

announced that “now is the time to once and for all end the historic division of the European labor movement” and move for unity between the “socialist” and “communist” wings of the “labor movement” around a “European program” which includes the separation of Europe from the United States on:

- 1) economic, monetary and financial matters;
- 2) technological and scientific matters;
- 3) military and national security matters; and
- 4) “prevention of militarization of outer space.”

Similar arrangements and mobilizations were observed throughout Western Europe. Suddenly, the distinctions between pro-Western “socialist” parties and pro-Moscow communist parties began disappearing with impressive speed, as they all flocked, as though on “orders from above,” to join hands in their opposition to the SDI.

Marshal Ogarkov’s warroom “somewhere in Byelorussia” must have been rejoicing at the recording of these developments.

Also, while French Foreign Minister Dumas was in Moscow, it became appropriately known that French Socialist President François Mitterrand is about to announce in the near future his “Grand Vision” of Europe, a Europe independent of the United States in all the matters earlier mentioned in the SPD-PCI agreements. In London, the titular chief of the British wing of the Socialist International, Denis Healey of the Labour Party, announced, “If the Soviet Union is ready for deep cuts, especially in Intermediate Nuclear Forces, in return for stopping President Reagan’s Strategic Defense Initiative, we European should say ‘yes,’ and start the biggest row ever with the United States if necessary.

Finally, while Genscher was still in Romania, two major political shifts shook the Western European map on the same day in which Chernenko’s death was announced: Greek Socialist Prime Minister Andreas Papandreu, at the request of the Greek Communist Party engineered the collapse and resignation of the pro-Western President Constantine Karamanlis and opened up this year’s election season on the basis of a new Socialist-Communist partnership whose immediate intent is to get Greece out of NATO during this year.

Secondly, in the elections of the Federal State of Saarland in Germany, the chief anti-NATO spokesman of the SPD, Oskar Lafontaine, led his party to a sweeping victory and himself to the position of Saarland prime minister—an electoral reversal ominous for Germany if it is a portent of things to come in the upcoming May 10 election for the Federal State of North Rhine-Westphalia, the politically crucial state in F.R.G. politics (see page 00).

If Ogarkov grabs Germany, he will have grabbed Europe’s economy. Does he intend to do it by May 10?

It will depend on whether his puppet, Gorbachev, can play his assigned part so well that the deluded idiots at the Foreign Office and the State Department might marshal enough forces to compel President Reagan to accept at Geneva the “offer he can’t refuse.”

Chernenko’s successor augurs no new era

by Konstantin George

Indicating a collective leadership decision made weeks if not months earlier, Mikhail Gorbachov, 54—in the name of a “unanimous” Soviet Central Committee—was proclaimed Chernenko’s successor as Soviet party chief on March 12, a mere four hours and 15 minutes after the official death announcement. Gorbachov, the youngest to assume the leadership post since Josef Stalin, has been named Kremlin leader in the midst of an ongoing full rehabilitation of and praise of Stalin, “the wartime leader.” The death and the record-time succession coincided with the beginning of U.S.-Soviet arms talks in Geneva.

The media is already filled with rosy forecasts and commentaries, stressing a Gorbachovian “accent on reform,” alleged devotion to “arms control,” to “peace,” the “young man at the helm” signaling a “policy shift.” It all sounds so pleasant and reassuring. The alleged basis for this drivel was the Kremlin announcement that despite the death and funeral, the Geneva talks would begin as scheduled on March 12.

Reality, however, is quite different. Amid the “optimism,” “cautious” and otherwise, one commentary on a West German TV station echoed the reality principle, reminding the audience that “Gorbachov, after all, was a close supporter and follower of Yuri Andropov’s policies . . . and, one shouldn’t forget that it was under Andropov that East-West relations were the worst ever . . . the deepest Ice Age.”

One need not proceed any further than examining the recent words and deeds of Gorbachov himself, in order to document this telling assertion. It was Gorbachov who led a major Soviet delegation to London in December for a week of talks with Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and Foreign Secretary Geoffrey Howe, shortly before the Shultz-Gromyko meeting Jan. 7-8 in Geneva—the meeting which agreed to begin the Geneva negotiations. During that visit to London, Gorbachov—through Evgenii Velikhov, a member of the delegation and one of the Soviet Academy of Sciences’ leading experts on space-based defense systems—issued the most brutal ultimatum to date against the U.S. Strategic Defense Initiative.

Velikhov was widely quoted in the British press—the

same press which today is filled with “Gorbachov the reformer” fairy tales—warning the United States not to conduct planned anti-satellite weapon tests scheduled for March—or else. Now it is March 1985, and the Politburo author of that ultimatum, Mikhail Gorbachov, is formally installed as Soviet party chief.

Since December, the only other Politburo member (not counting Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko) deployed to the West—in this case to the U.S.A.—to profile the executive and legislative branches of government and the banking and corporate elites of the United States, has been Ukrainian Party Chief Vladimir Shcherbitskii. Shcherbitskii, the first Politburo member other than Gromyko to visit the United States since 1973, capped his visit by meeting President Reagan and Secretary of State George Shultz on March 8. After these meetings, he declared that the United States must abandon the SDI or the Soviet Union would construct more “both offensive strategic and defensive weapons.”

As with Gorbachov, Shcherbitskii’s ties with the Andropov mafia are well documented. Shcherbitskii took over the post of Ukrainian Party Chief in a May 1972 power play which dumped then party head Pyotr Shelest (one year later, he was kicked off the Politburo as well). Shcherbitskii’s on-the-scene accomplice and hatchet-man for the power play was then Ukraine KGB boss Vitalii Fedorchuk, and of course, KGB head Yuri Andropov.

In the Spring of 1982, as the post-Brezhnev Andropov succession was being prepared, Andropov formally vacated his KGB post to join the Secretariat. His hand-picked successor as new KGB boss was Fedorchuk. After Andropov came to power in November 1982, Andropov cleaned out not only the Brezhnev mafia’s minority holdings inside the KGB, but their majority holdings in the interior ministry. The interior minister, a Brezhnev flunkie, was unceremoniously dumped and later expelled from the Central Committee, and finally, a few months ago, was reported a “suicide.” The new boss at interior ever since Andropov came to power has been—Vitalii Fedorchuk.

‘Strengthen the defenses of our country’

That nothing can be further from Gorbachov’s intentions than friendly relations was reflected in the first official statement of the “Gorbachov era.” At 1400 hours Moscow time on March 11 came the official announcement of Chernenko’s death, followed immediately—after the standard eulogy—with a Politburo statement which declared; “The Soviet Union does not threaten anyone. But it will not allow any state or coalition of states to achieve military superiority over the Soviet Union. That is why we shall remain vigilant and continue to *strengthen the defenses of our country*. . . . The Soviet government expresses the firm belief that all the Soviet people will carry out their duty in a state of high awareness and organization and will strengthen the economic and *defense potential of the Soviet Union* [emphasis added].”

Euroterrorists ready attack against Reagan

American security forces fear that the world economic meeting next May in Bonn and President Ronald Reagan’s appearance before the European Parliament in Strasbourg could be taken by European terrorist groups as an opportunity for an attack on the American President.

The violent disturbances currently being prepared for organizationally and financially by the Green Party and its periphery, would serve as a backdrop for such an attack.

During the first week of March, two conferences took place, one in Muenster, the other in Bonn, which were exclusively devoted to such plans. According to *Die Welt*, the Greens, the evangelical student organizations, the Union of Independent Peace Groups, the Society of International Marxists, the Democratic Socialists, the group Change the Church from Below, and various Central American groups met in Bonn. The East bloc’s front groups discreetly stayed away.

The Bonn gathering resolved to take actions during the economic summit “to hinder, disrupt, and inform” and to hold a “counter summit” in the city hall of Godesberg. The Greens, a Soviet-backed Nazi formation masquerading as “peace-loving ecologists,” will finance the preparations for these violent disturbances, setting up six offices whose sole responsibility will be to organize the actions.

The meeting of the violence-oriented groups in Muenster, where the literature of terrorist groups was openly offered for sale, involved battle-tested Berlin “squatters,” foes of the Frankfurt airport runway, punkers, and others. These groups resolved to get “as near as possible to the events,” in order to test what can “be done in a city, if one goes in with a bit of preparation.”

From Krefeld to Strasbourg

Obviously, these largely illegal groups are planning actions similar to those which took place in Krefeld in 1983, when direct attacks against Vice-President Bush were made. Security measures at that time rested on an estimate of the nature of the planned disturbances by American and German