



Special Report

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NSC On Alert Over Lebanon Crisis; Kissinger Warns Soviets

April 25 (IPS) — The National Security Council has been mobilized on special alert and is watching the growing crisis in Lebanon on an hour-by-hour basis, according to a high-ranking officer of the U.S. Air Force. "Anybody who predicts a war over Lebanon will be right," he said. "Whether it comes in 12 hours, or 24, or a week or a month, they'll be right." The source added that he had spoken with National Security Council and Pentagon officials, and that the general consensus is that the crisis "may be impossible to cool down."

In an April 22 press conference in Washington, Secretary of State Henry Kissinger, the chief provocateur of the Middle East war danger, brandished the threat of world war in a display of nuclear brinkmanship. Kissinger warned that while there is no "immediate threat" of Soviet Union military intervention into Lebanon, such a possibility exists if the fighting there escalates into a full-scale Middle East war, according to the Jerusalem Post. Kissinger warned that there is a "general danger of a full-scale confrontation in the region if the fighting continues, and that a new Middle East war would inevitably raise the spectre of Soviet involvement," said the Post. Kissinger then left Washington for London where he held a meeting with L. Dean Brown, special U.S. envoy to Lebanon who has been coordinating the provocations of the Lebanese right since his arrival in Beirut two weeks ago.

The danger of an Arab-Israeli clash over Lebanon, leading to an Israeli use of nuclear weapons and a U.S.-Soviet nuclear confrontation, is the direct result of deliberate actions taken by the insane Secretary of State, on behalf of the Rockefeller financier faction, to escalate the Middle East threat as part of the Schlesinger "regional" nuclear war doctrine. A sudden military "show of force" by the United States in the Middle East believes Kissinger, would both intimidate the Soviet Union and provide the proper climate for establishing Schachtian military dictatorships in Italy and Western Europe.

Through private and semi-private intelligence conduits, the Rockefeller-Kissinger forces have established a permanent "tripwire" in the Middle East that, in any given 48-hour period, can set off an uncontrollable chain reaction of military intervention. The chief danger is that a renewal of all-out civil war in Lebanon, sparked by the fascist Lebanese Falangists, could draw in Syria and then Israel, triggering a general Middle East war. The Rockefeller forces have

heavily rearmed the Falange in recent weeks in preparation for a showdown with the left, and through the Israeli warhawks around Moshe Dayan and Defense Minister Shimon Peres have set up the area for a Rand Corporation nuclear war scenario.

The U.S. Labor Party and the ICLC are now in the tenth day of a full mobilization to wreck the Middle East war drive and force Kissinger out of office. Workers, trade unionists, American Jewish leaders, government officials, and diplomats are being saturated with over 1 million leaflets alerting them to the danger in the Middle East and urging them to activate their contacts and available channels to defuse the region and demand Kissinger's ouster. The ICLC program for the Middle East, which includes debt moratorium for Israel and Egypt, new credit for regional development, and for reconstruction of Lebanon, and mobilizing Israeli technology and industry to create an agricultural base for Arab development, has been widely circulated throughout the U.S. and Western Europe.

Lebanon On The Brink

Despite limited concessions yesterday from Lebanese President Frangieh, an ally of the Falangists, the internal Lebanese situation continues to be a trigger for a regional explosion. After intense pressure from the Lebanese left, Frangieh signed the constitutional amendment yesterday allowing the Parliament to elect a new president. But the Christian right which supports Frangieh is driving ahead with its Rand-designed plans for Lebanese partition into "Christian" and "Moslem" enclaves, and observers considered the Frangieh move nothing more than a time-buying maneuver to pacify the Communist and pro-Iraqi Lebanese left.

Two days ago, Lebanese leftist leader Kamal Jumblatt announced that unless Frangieh had resigned by May 2, "the Lebanese national movement will be obliged to form a revolutionary government to handle control of areas under it and to liberate other areas." Jumblatt charged that "dozens of armored cars and heavy artillery" was reaching the Falangists and the Christian right through the two ports still controlled by the rightists, and that the Falangists were seeking to "internationalize" the conflict — i.e., provoke outside intervention — by escalating the fighting.

Direct evidence came from Syria that Syrian President Hafez Assad, a NATO puppet under heavy pressure from the Rockefeller-run Saudis, might intervene massively into

Lebanon in a new round of civil war. Zuhair Mohsin, the Syrian intelligence operative who heads the Syrian-controlled Saiqa commando organization, told the London Financial Times: "Syria will wait and see, but if and when Syrian intervention is inevitable to stop the fighting, regular troops will intervene." Over 700 Lebanese died in heavy fighting in the two days before Frangieh's agreement to sign the amendment to the constitution, after which the war tapered off slightly in Beirut, while continuing strong around Tripoli, Lebanon's second city.

An eruption of full-scale war in Lebanon and a Syrian intervention would almost certainly create the conditions in Israel to catapult the extremists led by Dayan into power, perhaps via a coup d'etat, leading to an unleashing of the Israeli military into Lebanon.

In Tripoli, the leftist forces who have been in control of that city for at least six months have already begun to set up the basis for a national administration, along the lines threatened by Jumblatt, in response to the moves by the Christian right to create a separate state in the tiny Christian enclave around the port of Jounieh. There are strong indications, however, that some of the elements included in the overall left-Palestinian coalition, seized with the excitement of approaching political victory in Lebanon, have entirely lost sight of the broader implications of the Lebanese crisis. This was demonstrated most strongly by the idiotic statements from Faruq Kaddumi, a leader of the Palestine Liberation Organization, who said that the PLO was waging a guerrilla war "and we are not afraid of nuclear bombs."

As the Financial Times noted, partition, once a threat of the rightists to "menace" the left, "has become a maneuver gone out of control."

The U.S.-Israeli Threat

The increasingly apparent fact that the Lebanese left cannot be stopped by any force internal to Lebanon itself

makes the threat of a NATO-coordinated intervention into Lebanon by Syria, Israel and the U.S. more than likely. President Ford's blundering unwillingness to accept the establishment of a pro-socialist Lebanese state is what makes him — and the Harriman-Ball faction of financiers — susceptible to the Kissinger-Rand scenario. Ford has apparently given Kissinger a carte blanche to use CIA and Pentagon channels in the Middle East to halt a takeover of Lebanon by the left — which opens the way for Kissinger to set up his nuclear war scenario behind the backs of his nominal sponsors.

In addition, Kissinger's rearming of the Falange — despite the obvious fact that the tiny area of Lebanon controlled by the Falange is strategically nonviable under a concerted leftist attack — means that the fanatic Falangists are merely being used as cannon fodder to provoke an explosion and outside intervention on orders from Kissinger.

Knowledgeable observers have reported that Syria cannot do more than threaten major military intervention because an actual invasion with heavy fighting against the left would provoke a coup d'etat against Assad by pro-Iraqi forces in the Syrian army. Thus, Israeli forces launched probing attacks on southern Lebanon this week, striking by air, land and sea against key Lebanese ports and shelling several villages, according to Palestinian sources.

Off the Lebanese coast, a major deployment of the U.S. Sixth Fleet has been building up in recent weeks. Salah Khalaf, a Central Committee member of the Fatah Palestinian commando group, charged that the Sixth Fleet was "supplying the Falange with munitions, petrol, and modern war equipment of all kinds," and blamed Dean Brown, the U.S. envoy, for the escalation in fighting. Fatah also warned the Syrians against any attempts to perpetrate a repeat of the massacre of Palestinians in Jordan in "black" September 1970.

Henry Kissinger's Mideast Puppets

April 25 (IPS) — The ability of the Rockefeller-Kissinger forces to manipulate the Middle East situation toward the brink of a thermonuclear conflict is, in large part, dependent on their control over three interlocking forces in the area: the Falangists of Lebanon; the right-wing warhawks in Israel; and the greasy sheikhs of Saudi Arabia. This network must be dismantled — and its controllers, Henry Kissinger and Nelson Rockefeller, removed — if the objective conditions favorable to a peace settlement are to be realized.

Lebanese Falangists consciously model their organization on Spanish dictator Franco's fascist organization of the same name. These Lebanese storm-troopers, led by petty gangster Pierre Gemayel, are committed to preserving at all costs the political deals made with the departing French imperialists in the mid-1940s that promised the eternal dominance of Lebanon's ruling Christian elite. On this basis, they have resisted, at the price of over 20,000 deaths, even the slightest demands for political and social reform made by the Moslem population as well as the Christian left.

The Falangists are easily controlled through their insane peasant self-conception as "the only real Lebanese." CIA rumor mills keep the Christian enclaves that the Falangists run in a constant state of terror through constant — unfounded — threats that the ancient massacres of Christians by Moslems will be repeated; on the basis of the fear of extinction, "95 per cent of the Falangists definitely wish for Israeli and Syrian intervention into Lebanon," according to one U.S.-based Falangist source.

These crazies are heavily armed through an extensive gun-running operation coordinated by the National Security Council and the CIA. Congressional sources have recently revealed that these two agencies have conducted large arms supplies to the Falange through the British Intelligence-created EOKA-B Cypriote terrorist group. The U.S. Sixth Fleet, now on deployment in the Eastern Mediterranean, has been involved in covert arms deliveries, according to Palestinian sources. Information accumulated over the past year has traced arms shipments from the Colt Arms factory in Hartford, from NATO arms depots in Portugal and other sources.