
From the World's Press

The Trilaterals' plan for 'Yalta II'

Moscow praises Trilateral Commission

The Dec. 19, 1986 edition of the Soviet weekly New Times, which is issued in several languages internationally, published an article entitled, "A Body of the Elite," in response to a reader's letter asking about the Trilateral Commission. The response was authored by Y. Fyodorov.

Information about the Trilateral Commission is scant. The body was set up in 1973 on the initiative of David Rockefeller, then head of one of the most powerful financial empires in the West. Its members include over 300 prominent businessmen, bourgeois statesmen, and researchers such as Zbigniew Brzezinski, Alexander Haig, Henry Kissinger, Raymond Barre, Otto Wolff von Amerongen, and Saburo Okita.

Former commission members hold influential government posts in capitalist states. Almost half the members of the commission are heads of major, especially transnational, corporations. That is why newsmen sometimes call the commission an "invisible government." The definition is rather farfetched, though the interest its activities arouse is quite legitimate. . . .

Its reports cover a wide range of subjects—the threat of nuclear war, regional conflicts, hunger in the Third World, ecology, and growing unemployment. The roots of all economic ills in the capitalist world are ascribed mainly to the contradiction between the growing interdependence and national sovereignty of states.

The commission works on various projects to promulgate ways and means of state-monopoly regulation of the economy to international economic relations so as to secure dominant positions for transnational corporations and banks. . . .

The transnational monopolies and their ideologues strive to limit national sovereignty, which hinders their activities, and to create adequate supranational mechanisms, to substantiate their claims to control the capitalist world economy. . . .

Of late, the Trilateral Commission has been paying considerable attention to problems of international security.

Irrespective of their political and class sympathies and

antipathies, the commission's members are aware that nuclear war would be "a catastrophe from which our globe might not recover," and try to dissociate themselves from the most adventurist schemes.

Thus, a report significantly entitled "Trilateral Security" takes a realistic view of Reagan's plans to develop a space-based ABM system. Experts believe that even if the extremely complex technical problems involved are resolved, "deployment of BMD by both the United States and the Soviet Union would be likely to precipitate a further competition in offensive nuclear weapons designed to overcome the defenses, which could be both costly and dangerous."

The commission also advocates the earliest agreement on a total and universal ban on nuclear tests. It underscores the need to consolidate the nuclear non-proliferation regime and censures the deployment of a first-strike MX strategic missile system in the United States.

At the same time, while putting forward plans to secure "trilateral security," i.e., the security of the three centers of capitalism, the commission does not renounce armed confrontation with real socialism and progressive Third World regimes. It seeks not to stop the arms race but to find the most "effective" directions for the arms build-up. . . .

Call for an economic Yalta

The following article appeared on Jan. 29 in the Spanish daily El País, under the headline, "The Soviet Market as a Necessity." Author Luis Solana is president of the National Telephone Company. He is an executive member of the Trilateral Commission.

. . . It is impressive to contemplate how the search for markets is beginning to be the fundamental problem of countries and firms. The bad part of it, is that there is a dangerous escalation of selling wherever and however one can. . . .

The developed economies need the opening to the East as an indispensable step toward a more stable and balanced world economy. . . .

Unfortunately, the history of humanity is plagued by *necessary* situations, which have failed for not having been *possible*. But today, necessity and possibility have come together. . . .

The new leadership group in the U.S.S.R., has the possibility of offering an economic Yalta to the West of incalculable consequences for the world economy in general, and for the developed countries in particular. Providing a market for technology could be that offer. In Operation Mirror, the Western leaders could obtain markets for their technology. Rarely can one see such hopeful possibilities for escaping from the crisis which threatens. (I will not go into the purely political aspects, because this is not the right occasion, but I believe in the necessity of a Yalta II, not only in the economy.)

The Western leaders should contemplate the economic

possibilities which are opening up in the U.S.S.R., to facilitate new fields for firms and countries. For Europe, the U.S.S.R. is the chance to amortize R&D expenses which are bringing many firms to ruin, in their competition with the U.S.A.

For Japan, Soviet Siberia is the economic dream of the last 100 years. For the U.S.A., it is the occasion to obtain economic results (I am not talking about the politicians) from its triumph in the third world war which never took place. For humanity, which sees how the developed countries are starting to get out of the crisis, but not the other countries, it provides a hope, that the positive results will also reach them too, because the two blocs are in an economic Yalta II. And, with God's Grace, a political Yalta II.

Gorbachov's 'peace' extravaganza

The following article appeared in the Italian daily Il Giornale on Jan. 26, written by Fernando Mezzetti. It is headlined, "Nuclear: Gorbachov Invites to Moscow the 'Big Names' of the Western World."

After solving some internal problems, Gorbachov has launched a broad offensive for the conquest of international public opinion. Some hundreds among the biggest personalities of the Western world have, in fact, been invited by the Kremlin to a big conference, set for Feb. 14, 15, 16, on the theme, "Peace In a Non-Nuclear World." The invited people are, in the first place, the biggest names of Western capitalism, industrialists, and bankers. Together with them, political scientists, social scientists, philosophers, writers, artists, exponents of culture in general, religious personalities. . . .

It is impossible to have, for the moment, a list of the participants, because the Kremlin has done everything directly, avoiding involving the foreign embassies in Moscow in the initiative. It seems that even the Soviet embassies abroad have been left out, in the sense that the invitations have been transmitted by the Kremlin to the interested people, without any intermediate step. It is known that the invitations—though the invited people don't really need it—are accompanied by a first-class airline ticket, and adequate accommodations.

Given the differentiation of interests and activity of the participants, the conference will be organized on the basis of several discussion panels. Each one of them, presided over by high-ranking personalities of the Soviet world. . . .

The mere fact of the organization of the conference, and the participation of numerous and important personalities, is seen by observers as of sufficient value to be a smart and clever initiative by Gorbachov. In fact, the illustrious guests will come to listen to speeches against the Western system, against their governments. The caliber of the participants, to whom Gorbachov will speak directly, already assures a wide international echo for the initiative.

All this has to be seen as part of the re-opening of Gor-

bachov's activity on a global plane, for relaunching, with maximum publicity backing, his program of disarmament for the year 2000, announced Jan. 15 of last year. With this conference, he intends to have an international mobilization of influential personalities, not of vulgar propagandists, against the Reagan project for a space shield. . . .

Under the heading, "To Give Oxygen to His Economy, Gorbachov Calls a Plenum of VIPs," La Repubblica's Giampiero Martinotti wrote from Rome Feb. 1:

The meeting will be divided into four panels. The first will be dedicated to economic collaboration between East and West, and will be organized by the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of the Soviet Union. The second will discuss religious problems, and will be led by the Moscovite patriarch. The third, in which the Academy of Sciences will be directly involved, will be on problems related to scientific research, and will put up-front, the problems linked to nuclear energy, a theme particularly hot after the Chernobyl accident. The fourth panel will be a discussion on cultural and scientific problems, a field in which the "renewal" of Gorbachov has been manifested in a sensational way.

The first day of the session will be dedicated to bilateral meetings, while Sunday and Monday, there will be the different roundtables, at the end of which the participants will meet with Gorbachov personally. Certainly, the most relevant theme is that of economic relations between East and West. The Soviets have done things on a grand scale, and have invited some among the most important businessmen of the Western world. . . .

The government of Moscow would like some Western countries (in particular, Italy) to underline the possibility of the Soviet Union entering the GATT [General Treaty on Tariffs and Trade], a possibility cherished by the Soviets.

On the Western side, on the other hand, the interest is located in verifying the degree of real opening by the Soviets. On this point, there are two arguments: the creation of joint ventures between Soviet industries or firms and Western firms, and, particularly, the new procedures taken by the Soviet Union for trade relations abroad. From the first of January, in fact, the government of Moscow has started a real deregulation which has drastically reduced the powers of the minister for foreign trade. Till now, all dossiers had to go through that minister, with a series of bureaucratic complications which postponed conclusion of agreements, and which gave exorbitant powers to this minister, who had become a bottleneck holding up hundreds of business agreements. Now, trade relations with foreign countries have been decentralized, and have become the work of some 20 different ministries, and about 70 Soviet industries. This is a mechanism which is apparently more complicated, but which in reality should simplify the tangle of procedures which Western firms have had to go through.