

Editorial

Is there a cure for AID?

Economic dictates issued toward Israel and Egypt from the Reagan administration wreaked considerable havoc the first week of October. Should the policies which led to these measures be continued, there is no hope for peace in the region.

The source of the bad policies is no secret. Establishing the criteria for economic aid within the U.S. State Department is the U.S. Administration for International Development, known for short as AID. And a bigger source of subversion of U.S. foreign policy could not be found.

The head of AID is one Peter McPherson. McPherson's speeches are crystal clear on his desire to use U.S. financial aid to ruin the domestic and heavy industry, national planning, and agriculture of recipient nations. He is so eloquent in defense of "small is beautiful" that you might think that he belongs in the Environmental Protection Agency.

But McPherson did not come up with these policies on his own, of course. They were first written in the supranational agencies such as the OECD and the policy-planning sections of NATO, and then widely popularized by the Club of Rome. You'd be surprised how much of U.S. foreign and economic policy is made by the genocidal maniacs who are willing to kill billions of people in order to preserve the forests and some dying species of lizards. And Peter McPherson, cohort of the Club of Rome, is just such a maniac.

McPherson, for example, was one of the major promoters of the depopulation thesis—against the wishes of the President—at this summer's United Nations Population Conference in Mexico City. To hear McPherson, you would believe that giving out birth control pills, or sterilizing people, actually alleviates starvation, or grows food. Not since Jimmy Carter claimed that conservation creates energy has such a fraud been perpetrated.

Now let's look at what AID has done in the Middle East.

First, it is responsible for recommending the elimination of U.S. aid for Egypt in buying a nuclear plant. This move will not immediately destroy Egypt's econ-

omy—it will probably simply send that nation to the Europeans, or even to the Soviet Union, to get the necessary help in securing cheap energy.

Second, it is responsible for demanding the implementation of IMF policies which created food riots in Egypt this week. This crisis is by no means a one-time affair, of course. Due to the shortage of infrastructural development, Egypt has not yet developed sufficient agricultural productivity to feed itself, and remains dependent upon the United States for food aid—even on a day to day basis. Armed with this blackmail, the AID persists in demanding that Egypt manage its food market the way they want—including the elimination of certain food subsidies, the adoption of population-control policies, and a reliance on labor-intensive methods.

Third, as reported in an Oct. 5 article by Jack Anderson, the State Department—guided by AID—will demand of Israel that it qualify for further desperately needed aid from the United States by escalating its budget cuts, eliminating the central bank of Israel, and "privatizing" large sections of the Israeli economy in a way that will destroy what remains of the heavy industrial sector.

Especially targeted for cuts, both now and in the past, has been the Energy and Infrastructure Ministry, which has been working on Israel's Mediterranean-Dead Sea canal project. This project, one of the proposals of Col. Meir Pa'il, involves creating a grid of nuclear plants along a canal to be built between the two seas.

Irony of ironies, both Israel and Egypt, the nations who braved the wrath of the Soviet Union and the radical Arabs to form an alliance for peace in the Middle East, are now being deprived of the only technologies that could actually create the prosperous conditions to implement that peace.

And who's responsible? Well, we would start with that anti-technology technocrat Peter McPherson. Removing him from office would be the first step toward cleaning up a situation where our government promises support for a government, and then our State Department acts to destroy it.