



European elections: what's

Nuclear power, EMS pitted against the Hapsburg

Western Europe will be faced with two significant elections in the first ten days of June. On June 3, Italy will hold national elections whose outcome will decide the fate of the country. Seven days later, Italy and her European Community (EC) partners will vote in the first universal-suffrage elections for the European Parliament. In addition, Sweden—an important industrial force in the Western European equation although it does not belong to the EC—will hold national elections next autumn, and the campaign there has already erupted into a major battle over the issue of nuclear energy that will have Europeanwide consequences in the days and weeks ahead.

Thus far, as the American press has repeatedly noted, the campaigns of the major parties throughout the EC have been memorable only for the scant attention they have elicited from their respective populations. Only the European Labor Party (ELP), organized in six countries, and French President Giscard d'Estaing have consistently addressed the fundamental questions facing the continent. These are (1) the future of the newly-created European Monetary System (EMS), (2) nuclear energy, and (3) terrorism. Because continental Europe alone stands a chance of effectively opposing the war policies that Washington and London have set forth for the advanced capitalist sector, the decisions which Europe's leaders make on these three issues will determine not only the future of their own populations, but of the entire globe.

Giscard d'Estaing for the first time in his career has adopted the Gaullist stratagem of appealing directly to the masses of the French population, educating them on the cited political questions in a series of nationally televised speeches and mass rallies held throughout the

country to audiences numbering as much as 50,000. In his speeches Giscard has taken up the question of Third World development through the rapid implementation of "Phase II" of the EMS, which entails the creation of a centralized fund for the financing of large-scale high technology development projects. The French President has also stated his unequivocal support for nuclear energy development, as well as initiating a number of proposals to end the artificially created international oil shortage, including the closing of the Rotterdam market.

Unfortunately, Giscard's approach has not been followed by his ally, West German Social Democratic Chancellor Helmut Schmidt. Instead, the European Parliament campaign of the Social Democratic Party has been dominated by the party chairman, former Chancellor Willy Brandt, and has thus distinguished itself for its banality. More significantly, however, the policies of Willy Brandt, who is also the head of the London-directed Socialist International, are identical to those of his presumed chief opponent: Otto von Hapsburg, who heads the slate for the Bavarian CSU party of neo-Nazi Franz Joseph Strauss. Both Brandt and Hapsburg are leading proponents of the British-initiated conception of a "Europe of the regions," a decentralized Europe of weakened national states. For these British-allied networks, the European Parliament is viewed as a future base of operations against the current Franco-German alliance of Schmidt and Giscard whose conception of a "Europe of the Fatherlands" and a "Superpower for Peace" would be realized through the full implementation of the European Monetary System and commitment to nuclear energy development.

at stake

program in campaigns



In this morass, only one party has consistently exerted leadership: the small and until recently little-publicized European Labor Party. The key to the unprecedented success of the ELP lies in the fact that for the first time ever, a political party is demanding that Europeans reverse the "usual" direction of marching orders from Washington to Europe (including the making and breaking of Italian governments out of the U.S. Embassy in Rome), and intervene to impose sanity on U.S. politics, by supporting the 1980 presidential candidacy of Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr., chairman of the ELP's fraternal party, the U.S. Labor Party and conceptual architect of the EMS "grand design."

ELP chairman for the Federal Republic of Germany, Helga Zepp-LaRouche, has gone on national television to deliver what West German trade unionists, factory workers and others have called the only unequivocal position favoring the development and expansion of nuclear energy by any party running in the elections. The televised broadcasts of Zepp-LaRouche have now given the party an estimated 95 percent recognition factor throughout the country, while the work on the party in exposing the fascist, monarchical ambitions of Otto von Hapsburg and his ties to the British crown and British government policy have created sufficient pressure to make the candidacy of Hapsburg the leading issue within the Social Democracy. Now when Social Democratic candidates hold election rallies, even in the case of those such as Willy Brandt who are de facto factional allies of Hapsburg, it is "de rigueur" for them to attack the monarchical pretender.

Zepp-LaRouche, on television and numerous cam-

Who's up for election?

On June 10, 1979, the nine member countries of the Common Market will be electing 410 candidates for five years as representatives to the European Parliamentary Assembly—by direct suffrage for the first time.

The functions of the new representatives will include adopting or rejecting the European Community's budget, advising the Community's decision-making Council of Ministers and, in extreme situations, compelling the Commission to resign. It will have no legislative powers over the national governments of Europe. The European Council, the Community's principal decision-making body led by the countries' foreign ministers, will not be responsible to the Parliamentary Assembly, but will remain a body upholding and representing sovereign national interests. However, the Parliamentary Assembly's general supervision of the Commission, including the right to censure it, can mean increasing the accountability of that "supranational" institution.

The total 410 seats will be distributed as follows among the member states: Belgium: 24; Denmark: 16; Federal Republic of Germany: 81; France: 81; Great Britain: 81; Holland: 25; Ireland: 15; Italy: 81; and Luxembourg: 6.

The Italian national elections

On June 3rd and 4th, Italy's population will be going to the polls to elect all members of the Chamber of Deputies and the Senate. These national elections were provoked by the March collapse of the Andreotti government. The outcome of these elections will determine the appointment of the Prime Minister and general composition of the cabinet.

Swedish parliamentary elections

In September, Swedish voters will choose a new Parliament. Leading parties are the Social Democratic Workers Party of Olof Palme, the Center Party of former Prime Minister Tjorboern Faellidin (whose government fell last winter when his party attempted to pass an antinuclear program), and the Liberal Party headed by Ola Ullsten, the present Prime Minister (who supports nuclear energy as a "necessary evil"), the Conservative Party, and a 15-member European Labor Party slate.

campaign appearances throughout the country, has also cross-fired the antiterrorist activity currently taking place in Italy with the aid of French and (quietly) West German intelligence. The ELP chairman has identified the fact that West German environmentalists and terrorists are all part of the same British and Israeli-controlled networks, as the Italian police and carabinieri have been documenting in their own territory.

Inside Italy itself, terrorism has been repeatedly identified as the central question on the part of government and trade union leaders. Here the outcome of the June 3 national elections and the fight to free the country from a long-standing reign of terror are, practically, one and the same thing. Although Italy is participating in the European Parliament elections, it is the national balloting one week earlier which has received the major focus.

At stake here is whether the Italian Socialist Party (PSI)—closely allied to Socialist International head Willy Brandt, who has been campaigning on their behalf—will be successfully shown up as a party of little national standing, thus putting an end to its role as the institutional protector of terrorism and spoiler of the Communist Party-Christian Democratic alliance which alone can prevent Italy from being plunged into the Iran-style destabilization predicted recently by the Council on Foreign Relations and various Italian spokesmen.

The Italian police, in a rather spectacular series of arrests, have already rounded up portions of the terror network, all of them pointing to the central role of the Socialist Party leadership. Once again, it has been the role of the ELP to make the full implications of that connection public, most recently in a series of televised broadcasts by Italian ELP general secretary Fiorella Operto.

Another flank on Brandt and Craxi's beleaguered Socialist International was opened dramatically in mid-May in Sweden, where the leader of the Social Democracy (SAP) is former Prime Minister Olof Palme. Since May 16, the national press of Sweden has run front-page articles telling of a "revolt" against Palme in the trade-union movement—his party's base—led by the European Labor Party, which is fielding candidates in Sweden's fall national elections. Trade union leaders representing over 75,000 workers signed a petition drafted in collaboration with the ELP, condemning Palme's "sudden" antinuclear about-face after the Harrisburg incident, and issuing a resounding call for the national nuclear program as the key to Sweden's own economy and its positive role in the world. Passive acceptance of whatever the Socialist International hands down, including support for environmentalist terrorism, has come to an end in what was once the showcase for British-modelled "socialism" in Europe.

—Vivian Zoakos

1. Germany's choice:

The programmatic dichotomy between cally opposed ideas of Europe—the rich, industrial postwar Europe envisioned by Charles de Gaulle and Konrad Adenauer in the 1950s and 1960s, and by their successors Giscard d'Estaing and Helmut Schmidt today, and the feudal Europe based on small peasant agriculture and regional autonomy, the Europe sought by Britain and Europe's surviving "black" aristocracy—has been sharply drawn in the West German European Parliament elections.

But it is not Germany's two largest nationwide parties, the Social Democratic Party and the Christian Democratic Union which are providing the campaign's programmatic interest. Both the SPD and the CDU have consciously shied away from issue-oriented campaigns in favor of Madison Avenue-style "image" based politicking featuring posters of scantily clad women and color TV commercials with NATO flags and fighter planes. Rather, the campaign's issue content is coming from the European Labor Party slate headed by the party's chairman for the Federal Republic, Helga Zepp-LaRouche, a leading West German spokesman for nuclear energy and for the European Monetary System founded by Chancellor Schmidt. And, on the oligarchic side, Franz-Josef Strauss's Bavarian Christian Social Union has placed at the head of its slate the titular leader of the continent's aristocrats, Pan-European Union president Otto von Hapsburg, whose controversial campaign has swung as close as is legally possible in postwar Germany to calling openly for restoration of Hapsburg's hereditary Austro-Hungarian throne.

The upshot: voters are studiously avoiding SPD and CDU election functions, while Zepp-LaRouche is leading a highly visible and attention-getting campaign posing her party's policies of nuclear energy development, detente, and support for the EMS against Hapsburg's program of environmentalism and confrontation with the Soviet Union.

A May 17 indoor rally featuring former Chancellor Willy Brandt, for example, was attended by a trickle of voters who dribbled in in twos and threes to hear Brandt, one of the SPD's best-known, if least-respected, figures, and the head of the SPD's European parliamentary slate. The CDU, the nondescript opposition party, has seen attendance at its functions plummet even further, while the Free Democrats, the waning coalition partner in Schmidt's ruling coalition, are virtually unheard from.

Zepp-LaRouche, on the other hand, regularly drew between 40 and 60 people to rallies during a nationwide