

When Mavros said "there are no political prisoners," a couple seated behind the IPS reporter hissed, "Not even Communists!" IPS later learned that they were Mavros' son and daughter-in-law.

### "Only Following Orders"

Mario Soares, Socialist Party member and Foreign Minister of Portugal, also experienced sudden difficulty in comprehending plain-spoken English at his press conference. An IPS reporter asked how Soares, a socialist, could participate in a government then headed by former Nazi collaborator General Spínola, and further inquired how Soares reconciled socialism with the strike-breaking and corporatist policies that he is personally forcing on the Portuguese working class. Soares paused for a long moment, then announced that he did not understand the question.

When the IPS reporter began to expand on the details of Spínola's unsavory past, Soares nervously broke in, "Oh, oh, I get your question." His answer: "You can't hold a man's past against him....Anyway, Spínola was not really a fascist; at that time he was a military man, and as a soldier was only following orders." With this sickening display, Soares brought the press conference to an abrupt close.

While "progressive democrats" Soares and Mavros embraced for the press photographers, Soares' aides rushed to the IPS correspondents for more information. "Where did you get your information about Spínola?" asked one. Another grabbed for New Solidarity and asked anxiously, "What do you think will happen in Portugal? Will it be another Chile?"

### INTERNATIONAL BRIEFS

#### DAVID ROCKEFELLER ORGANIZING FOR FASCIST TRILATERAL COMMISSION

Oct. 4 (IPS)--IPS has just received confirmation (from David Rockefeller himself) that Leonard Woodcock's membership on David's own supranational planning body, the Trilateral Commission, marks him as a leading fascist organizer, almost one of the family. The proof comes from the transcript of David Rockefeller's Sept. 17 speech to Canadian bankers on "Why Foreign Banks Want to Settle in Canada." David wound up his presentation of capitalist tasks and perspectives as follows:

*"In advocating active collaboration with the aim of resolving these serious problems, the Trilateral Commission took a great step forward. Made up of leaders from the industrial, university, and political world in North America, Western Europe, and Japan, the Commission, under the skillful direction of Professor Zbigniew Brzezinski, has begun to actively look into what measures to take in view of the elaboration of general ideologies and strategies. I have confidence that the Commission, by putting together organisms which will execute its concepts and strategies, will play a primary role in eliminating the traditional obstacles to multinational collaboration."*

IPS wonders why Woodcock and his friends on the Trilateral Commission--I.W. Abel of the U.S. Steelworkers union and West German union bureaucrats Eugen Ioderer and Hans Vetter--bashfully play down the importance of the Tri-

lateral Commission when asked about it. Why be shy when David Rockefeller has such confidence that you will play a primary role in establishing world fascism?

### SPINOLA STAGES "LEFTIST VICTORY" IN PORTUGAL

Oct. 3 (IPS)--Stating that "new forms of slavery are being prepared under the flag of a false freedom" and predicting the oncoming of a period of leftist anarchy, Portuguese president Antonio de Spino-la has resigned as head of state. He has left political power in the hands of the semi-amorphous "Armed Forces Movement" (MFA) and its principal ally, the Portuguese Communist Party (PCP). Together with his top collaborator, the newly appointed stand-in president General Francisco da Costa Gomes, Spino-la is now preparing to first discredit and then annihilate the Portuguese left along Chilean lines.

General Spino-la, having achieved the necessary populist stature, has little use for the leftist forces which were instrumental in bringing him to power. Initially, Spino-la engaged in "tactical" collaboration with Portuguese leftists (and actually nurtured their recent revival) as the popular support which has turned him into Portugal's unrivalled fascist figure. With relative success he has involved the PCP and other left forces in promoting "self-policing style" strike-breaking austerity and other anti-labor activities.

But growing political opportunism on the part of numerous left and certain right political groupings has become an obstruction to the efficient intensification of the "New Portugal" fascist regimentation policies as well as to the initiation of labor-intensive "development" projects along similar popular participation lines in the African territories of Angola and Mozambique.

#### Part of the Plan

The so-called "political crisis" which led to Spino-la's abrupt, theatrical resignation this past weekend was in fact planned from the outset by the expert counterinsurgent himself. Over the past two weeks, Spino-la has intentionally instigated open confrontation with both the PCP and the MFA. In the case of the former, he began by implicitly referring to the PCP as "totalitarian extremists," while in the case of the latter, he, as well as Armed Forces head Gomes, began calling for the dissolving of the Coordinating Committee of the MFA, saying that it has completed its function.

Swallowing the bait, the PCP, in collaboration with the MFA, launched a renewed campaign to "guard against the returning forces of reaction." Overnight, the so-called "silent majority" group, composed of rightists allegedly supporting Spino-la and the MFA factions against growing PCP influence, sprang up. An initial rally held by the "silent majority" group in Lisbon led to massive PCP counterorganizing and subsequent confrontations between left and right groups. After this incident, Spino-la pushed for further provocations by supporting a similar "silent majority" rally the following week, although there were clear signs that mass public disorder would occur. "Despite" Spino-la's last minute banning of the rally, there erupted violent street fighting incidents between rightists and leftists. Rumors of assassination plots against MFA member Prime Minister Goncalves and a rightwing takeover raced through the city. These precipitated an eventual leftists' condemnation of reactionary maneuvers by Spino-la, which resulted in his resignation as well as the dismissal of several conservative junta generals and ministers.