

## WHAT NOW — AFTER THE DEFEAT OF EDC?

# Big Four Parley Holds Key To Real Plan for European Security

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THE BREAKDOWN of the European Defense Community Conference at Brussels, because of France's objection to the planned re-armament of West

Germany, constitutes a major defeat for the foreign policy of Wall Street imperialism. It is one more nail in the coffin of the whole insane project of monopoly capital in the U.S. to dominate the world through a third world war.



The E.D.C. is the American scheme of forming a general European army of the combined forces of France, Italy, Holland, Belgium, Luxemburg, and West Germany, as the cutting edge of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, which also includes the U.S. and Britain. The NATO was conceived in Washington as a general capitalist war alliance against the USSR and the European People's Democracies. The heart of the whole conspiracy was to be the rearming within the EDC of a reactionary West Germany, in direct violation of the Potsdam Treaty.

But now the whole plan, through the refusal of France to go along with it, is going bankrupt and has a knife sticking in its vitals. The main reason for France's defection is the unwillingness of the French workers and other common people to become cannon fodder for the profit of American monopoly capital. This stand is

a reflection of the broad and deep peace-spirit now prevailing all over Europe and throughout many other parts of the world.

It is the same elementary force that, during the past year, has administered two other heavy blows to the Washington war-plotters by forcing through cease-fire truces in the Korean and Indochina wars, despite frantic efforts by Wall Street's political and military leaders to continue and to expand these wars.

THE WASHINGTON sabre-rattlers are appalled at this latest blow to their program of imperialist conquest and expansion. But they are not yet at the end of their string in Europe. All along, they have been planning, in case the EDC should fail, to re-arm West Germany themselves with the money of American taxpayers. In this crisis we may now expect them to begin to move openly and rapidly in this direction, while trying also to keep the breath of life in the badly-crippled EDC.

Many months ago the windy John Foster Dulles warned France that if it did not get a move on and endorse EDC, the United States would have to make an "agonizing reappraisal" of its whole European policy. The fact is that this reappraisal has been taking place already for some time. After a number of harsh experiences Wall Street, while not writing them off altogether as allies, has been placing less and less reliance upon Britain, France, and Italy as militant and aggressive war partners. In these countries the mass

peace forces are much too strong to suit the American war-organizers and also their capitalist classes have many troublesome antagonisms with the arrogant moguls of the United States.

Therefore, the Washington war planners are devoting more and more attention to cultivating as potential war allies a whole row of more "reliable," if not so large, countries. They include such countries as West Germany, Spain, Turkey, Yugoslavia, Greece, Japan, Pakistan, Australia, Canada, Philippines, the Latin American bloc, etc. These countries, with the United States in the lead, would be fused, so Wall Street hopes, into some sort of a near-fascist spearhead for the capitalist world against the countries of Socialism and People's Democracies. But this hare-brained scheme is futile, too, as the future will make clear.

BY THE SAME TOKEN that the crisis of EDC is a heavy defeat for the Washington warmongers, it is at the same time a great victory for the peace forces of the world. It means a considerable further easing of international tension, and it is an encouragement to the peace forces everywhere to work harder than ever to break up the plots of the warmakers and to lay a solid basis for the peaceful co-existence of all the nations of the earth.

The bankruptcy of EDC makes imperative the holding of the Big Four conference on European problems recently proposed by the Soviet Government.