

Editorial

Gramm-Rudman hits the Mideast

It is almost a miracle, but Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres, with his proposal for a \$25 billion "Marshall Plan" for the Middle East, has given the United States one more chance to secure its vital strategic interests in the Eastern Mediterranean, and save the peoples of the region from bloody warfare prefatory to Soviet imperial domination. And yet, the United States has given Peres the same cold shoulder it gave to earlier peace initiatives by Egypt's Mubarak and Jordan's Hussein.

The combination of "free market" ideological insanity and outright treasonous elements in the Reagan administration appears ready to cast aside what may be the last opportunity to save the Middle East, and, by strategic implication, the continents of Europe and Africa from Moscow's designs.

To be sure, the Peres proposal is not perfect. Political realities being what they are inside Israel, the powerful influence of Ariel Sharon and the Israeli drug-runner friends of Henry Kissinger and the Bronfman family, some of the projects included in the Peres plan are of the casino-gambling "tourist complex" variety pleasing to the likes of Meyer Lansky.

But if imperfect in presented detail, the "Marshall Plan" idea is precisely the strategic framework that ought to govern all U.S. policy and strategic discussions toward peace in the Middle East. Peres has proposed great industrial projects for the co-development of Israel and its moderate Arab neighbors, even to include Soviet satrap Syria, at a time that a precipitous drop in oil prices threatens the stability of those Arab states and the precarious peace of the region. He has also emphasized that the only alternative may be general regional war, and perhaps, thermonuclear war.

This is what *EIR* and its founder LaRouche have insisted upon for more than a decade: an economic-development basis for peace in the region. In 1975, LaRouche mediated certain contacts between Israeli and Arab pro-development forces, traveling to Iraq in this connection. In 1978, among the highlights of this ongoing effort, he published an essay, "A Machiavel-

lian Solution for Israel" (*The Campaigner*, Vol. 11 No. 2, March 1978). In 1984, LaRouche associates traveled to Israel for a series of high-level meetings pressing for a "great economic projects" approach to Israeli-Arab reconciliation. Their interviews with Economics Minister Ya'acobi and others were published as part of an *EIR* cover story, June 19, 1984: "EIR in Israel: Can the 'Great Projects' Vision Return?"

As the Peres proposal recognizes, without a massive economic development program for the region, no political basis for peace exists in the region. Any leading agency which does not accept and support that perspective is in fact inviting general war and Soviet imperial suzerainty over what remains.

Yet, Reagan administration officials, in public, have cited "budgetary constraints" imposed by the lunatic Gramm-Rudman legislation as the reason the United States cannot consider a "Marshall Plan" approach at this time. This refusal to act to protect the stability and sovereignty of the Arab oil producers—Peres's expressed primary concern!—is complemented by a refusal, if Larry Speakes's is the final word, to consider imposing an oil-import tariff to defend U.S. producers from the oil-price collapse, and thus protect United States stability and sovereignty! The reason? "Free market, free market, free market. . . ."

This same "free market" administration turns around and informs Ibero-American debtor nations that they must accept an IMF economic *dictatorship*!

In private, traitors at the State Department, partisans of the Kissingeresque "New Yalta" deal to cede the world outside the Western Hemisphere to a Muscovite Empire, are therefore allies of the Soviet Union's chief asset inside Israel, Ariel Sharon, Peres's enemy and political chief of the "only good Arab is a dead Arab" mafia.

Gramm-Rudman is the economic policy of the "New Yalta," is treason to the United States, and is now proving to mean perfidy and genocide for America's allies, including Israel.