

solidation of the Italian-French relationships" and his hope that Malfatti would be able to further that process from his new position in Rome.

The climate on continental Europe, characterized in particular by the Franco-German-Italian axis, simply leaves no room for the likes of Mitterrand — an outspoken advocate of zero growth, local control, and other fascist schemes — to continue to operate. His call for a nuclear moratorium has already been picked up by pro-development forces who intend to use it as the leading edge of their campaign to mop him up.

This was underscored by the decision of the Compagnie Française des Pétroles (CFP) to set up a lobby of committed industrialist figures to launch an all-out campaign for the implementation of a nuclear energy program. Their stated secondary focus is the political destruction of Mitterrand, an objective they share with not only the PCF, but also President Giscard, Premier Barre, Gaullist leader Jacques Chirac, and a wide array of European forces.

Barre spoke on national television Oct. 7 to denounce Mitterrand as the "Prince of Equivocation." Mitterrand, Barre stated, "excels only in error and failure" but has tried to put himself in the place of the Communists as the legitimate representative of working-class interests. The real reason for the break-up of the Union of the Left, he explained, is the Communist leader Georges Marchais who "doesn't want to become a stepping stone for Mitterrand, nor, if you pardon the expression, the chicken that would be plucked."

Barre's statement ends speculation that President Giscard might heed the advice of Centrist (CDS) party leader Jean Lecanuet, who is calling for a new center-left

government including Mitterrand and the SP in the place of the Gaullist party. Barre assured that his plan to broaden the base of the government entails not "changing its composition," but changing its "dimension," by pulling in large numbers of former socialist voters.

This implication of Barre's television statement brought howls of rage from Mitterrand's supporters in the French press. *Le Monde* commentator Raymond Barrillon accused both the Prime Minister and the Communists of forming a de facto alliance to destroy Mitterrand. *Le Matin's* editors meanwhile wrote that "Barre hopes that by breaking Mitterrand, he will be able to splinter the Socialist Party into pieces and recuperate — if not its disoriented militants — then certainly a great part of its electors."

But this same government strategy has already received the essential endorsement of the powerful Mayor of Paris, Jacques Chirac, who is president of the Gaullist Party (RPR). Lecanuet's proposal to expel the Gaullists and coopt Mitterrand into an Atlanticist government is a pipe dream, said Chirac. A government "in which neither the Gaullists nor the Communists" are included could not survive. He elaborated: "a Mitterrand-Poniatowski-Lecanuet government would be a parody of the Fourth Republic, a government of instability, demagogery, impotence." The Poniatowski referenced is the former Minister of the Interior and former president of Giscard's Republican Party, expelled from both functions for his relationship to international terrorist networks as well as his outspoken preference for Mitterrand.

— Dana Sloan

## Brandt Plays SPD Left Against Schmidt

The ultraleft, proterrorism wing of the West German Social Democratic Party (SPD) is threatening to split away from Chancellor Helmut Schmidt if the Chancellor does not put an end to his developing labor-industry alliance with the opposition Christian Democracy.

---

### WEST GERMANY

---

Schmidt's supporters, however, have told the terrorist sympathizers, in so many words that such a split might not be too bad — their role in the party is "kaput" anyway.

The SPD, an uneasy mix of honest trade union politics and Fabian counterinsurgency since the postwar Allied Occupation, is feeling the pressure from the Schmidt government's growing alliance with sections of the opposition Christian Democrats in favor of nuclear energy development and antiterrorism. This alliance is creating the environment in which genuine national interests are being seen as far more important than party politicking. The effect of this on the SPD Fabians, the City of London-allied traitors who defend the right of the Baader-Meinhof terrorist gang to assassinate West Germany's in-

dustrial leadership, is to force them out. But, they want to go out with fanfare.

Willy Brandt, the granddaddy of SPD Fabian counterinsurgents, is quietly playing both sides. On Sept. 30, Brandt got 15 top SPD officials to vote against Schmidt's new antiterrorism legislation. The next week, he attacked the 15 in the party weekly *Vorwärts* for "shaking the government's majority." Brandt's is a telltale game of using the threat of a left split to maximize pressure on Schmidt, while not committing himself openly to the left. If Brandt overplays his hand, he could end up with the rest of the scum — out on his ear.

Brandt's game came to light at an Oct. 9 author's meeting on "What is the Left Today?". With longtime Brandt campaign supporters Günter Grass and Heinrich Böll in attendance, the entertainment focused on a "debate" between Brandt protégé Horst Ehmke and SPD leftwing terrorist Rudi Dutschke, who finally agreed to define a "leftist" as "a person who expresses solidarity with defenseless terrorist sympathizers." The following day, Dutschke called for an open left split in the party, citing the recent resignation of Brandt understudy Joachim Steffen from the SPD Executive Committee, as a "growing trend."

Brandt is not succeeding, however. The entire slate of left SPDers for the November party congress was

EUROPE 3

defeated the same day Dutschke issued his call. Schmidt supporters told local press that the ouster of four women from the Baden-Wurtemberg SPD was "no loss, they were all on the extreme left." The industry-linked daily Nachrichten confirmed this verdict Oct. 10, editorializing that if Brandt tried an updated version of his successful 1933 left splitaway from the SPD, he would find most of the membership on the side of Chancellor Schmidt and parliamentary fraction leader Herbert Wehner.

Schmidt, who has become much less susceptible to

Brandt-orchestrated party pressures because of the support for his policies from other parties, made the matter clear on Sept. 23, when he jogged Brandt's memory on his term as Chancellor in the 1960s. Brandt, "said that the Chancellor must be above all parties, above the party he came from...I think that the Chancellor has to represent the country as a whole too," Schmidt said.

— James Cleary