



Arafat Moving Up as Palestinian Fuehrer

August 12 (IPS) — Having nearly consolidated their iron-clad grip over the once volatile and “dangerously” pro-Soviet Middle East, Rockefeller and the CIA are moving rapidly to establish counter-insurgent guerrilla leader Yasser Arafat as fuehrer of a Palestinian mini-state on Jordan’s West Bank. Key Middle East puppets like Egypt’s Anwar el-Sadat and Saudi Arabian dinosaur King Faisal currently are helping Rockefeller to force the rightwing Arafat on the faction-ridden Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO).

This week the CIA received some unexpected, if ambivalent, aid from — of all places — the Soviet Union, who invited the balding, militantly unshaven Arafat to Moscow at the personal request of Brezhnev. While the Soviets did accord Arafat limited backing as “representative of the Palestinian people,” they gagged before swallowing whole the nationalist Arafat line.

The spectacle of Arafat being wined and dined in Moscow moved George Habash, pro-socialist leader of the rival Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, to issue a blast at both Arafat and the Soviets. Habash, stunned by Moscow’s treachery in supporting the Arafat-CIA faction of the PLO, apparently traveled the road to Damascus and correctly located the stupidity of the Soviet Union’s Middle East policies, which lead to the present U.S. hegemony in the region: “The Soviet Union alone should bear responsibility for its political errors which caused the retreat of socialist movements in the area.”