

'De Gaulle-Adenauer'-Type Alliance Emerges:

Focus On European Economic Recovery

French Prime Minister Raymond Barre's recent interview defending West Germany's Schmidt government against Washington and London criticisms that Bonn has contributed too little toward inflationary stimulation of the world economy (see *International Report*), has provided an official signal that Franco-German collaboration of the type that characterized relations between former French President Charles de Gaulle and West German Chancellor Konrad Adenauer between 1958 and 1963, has been reestablished as the basis for reviving Europe's sagging economy.

Such collaboration pits Western Europe's two largest economies squarely opposed to the Lazard Freres and City of London banking interests which have unleashed terrorism throughout Europe to back up their demands for European hyperinflation policies as a vehicle for refinancing present bankrupt international monetary structures and establishing City of London hegemony over them.

The Barre interview puts official economic policy firmly behind a swarm of major Franco-German deals which have emerged in recent weeks.

Collaboration between the two countries is presently most developed in the field of nuclear energy planning. France recently proposed that it make available to West Germany its own technological expertise in facilities for nuclear waste reprocessing and storage. Under the proposal, French experts will assist in the construction of West Germany's first reprocessing facility at Gorleben. As noted in the conservative daily *Die Welt* Sept. 24, this offer has pulled the rug out from under environmentalist organizations which have used the absence of such facilities in the Federal Republic to gain court approval for postponement of construction of fission and fast breeder plants.

The French offer follows agreements reached in June between the French and Soviet governments for massive

scientific collaboration in nuclear energy research, including technologies for fast breeder development. At that time, conservative industrial circles mooted the possibility of West Germany linking up with these agreements.

Now, the *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung* reports that the Christian Democratic Union's energy experts are going to propose that France and West Germany collaborate to continue the JET (Joint European Torus) fusion project themselves, bypassing the British who have stalled the project for months with a series of procedural snarls concerning the siting of the project, etc.

At the same time, West Germany's industrial daily *Handelsblatt* recently reported favorably on French agreements with Niger for a massive expansion of Niger's uranium mining. According to this report, France will finance construction of five uranium processing installations by paying higher prices on present uranium deliveries. This will permit Niger to increase output to 8,000 tons per year by 1985. West Germany also relies on Niger for uranium supplies.

Moreover, the West German Nuclear Construction Consortium has agreed to aid in the construction of France's second nuclear fuel reprocessing plant.

Indicating the direction in which the Franco-German collaboration is heading, a leading French banker recently told this publication that a new gold-backed monetary system is the only workable solution to the international economic crisis. He added that his circles of colleagues also favor an agreement with the Soviet Union to use gold-pegged transferable ruble accounts to finance long-term East-West trade. It is widely known in French financial circles that the major French private bank, Parisbas, also favors such a solution as a basis for issuance of credit to expand economic development.

The British In Europe: De Gaulle's Worst Fears Realized?

The accession of former Labour Party Minister Roy Jenkins as head of the European Commission last January, the apparent proof of Britain's final "Europeanization," has, ironically, signalled one of the most serious challenges to the concept of an independent Europe in the European Community's history. As a stalking horse for top neoFabian cothinkers in the United States, Jenkins, in conjunction with the current British government and financier factions in the City of London, has been pushing the reform of key EEC institutions and

policies to one purpose: to anchor the EEC as a strong partner for the collapsing "Anglo-Saxon" monetary system.

Not that some people in Europe do not understand the British operation. Before his assassination, Dresdner Bank chairman Jürgen Ponto was organizing a Franco-German axis in Europe to draw Arab funds — now pouring into speculation in New York and London — towards funding of international development projects. And, a top French banking official made his govern-

ment's views very clear during a private discussion with EIR this week when he commented: "We find it extremely ironical that the British are now proposing European Monetary Union which was originally a French initiative. What Jenkins wants, of course, is a common European currency which the City of London can sit on top of."

The Jenkins Initiative

Jenkins has made little secret of his collaboration with the Carter Administration, openly labelling his economic and social programs the European equivalents of Carter's contentious energy and "full employment" policies.

In his first major programmatic presentation to the European Parliament on Feb. 9, Jenkins clearly laid out the strategy of his Atlanticist collaborators. Above all, he said, Europe must become a strong, unified, whole from which it could carry out united foreign policy initiatives, as well as undertaking major programs to ease unemployment and low industrial investment throughout the Community — hardly objectives which any European could disagree with. But Jenkins's methods for achieving his goals smacked of unadulterated Fabian "share the wealth" schemes, a strategy which the West Germans have had little trouble in identifying as primarily an attempt to sap Germany's relative industrial strength. The real give-away in Jenkins's speech, however, was his stress on the EEC's need to collaborate closely with the U.S., a statement which in the days of General De Gaulle would have rightly elicited cries of "Perfide Albion!" Tossing aside more than 25 years of postwar European history, Jenkins proclaimed: "We shall play our full part in achieving a firm cooperation between Europe and the United States. *There has never been any contradiction between European unity and as close as possible an Atlantic relationship.*" (emphasis added)

It is hardly coincidental that Jenkins's declaration immediately followed his consultations with Vice President Mondale during Mondale's tour of Europe. Mondale's visit marked the beginning of an intensive campaign by the U.S. and its partners in Britain to "politicize" the EEC. This campaign has centered around the demands for "reflation" in the strong industrial countries, i.e., West Germany, Japan, and the United States. British organizing for German and Japanese reflation and concurrent insistence that Third World and other lending continue to be recycled through the existing institutions of the IMF and World Bank,

culminated in the London Summit May 10-11, at which Jenkins was present (despite strong French protestations), the first time an EEC official has attended a Western economic summit.

Jenkins's grand scheme is to establish a "Marshall Plan" for Europe which would recycle funds away from financially strong West Germany and the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) towards the underdeveloped regions of Western Europe and to Greece, Portugal, and Spain. (The latter three, according to Jenkins's vision would be part of an enlarged EEC). The attack on CAP is Jenkins's most serious challenge to the Franco-German axis. The very backbone of EEC policy, CAP symbolizes West Germany's commitment to industrialize France through the modernization of the French agricultural sector.

Not surprisingly, Jenkins has the backing of the Brandt wing of the Social Democratic Party in Germany for this proposal. It was Brandt, then Chancellor of West Germany, who in the late 1960s attempted to bring the British into the EEC in an alliance against De Gaulle, and later Pompidou in France who envisaged a single gold-backed European currency as a rival, and not just a junior partner, to the collapsing U.S. dollar.

According to Barbara Castle, notorious "left-wing" British Labour Party member, "a new Marshall Plan for southern Europe with billions of units of account being poured into its planned economic redevelopment," was the subject of a recent meeting of European Socialists in Sorrento, Italy. Following the Jenkins-Brandt line, Castle complained that "the likelihood of raising such sums with so much of the Community's budget being siphoned off by the CAP is slight indeed."

While British control over the EEC is hardly monolithic, French, German, and Italian charges that the British have severely blocked essential work of the Community is certainly true. Besides the monetary issues mentioned above, Jenkins, in collaboration with British Energy Minister Tony Benn, has exported to the EEC the same stalling tactics on development of a European nuclear program that have effectively blocked the British project at home. British sabotage of the agricultural policy through unilateral declarations to cover domestic British production of key commodities, keep British food prices artificially low in comparison with the rest of the EEC, and similar tactics have been consistently denounced by her European partners.

— Pam Goldman