

MIDEAST

Arabs, Europe Seek Mideast Peace, Oil Agreements

Nov. 13 (NSIPS) — Western Europe and the Arab world, spurred by a common fear of the implications of the Carter coup d'état in the U.S., have begun collaboration aimed at preventing a new Arab-Israeli war and establishing a sound basis for long-term economic cooperation for development. Unwilling to tolerate Carter's war-and-embargo provocations and continued Rockefeller control of their oil supplies, the Arab world has made it clear that it will break with the dollar and move to implement direct government-to-government deals with European nations in the event of a Mideast war and a resultant embargo.

Backed up by British Petroleum (BP), the national oil companies of France, Italy, Germany, and Belgium have agreed to form one giant oil company to "dwarf Exxon" and "totally destroy the marketing of the multinationals in Europe." Shares of Rockefeller-controlled oil companies, such as Exxon and Mobil, will be taken over and the Europeans will buy directly from the Arabs. In response to this dramatic development, stocks of Mobil, Exxon, and other U.S. multinationals collapsed this week by 10 per cent on the New York stock exchange.

The immediate compelling motivation behind the Arabs and the Europeans is the Carter Committee on the Present Danger drive to provoke regional Arab-Israeli war in order to confront the Soviet Union with a "show of force." Top European circles are painfully aware that an Arab oil embargo and related drastic increases in oil prices that would follow a Middle East war would demolish European industry and reassert the hegemony of the U.S. dollar in the world economy.

Arabs Organize for Geneva

In an effort to avert war, Egypt, Syria, and Saudi Arabia this week began a campaign to pressure both Washington and European capitals to achieve an immediate reconvening of the long-postponed Geneva Conference. The Ford Administration is known to be in agreement with the Arabs' efforts, and — despite preemptive denials by Secretary of State Henry Kissinger — is ready to take part in a Geneva Conference as early as next month. Both Syria and Egypt, according to the Christian Science Monitor, have informed the White House that "it will not be good enough to wait until the Carter Administration takes over."

Peace efforts by Egypt and Syria have received the full backing of Saudi Arabia. The Saudis are seeking to persuade both Britain and France to join the Geneva effort, in exchange for a Saudi pledge to limit oil price increases to 10 per cent or lower when the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) meets on Dec. 15.

The start of closer Arab-European cooperation contains great potential for establishing the basis of new treaty relationships along the lines of the International Development Bank, proposed by the U.S. Labor Party. Italy and Egypt, for instance, both of which are in dire need of debt moratorium, could use the support of Arab and European countries to break with the U.S. dollar. For 30 years Europe has remained a virtual colony of the New York banks largely because of its dependence on a supply of oil almost entirely controlled by the U.S. and the Rockefeller-owned Seven Sisters.

Now, the Arab oil producers — from arch-conservative Saudi Arabia and Kuwait to socialist Iraq — have created a network of ties to Europe outside the framework of the oil multinationals. In addition to the formation of the giant pan-European oil company, Aramco, the world's largest oil company representing the very core of the Rockefeller family's power in world oil, will be taken over and nationalized by Saudi Arabia.

Carter-Israel Axis Pushes War

The motion by the Arabs and Europe to prevent war coincides with increasingly overt intervention by Israel into southern Lebanon. The Carter forces have made it explicit that there can be no motion toward an overall peace settlement "for at least six months" — in effect giving the Israeli warhawks carte blanche for war provocations in Lebanon. Already, Israel has placed its military on special alert in response to fictitious reports that Palestinians were massing in southern Lebanon in preparation for "terrorist raids." This week Israeli tanks and personnel carriers attacked a Lebanese town three miles north of the border, and sank two Arab boats in the Mediterranean.

Ignoring the fact that the growing Israeli armed involvement in Lebanon in support of fascist warlord Camille Chamoun is a deliberate slap at Egypt and Syria, who so far have exercised remarkable restraint in refusing to respond to the Israeli provocations, an official of the American-Israeli Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC) this week announced that the Arabs were planning to step up terrorism against Israel and thus escalate the Middle East crisis toward a shooting war. The scenario he described (see below) — concocted to him by Carter advisors James Schlesinger and Eugene Rostow, who work closely with AIPAC — involved a crisis escalating from Arab terrorism and Israeli counterterrorism to full-scale war.

Farouk Kaddoumi, Foreign Minister of the Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO), asserted this week that the PLO has no intention of being sucked into responding to Israel's provocations. Said Kaddoumi: "Palestinian forces will never be drawn into a conflict originated to serve U.S. policy."

Backing Kaddoumi up, Egyptian President Anwar Sadat issued an urgent call for peace. Speaking to a group of U.S. Congressmen in Egypt, Sadat said: "Deliver this message to (Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak) Rabin. I am ready for a durable peace. Let us hope that Rabin is willing to accept the same thing." Sadat stressed the Geneva peace talks as the only forum acceptable to all the Arabs: "We will sit at Geneva with the Israelis. The Egyptians, Syrians, Jordanians, Palestinians, Lebanese will go to the negotiating table and we will resolve this conflict."

Underscoring Sadat's call, Sadat's wife declared in a speech this week in the Philippines: "We are at the limit of our patience. This is an urgent call. We must go quickly for a general Middle East settlement. There is still time to avoid a new Middle East war."

Shift Toward Peace

Pro-peace Israeli Prime Minister Rabin responded positively to Sadat's dramatic call, reflecting what the Financial Times of London has described as a marked shift toward peace in Israel. In a statement that amounted to a virtual invitation to the Arabs

to sit down with the Israelis and negotiate peace, Rabin welcomed Sadat's peace offer and called upon Sadat "to stop speaking about peace in general terms and say precisely what he intends to do concretely with his proposal to bring about peace with Israel."

In addition, Rabin has indicated his willingness to negotiate with the PLO and eventually accept the formation of a separate Palestinian state in the occupied territory. Israeli willingness to deal realistically with the Palestinians was backed up this week by the refusal of Israel's Justice Minister to take action against four prominent Israeli doves who have been in direct contact with the PLO.

Faced with the growing sentiment for peace in the Middle East and the exclusion of Rockefeller's clique of Israeli warhawks, even the controlled U.S. press has been forced to endorse an immediate settlement of the Middle East crisis. In a New York Times editorial yesterday, Edward Sheehan wrote that "the overriding reality is that the region has reverted to its chronic instability (witness Lebanon) and may soon be ripe for a more general explosion that could engulf not only Arabs and Israelis but the great powers as well." Sheehan called for the convening of the Geneva peace talks and a "comprehensive settlement." The Washington Post called for the current Ford Administration to get involved in the peace effort, and specifically to encourage the Israelis to cooperate with the Palestinians. Right on cue, the U.S. delegation, led by Ford colleague and U.N. Ambassador William Scranton, broke its long-time tradition of supporting Israeli intransigence and joined the rest of the U.N. Security Council in a unanimous denunciation of Israel's provocative West Bank settlement policies.

Arab World Unifies for Peace

The once bitterly divided Arab world has, in the space of a few short weeks, managed to attain a remarkable unanimity of purpose in seeking to confront Israel's provocations without touching off a war. The Lebanon crisis, which fueled inter-Arab tension for 18 months and almost brought the world to the brink of a U.S.-Soviet showdown, has been eased by an agreement of Arab heads of state worked out in Riyadh and Cairo.

PLO chairman Yasser Arafat announced this week in Tripoli, Libya, that he had arranged a reconciliation between Libyan leader Muammar Qaddafi and Egypt's Sadat. Last month the Libyans gave support to Egypt in regard to the latter's huge debt burden.

Syria, long ostracized in the Arab world for its military role against the PLO in Lebanon, is mending fences with both Iraq and Libya. Mahmoud Riad, the chief of the Arab League, is visiting Iraq and Syria to arrange a reconciliation, and the Libyans reopened diplomatic relations this week with Syria after severing them last summer at the height of the Lebanon crisis.

In Lebanon, the long and bloody war seemed on the verge of a settlement capable of lasting except for the Israeli involvement. Units of the largely Syrian Arab League peacekeeping force moved into Beirut this week to separate the warring parties. Only diehard forces linked to Chamoun are still opposing the settlement, and are seeking to tighten their relations with Israeli Intelligence.

Oil for Technology

With the political unity of the Arab world, a pattern of closer economic and oil ties with Western Europe and Japan has clearly emerged. A Saudi official and former OPEC director told West German bankers in Riyadh yesterday that there will be no more than a minimal increase in the price of oil. In Japan, the oil minister of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) said that his country—backed by Saudi Arabia and Kuwait—would propose a price rise of "less than 10 per cent," and hinted that Japan and

the UAE were negotiating a deal for an immense one million barrels of oil a day in exchange for technology.

The case of Saudi Arabia, long a satrapy of the Rockefeller family, is the most remarkable. Several sheikhs and Oil Minister Zaki Yamani have been growing increasingly independent of Rockefeller control. This week, the Saudi Defense Minister visited Great Britain and signed a \$4.8 billion trade deal, which, according to the Sunday Times of London, is partly contingent on Britain pursuing an "independent"—i.e., non-Carter—foreign policy. Also, the Saudis renewed a large-scale trade agreement with the French that was originally signed under Gaullist Foreign Minister Michel Jobert in 1974.

The Nov. 10 New York Times publicly lost its composure over the Saudi and Kuwaiti moves. The Times reported that the top New York banks are virtually hostage of the Arab oil states because of the huge deposits these countries hold in Wall Street.

Carter-Linked Committee Discloses Scenario For Mideast War

Nov. 10 (NSIPS) — The following interview with a spokesman for the American-Israeli Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC) has been made available to New Solidarity International Press Service. AIPAC, a covert operation of the Israeli Embassy in Washington D.C., cooperates closely with key members of Jimmy Carter's Committee on the Present Danger, such as Eugene Rostow and James Schlesinger, in Committee efforts to ignite a Middle East war.

Q: There are widespread reports that the Arab world is terrified of Carter. Is this true?

A: Sure the Arabs fear Carter. They are apprehensive, but they can't affect U.S. policy. They might want a Geneva conference, but it won't happen. In fact, the Arabs might start a war before the Jan. 20 inauguration — so forget about Geneva. See, the Arabs have put themselves in a box. They trusted Kissinger too much, and now Kissinger is out on his ass. Carter understands the Mideast problem on a much deeper level than Ford. The problem with the Arabs is that they didn't believe that Carter would be elected. Now, they have to learn that the U.S. will not go along with an imposed settlement. Ford and Kissinger are just minding their desks — they don't have anything to say anymore. As for the Arabs, they want to settle Lebanon just to threaten Israel, that's all.

Q: What about peace? Israeli Prime Minister Rabin wants peace, doesn't he?

A: Rabin is stupid. Anything he says about Arab politics just forget. He has an utter lack of comprehension about anything, the Arabs, the U.S., Europe. The only exception is Lebanon, and that is because of Defense Minister Peres' influence. If Rabin really said that the Arabs might unite for peace, then that is just one more in a long history of stupid statements. Rabin is a weak guy. He doesn't understand how to use power. And he's also a dangerous guy.

Most likely Peres is working within the (Israeli) Labor Party executive to topple Rabin. Rabin might call early elections to try to get a mandate. But Peres has the lead. The (pro-war — ed.) Likud alignment is getting more powerful, and is threatening Rabin. And don't forget what happened in Sweden — that's what Peres is saying.

Q: It seems as though the Arabs might be trying to encourage the formation of a Gaullist-type Europe...

A: That is exactly correct! Not many people understand that... When the Arabs get an inch they take a mile. All they have is a sense of dominance and submissiveness. They're irrational. If there is a war, Egypt faces the prospect of a crushing defeat.

This is the 20th century, not the 8th century. The Arabs are a bunch of primitive motherfuckers. They're like the Germans — at your feet or at your throat. You can't deal with those suckers.

Q: How would a Middle East war occur?

A: A war would start with terrorist incidents in the Golan Heights, and from Lebanon. This would allow Syria to move troops closer to Israel, in response to Israeli counterattacks against the terrorists. Then Egypt would start a war of attrition in the Sinai, and move its troops up. Then Egypt would strike at

Bab el-Mandeb and try to close down the straits. Egypt has built up quite a navy. They'd move through the Gidi and Mitla passes in a broad front attack. But the key would be their SCUD missiles. It's a terror weapon. We'd know that the border incidents and so one were nothing but a prelude to a real war when we see the SCUD's hitting Israeli cities. Strategically they are not important weapons. They can't do much damage. But they would use them for shock effect and to disrupt Israel's call up of the military.

SOVIET SECTOR

Soviets Blast Carter War Faction

Nov. 13 (NSIPS) — Numerous statements by Soviet spokesmen and press commentaries this week have put forward in unmistakable terms the Soviet Union's strategic outlook: the war faction in the West, the backers of Jimmy Carter, are drawing the world closer to a nuclear blowup, although there still exist forces opposed to that policy. To the anti-war factions, the Soviet Union offers its collaboration for peace and global economic growth. But time is very short.

The Soviet daily Pravda today blasted the Committee on the Present Danger, the cabal of Carter-backers which is committed to nuclear war before summer of 1977. According to reports from the French daily Le Monde, Pravda charged that this Committee of "old boys" is "throwing all its fire power against both international detente and the continuation of U.S.-Soviet negotiations.... The old boys thereby confirm their reputation as agents of the military-industrial complex." Le Monde comments that this is a warning to Carter, since the Soviets know very well that Committee members Nitze, Schlesinger, et al. are Carter's advisors.

The speeches and articles translated below document the daily warnings that the Soviet Union and its allies are issuing to the West on the war danger — most of which have been blacked out in the U.S. press — and the preparation of the Soviet Union's own population, especially the military, for the possibility of war. The material also demonstrates the Soviets' unshakable resolve that if there must be a war they will fight to win.

Soviets Answer Committee On Present Danger

The following is a Prensa Latina report on Soviet Union press reaction to the Committee on the Present Danger:

MOSCOW, Nov. 13 (PL) — The Soviet press today labelled "a band of hawks" an organization recently created in Washington named the Committee on the Present Danger and made up of former officials of the Central Intelligence Agency and the military.

The afternoon paper "Izvestia" asked if the "present danger" wasn't really unemployment, inflation, the high cost of living, and the increase in crime in the United States.

The paper answers with a quote from the Washington Post which said that the Committee would be against anyone, including President-elect James Carter, who tried to lower the 1977 U.S. military budget.

The representatives of the U.S. military-industrial complex fear political detente and fear that this will be accompanied by military detente, which would reduce the budget and their profits from arms production, emphasizes the daily Pravda.

"There has been an increase in the West lately of false propaganda on the 'Soviet menace,' inspired by the same military-industrial complex, charged Pravda.

The Committee on Present Danger is made up of ex-Secretary of the Treasury Fowler (its President), an ex-Secretary of State, generals, admirals, and magnates of the U.S. military industry, writes Pravda.

All these "old boys" are trying to confuse U.S. and world public opinion by charges of so-called "Soviet expansion."

The Pentagon emisaries want to increase the cost of living of Americans and for a heavy burden of military taxes to fall on the population, emphasized today's Soviet papers.

Brezhnev:

The West Will Not Split Socialist Ranks

Nov. 13 — The following are excerpts from a speech given by Soviet Communist Party General Secretary Leonid Brezhnev Nov. 10, at a reception in Moscow for Edward Gierek, the visiting head of the Polish United Workers Party.

Now that the elections are over in countries like the Federal Republic of Germany and the USA, we would like to be able to count on more effective interaction in the solution of major problems, both in bilateral relations and in international life as a whole, which have great significance for the strengthening of the peace and security of all peoples. We are for the full realization of the "spirit of Helsinki" in international relations and will promote this in every way.

But we also see clearly that powerful and well-organized forces in the capitalist world are persistently acting against the firm consolidation of peaceful coexistence and, of course, are against curtailing the arms race.

They are trying in every way possible to poison the international atmosphere with the venom of suspicions, distrust, and fear. They are spreading slanders against communists, against the socialist countries, against the national-liberation movements.

They would like to prevent the successful development of our countries on the road to socialism and communism; they would