



Meeting in Brussels: Pentti Vaananen, Willy Brandt; Walid Jumblatt, Doureid Yaghi; Ernest Glinne (top from left). Enrique Silva Cimma, Anselmo Sule; Hipolito Solari; Dessima Williams; Sachiko Taguchi (bottom from left).

Photographs by Gonzalo Laceres

Bureau debates Euro-missiles and Grenada

The first meeting of the Bureau of the Socialist International since the Congress in Albufeira, Portugal, in April 1983, was held in Brussels in November 1983 and grappled with the dilemmas posed by the stationing of new intermediate-range nuclear weapons and the tragedy of Grenada.

The meeting was hosted by the Socialist Group of the European Parliament and opened with a report by group chairman Ernest Glinne on the plans for the European elections

to be held in June 1984. He stressed the challenge of unemployment to the left in Europe.

The impending stationing of new intermediate weapons in Europe dominated much of the first day of the deliberations, with efforts to arrive at a common position on the question led by Kalevi Sorsa and the Socialist International Disarmament Advisory Council (SIDAC).

Although representatives of the French and Italian member parties supported the imminent deployments as legitimate security responses, there was a wide measure of agreement among delegates about the need to guarantee the continuation of negotiations, and to avoid further deployment. The Bureau gave its approval to a call for a ban on the use of weapons in outer space, the enactment of nuclear-free zones, a commitment to 'no first use', and a prohibition on the use of chemical weapons. The Bureau referred to SIDAC, for its consideration, the question of French nuclear testing in the Pacific, at the request of the

Australian Labor Party, the New Zealand Labour Party and the Japan Democratic Socialist Party. A text opposing any installation of cruise, Pershing, or SS 21-23 missiles was signed by a number of party delegations but not adopted by the Bureau as an official document. (The resolution on security issues is published on page 7.)

The second main theme of the meeting was the world economy. Despite an extensive discussion of the first deliberations of the new Socialist International Committee on Economy Policy, SICEP, the other issue which dominated discussion was the invasion of Grenada, and the tragic events which both preceded and followed it.

Michael Manley, leader of the People's National Party, Jamaica, who with Carlos Andres Perez, of Democratic Action, Venezuela, had been asked by President Brandt to look into the events in Grenada, opened the discussion. Also important were the contributions by Dessima Williams, the former Grenadan ambassador to

the Organisation of American States in Washington, and Henry Forde, the leader of the Barbados Labour Party delegation.

Manley informed the Bureau of the circumstances surrounding the invasion, and expressed his strong condemnation of the murder of Maurice Bishop and his colleagues, and the US intervention. Henry Forde defended what he called the 'rescue mission' as essential to restoring law and order.

The Bureau discussion focused on four central questions flowing from the horror of the previous months' events: the invasion itself; the role played by all those involved in the events; the issues which still face the international community arising from them; and what role the Socialist International should now play in attempting to alleviate the pain suffered by the people of Grenada. Although no new text was adopted on the subject, in order to give the five-person commission of inquiry, and the Socialist International and its Committee for Latin America and the Carib-

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bean, an opportunity to conduct further inquiries, the Bureau did declare that the two statements issued by the president and general secretary would remain the position of the Bureau until its meeting in April. (They are published on page 11.) The five people named to continue investigating the situation were Michael Manley, Carlos Andres Perez, Jose Fran-

cisco Pena Gomez, and representatives of the Norwegian Labour Party, DNA, and the Spanish Socialist Workers' Party, PSOE.

The Socialist International conference on Southern Africa received the go-ahead from the Brussels Bureau, after the regrettable postponement of the scheduled 1983 dates. The

new programme called for a final meeting of the preparatory committee, followed by a meeting of officials in the region in March, and a high-level conference later this year.

(Following the March 5-7, 1984 meetings in Dar-es-Salaam, the front-line states and the Socialist International issued a statement saying that the conference would take place

in Arusha during the first part of September 1984).

The Economic Policy Committee and the Middle East Committee both presented reports to the meeting on their work since the Albufeira Congress. Michael Manley, chairman of the SICEP, reported on preliminary discussions held in London in June 1983, and the first full meeting of the Commit-

List of participants

Socialist International Bureau Meeting Brussels, 24-25 November 1983

Socialist International

Willy Brandt
Pentti Vaananen

Ian Mikardo

Robin Sears
Luis Ayala

Socialist Group European Parliament

Ernest Glinne
Paolo Falcone

Member Parties

Australia

Australian Labor Party, ALP
Chris Schacht

Austria

Socialist Party of Austria, SPOe
Peter Jankowitsch
Fritz Marsch
Walter Hacker
Ferdinand Lacina

Barbados

Barbados Labour Party
O'Brien Trotman
Henry Forde
Dolores Hinds

Belgium

Socialist Party, PS
Guy Spitaels
Irene Petry
Guy Sokay
Etienne Godin
Michel Vanden Abeele

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Socialist Party, SP
Willy Claes
Karel van Miert
Oscar Debunne
Jos van Eynde
Carla Galle

Canada

*New Democratic Party, NDP/
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Chile

Radical Party, PR
Enrique Silva Cimma
Anselmo Sule

Costa Rica

*National Liberation Party,
PLN*
Edgar Ugalde
Carlos Villalobos

Denmark

Social Democratic Party
Anker Joergensen
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Dominican Republic

*Dominican Revolutionary
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Hector Perez Tovar
Rafal Subervi
Leo Reyes

Ecuador

The Democratic Left, PID
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*National Revolutionary
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Jorge Sol
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*Social Democratic Party of
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Erkki Liikanen
Lauri Kangas

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Socialist Party, PS
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Jacques Huntzinger
Geneviève Dornenach-Chiche
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Hans-Eberhard Dingels
Wolfgang Roth
Egon Bahr

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The Labour Party
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Gwyneth Dunwoody

Guatemala

*Democratic Socialist Party of
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Ireland

The Labour Party
Tony Brown

Israel

Israel Labour Party
Shimon Peres
Israel Gat
Yossi Beilin
Nava Arad

United Workers' Party, MAPAM

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Ruggero Puletti
Antonio Cariglia

Italian Socialist Party, PSI

Valdo Spini
Margherita Boniver
Paolo Vittorelli
Carlo Ripa di Meana
Giuseppe Scanni
Walter Marossi

Jamaica

People's National Party, PNP
Michael Manley

Japan

*Japan Democratic Socialist
Party, JDSP*
Sachiko Taguchi

Lebanon

*Progressive Socialist Party,
PSP*
Walid Jumblatt
Doureid Yaghi

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Workers' Party, LSAP/POSJ*
Robert Krieps
Raymond Becker

Malta

Malta Labour Party
Leo Brincat

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Maarten van Traa
Wim van Velzen
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New Zealand Labour Party
Norman Kingsbury

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Thorvald Stoltenberg

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Socialist Party of Senegal
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Bo Tresson
Nils Gunnar Billinger

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Richard Healey

*Social Democrats USA,
SDUSA*
Joel Freedman

Venezuela

Democratic Action, AD
Beatrice Rangel-Mantilla

Consultative Parties

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Hadi Demetriou

Guyana

*Working People's Alliance,
WPA*
Rupert Roopnaraine

Puerto Rico

*Puerto Rico Independence
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Fernando Martin
Ariel Colon

SUCEE

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and Eastern Europe*
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Vilem Bernard

Fraternal Organisations

IUSY

*International Union of
Socialist Youth*
Kirsten Jensen
Robert Kredig

SI Women

*Socialist International
Women*
Lydie Schmit
Imtraut Leirer

Associated Organisations

WLZM

*World Labour Zionist
Movement*
Roger Ascot

CSPEC

*Confederation of the
Socialist Parties in the
European Community*
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Mauro Giallombardo

Observers

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PDT
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Greece

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*Partido Revolucionario
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Nils Castro

Guests

Jacqui Drollet
Bulent Ecevit
Dessima Williams

tee held on the eve of the Bureau. He outlined its first aims as breaking the North-South impasse, and examining the interlinked issues of debt, trade and the monetary system.

Mario Soares, leader of the Socialist Party, Portugal, outlined his continuing efforts where the Middle East situation was concerned on behalf of the Socialist International. He reviewed events in the region and the deliberations of the Committee in recent months and expressed the hope that a new mission to the region would take place soon. He also expressed his personal concern for the safety of PLO Chairman Yassir Arafat, then under siege in Tripoli.

The Bureau adopted several resolutions on developments in Latin America and the Caribbean; and in particular on Central America and the Southern Cone. Nils Castro, of the Democratic Revolutionary of Panama, PRD, a guest of the Bureau, presented a report on the efforts of his party and country to bring peace to Central America through the Contadora process. The Bureau received the greetings of Hipolito Solari Yrigoyen, the personal representative of recently elected Argentinian president, Raul Alfonsin. The decisions of the Bureau as proposed by the Socialist International Committee for Latin America and the Caribbean, and its member parties, are published below.

Financial and organisational questions occupied significant parts of the Bureau agenda. Following a review of the heavy drain on the Socialist International finances that the events and activities of 1983 had meant, the Bureau adopted a 25 per cent increase in member party contributions, as well as a special contributions fund. The Bureau also renewed the mandate of the committees of the Socialist International for the next inter-congress period.

The next meeting of the Bureau will take place in Slangerup, Denmark, near Copenhagen, at the invitation of the Danish Social Democratic Party, on 25-26 April 1984, at the educational centre of the Danish Metal Workers' Union.

Resolution on Disarmament

1. The Socialist International deeply regrets the failure of the Geneva negotiations on intermediate-range nuclear forces. The Socialist International strongly appeals to the Soviet Union and the United States to create conditions under which the negotiations can be resumed at the earliest possible date.

2. The Soviet Union and the United States should now consider merging or effectively coordinating all negotiations concerning strategic and eurostrategic nuclear weapons.

3. The principal goal of the disarmament negotiations must be the halting of the development, testing, production and deployment of all nuclear weapons; the same is to apply to new weapons technologies. This must be followed by the gradual elimination of the existing nuclear arsenals all over the world under effective international control.

4. Negotiations on the elimination of nuclear arsenals can produce ultimate results only when other nuclear powers join them, at the earliest possible date.

5. A comprehensive freeze of all nuclear weapons testing must be immediately observed. A treaty for renunciation of force between NATO and the Warsaw Pact should include obligations of no first use of conventional and nuclear weapons. Nuclear-weapon-free zones and corridors should be established in regions where the countries concerned can agree on such measures. Agreements on the prohibition of all chemical and other mass-destruction weapons should be concluded without delay.

6. In view of the worsening of East-West relations, it is of the utmost importance that the Stockholm Conference should work constructively on the development of confidence-building measures and disarmament. Such a conference may also achieve the important aim of reestablishing — on the basis of mutual confidence — a political climate allowing the renewal of a positive dialogue leading to detente.

7. The Vienna negotiations on the reduction of conventional forces should be continued and brought to a positive conclusion.

8. An agreement should be negotiated on a ban on all types of weapons in outer space.

9. Alarmed by the growing danger of war in various parts of the world and shocked by the increasing resort to the use of force by major and minor powers, the Socialist International appeals to all its member parties, whether in government or in opposition, and beyond that, to all parties and people of good will, to do everything in their power to promote the reduction of existing weapons arsenals and to create conditions of security and mutual confidence. The present balance of terror must be replaced by a balance of sanity and the concept of common security.

Resolution on Central America

The Socialist International reiterates its deep concern about the situation in Central America and demands that the US administration adopt a positive attitude towards a negotiated settlement in the region.

In particular the Socialist International is very disturbed about a possible military intervention by the US in El Salvador and Nicaragua that would seriously aggravate the already explosive situation in the region and could have devastating effects not only in inter-American but also in international relations as well.

The Socialist International welcomes the efforts of the Salvadorean opposition, in particular the fundamental role of its member party, the MNR, in the search for a negotiated settlement. The Socialist International urges the US administration and the US-backed Salvadorean regime to respond seriously and in good faith to these initiatives.

The Socialist International welcomes the positive initiatives recently proposed by the Nicaraguan government as efforts to find negotiated

political solutions to the conflicts of the region.

A negotiation process involves compromise, and is therefore more time-consuming and complex than the use of force as a means of seeking solutions. The Socialist International therefore suggests to those who have expressed impatience at the pace of negotiations to consider this reality and to examine the extent and sincerity of their commitment to the success of such a process. In this context the Socialist International supports the efforts of the Contadora group for peace, negotiations and stability in Central America.

The Socialist International condemns the role being played by the Honduran government and demands an end to the military manoeuvres that have only increased existing tensions.

The Socialist International expresses its great concern at the revival of the so-called Central America Defence Council (CONDECA) by the armies of Guatemala, El Salvador and Honduras and views this development as against a pursuit of a negotiated solution to the regional crisis.

Resolution on Chile

The Socialist International supports the efforts that are being made by the people of Chile and by the political parties in that country, particularly its member party the Radical Party, for a rapid return to democracy in Chile.

The Socialist International appeals for the broadest expression of solidarity with the Chilean people in their struggle to put an end to dictatorship and to reestablish freedom and democracy.

Resolution on Argentina

The Socialist International expresses its deep satisfaction with the victory of democracy in Argentina and avails itself of this opportunity to congratulate the party that won the elections by

an overwhelming majority: Radical Civic Union, and its winning ticket headed by comrade Raul Alfonsin.

The Socialist International also expresses its deep satisfaction with the presence of a representative from the Radical Party at this Bureau meeting.

The Socialist International is confident that this democratic triumph in Argentina will become the first step towards the restoration of democracy and human rights in the remaining countries of the Southern Cone of Latin America under the military regimes.

Resolution on Costa Rica

The Socialist International endorses the statement made by the president of Costa Rica, comrade Luis Alberto Monge, reaffirming the status of neutrality of that country.

In that connection, the Socialist International urges all countries to acknowledge the neutrality declaration, taking into account the fact that it has been made by a country lacking an army and involved in development efforts, guided by the principles of peace, freedom, democracy and respect for human rights and which struggles to stay out of the conflicts that affect the Central American region.

Costa Rica aims to contribute to the struggle for peace and political stability in Central America by utilising its scarce resources in investments in education, culture, health and social welfare instead of allocating such resources to military purposes. These efforts are endorsed by the Socialist International.

Resolution on Guatemala

The Socialist International condemns the continuous violations of human rights and increased repression in Guatemala. The Socialist International fully supports the Democratic Socialist Party's struggle to bring about a democratic government and social and economic justice in Guatemala.

Chile mission proposed

The Socialist International Chile Committee, at its meeting in London on 9 November 1983, proposed, to the Bureau the sending of a mission to Chile in 1984.

The meeting, chaired by Reulf Steen of the Norwegian Labour Party, was attended by delegations from ten member parties of the Socialist International, including as delegates of the Radical Party of Chile a vice-president, Patricio Morales, and Anselmo Sule, the first secretary of the party and a vice-president of the Socialist International.

The meeting heard a report

from Morales, who had travelled from Santiago especially for the meeting. He outlined the growth and development and increasing unity of the opposition forces in Chile, and the success of the protests and mass demonstrations held throughout the year. The Democratic Alliance, in which the Radical Party plays a central role, was one of the leading forces in the protests. The opposition demanded the resignation of the Pinochet government, the establishment of a government of transition, and the election of a constitutional assembly.

On the occasion of the tenth anniversary of the overthrow of democracy in Chile, the Socialist International issued the following declaration:

On the tenth anniversary of the overthrow of the legitimate constitutional government of Chile, presided over by Salvador Allende, the Socialist International expresses once again its full support for and solidarity with the democratic forces of that country.

The military regime which acceded to power by means of force on 11 September 1973 has, over the past years, been the subject of universal condemnation.

In addition to the thousands who fell victim to the violence of the military coup, the Chilean dictatorship has been respon-

sible, over the past ten years, for the massive and systematic violation of human rights.

The existence of political prisoners, of political prisoners who have 'disappeared', of arbitrary arrests, the use of torture, and the expulsion and forced exile from national territory of thousands of people, have been some of the characteristics of an institutionalised policy of repression against the Chilean people.

To all this must be added the dramatic consequences of a disastrous economic policy which has led to mass unemployment, the breakdown and closure of industries, the

persecution of union organisations and their leaders, and the imposition of a constitution designed by the regime to perpetuate its power.

Nevertheless, the Chilean people has maintained its determination and its desire to regain the freedom and democracy which, in the past, were a symbol of the nation's pride.

The recent peaceful demonstrations during the national days of protest have been met with a violent response from Chile's security forces. These demonstrations and the declarations of prominent Chilean political figures, institutions and political parties in favour of a return to democracy, are definitive proof of the continuing aspirations of the people of that country.

The Socialist International has expressed on numerous occasions its support for the struggle for a return to democracy and the reestablishment of the Chilean people's political and social institutions. It has also raised its voice, and will continue to do so, in the defence of human rights in Chile.

On this the tenth anniversary, we again confirm our support for the Radical Party of Chile, a member party of the Socialist International, and for all the democratic forces in that country, and we reiterate our demand for the establishment of a free and democratic Chile. ☐

The face of Chile

