

# Second International Signals Red Scare with Kidnap of LALC Leaders

by Webster Tarpley

March 27 — Under the cover of a worldwide media blackout, fascist President Luis Echeverria of Mexico is moving to assassinate two Latin American Labor Committee organizers now being illegally held in the CIA's Mexican jails. Threatened with death at the hands of Rockefeller's Mexican agents are Labor Committee leaders Carlos de Hoyos and Carlos Mendez Trujillo, whose police kidnapping was personally arranged by Willy Brandt, head of the West German Social Democracy (SPD) and leading political operative of the Rockefeller Second International.

The buildup to crush the Labor Committees in Mexico and a violently escalating pattern of police harassment against the NCLC in this country are key foci of a general Rockefeller-Second International drive to force political capitulation on the Soviet Union and police-state repression in Western Europe. The method used is "destabilization" brinkmanship coupled with overt preparations for war against the working class in Portugal, the Middle East, and Vietnam.

Labor Committee organizations on three continents have been in a state of continuous mobilization since the night of March 24 to block the murder of the two Mexican organizers and further police moves against their comrades by exploiting the criminal complicity of Brandt and the Second International. The European Labor Committee is hitting the enemy where it hurts most — by challenging the traitors' hegemony over the radicalized left wing of the European Social-democracies and the Second International's captured Italian Communist Party (PCI). Massive recruiting upsurges in both North America and Western Europe are signalling a new historical motion of crisis-politicized workers to stop Rockefeller by building the international united front.

Rockefeller, who has declared

through CIA news media that Portugal is a country headed for a Chilean bloodbath, deployed his stooge Brandt to Mexico as the opening of a scenario to smash the Labor Committees, the only socialist organization in the world which has offered steady, programmatic support to the struggle of the Portuguese Communist Party for expanded production against the austerity demands of CIA socialist Mario Soares and the fascist, NATO-controlled MFA. Shortly after arriving in Mexico March 21 on an official visit, Brandt conferred with infamous butcher Echeverria, and on March 23 attended a private dinner in Mexico City sponsored by the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung, a CIA think tank within the SPD. At this dinner he met with Moya Palancia, the head of the Mexican police and security apparatus. The following night de Hoyos and Mendez were kidnapped at gunpoint in incidents spaced 12 hours apart.

Today in New York Brandt was denounced to his face as a fascist criminal by Labor Committee organizers. A full report on his degradation is being circulated among the West German workers who once believed in him.

## Ping-Pong Diplomacy

Rockefeller is manipulating his war scare policy options ping-pong style to keep the Soviet leadership off balance and scared. Since the failure of Kissinger's Mideast mission and the set-up murder of King Faisal, the Middle East has become a chaos of confused war alarms, with growing possibility of Israeli military moves against pro-socialist Iraq and ongoing massive roundups of Iraqi Ba'ath Party militants in Syria and Jordan. Portugal is tonight ringed by Rockefeller troops, with reports of Latin American troops disembarking at a U.S. naval base in Spain while counterrevolutionary white guard-type "guerrillas" threaten to cross the border from Spain. The London Financial Times announces an inevitable blood-

bath for the election period, which has just opened.

With war possible in these areas or through a U.S. thrust to stave off the fall of Southeast Asia, Moscow is being given an ultimatum: cut off support to the PCP and Iraq, stop the leftward development of the French Communist Party, and sign over the workers' movement in Western Europe to the Second International. To underline the point, CIA agents in the Italian Communist Party are conspiring with Santiago Carillo, leader of the Spanish Communist Party, to enlarge the Rockefeller holdings in the Communist movement: Carillo is to be rocketed into a top post in the CIA democratic junta scheduled to take power after the fall of Franco. But for this to succeed, the PCP must first be destroyed or bludgeoned into submission.

## Growing United Front

As during the previous phases of the Rockefeller red scare escalation, the International Caucus of Labor Committees is the coordinating force of the world working-class counter-offensive. The international thrust of the ICLC has posted a vastly increased political price which Rockefeller must pay if he chooses to move on any front.

In Europe, ELC organizers alerted the major working-class organizations to the threat materializing around the Mexican kidnappings. Within the first 24 hours ELC organizers briefed the international sections of the French and Portuguese Communist Parties and took the news to Socialist Bloc embassies and to every news medium on the continent. The rage felt by Detroit auto workers when they heard the news was shared by leading trade union organizers of the Danish Communist Party, who moved toward cooperation with the ELC. Simultaneously their party, in the first explicit such move reported so far in Europe, sponsored a Copenhagen forum supporting the PCP on the specific basis of its pro-development, anti-austerity program.

ELC picket lines went up within hours around the Mexican diplomatic missions in Paris, Cologne, and Rome, with additional demonstrations mounted at the Rome headquarters of the Second International Italian Socialist Party (PSI) and the main railway terminals of Frankfurt and Mainz.

While Swedish ELC organizers handed out leaflets in front of the Parliament in Stockholm exposing Premier Olaf Palme and the rôle of the Second International in preparing a Mideast war, West German Prime Minister Helmut Schmidt was confronted on the SPD Mexican connection at an election rally attended by 3000 persons in the Ruhr. In the surrounding Ruhr industrial towns, West German Communist Party locals were polarizing violently around direct cooperation with the ELC. In

Turin, Italy, where the ELC has split the local Italian Socialist Party right down the middle, news of the kidnappings moved a key PCI organizer at the Michelin tire plant into the Italian POC.

#### **Recruitment and Expansion**

The U.S. mobilization was headed up by the auto belt USLP cells, who mobilized the factories to bombard the Mexican consulates and travel bureaus with calls and organized discussions on the totally new world political situation that has existed since March 24. At least 15 UAW officials in the Detroit area were carried along with the riptide and joined in the telephone assault on the Echeverria diplomats. One UAW president of River Rouge 600 pledged to mobilize his entire local. On the streets of Buffalo, Philadelphia, and other cities workers listened to briefings and

sent off an estimated 800 telegrams to the Mexican authorities, demanding the release of De Hoyos and Mendez.

The mass strike flow around the new Rockefeller escalation is moving a leading edge of 400 U.S. workers attracted to the USLP around the Lyndon LaRouche 1976 Presidential campaign into more intensive organizing commitment, with more than 100 USLP recruits in the last day joining the 30 new members over the past ten days in Paris, Turin, and the Ruhr. This motion is the class conscious expression of the worldwide gathering of communist and socialist forces launched among Portuguese, Iraqis, and their East Bloc and ICLC allies around working class defense during the PCI congress — the power that is now moving across the globe to stop the Rockefeller bloodbath.