

Report from Paris by Yves Messer

On the eve of chaos

In a country hard hit by unemployment, Moscow-ordered preparations for a general strike point to a situation out of control.

On Oct. 1, Henri Krasucki, secretary general of the CGT, France's communist trade union and the most important, went on national television to threaten a general strike against widespread layoffs in the automobile industry.

This is only the beginnings of a destabilization of France by the French Communist Party (PCF), ordered by Moscow. France is a country which already has 3 million unemployed. Any general strike could quickly turn into nationwide rioting and go totally out of anybody's control.

The break-up of the coalition government formed by the Communists and President François Mitterrand's Socialist Party, which led to the Communists leaving the government and the resignation of Premier Pierre Mauroy and other cabinet ministers, has freed the PCF for its coming actions. The decision to leave the government was probably taken after the June 17 elections to the European parliament, in which the PCF vote dropped to historically low levels.

The party began to be reorganized into a neo-Stalinist apparatus as early as the summer, when hard-line Stalinists and known Moscow agents Gaston Plissonnier and Roland Leroy led purges against the "liberal" elements in the party: Pierre Juquin and former ministers Ralite and Rigout. The entire party has been taken over top-down by some 30 apparatchiks who have tightened up their control over the party's far-flung operations. Through a new telex system linking up the center

to all locals, the PCF leadership is demanding that all communications and marching orders be given in written form.

In the meantime, *L'Humanité*, the party's daily newspaper, has been preparing the PCF's base to do battle against all those institutional forces which are soon to be labeled the "new Nazis." Thus, throughout the summer, *L'Humanité* published whole dossiers playing up the "glorious" contributions of the PCF in the World War II Resistance.

As soon as workers came back from their August summer holidays, the CGT began orchestrating provocations preparatory to a mass strike. In a carefully staged incident, Akka Ghazzi, the very popular Moroccan leader of the Citroën factory workers, tried to force his way through a police barrage guarding the struck factory. Beaten up by the police, Akka Ghazzi was given big press play-up as a martyr and hero.

The Citroën workforce is overwhelmingly immigrants, mostly Muslims who are being organized by fundamentalist Khomeini supporters with the Communist Party's backing. The management, on the other hand, is very right-wing, and might easily be induced into stupid, anti-labor actions with a racialist tinge.

Even though the Akka Ghazi incident didn't lead to another strike at Citroën, it catalyzed ferment in other car factories threatened by large layoffs. Sporadic strikes have taken place in all Renault factories throughout the

country after 13,000 layoffs were announced.

Was General de Gaulle right when he said in 1960 that Mitterrand didn't trust the Communists and would always be a centrist? Why then does François Dalle, appointed by Mitterrand to head up a "National Commission on Industry," seem to be creating all the pretexts necessary for the CGT to build up to a mass strike? The still unpublished "Dalle report" on the automobile crisis, on the excuse of a 25% drop in production this year, is expected to recommend layoffs of between 70,000 and 120,000 workers, out of a total of 250,000. By the time this report is published, the CGT will have its troops ready to react with a general strike.

Who is François Dalle? He is a top figure in the Swiss L'Oreal and Nestlé's empire, one of the members of the Swiss group of financiers controlling Mitterrand, which includes Jean Riboud of Schlumberger. These, of course, are not just communists; they are Nazi-communists. When Bernard Hanon, Renault boss, proposed that Renault increase investments in foreign countries, PCF leader and economist Philippe Herzog had the nerve to propose that France adopt the "Fiat" model, arguing that Fiat invests "Italian." He did not mention Fiat's massive investments in the East bloc, particularly the Soviet Union.

Mitterrand's aim is to realize his post-industrial, pastoral fantasies, which he believes to be his last card to win the next presidential elections.

The Swiss and Communists will act to destroy the industrial base of France, while the government will only finance the "technetronic" projects of the post-industrial society. In the meantime, Communist orchestrated chaos will weaken the nation at this crucial moment of the strategic crisis.