

IMF CONFERENCE ADMITS COMMUNIST-AFFILIATED UNIONS, PLANS FOR CO-PARTICIPATION

FRANKFURT, BRD, Nov. 2 (IPS)--The International Metalworkers Federation (IMF) banned a member of the European Labor Committees (ELC) from attending its conference here this week after that member demanded that Eugen Loderer, IMF president and head of the German metalworkers union IG Metall, explain his membership on the Rockefeller CIA-controlled Trilateral Commission.

Loderer replied that such questions were not asked at West German press conferences.

Loderer and IMF General Secretary Herman Rebhan, an agent of United Autoworkers president and Trilateral Commission member Leonard Woodcock, were both still nervous about the power the ELC had shown during last May's IMF conference in Stockholm. At that conference the ELC was able to organize leaders of the leftwing Socialist-influenced Italian Metalworkers Federation to attack Woodcock and his Trilateral-authored proposals to limit East-West trade.

The major topic at this week's conference was the admission of the Italian Communist Party (PCI) affiliated Italian Metalworkers faction along with the newly reconstituted Portuguese and Greek unions. Until now the IMF has not admitted Communist Party dominated unions.

Last summer, the European Trade Union Confederation, which, like the IMF, had steadfastly refused to include Communist-affiliated unions, admitted the PCI-dominated trade union confederation, the CGIL. The president of the ETUC is Heinz Oskar Vetter, another Trilateral Commission member and the head of the German Trade Union Confederation. Because the ELC has challenged head-on the persisting influence of a CIA faction in the leadership of the Italian Communist Party, the Italian delegation felt totally embarrassed when confronted by ELC organizers. At this week's Frankfurt meeting, tremendous pressure was put on the Italian delegation to keep itself isolated from the ELC. Unlike during the May conference, when a dramatic denunciation of agent Woodcock could still pass for leftist bravado, a serious denunciation of Rebhan and Loderer would have been a direct attack on the CIA faction in the PCI and their policy of organizing for Rockefeller.

When ELC organizers ran into the Italian delegation dining at a restaurant, the mere sight of the ELC reduced them to a choir of chirping schoolboys. Despite this transformation, the same individuals were seen around the conference with copies of the Italian language edition of New Solidarity. The day after the restaurant incident, one Italian worker ventured to have a serious discussion with the ELC about the possibilities of initiating a debt moratorium in Italy and the dangers of a NATO military intervention.

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Held together by Rebhan and Loderer as a controlled environment the conference discussion about the entry of Communist unions was cloaked in banal procedural motions put forward by the British delegation. Without the knowledge of the participants, individual photos were taken of them in impotent and silly poses, and then hung up in the hallways to be mutually laughed at and joked about.

Inside, the delegates were forced to listen to Rebhan's proposal for how to deal with American multinational corporate control in Europe: Rebhan laid out a plan for mock battles with the "multis" on such issues as their refusal to allow Loderer to implement fascist co-participation boards in West German industry! Rebhan then described the Middle East crisis and the imminence of a new devastating oil hoax as the result, not of the multinationals, but of the "confusing" political situation in the Persian Gulf.

FRANCO-SOVIET ANNIVERSARY OCCASIONS SUICIDAL SOVIET EUPHORIA

Nov. 2 (IPS)--The 50th anniversary of Franco-Soviet relations last week was the occasion for the Soviet leaders to plunge into a total unreal euphoria. The Soviet television featured Oct. 26 an hour-long "documentary" on France titled "By the roads of entente and cooperation." With a commentary by known rightwinger Genevieve Tabouis, the film presented the Soviet working class with a grossly distorted image of France. Instead of reality--France as a growing "Arab" colony exporting industrial plant and workers to Third World redevelopment projects and dependent on Rockefeller's Arab cash--the film focused on the "Paris of the tourists" and Gaullist episodes. Without a word on the mounting anger of workers, the documentary paid homage to early counterinsurgent politician Edouard Herriot, who diplomatically recognized the Soviet Union in 1924.

This eulogy of "an exemplary cooperation between two states with different regimes," as the Soviets put it, ended on shots of Marseilles, a key port in the south of France, coupled with the Soviet port of Odessa. Thus the Soviets were proudly reminded of their participation in the construction of the Fos-sur-Mer steel complex, a major slave-labor development project currently being established near Marseilles.

Rockefeller "Realism"

The French daily Le Monde encapsulated the Soviet's blindness to Rockefeller's deadly game in an Oct. 30 comment on the Soviet-Franco film: "For the occasion, one forgets about all problems... ideology must give way to realism."

For the second time in a week, French President Giscard d'Estaing's interview by Soviets was shown on Soviet T.V. CIA puppet Giscard so far has succeeded in totally fooling the Soviets, who hastened to send him a message of praise. The message also was published on the front page of Pravda Oct. 28.