador to the U.S. Carles Garcia Bedoya termed "hallucinations" charges made in the Senate by Jesse Helms (R-NC) that "there are actually 4000" Cubans in Peru at this moment." Garcia Bedoya told the press here April 28 that Helms was "either misinformed or working from insidious intentions."

PARENTS STRIKE ROME SCHOOL OVER HEPATITIS OUTBREAK

April 30 (IPS) — Two students have contracted hepatitis in the Vittorio Piccini School in Rome, and outraged parents have organized a strike of the school, according to the Madrid daily newspaper ABC. The parents have announced the "permanent" strike because authorities have refused to disinfect classrooms or even issue warnings to the children.