

## Editorial

# The alliance after Venice

France and West Germany captured the leadership of the Western alliance at the June 21-22 Venice summit. This is a fact that has been recognized by American and European elites alike and documented in the international press.

While President Carter and his National Security Advisor, Zbigniew Brzezinski, announced plans to make the alliance bow to a confrontation policy toward the Soviet Union, instead, the sovereignty of the European republics was maintained and a European strategy for detente was defined.

What backfired, as many had warned, was Carter's heavy-handed insistence in the days before the summit that West German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt follow U.S. orders in defining German/Soviet relations. French President Giscard d'Estaing and Schmidt together now form the West's negotiating team with the Soviets.

They are well equipped for the job. They are determined to negotiate in the real interest of East and West, North and South. Chancellor Schmidt will visit Moscow with a three-point agenda, according to his press spokesman Klaus Bölling: Soviet withdrawal from Afghanistan, a freeze on the deployment of "Euromissiles" and East-West cooperation to industrialize the Third World.

Such a policy can form the basis for lasting detente. East-West trade, exemplified by the current treaty relations between West Germany and the Soviet Union, and joint development of the Third World, can pull the West out of the devastating depression the American economy is leading.

President Carter's humiliation at Venice spells not the humiliation of the United States, but a chance for the American nation to reassert a moral policy of world leadership by taking the reins from the hands of the inept Carter.

It is no longer possible to hide from the American public the disdain with which European statesmen have watched the pathetic Carter.

Anecdotes abound that show Carter and "Rasputin" Brzezinski as the bumlbers they are. First, Carter's entourage was the butt of great laughter as a special U.S. cruiser, allegedly more secure than the launches provided by Venetian security, made four failed attempts at landing. "So that's how the Iran mission failed," Italian onlookers murmured.

Then, the entire summit was held up a half-hour until President Giscard arrived. Preempting Carter's diatribe against "Soviet aggression" Giscard announced that he had received a personal message from Brezhnev on Soviet troop withdrawals.

With the rug pulled out from under Brzezinski's script, Chancellor Schmidt took aim. "Does the United States really need two Secretaries of State?" he asked Edmund Muskie.

Finally, it was being publicly stated: the Europeans will no longer tolerate "leadership" from the worst President in U.S. history.

While the Europeans, with cooperation from Moscow, have demonstrated that the East as well as the West have a strong interest in peace and economic cooperation, bully-boys Carter and Brzezinski walked away humiliated, but more determined than ever to get their way.

Jimmy Carter is willing to risk World War III for the sake of showing himself to be at the helm. Word is out in Washington that Brzezinski's "arcs of crisis" are being heated to the boiling point, for a show of force before the convention.

American elites, Democratic Party officials and constituencies should draw a lesson from the events in Venice. Carter must be frozen out of the White House, numbing his capability of playing reelection games with the future of the entire human race. Now, before the crisis antics of the pre-convention period explode, an open convention must be assured.

By August it could be too late.