

Mitterrand, Wharton, and Tavistock are out to butcher the city of Paris

by Dana Sloan

On June 30, the Socialist government of French President François Mitterrand announced its intention to present to the National Assembly this fall a scheme to break the city of Paris up into 20 independent municipalities, permanently ending the French capital city's centuries-long role as the economic, political, and cultural center of the French nation.

This plan originated about a decade ago, at the Philadelphia, Pennsylvania Wharton School, a U.S. outpost of the London Tavistock Institute, when French President Georges Pompidou and the French regional planning agency DATAR requested that the Wharton School map out a program for halving the population of Paris. Pompidou's request was taken up by Wharton's Worldwide Institutions Research grouping, and incorporated into a project which resulted in a 1981 proposal for the creation of Hong Kong-style "international cities," administratively decentralized, and economically and politically separate from the nations they happened to be located within, on several continents in both the Third World and the industrialized sector.

It is not properly surprising that Mitterrand should be the French president to move the decentralization proposal for Paris from the drawing boards to implementation. Mitterrand, after all, was groomed and put into power to preside over the dismantling of the French nation-state, by associates of the same Tavistock Institute that oversaw development of the Paris plan. The French Socialist Party which carried him into power was molded out of the remnants of the French section of the Worker's International during the 1950s, by leading Tavistock Institute operatives in France such as Michael Crozier. Crozier's influence was wielded in large part through the Club Jean Moulin, most inappropriately named for the Gaullist Resistance leader betrayed to the Nazis in 1943 by Mitterrand's Vichyite friends. Crozier's energies, and those of other Club Moulin collaborators, including Jean-Jacques Servan-Schreiber of *L'Express* magazine and her Majesty's Ambassador to Paris Lord Gladwyn, were directed almost exclusively to unsuccessfully sabotaging the return to power in 1958 of Charles de Gaulle, the founder of the strongly centralized Fifth French Republic.

Nothing in Mitterrand's performance since he assumed the French presidency following the defeat of Valéry Giscard d'Estaing in May 1981, has indicated that he will depart from this pedigree. To the contrary: a few months before his announcement of the Paris balkanization plan, at the Versailles economic summit of industrialized nations, Mitterrand grant-

ed the International Monetary Fund surveillance rights over the entire French economy. This was not only a blow to French national sovereignty, but provided a vital impetus to the designs of the feudalist European oligarchy, masters of the Tavistock planners, to dissolve all of the continent's nation-states into the decentralized and deindustrialized "Europe of the regions" confederation of ethnic and regional entities so long championed by such fascists as Count Otto von Hapsburg and his environmentalist allies.

For this design to be successfully implemented, Paris must be economically, politically, and culturally destroyed. Like Mexico City—the political and cultural center of one of Ibero-America's most ambitiously developing nations—and Philadelphia—the historic birthplace of American republicanism—the two other targets of the Tavistock-Wharton School "international cities" project, the city of Paris is a unique phenomenon among all the cities of its continent. Throughout French history, Paris has dominated the political, cultural, and economic growth of the nation. It has been, and remains, France's leading population center; in fact, no other city in the country can claim major metropolitan status. Despite anomalies and problems in its pattern of growth, it serves as the symbol of national unity, without which the French nation would be severely diminished.

Where is the opposition?

Since the release of the Paris decentralization plan, the major French opposition parties have closed ranks around Jacques Chirac, the mayor of Paris and leader of the neo-Gaullist RPR party, as their chosen spokesman against the plan. Chirac, who helped oust Giscard and elect Mitterrand by instructing his machine to vote for the Socialist candidate in May 1981, is now hitting the president hard on the 20-cities scheme. But his opposition comes largely from the fact that Wharton's blueprint to decentralize and deindustrialize Paris will disperse his base and destroy the power of his office.

In fact, neither Chirac nor any spokesman of Giscard's ousted UDF party has challenged the balkanization scheme as an attack on the French, or other nations. Nor has any opposition leader identified the Tavistock-centered network of planners, think tankers, futurists, and environmentalists behind the push for "international cities" transformation of other cultural and political centers worldwide.

This blindness to the actual threat posed by Wharton's

decentralization scheme has persisted to the point that warnings against Tavistock and its oligarchist backers by Jacques Cheminade, secretary general of the European Labor Party in France (POE) and challenger to Chirac in next spring's elections for mayor of Paris, have been characterized by UDF leaders as attempts to divide the opposition to Mitterrand on this question. This wrongheadedness on crucial questions of national survival results from Tavistock's long-term pollution of France's policy-making institutions. Tavistock-spawned policies have infiltrated the programs and thinking of each of the major French parties. We shall see below one example of how this occurred, with a review of the activities of DATAR, a national agency devoted to regional affairs, over the last two decades.

Tavistock/Wharton's plan today

In the early 1970s a team of Tavistock Institute researchers centered at the Wharton School in Philadelphia began what they termed an "international cities" project. Dr. Howard Perlmutter, Director of Worldwide Institutions Research at Wharton and Dr. Hasan Ozbekhan, dean of the Wharton School Systems Science Department—both direct collaborators of Dr. Eric Trist, Tavistock's director during the 1950s—headed the team which, at the request of President Georges Pompidou and the French regional planning agency, DATAR, began to map out the program for halving the population of greater Paris and *shifting the capital of France to the city of Orleans*.

As Dr. Perlmutter put it in one of his writings on the project: "Paris is given to the world and the capital of France is moved to Orleans. It is now considered to be a plan for the city, but a plan in steps. . . . Some day the city will be given to the world through a series of steps. . . . Very few people outside the political process would understand such a program. . . . Someday people will discover the change."

At the time the report was commissioned, DATAR was headed by Michel Monod, a member of the environmentalist, oligarchy-controlled Club of Rome, who is now also a member of the Hudson Institute. The project coordinator in France was Michel Albert, a political collaborator of Socialist fellow-traveller Servan-Schreiber. The latter has now been designated by President Mitterrand to operate a World Center for Computers (mini-computers and artificial intelligence) in Paris, which is designed to help accomplish one of Dr. Perlmutter's stated objectives: "Industry will disappear altogether (from Paris), all that will be left will be télématique. We proposed, and it is already being done, that nobody will ever build a new factory in Paris again."

The role of DATAR

Since its creation in 1963, the DATAR (Délégation à l'aménagement du territoire et à l'action régionale) has been committed to precisely such a policy, though it rarely comes out publicly with the kinds of brazen statements that its co-thinkers from other countries dare express. The economic

approach of the DATAR, which has now been incorporated into all aspects of economic policy under the Socialist Party government, has always been Malthusian redistributionism: sharing the poverty instead of creating new wealth, which explains why the Tavistock Institute's psychological-sociological manipulation techniques have always been such a crucial component of the policy. Recently, the watch-word for this approach has become "solidarity"

The origins of DATAR go back to the immediate post-war period, with the publication of the book *Paris et la Désert Français* by geographer Jean-François Gravier. The idea of Paris as an octopus whose growth was responsible for stifling the development of the rest of the country was incorporated into official policy by Eugène Claudius-Petit, who served as Minister of Reconstruction and Urbanism from 1948 through 1955 and briefly as Minister of Labor under Prime Minister Pierre Mendès-France. Claudius-Petit had parliament create the first National Fund for "Aménagement du Territoire" (regional planning) which offered special incentives for firms to close shop in Paris and relocate elsewhere, and required special authorization for expansion of facilities within the city. Before taking office as a minister, Claudius-Petit was President of the National Assembly group of the Union Démocratique et Socialiste de la Résistance (UDSR), Mitterrand's party of the time.

Today DATAR is headed by Bernard Attali, the twin brother of Jacques Attali, Mitterrand's top "Young Turk" adviser, temporarily serving as chief of staff of the presidential Elysée palace. Bernard Attali had just finished a two-year stint as head of financial operations of the Club Méditerranée, the international tourism network which has been the subject of numerous investigations for acting as a front for Israeli intelligence and for laundering of "dirty" money.

The importance of DATAR far exceeds its 3 billion franc annual budget, according to a high-ranking DATAR official. It has veto power over any investment of significance in Paris, and applications for any building or enterprise needing more space than 1,000 square meters are usually rejected. Until the 1981 presidential elections, DATAR reported directly to the Prime Minister, but now has its own ministry, currently occupied by the technocrat Michel Rocard.

Critics of DATAR have pointed out that DATAR's powers are unconstitutional, since they deprive the legitimately elected representatives of the city's citizens of elementary powers granted to all other city governments: namely the ability to give approval to economic projects considered to be in the interests of the city.

DATAR's policy of deindustrializing Paris also provides a poor cover for throwing lower class immigrant workers out of the country. Speaking at a DATAR conference in Nice in May 1977, Minister of Equipment and Regional Planning Jean-Pierre Fourcade said so in so many words. "In the industrial domain, continuing the decentralization of sizeable firms which no longer have their place in the Paris region" will be important, he declared, "notably because they only

What the think tankers say about their plans

From an interview with Dr. Howard Perlmutter, Wharton School Worldwide Institutions Research director:

Wharton's Worldwide Institutions Research center is engaged in "charting the end of the nation-state, which is the cause of all wars and dissension and will eventually be the cause of nuclear holocaust unless we get rid of it." According to Perlmutter, a book he plans to co-author with Eric Trist, *Social Architecture for a Human Future*, "will cover the breakdown and restructuring of the major institutions of society. We will be studying how to totally redesign all of the major institutions The main thesis is that as the world economic system integrates, nation-states will have to disappear. . . . Restructuring must go on at the level of the individual's own thinking in society."

"Paris could no longer be French, and no longer belong to the French nation—which was in any case not a viable institution in its form at the time."

From an interview with Dr. Hasan Ozbekhan, dean of the Wharton School Social Systems Science Department:

The growth of population in the Third World is a great tragedy, and unless population there is reduced rapidly, our whole universe will undergo decay and dissolution. It is now a foregone conclusion that we are entering such an era. . . .

The nature of our task, of Eric Trist's task, is the normative design of new institutions which can establish a new order for the post-industrial society. By normative, I mean *we* must decide how things ought to be, not how they are.

Excerpts from the DATAR report "Paris: Ville Internationale," May 1973:

"There is no doubt that great periods of cultural creativity have corresponded to the great, sometimes ostentatious freedom of expression for new forms. We have only to think of surrealism or existentialism. . . . In order to be born and to express itself, cultural innovation requires a heterogenous and permissive environment, what used to be called bohemianism. . . . This is the major problem: Paris is too classical, too institutional, it has not adapted to the new dimension of culture which has spread and imposed itself in advanced industrial societies: mass culture.

develop there by using foreign labor power, whereas they could, if they were set up in the provinces where they could recruit local labor with ease, contribute very efficiently to the solution of the employment problem."

Beyond balkanization

The Mitterrand government has plans to increase Tavistock's role in national economic planning as well as in its approach to foreign policy. A subsidiary of the government's Atomic Energy Commission, Compagnie Internationale de Services en Informatique (CISI), has just announced its plans to buy up control of Wharton Econometric Forecasting Associates (WEFA). Directed by Lawrence Klein, Jimmy Carter's economic taskforce chairman for the 1976 presidential campaign, WEFA has pioneered the use of computer technology for quantitative econometric models, the kind that have been used for projects ranging from the Club of Rome's infamous *Limits to Growth* to President Carter's genocidal *Global 2000 Report*. Klein, like others at Wharton, was trained by networks of Tavistock's psychological warfare division.

The "futures" movement (in France, the "futuribles"), is playing its role in the decentralization and deindustrialization movement as well. One of the most renowned names in futurology, Pierre Massé, was also the first to get "aménagement du territoire" integrated into national planning when he directed the drafting of the Fourth Plan for 1960-65.

Just how far do the Tavistock futurists intend to go in "reducing" Paris? Although this would take decades and a few more oil shocks, Paris should be decentralized out of existence altogether, according to one current. In the June 1974 issue of *Futures* magazine, on whose board sits Wharton's Hasan Ozbekhan, Dr. James Bellini of the Hudson Institute's Paris office redraws a map of Europe in a study called "Europe of the Regions in the 1980s." Paris is not included in any of the three "greater European regions" defined.

Cultural degradation also underway

As the policy of destroying the industrial infrastructure was being put into effect, the cultural side of the project was also begun, in 1969, when President Pompidou commissioned the Paris museum that has now become the atrocity known as the Centre Beaubourg. Here is the kind of deliberate ugliness designed to "restructure" individual thinking, as Dr. Perlmutter might say. It is not surprising that as one walks around the back of this mass of exposed drainage pipes one encounters a scene of social hedonism rivaled only by New York's Central Park.

That is not the only part of Paris that will soon resemble New York if the Socialist government has its way. Not the New York of large office towers, but the New York of collapsing social services, subways that seem like a passage out of Dante's Inferno, a spreading drug plague, and violent crime.