

# Haig stumps—and stumbles—in Europe

Henry Kissinger pulled all the tricks out of his old “shuttle diplomat’s” suitcase this weekend, in an effort to mobilize the powerbrokers of Western Europe behind the military buildup policies of 1980 presidential hopeful Gen. Alexander Haig. Speaking at a conference on the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) in Brussels, Belgium, sponsored by the Georgetown Center for Strategic Studies of Washington, D.C., Kissinger and Haig demanded the introduction of the U.S. Cruise and Pershing 2 missiles into Western Europe, under the rubric of “modernization of European Theater nuclear forces.” They called for the expansion of NATO’s powers into the Middle East, and warned the West European participants to cease their opposition to Washington’s Camp David Mideast policy.

But the governments of continental Europe are not climbing on the Haig bandwagon. In public statements and intensive behind-the-scenes maneuvering they are insisting on their commitment to detente with the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe, and on their reluctance to introduce the new nuclear missiles onto the continent unless all other options for Western Europe’s defense collapse.

At the three-day Brussels conference, the threat was in the air that if Kissinger and Haig went too far the Europeans would bolt, and the newly emerged political alliance between Paris and Bonn would take on military components—possibly even including the withdrawal of West Germany from NATO. Two prominent French Gaullists, General Georges Buis and Alexandre Sanguinetti, circulated a controversial proposal last week for a “marriage between the

French ‘force de frappe’ (nuclear weapons capability—ed.) and West German industry.” The proposal includes West German withdrawal from NATO and the establishment of a joint Franco-German command structure.

While this “trial balloon” has been rejected by sources close to the Bonn and Paris governments, Haig and Kissinger have every reason to fear that those governments will intensify their cooperation and continue to act for detente and development deals with Eastern Europe.

West German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt, in an interview to the French daily *Le Figaro* released Sept. 1, the same day that Kissinger spoke in Brussels, emphasized West Germany’s intention to work for European cooperation from the Atlantic to the Urals. Schmidt defined Germany’s historic role “as a state in the center of Europe, to work for a policy of balance between East and West ... to provide the space for various

currents and elements in European culture and civilization.”

This mission was interrupted by the Hitler era, Schmidt said, as Hitler’s war broke off Germany’s historic ties to both the East and the West. The time has come to restore this role, Schmidt said, through the policy of detente with the East and cooperation with France.

Schmidt hailed the alliance between French General Charles de Gaulle and West German Chancellor Adenauer during the 1960s for “opening the door to Franco-German understanding and cooperation ... the German and French people have gone through this door, and are bearing their joint responsibility for Europe and for peace in the world.

“To maintain peace it is necessary to continue and develop the policy of balance and detente. That requires special efforts and care in the area of arms control and disarmament. All states are called upon to make their contributions.”

## **The Week in Brief**

**The Baltimore regional headquarters of the U.S. Labor Party reported Sept. 6 that it had received two death threats against the life of 1980 presidential candidate Lyndon H. LaRouche, USLP chairman. LaRouche is scheduled for a full round of appearances in Baltimore from Friday, Sept. 7 until Monday, Sept. 10, including addresses before the Independent Voters’ League and the Arlington, Va. chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.**

At 9 a.m., two telephone threats against the life of Mr. LaRouche and former congressional candidate Debra Hanania Freeman were phoned into the Baltimore home of Mrs. Freeman. The first caller delivered a message: “If we don’t get LaRouche, we’ll get you.” The second caller, who identified himself as a “Zionist businessman,” tried to convince Mrs. Freeman to dissuade the LaRouche party from making a local appearance. “You will never take Baltimore from us,” he said.

USLP officials blame the same circles responsible for circulation of slanders that LaRouche is a "new Hitler" in New York City for the Baltimore threats. In New York, this slander was initiated by *Our Town*, a weekly controlled by Zionist-mob lawyer Roy Cohn; on Sept. 5, the *Prince George Journal*, a weekly serving Maryland's Prince George County, published its second slander against LaRouche on the same theme. The *Journal* article cited members of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith as saying that LaRouche is "anti-Semitic."

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Hurricane David is past, but harsh winds continue to blow from Washington to Moscow. Following the tense Lyudmilla Vlasova affair—in which the Carter administration came off looking the more foolish, in the eyes of impartial observers—the latest issue to aggravate U.S.-Soviet relations is the reported intelligence confirmation that the Soviet Union has perhaps 2,000 combat troops in Cuba. Held hostage this time is the SALT II treaty, where Senate action is in abeyance pending resolution of the troops issue.

On Sept. 5, Secretary of State Cyrus Vance told a press conference that the troops were a "matter of serious concern" to the U.S., "affecting our relations with the Soviet Union. Together with CIA Director Stansfield Turner, Vance also held closed door meetings on the troops, which may have been in Cuba for as long as three years, with the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. Following the briefing, Senator Frank Church (D-Idaho), the Committee's chairman, said that he sees little chance of Senate approval of the SALT treaty until the Soviet troops are removed—an assessment echoed by ranking minority member Senator Jacob Javits (R-N.Y.).

An additional blow to the SALT treaty came last week as well, when a statement signed by 1678 retired U.S. military officers was released, calling for the treaty's rejection because it is

"injurious to the security interests of the United States and its allies."

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Inflation can only be controlled through "production, production, and more production," Mexican President Jose Lopez Portillo stressed in his third state of the nation address on Sept. 1. And the president reaffirmed that the goal of his administration—as of the Mexican revolution and constitution—is industrialization and "modernization." "To modernize this country is to free ourselves once and for all from colonialism within Mexico by destroying the feudal sway of the caciques [bosses—ed.]; in the international sphere, by establishing relations, not between master and servant, but between equal human beings," he said.

Lopez Portillo's speech is yet another resounding "no" to pressures from the Carter administration for Mexico to abandon its industrialization policy and instead create labor-intensive "employment" in the countryside (see LATIN AMERICA); he condemned "demagogic agrarianism that limits and bogs down production" and stressed that urban-centered industrial employment is the future of Mexico. A full report on the speech will be featured in our next issue.

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Two hundred and fifty Colombians attended the first major public meeting of the newly formed National Anti-Drug Coalition of Colombia. The meeting was held in the municipal stadium of Cali, the third largest city and capital of the agricultural state of Valle del Cauca, on Sept. 4.

A broad cross-section of the population was represented, including trade unionists, students, doctors, peasant leaders, and representatives of the Catholic Church. The event is being described as a major victory for the new organization which advocates eradicating Colombia's marijuana crop with paraquat spraying.

Observers attribute the revocation on Sept. 6 of an arrest warrant

against National Anti-Drug Coalition organizer Fausto Charris to the success of the Cali event. The arrest warrant related to charges brought by factional opponents in the FAN-AL peasant organization Mr. Charris formerly led. In fact, behind the factional maneuvering against Charris stood Conservative Party powerhouse Alvaro Gomez Hurtado, an advocate of marijuana legalization. The revocation of the arrest warrant is seen as a tactical retreat on Gomez's part made necessary by the Cali success.

Those at the meeting were committed to carrying on the anti-drug activity which includes building for an international meeting of anti-drug organizers planned for Bogota in November. Eighty signed up to be members of the organizing committee and planned a follow-up business meeting for Sept. 8.

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Presidential candidate Lyndon H. LaRouche's strategy for the New Hampshire primary is to put together a cross-party "fusion" slate based on a programmatic commitment to reviving the American System of economic growth. "I want to run on a full slate. I want two congressional candidates behind my program. I want a senatorial candidate. And I want a gubernatorial candidate on the slate with me," LaRouche told a Sept. 4 news conference in Manchester.

LaRouche, who was on the ballot in New Hampshire and 25 other states in the 1976 presidential race, now has a forty-person team of organizers boosting his effort in the critical New Hampshire primary sweepstakes. "I will work at the state and local level with good people who will endorse my program, regardless of their party affiliation," LaRouche declares. "Both Republicans and Democrats deserve a competent president. I want responsible good people on my slate in New Hampshire." (For more on LaRouche's views, see SPECIAL REPORT).

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