

WEST GERMANS PLAN POLITICAL CHAOS FOR 1975

WIESBADEN, West Germany, Dec. 31 (IPS)--Leading layers of the three major bourgeois political parties in West Germany have decided that the only way to save their credibility in 1975 will be to make sure that no one quite knows which party is actually governing the country.

The present ruling coalition of the working-class-based Social Democratic Party (SPD) and the small Rockefeller-controlled Free Democratic Party (FDP) has been the government since 1969. Although overtures were made during 1974 to revive some variation of the pre-1969 "Great Coalition" of the SPD and the conservative opposition Christian Democratic Union, no political force dared take the responsibility for the massive economic collapse and unemployment spreading throughout West Germany in 1975. Now that the international Rockefeller forces are stymied in their push for "fascism with a democratic face," all parties are planning to huddle together in 1975 in a de facto "Great Coalition."

Former Social Democratic president of the German parliament, Annamarie Renger, stated that in 1975 all domestic parties are "capable of governing with each other." They could relieve each other in the "responsibility of government" without "danger" to the social system. At a recent national conference of the FDP, the other party in the coalition, the delegates resolved not to make any policy regarding which party the FDP ought to ally itself with after upcoming elections, leaving this decision to regional bodies.

The industrialist-allied newspaper Handelsblatt advised in a recent editorial that the opposition Christian Democratic Union not try to make itself too prominent in its opposition to government policy, supposedly because this would drive the FDP even closer to the SPD.

Even Franz-Josef Strauss' fascist Bavarian Christian Social Union has proposed to join this chaotic mish-mash government. Gerhard Stuecklen of the Christian Social Union parliamentary fraction has called upon the SPD-FDP coalition not to destroy "the last scrap of what the democratic parties have in common" through enmity and defamation. Stuecklen emphasized that in the year 1975 there is much more at stake than mere percentages won by each party.

Thus, for West German bourgeois political parties, all options will be wide open until at least May of this year, when the elections in the key industrial state of North Rhine-Westphalia will indicate to what extent Helmut Schmidt's SPD has lost credibility in the eyes of the working class.

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