

Oil crisis threatened

Despite a pledge made publicly last week by Saudi Prince Saud that "oil is a resource, not a weapon," British-linked press outlets, such as the *Christian Science Monitor*, are resolutely pushing the line that an oil embargo is imminent.

In its Sept. 13 and 14 issues, the *Christian Science Monitor* featured three front-page articles on a soon-to-be-unleashed oil crisis perpetrated by Saudi Arabia and Iran and linked to the Camp David summit.

On Sept. 14, *Christian Science Monitor* staff correspondent Daniel Southerland presented this notion in an article entitled, "Why Iran Unrest Is So Significant for West."

While many of Washington's most talented journalists fight unsuccessfully to penetrate the barrier of secrecy around Camp David, they may be missing a bigger story:

The implications of the rioting in Iran.

Consider for a moment the potential threat to the Western world's oil supplies if the current troubles in Iran were to culminate in the overthrow of the Shah.

The Arab-Israeli struggle, the focus of Camp David, clearly has the potential for escalation into a superpower conflict. Less often recognized is that any radical or Russian-supported threat to the oil-producing centers in the same region — and that means a threat to Iran and Saudi Arabia — also has the potential for drawing the U.S. into a superpower disaster. . . .

President Carter has yet to contend with a major world crisis. It is not inconceivable that he might face his first in the Gulf area.

Another front-page article the same day reports "Iran, Saudis Eye Summit, Hand on Oil Valve."

The outcome of the Camp David Mideast peace talks may considerably affect Arab and possibly Iranian attitudes on whether to raise world oil prices or curtail supplies. . . .

The well-informed Arab Press Service (APS) in Beirut reports the Saudi purpose is to consider whether or not to take the Arab oil weapon out of mothballs again, to pressure Israel into softening its stand against giving up Arab territory taken in 1967.

On Sept. 13, an article by John K. Cooley reveals that the current destabilization against the Shah is aimed at triggering an oil crisis. The article is entitled, "Iran: More At Stake Than Shah's Rule."

The Iranian internal conflict affects not only the United States, the Shah's main ally. It also has a direct bearing on the oil supplies and defense of Western Europe, especially NATO's southeastern flank. . . .

U.S. and European NATO policy planners have long regarded oil as the main key to their relations with both Saudi Arabian and Iran, which together dominate the Gulf and the Arabian Peninsula.

Internal upheavals in either one would endanger some of the industrial world's oil supplies.

This danger is greater in magnitude in Saudi Arabia, not at present threatened from within, than it is in Iran, which is seriously threatened. . . .

While Saudi Arabian oil money props up the Egyptian economy and to a lesser extent, that of Syria, Iranian oil is vital to Israel. More than 80 percent of Israel's oil supplies come from Iran, and Israeli leaders undoubtedly are watching Iranian events with concern.

Massive Israeli arms sales to Latin American military regimes exposed in Mexico

On Sept. 9, in Mexico City, the Mexican Socialist Party of the Workers (PST) held a major press conference to expose the fact that Israel is flooding arms into Latin America, using Mexico as a "beachhead." The PST, a progressive party in collaboration with Mexican government development efforts, presented a dossier of evidence showing that this arms flow — \$600 million in value in 1977 alone, and three-fifths of Israeli arms sales worldwide — supports the most intransigent and repressive military regimes in Latin America, the most well known being Pinochet's in Chile and Somoza's in Nicaragua. The PST noted that the Israeli presence in Nicaragua has increased dramatically since the United States imposed an arms cut-off to the country last year because of "human rights" violations.

The list of the recipients of the Israeli arms is synonymous with the list of the most volatile countries and regions on the continent, long profiled by such agencies as the Rand Corporation and U.S. National Security Council staffers under Kissinger, and now under Brzezinski, for potential destabilization and regional war.

In addition to the threat of regional war flowing from the current civil war situation in Nicaragua, the perennial conflict between Chile, Bolivia, Peru and Ecuador — potentially a "Second War of the Pacific" (the first was in 1879) — is being directly fueled by substantial Israeli military assistance. It was reported earlier this year that the Israelis have concentrated on training Chilean tank forces for