

The British Empire challenged

French President Valery Giscard d'Estaing, addressing 60,000 people in a mass outdoor rally in Alsace on May 15, outlined the Franco-German battle for a Europe of peace in this region that so often in the past was the cockpit of bitter rivalries between the two countries. Posing himself as a true successor to Charles de Gaulle, the French leader reminded his audience of the divided Europe of quarreling states that prevailed a century ago, when the British Empire ruled the world unchallenged.

Great Britain did its best to prevent the construction of Europe, Giscard said in his speech. Today, living standards in the U.K. are 40 percent lower than those in France. "Europe means peace!" said Giscard. And, he might well have added, "Britain means war!"

The leading British intelligence circles that installed Margaret Thatcher in 10 Downing Street have defined the issue in exactly that way. Their Thatcher government project is intended to impose fascism on Britain, cutting the dismal living standards Giscard decried still further. Concomitantly, they are gearing up a small sector of the British economy—war related industry—for confrontation with the Soviet Union.

Through such figures as Canada's Joe Clark, the Kennedy-Haig duo in the United States, and the continental European constellation of Hapsburg circles and the Socialist International, this highly radioactive British package will be exported to the entire West. The scenario for dumping Carter and installing Gen. Haig as his successor has already been broadcast by London's International Institute for Strategic Studies.

Around Giscard, however, an alliance has begun to form among key Arab forces, the Western Europeans and the Soviets that is posing an alternative to the British imperial policies, on precisely the issues of high technology energy development and East-West collaboration for peace that the Thatcher project is targeted to sabotage. Most promising is the fact that these European-led moves are occurring at the same time that a real anti-British fight is shaping in the United States.

In the days preceding his Alsace address, Giscard announced that the next phase of implementation of the European Monetary System would be enacted through an aggressive energy cooperation plan with Arab oil producer states. Giscard's statement coincided with the arrival of Saudi Crown Prince Fahd in Paris and the announcement by Fahd that France and Saudi Arabia would work together to stop the oil speculators.

Moreover, the French are making independent deals with the Saudis despite the fact that the latter—protesting Washington's Camp David war pact—have just pulled the plug on a big Western-financed mu-

nitions factory in Egypt.

Even West Germany's embattled Chancellor Helmut Schmidt has joined this renewed detente-through-development drive, which includes plans for a European-wide disarmament conference and a European-wide energy conference, spanning East and West.

The question is what will happen in Washington. Western Europe can have an important effect in driving a wedge between the United States and Maggie Thatcher's Britain if its leaders link up with anti-British ferment in the United States. The battle against the takeover of U.S. banking by London's "Dope, Inc." drug-running cartel, detailed in our cover story, and the moves to bring the powerful Teamsters union (see U.S. REPORT) behind the American presidential candidacy of Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr.—who has just returned from Western Europe—are the strongest signs of Europe's potential allies here.

The "British Empire's" war drive has never been more open; the moment for defeating it could hardly be more propitious.

—Nora Hamerman

The Week in Brief

Over 20 local leaders of the powerful **Swedish metalworkers union** have revolted against the antinuclear policies of Willy Brandt's **Socialist International**, represented in Sweden by the head of the Socialist Labor Party (SAP) and former Prime Minister, Olof Palme.

On May 16, the revolt broke the **front pages** of all of Sweden's **major newspapers**—including the *Afton-*

bladet of Palme's own SAP. The trade unionists' petition **attacks Palme for repudiating nuclear energy** development after the Harrisburg, Pa. nuclear "mishap" and calls instead for a national **information campaign** on "the great possibilities of nuclear energy." "**Nuclear power** has the full capacity to meet the increasing demands for an abundance of **cheap, clean and secure energy** for

social and industrial development," reads the petition in part. "The 180-degree turn on the energy issue by the Social Democratic leadership and the increasingly loud talk about zero-growth ... (are) in obvious opposition to the ... growth, **industrial progress** and nuclear energy which we have always fought for. A policy which so clearly opens the door for economic **stagnation** ... must be condemned as **dangerous** for the nation and the workers...."

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Israel is readying a major **military move** into southern Lebanon **this month**, according to reliable French sources. The pretext would be provided by a May 15 terrorist incident in the Israeli town of Tiberius, for which the **Palestinian Liberation Organization** claimed responsibility in a statement released from Damascus, Syria.

Israel Premier Begin called last week for a Lebanon-Israel pact against Syria, which maintains peace-keeping troops in Lebanon and has treaty ties with the Soviet Union. But Lebanese President **Sarkis** met for two days with his Syrian counterpart **Hafez Assad**. Out of the meetings came a plan to create a new "national unity government" in Lebanon and **prevent the partition** schemes that Israel has been pushing.

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Queen Elizabeth delivered her customary **Speech** May 15 at the **House of Lords** in London, in which she announced the policies to be followed by the Margaret Thatcher government and—this time—removed once and for all the **pretext** that England is a "**constitutional**" **monarchy**. The primary goals of the new government are to be "national security" and **rearmament**, plus **dismantling industry** to pay for it—exactly the policies the monarchy is known to support.

The Queen announced the gov-

ernment will start **selling off the state sector industries**, freeing up vast amounts of monies to rearm NATO, build up the **British "nuclear deterrent,"** and adopt a **war posture** toward Eastern Europe. Similar financing methods were proposed by the U.S.-U.K. bloc at the European Defense Ministers' meeting to increase logistical support for **five new American divisions** in Europe—to the tune of **\$10 billion**. That proposal was **blocked** by the continental defense ministries..

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Following up French President Giscard's late April visit to Moscow, West German **Chancellor Schmidt** met **Bulgarian leader Zhivkov** on May 4.

In a statement delivered during the summit, Zhivkov said that mankind's problem in providing for **raw materials, energy and food** is "too serious to allow us to waste time, financial means and strength or to sacrifice hundreds of millions of human lives in armed conflicts or a **new thermonuclear world war**.... We are paying tribute to your **realistic approach**, Mr. Chancellor."

The **joint communiqué** issued from Sofia called for **nonproliferation** of nuclear weapons "without, at the same time, impeding the use of **nuclear energy for peaceful purposes**."

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The semi-official **Zambian government newspaper**, the *Zambian Daily Mail*, charged in a May 3 editorial that President **Carter tails British policy** toward Rhodesia and is unwilling to launch an independent settlement initiative. Responding to Carter's statement that the recent "**election**" in Rhodesia—exposed universally as **bogus**—was a step in the right direction, the paper acidly noted that Carter is now awaiting **British directions** before making a more positive statement.

The foreign minister of **Mozambique**, another frontline nation, is-

sued a joint communiqué with visiting Czech Foreign Minister Chnoupek describing Rhodesia as "**the British colony of southern Rhodesia**." The formulation departs from the usual "the illegal Salisbury regime."

The reactions of the **black African states** should provide some reflection to the **Thatcher-than-thou U.S. Senators** who voted up a resolution this week demanding White House **recognition** of Bishop Abel Muzorewa's "majority" regime. Even the new **British Tory cabinet** hasn't gone that far yet.

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Otto von **Hapsburg**, Archduke of the defunct Austro-Hungarian Empire, was named on May 15 as the "**best defender of Jewish interests** on the European continent" by the World Jewish Congress.

Hapsburg heads an outfit called the Pan-European Union, many of whose members are certified members of the "**master race**" **oligarchy** that brought Adolf Hitler to power. But bygones are evidently bygones. At a meeting of **European conservative parties** linked to Margaret Thatcher's Tories, representatives of the ruling Israeli **Likud Party** hobnobbed in Rome with the **neo-Nazis of the PEU** the weekend before Hapsburg received his WJC title.

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Saudi Arabia has begun a sustained, low-level campaign to **discredit** the fanatical Ayatollah **Khomeini** of Iran, according to sources close to the Saudi leadership.

This marks a **shift in Saudi policy**, which usually aims to keep a low profile.

An article in the May 11 *Wall Street Journal* quoted a Saudi "legal expert" (some think it was Oil Minister **Zaki Yamani**): "Iran's executions are not Sharia (Muslim legal code). That is **lynch law**."

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