

MUSSEIN PUSHED BACK FROM WEST BANK IN MOVE TO PANIC ISRAELIS

NEW YORK, N.Y., Nov. 11 (IPS)--The sudden withdrawal from the West Bank by Jordan's moderate King Hussein--the ostensible "key" to any Arab-Israeli negotiations--has dealt a setback to Israeli attempts to "quell" West Bank operations. Hussein's forced retreat to the Jordanian East Bank has produced flash rumors in the press of a coup against him by an assortment of dissidents, something which would only serve to panic the Israelis further.

In a Nov. 7 press conference, Israeli Information Minister and former head of Military Intelligence Aharon Yariv, after expressing his "pessimism on the West Bank question," was asked, significantly, about Israel's reaction to an anti-Hussein coup. Yariv replied that Israel's first reaction would be "to hold onto the West Bank as tightly as possible." Feeding such rumors are the New York Times and Associated Press reporter John Bonar, who was expelled from Jordan Nov. 8 for filing a report on "discontent within the Jordanian army," reports gathered from sources he refused to reveal.

RED SCARE, TERRORISM CAMPAIGN ESCALATES IN WEST GERMANY

WIESBADEN, BRD, Nov. 11 (IPS)--Last night's murder of the High Judge of West Berlin is being used to justify an intense red scare and terror campaign against West Germany's working class. Within 12 hours of the murder (attributed to a band of terrorists who were said to be avenging the death of an imprisoned member of the terrorist Baader-Meinhof gang), the West German Minister of Justice and the Interior Minister promised the public they would "do everything in their power" to capture the criminals. Homes of judges and other prominent citizens around the country who have some relation to the upcoming trial of imprisoned Baader-Meinhof members already were being protected by police teams.

Government efforts to create hysteria around the murder are being augmented by the bourgeois press. For instance, the Nov. 11 Dild Zeitung, a mass-circulation daily published by the notorious Springer publishing house, carried the banner headline: "Assassination! Terrorists Murder High Judge." Meanwhile, gangs of mindless university "leftists," many of them led by the Maoist KPD, rampaged through universities and public buildings, painting slogans on the walls supporting the Baader-Meinhof prisoners.

Early this year, Labor Committee intelligence determined that the Baader-Meinhof group was created by CIA and NATO brainwashers.

This new outburst of terrorism "coincides" with a debate in the Federal Parliament over the passage of an emergency anti-Communist ban against members of "organizations hostile to the constitution." If enacted, the ban could be used to forbid members of communist organizations from holding teaching positions or state office. In a

11/11/74

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move aimed to push passage of the bill, parliamentary representatives from Bavaria, home base of neo-Nazi Franz Josef Strauss, introduced legislation to the Upper House Nov. 8 which would allow police to arrest political demonstrators with impunity. The legislation also would allow police to arrest innocent bystanders who fail to avoid "violent" demonstrations, deliberately adding to the red scare and terrorist hysteria.

ISRAEL PUT ON WAR FOOTING; POUND DEVALUED 42 PER CENT

NEW YORK, N.Y., Nov. 11 (IPS)--Moving to implement a full-scale war economy, the Israeli government yesterday announced a brutal package of sweeping austerity measures, including an incredible 42 per cent devaluation of the Israeli pound. Along with the devaluation, taxes were increased and price subsidies were eliminated on basic food commodities. The price of bread, milk, eggs, and sugar has doubled overnight.

As small-scale rioting erupted in several Israeli cities over the austerity measures, Israeli Premier Rabin declared, "This will not be the last step. We have to face all the struggles--military, political, economic, and social." General Rabin cited Israeli arms purchases as the main impetus for the economic assault, ranting about the fact that "arms have poured into the Arab countries and we have to confront this increased strength." It was not clear whether Rabin was referring to the multi-billion dollar arms sales by the U.S.--Israel's "staunch ally"--to Saudi Arabia.

In New York, a spokesman for the Israeli government told IPS that Israelis would willingly accept the new hardship. "The harder life is for Israelis, the harder they give," he said. "Over the last few years, Israelis have gotten used to the idea of peace, and now they have to respond as if we were in a state of war."

At the same time, in what the Washington Post called "another war-preparation measure," the Israeli Cabinet extended the length of service of women in the army, included high school senior volunteers in the Civil Guard, and announced that it was considering steps to speed up military mobilization in emergency.

HUNGARY SUBMITS TO CAPITALIST PENETRATION

Nov. 11 (IPS)--The Hungarian government has passed a bill permitting foreign capitalist businesses to open up branch offices in the country. Presented by a government spokesman as a step toward "new and more successful forms of cooperation," this move, reported to have taken place in early October, actually constitutes a