

even enough for themselves. . . .

Because of this, Mao quite often decided according to his whim to move millions of people to the peasant villages or the wilderness border provinces when he was in power. After the Cultural Revolution, he was able to send millions of Red Guards to the wilderness border provinces, thanks to this same food control system. This system is a thousand times more powerful than military forces. Military power can only control a limited number of persons, but not all the people. Military power can control people only temporarily, and not over the long term. But by using food control tactics, with the military forces as the backup, Mao was able to control China for a long time.

Ever since Deng Xiaoping seized power, he has used the economic policy of the open door. This has brought a progressive loosening of the food control system. Today in mainland China, there are 800 million farmers. Today, after the Communists abolished the communes [Mao's collective farms—ed.], almost all of these 800 million self-employed farmers have received some farmland. Because of their hard work, normally they can reach self-sufficiency and have extra farm products to sell on the free market. So in those small farming villages, a large number of individual family economic units have been springing up like bamboo shoots.

According to the calculations of a professor from the Chinese University in Hong Kong, there are approximately 17 million individual family economic units. This figure means that, compared with the level of the 1950s, the number of private enterprises has doubled. Those so-called individual family economic units have made a great contribution to the Chinese economy, and they have been encouraged by Deng Xiaoping. Some people say that after the massacre at Tiananmen, there is a large possibility that mainland China will return to the Mao period. But in my own view, that is impossible, because the Communists will not be able to take back the farmland from those 800 million farmers, and there is no way to wipe out those individual family economic units.

Compare this with the 1950s, when Mao Zedong was able to use his dirty tricks to exploit the people's illusions about the Communist Party that made them want to contribute and sacrifice themselves. Then, the farmers automatically gave up their land to form the communes, and the private companies were willing to be subordinated to joint ventures with the government. But today, the whole situation is entirely different. Since we have 800 million farmers and 17 million individual family economic units, the Communists cannot use their food control system any more.

And, under these circumstances, it is impossible for Communist China to reestablish control over the communication and transportation of the population. Therefore, even though the Communists are using these horrible massacre methods, they can only stop the democracy movement temporarily. Even though they use a Big Lie propaganda campaign to cover up, this can fool only a few people. Effective control won't exist for very much longer.—*To be continued.*

London insiders say Thatcher won't last

by Mark Burdman

Highest-level London sources have informed *EIR* that the prevailing factions in the British and American establishments have made a decision to wreck the British government of Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher as rapidly as possible.

The sources stress that Thatcher does not fit into the particular form of "Anglo-American special relationship" desired both by the Bush administration and by leading City of London and Foreign Office influentials, typified by Midland Bank's Sir Michael Palliser, a former senior official at the British Foreign Office and a close associate of Henry Kissinger. Whatever confusion there may be in Thatcher's own personal views on the future of the NATO military alliance, she is most uneasy about prospects for large-scale American troop withdrawals from the continent, and is inclined to intervene, in her own way, to prevent these withdrawals.

In the eyes of the Bush administration and its counterparts in Britain, her reluctance has cast her in the role of a major stumbling block for American disengagement from continental Europe and for realizing the Kissinger-Bush "New Yalta" concept of reordering European affairs.

EIR's sources report that an array of scandals are beginning to erupt, and will continue to erupt, initially targeting Mrs. Thatcher's immediate family and perhaps members of her cabinet, as a step toward going after the prime minister herself later.

The first of these, is a peculiar story involving ties between Attwoods, a private firm whose deputy chairman is Denis Thatcher, Mrs. Thatcher's husband, and a U. S. company called National Waste Disposal, which is allegedly tied to the mafia. While many of the allegations in this case are approximately three years old, in early July Britain's Channel 4 suddenly decided to broadcast a show about the mooted Attwoods mafia connections. The Channel 4 account was then summarized in a news feature in the London *Financial Times*.

On July 9, the *Observer*, the weekly Sunday newspaper owned by the disreputable Tiny Rowland's Lonrho Corporation, ran a story labeled "Exclusive," presenting ostensible

evidence of National Waste Disposal's "organized crime" links. Beyond this, it claimed that two months ago, Attwoods agreed to pay at least \$20 million for National Waste Disposal. The paper commented on Mrs. Thatcher's husband: "Denis Thatcher has been a director of Attwoods since 1983. [Attwoods chairman Ken] Foreman describes the prime minister's husband as 'very much involved in the day-to-day running of the company' and 'fully aware of everything that goes on in our company.' "

Rowland's *Observer* and other publications are also expected to retread old scandals concerning the involvement of Mrs. Thatcher's son Mark in shady, behind-the-scenes business arrangements leading to the 1984 purchase of the House of Fraser Harrods interests by Egypt's al-Fayed family. Rowland's propaganda apparatus insists that it was only illicit intervention by the Thatcher government that prevented Rowland himself from taking over the House of Fraser.

'Summer of discontent'

All of this would not hurt so much, were it not for the fact that Mrs. Thatcher is facing growing domestic political woes, clearly indicated in the July 7-9 Gallup Poll giving the opposition Labour Party a 13-point lead among voters.

This Labour Party resurgence is obviously not unrelated to the resurgence of activism by Britain's trade unions. The

country is entering what is widely being called Britain's "summer of discontent." Beginning the weekend of July 8, Britain entered its worst period of industrial strife in 10 years.

At midnight July 9, the train drivers' union ASLEF began a total ban on overtime work, seriously affecting commuters nationally. During the night of July 10, an indefinite dock strike began, affecting approximately 48 of Britain's 60 ports, and threatening vital imports and exports. On July 11, more than 500,000 municipal workers began a 48-hour strike which affected critical services in towns and cities across the United Kingdom. On July 12, workers for British Rail and the London Underground held a one-day work stoppage, for the fourth consecutive week. Also during the week of July 10, engineering unions took a vote among workers at dozens of the nation's biggest exporters, to see if they favor strike action. Strikes are anticipated in other sectors as well.

As the *Times* of London noted July 10, Britain's last great episode of labor unrest, the miners' strike, may have been more bitter, but the current disputes have a more direct impact on millions of people.

According to July 9 British Sunday papers, Mrs. Thatcher has taken command over a new Cabinet strategy group to deal with the strike wave. However, the very resurgence of union activism has badly undermined her credibility, since she has boasted for the past few years that her political strength is based on her having definitively broken the back of Britain's unions.

Xenophobic campaign flops

Discontent is also growing within Conservative Party circles about Thatcher, who is seen as having made crucial political mistakes in the recent period that have only made matters worse. This discontent is rife not only among those known in Britain as "wets"—i.e., soft on the Russians and liberal-Fabian on domestic social issues—but also among individuals and factions usually sympathetic to Mrs. Thatcher. They regard her recent campaigns against the global-fascist "Europe 1992" plan for restructuring Western Europe to have been an unmitigated disaster—not because they disagree in substance with her polemic against the "socialist, corporatist, and supranationalist" mafia running the European Community bureaucracy in Brussels, but because she allowed the campaign to degenerate into crude "us against Europe" xenophobia. Worse, this xenophobia campaign, in part aimed at playing up to chauvinistic sentiments in sectors of Britain's population, has massively backfired. In the mid-June elections for the European Parliament, the Tories suffered catastrophic losses.

Unhappy Tories point out that Thatcher's boasts about having resolved many of Britain's economic problems are groundless. Unemployment is still high, and Britain is now plagued with the extraordinary and debilitating combination of interest rates hovering in the 14-15% range and inflation running at about 8.5%.

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