

### *Rockefeller Sabotage*

There are some indications that Rockefeller and the Carter regime have set into motion a number of counter-operations to block and confuse the impact of the King Hassan move.

The networks that have been activated include the Willy Brandt wing of the West German SPD and Second International, and the liberal-radical magazine *Le Nouvel Observateur* in France. According to informed sources, Brandt is seeking to move into the Moroccan-Israeli rapprochement to chair a meeting on Arab-

Jewish affairs with Mendes-France. Yesterday Brandt went to Zurich to address "Jewish leaders" there on Arab-Israeli ties. Reportedly, Brandt is working alongside *Le Nouvel Observateur*, the French weekly heavily controlled by Rockefeller and the Institute for Policy Studies.

Both Brandt and *Le Nouvel Observateur* may now attempt to attach themselves onto the overall Mediterranean process like parasites to weaken the momentum of what has been set into motion.

—Bob Dreyfuss

## Arabs Move Toward 'Unified Political Plan'

Egyptian Foreign Minister Ismail Fahmy completed two days of talks with the Soviet leadership June 10, including a meeting with Soviet Communist Party Chairman and Premier Leonid Brezhnev. Reversing months of deteriorating bilateral relations, the two parties agreed to strive for a Geneva Mideast conference early this autumn, and to establish closer coordination of positions over the coming months. According to the British Broadcasting Corporation, the Egyptians and Soviets agreed to take "certain concrete measures" to improve bilateral ties, which undoubtedly involve the renewal of Soviet shipments of military spare parts to Egypt and means for ironing out the thorny problem of Egyptian debt owed to the Soviet Union.

These crucial bilateral talks were the highlight item in a week of numerous key steps taken by Arab leaders toward the formation of what the Cairo press is calling a "unified political plan" by the Arabs. Catalyzed by the Soviets, the Iraqis, and leading North African states, this diplomacy is oriented toward securing an effective Arab sector voice at the June 15 Belgrade CSCE talks.

The overriding short-term focus of the momentum toward political unification is to work out solutions for the many regional intra-Arab quarrels which have detracted from an effective Arab sector move toward formation of a new non-dollar-based new world economic order. As this process is unfolding, the vanguard Arab forces in Iraq, Libya, and elsewhere, and their backers in Western Europe and the Soviet Union, will have a powerful voice in influencing the strategic decisions of the Saudi Arabian ruling family in monetary and related affairs.

Before Fahmy left for Moscow — itself a change in site from earlier plans to hold the meeting in a "neutral European city," as per Egyptian urging — an aura of expectation was building in Arab circles that the talks would be taken *very seriously* by the Egyptians.

On the eve of the talks, Egyptian President Anwar Sadat made the highly irregular gesture of publicly praising the Soviet leadership for the recent dismissal of Soviet President Podgornyi. "Thank God the Soviet leaders discovered the reality of this man and removed him from power," Sadat told Cairo's Middle East News Agency. According to sources in the U.S. intelligence community, Podgornyi had been originally removed in part because of his failed policy toward the Mideast in general and toward Egypt in particular.

Egyptian economic czar Abdel-Moneim Kaissouny, who has been very close to International Monetary Fund and New York banking circles for the past decade, this week warmly praised the Soviets in public. Kaissouny was trying to lay the groundwork for a forthcoming attitude on the Soviets' part in regard to Egypt's debt repayments to the Comecon sector.

For the first time in months, contacts were renewed this week between leading Egyptian and Libyan circles, something that the Soviets have been striving for for many months. A meeting between Sadat and Bachir Rabeti, the Libyan head of the until now moribund United Arab Republic of Egypt, Libya, and Syria, was favorably publicized in the government run Egyptian press, which had previously been a conduit for wild attacks against Libyan leader Muammar Qaddafi.

During the following days, Egyptian Prime Minister Mamdouh Salem will meet with Libyan Foreign Minister Oteibi, BBC reported June 5. On June 9, the Iraq News Agency reported that Qaddafi and Sadat will meet this weekend in Tobruk, Libya.

Qaddafi is also trying to resolve an ongoing controversy between his country and neighboring Tunisia involving control over disputed oil resources. Meetings between the two countries' leaderships, possibly through the mediation of the pro-Libyan ex-Prime Minister of Tunisia Mohammed Masmoudi, are being arranged, and one high ranking official in the ruling Tunisian Destour Party declared that "the process of reconciliation is ongoing." Qaddafi received extensive praise in the Soviet military newspaper *Red Star* for his gestures toward Tunisia.

Libya was the location of recent efforts to mediate the bitter dispute between Iraq and Syria. At a late May Islamic Conference in Tripoli, Syrian Foreign Minister Abdul-Halib Khaddam made a sudden appearance, giving Qaddafi a basis for arranging Iraq-Syria contacts. Since that time, the *Christian Science Monitor* reported June 6, Syria has begun to tone down its attacks on Iraq.

The paper also reports that Syria has begun to supply Soviet-supplied arms to the Egyptians via the port of Tartus.

### *Iraq and Gulf Security*

Iraq has been a prime motivating force for regional Arab political and military coordination and for the establishment of Persian Gulf security arrangements.

In reaction to the victory in Israel of the extremist Likud Party, Iraq earlier this month sent special notes to all Arab leaders calling for joint defense coordination in the face of a growing Israeli pre-emptive air attack threat. Iraq also announced that it was creating a day and night air cover and expanded defense perimeter to protect its oilfields from long-range Israeli attack, citing recent warnings by Israeli Chief of Staff Mordechai Gur that Israel would not hesitate to attack "distant Arab states" if the need arose.

According to the Paris-based newspaper *Al Watan al-Arabi*, Iraq's oilfield defense measures have since been expanded to include neighboring Arab states. Last weekend, Kuwait and Iraq reportedly worked out an arrangement to alternately patrol the oilfields of the Persian Gulf region.

The Iraq-Kuwait agreement came amidst spreading fear in informed Arab circles that an Israeli long-range attack was in the works. The respected Arabic newspaper *An Nahar* noted this week that Arab officials now fear Israeli aerial attacks on the Gulf countries and Libya.

The necessity for joint Arab Gulf security arrangements has been stated by leaders of the geographically central United Arab Emirates. In mid-May UAE Defense Minister Muhamed Ibn Rashid had stressed that there was an organic relationship of Arab security as a whole. A few days later, the UAE National

Assembly called for the establishment of Gulf "economic integration" as "preparatory to achieving a political unity that would serve as the nucleus for a more comprehensive Arab unity."

#### *Lebanon: Path of Resolution?*

A thorn in the side of all these unity efforts has continued to be the volatile Lebanese situation. Aside from the destabilizing effects of expanding Israeli-Lebanese fascist military and logistical collaboration, Lebanon has also been the battleground between pro-Syrian units and Palestinian and pro-Iraqi units. This week, intense fighting broke out between Syrian units and Palestinian leftists opposing efforts to keep the Palestinians tightly controlled in limited encampments.

But Syria's insistence on ramming through a hard-line solution favorable to U.S.-manipulated "Greater Syria" efforts appears to be easing, and Syrian President Assad appears to be buckling to the will of Saudi Arabia, which had recently cut back by 80 percent the aid granted to his regime. This week, Assad announced his acceptance of 1969 accords regulating Palestinian action in Lebanon and, after meetings between Khaddam and Lebanese President Elias Sarkis, official Syrian publications are advocating building up Sarkis' national sovereignty in the war-torn country. A meeting between Assad and Sarkis is in the offing.

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## War Cabinet Formed In Israel

No matter what party name is given to the Israeli cabinet, Likud party prime minister-elect Menachem Begin is forming a war cabinet. Although desiring a strong unity government — including both the defeated Labour Party and the Democratic Movement for Change led by Yigal Yadin — uniting all the hardline factions in a massive show of force to the Arabs and the U.S., Begin apparently will have to content himself with what war-hawk generals he can scrape up.

The chosen posts of defense and foreign ministers are firmly in the hands of known expansionists: Ezer Weizman in charge of defense and his brother-in-law Moshe Dayan named to the foreign minister's post. Ariel Sharon, Dayan's protégé, will have a special post created for him as Minister of Security Coordination.

Meanwhile the Carter regime is issuing alternately pro- and anti-Israeli statements designed to push these unstable Israelis into self-imposed isolationist positions, aggravating the Israeli Samson complex and bringing on a fifth Arab-Israeli war and near-certain thermonuclear holocaust in the name of "Jewish Survival."

It is no wonder that war jitters are rampant throughout the Israeli population.

Yesterday Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and his Chief of Staff Mordechai Gur toured the Sinai to assess the situation following last month's Egyptian military exercises there. As the least likely enemy of Israel, Egypt is being targeted precisely because Defense Minister Fahmy is meeting Soviet leaders in Moscow for pre-Geneva negotiations. According to the Israeli press, many

Israelis regard the Egyptian maneuvers not only as threatening, but as a rehearsal for another war. The *Jerusalem Post* warns that "threats of war are resounding in the Mideast again" and that the Egyptian presence in Sinai was "more ominous than before."

Additionally Israel has officially accused Egypt of violating the UN Sinai accords, three times in the three weeks since the elections.

Rockefeller-linked Drew Middleton wrote in the *New York Times* on Monday that "instability" in the Middle East is pushing Egypt especially, towards a "limited war" in Sinai.

This scenario — small provocations by the Arabs against Israel — was enunciated by a Brookings Institution operative while commenting on Chief of Staff Gur's remarks this week that the one lesson Israel learned from the '73 war was that a war could erupt out of Israeli control. This was interpreted as Gur's "new intelligence doctrine," which would not allow the Arabs to slowly build up their forces as in 1973. "If changes in actual troop movements are seen, Israel will have to react ... if they move into the ceasefire zone (Sinai) Israel will have to react militarily and this might mean a partial mobilization." Thus Gur's new policy is one of preemptive first strike, a doctrine now being widely talked of. The *Baltimore Sun* this week quoted a "high Likud official" who said that if the U.S. turns against Israel, however slightly and even temporarily, Israel will be forced to return again to the strategy of a preemptive strike. The *Sun* interpreted this as meaning