

Josef Strauss and his Christian Democratic Union/Christian Social Union (CDU/CSU) won significant victories in SPD strongholds.

Rockefeller agents in the SPD's "sewer faction," led by German Chancellor Schmidt and IG Metall head and Trilateral Commission member Eugen Loderer, will be using the steel settlement to enforce austerity on the demoralized working class. At last weekend's Postal Workers Union convention in Hamburg, the call was made by leadership for "sobriety" about wage demands from the membership.

Steel wage contracts historically set the upper limits for wage settlements for the whole German working class. In the major negotiations to take place over the next several months, no German workers can expect to get even nine per cent. With official inflation rates hovering around eight per cent and the actual rate much higher, German workers soon will be taking a cut in real wages.

Unlike their comrades in the auto section of IG Metall, the steelworkers were not demoralized, at least until last week. While unemployment has been hitting other German industrial sectors, the steel industry has been booming.

#### STRIKE WAVE IN FRANCE SLATED FOR DEFEAT

Oct. 31 (IPS)--The postal strike which began last week in Paris has spread rapidly throughout the country, catalyzing the rage of workers in the public sector as well as in the coal mining districts. French railroad workers, employees of the nationalized gas and electricity companies, and 23,000 miners from the Lorraine coal mines have announced their intention to join the postal workers. Unfortunately, given its present leadership, the strike wave is one that French President Giscard d'Estaing knows he can win.

Director of the French postal and communications system (PTT) Minister LeLong stated this week that he would allow a new round of negotiations to open with the unions "if they renounce immediately their demand for an increase in the minimum wage to 1,700 Francs [roughly \$350 a month]."

The largest union in France, the CGT, which is controlled by the French Communist Party, agreed to meet with LeLong the day after his categorical statement. The French daily Le Figaro noted in an Oct. 30 editorial that there was nothing to fear from the spreading strike situation and that "If it is only a question of the CGT manifesting its presence, it won't go very far."

Deprived of any leadership, the miners will also be defeated. Minister of Industry D'Ornano stated in an Oct. 27 interview in Le Figaro that France would increase its imports from the Soviet Union to meet basic coal requirements, thus slating for destruction the low-yield mines in Lorraine. Ultimately, the striking miners will

share the same fate as the 3,000 miners who "agreed" last month to be relocated to the Fos-sur-Mer inferno, a labor-intensive steel complex on the Mediterranean coast.

The miners understand in an intuitive fashion why their livelihood is being destroyed--a result of Rockefeller's first (and now second) Great Oil Hoax. The refusal of their leaders in the PCF and CGT to organize on the basis of this harsh reality has allowed the Giscard government to accelerate its offensive against the entire working class.

In a related development, on Monday, Nov. 4, 15,000 out of the existing 18,000 fuel dealers in France will be shutting their doors to prevent the distribution of fuel primarily designated for domestic heating. Thus, the striking workers will go home, defeated and demoralized, only to face the beginning of winter with no heat.

To ensure the control of the battered working class, Minister of Interior Poniatowski has consolidated an LEAA-style Gestapo reorganization of the French police around a network of block-watchers and small police offices in working class neighborhoods under the guise of "bringing the police closer to the people."

#### MARIN COMMISSION PLANS LEAA POLICE REORGANIZATION FOR CANADA

MONTREAL, Oct. 31 (IPS)--A source working with the Marin Commission of Inquiry, a federally-ordered Parliamentary investigative commission looking into procedures for citizen complaints and internal discipline, revealed to IPS this week that the Marin Commission will push through police reorganization in Canada along Law Enforcement Assistance Administration (LEAA)-CIA lines.

The first step in this process is to collapse local police operations into regional "control" units. To do this, however, the federal government needs public support. The Marin Commission was constituted to verify that such support exists. The support itself is being generated through a series of psychological warfare articles in the press focusing on cases of police brutality and calling for investigation into the way local police are hired and trained.

The Commission currently is sending research teams throughout Canada and to the U.S. cities of Los Angeles, Chicago, and New York to assess their Civilian Review Boards. These cities, which all have been "reorganized" by the LEAA, are to provide Ottawa with the prototype for Canadian reorganization.

Simultaneously, police and justice officials held closed meetings last week in British Columbia and Quebec with the LEAA to coordinate police restructuring continentally.