

NEW SOLIDARITY INTERNATIONAL PRESS SERVICE

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SYRIA FORCED TO ACCEPT CEASEFIRE AROUND BEIRUT AS FORCES SUFFER HEAVY LOSSES

June 12 (NSIPS)--A ceasefire has been imposed in Beirut through the mediation efforts of the Libyan government between the forces of the left and Palestinians and those of Syria, WINS radio in New York reports today. Citing Palestinian sources, the radio station claims that the Syrians have agreed to withdraw their forces from the area over the next week and that Syrian units have already begun to move back to the Bekaa Valley east of Beirut.

According to recent Swedish radio reports, the ceasefire was imposed because the Saïqa guerrilla units under Syrian command were badly beaten. Citing Radio Damascus, the radio reports that Syria has no intention whatsoever of withdrawing from the southern port city of Saida or from the northern city of Tripoli.

Late reports from the June 12-13 edition of the French newspaper Le Monde indicate that Palestinian and left forces were preparing a substantial military thrust towards Saida to break a Saïqa blockade prior to the ceasefire announcement.

DIE WELT: COLLAPSE OF SYRIAN EFFORTS WILL NECESSITATE ISRAELI ACTION IN LEBANON

June 12 (NSIPS)--Explicitly repudiating its analysis yesterday that the Palestine Liberation Organization and leftist units in Lebanon are losing their battle with the forces of Syrian President Hafez Assad, today's West German daily Die Welt claims that Assad is "in fact the real loser" in Lebanon. Noting that Assad has recently made several grave political and military mistakes in his Lebanon deployment, the NATO paper wonders, "What must be done." It concludes by reporting warnings from Israeli chief of Staff Gur on possible Israeli action in Lebanon and noting that "only Israel can solve the situation."

ISRAELI CHIEF OF STAFF WARNS OF ISRAELI INVASION OF LEBANON

June 12 (NSIPS)--Israel's Chief of Staff Mordechai Gur warned yesterday that "we hope that the Lebanese people will be sufficiently intelligent not to push the Israel army" into the position of being forced to intervene to stop terrorist activity. "Nobody

presented now in Lebanon are not leading to any calm in the Middle East situation."

ISRAELIS WARN OF LEBANON INVASION POSSIBILITIES

June 12 (NSIPS)--Citing "informed sources" in Jerusalem, today's Washington Post reports that "Israel has warned the United States that it could change its previous position of non-intervention in the Lebanese civil war because of the Arab League decision to send a joint military force" to Lebanon. According to Post reporter Yal Elizur, "Israeli sources" have claimed that there has been a "serious erosion in recent days in the 'red line' reportedly drawn by Israel as the trip-wire for possible intervention in Lebanon as a result of Syria's involvement."

Saying that the creation of the Arab League force has added a "new dimension" to the Lebanon conflict, the Israelis are claiming that the presence of Algeria, Libyan, and Sudanese forces in Lebanon "might create a new and explosive situation on Israel's northern border."

Today's Baltimore Sun similarly reports that Israeli Foreign Ministry sources are warning that Israel "may intervene if events threaten Israel's security" and that Israel is "constantly reviewing the situation."

IMPERIALISM WILL TAKE ANY RISK, SAYS SOVIET MILITARY PAPER

June 12 (NSIPS)--An editorial in the June 10 Krasnaya Zvezda, the Soviet military daily, said that world peace is gravely threatened by the imperialist countries, according to the Italian Socialist Party paper Avanti. "The Soviet Armed Forces are deeply conscious of the fact that the aggressive nature of imperialism has not changed, and that imperialist reactions and Maoists allied with it are capable of risking any war adventure and to ignite the fire of a new world war," warned the editorial. This state of affairs, it concluded, creates "the objective necessity for strengthening Soviet defense capabilities."

SEE THREAT TO STERLING CREDIT

June 12 (NSIPS)--"Criticism of the 5.3 billion dollar credit package has come from other countries, notably Germany where reaction has ranged from tolerant amusement at Britain's continuing slide into debt, to open hostility to providing cash to finance the British Government's policies", says the June 10 London Daily Telegraph.

"There is growing concern in British government circles that this impression of skepticism and thinly veiled criticism could undermine the whole support operation for sterling", the Telegraph continues. "At worst it could force Britain to draw heavily on the credit and be unable to repay it in December."

CENTRAL BANKS ONLY BUYERS OF STERLING

June 12 (NSIPS)--"Only the the help of substantial Bank of England support was the pound able to hold steady," says the June 10 Journal of Commerce.

The New York Federal Reserve Bank has also been a buyer, the Journal reports.

The Bank of England spent 100 million dollars on Wednesday "and a similar amount on Tuesday" from the new 5.3 billion dollar credit, the June 10 London Times says. The pound has fallen from 1.80 to 1.77 dollars since Tuesday despite the unusually large support.

NEW YORK TIMES SAYS LOAN TO BRITAIN RESTORED "CONFIDENCE"

June 12 (NSIPS)--In its lead editorial yesterday, the New York Times called the 5.3 billion dollar international pound sterling bailout operation arranged for Britain a "well-timed example of international monetary cooperation at its best." The rescue operation demonstrated the "good sense" of the agreement reached at Rambouillet and now "confidence had returned to the foreign exchange market."

HYPERINFLATION LOOMS

NEW YORK, June 12 (NSIPS)--With prices on the commodity exchanges up sharply food price inflation will be up sharply in the coming weeks, despite the fact that the U.S. Dept. of Labor is still predicting 2 to 6 percent food price inflation during 1976. The price of soy meal, which is a basic ingredient in cattle feed, is up by 49 percent on the Chicago Board of Trade since the beginning of March.

The increases in the prices of other commodities such as copper, up 18 percent since March 1 on the Chicago Mercantile Exchange, translate into direct price increases in consumer goods. Automakers have already announced price increases of 6 percent on the 1977 model year autos and trucks. On overall consumer price inflation for 1976 the Bureau of Labor Statistics is still forecasting less than 6 percent.

TOP SECOND INTERNATIONAL, CIA TERRORIST ARRESTED BY INDIAN GOVERNMENT

June 12 (NSIPS)--The Indian government press agency, Samacher today announced the arrest of top Second International and CIA terrorist leader, George Fernandez in the city of Calcutta. Fernandez, the most wanted man in the country, went underground at the time of the declaration of state of emergency by Prime Minister Indira Gandhi in June 1975 and has been directing the terrorist activities against railways, urban areas and government offices by a vast network of maoist and CIA networks.

Fernandez made international news 'headlines' last year when Second International propaganda outlets throughout Europe picked up his cause, began printing his attacks against the Indian government. The Second International has publicly given support to his activities, and informed sources have linked Fernandez' finances to U.S. Central Intelligence Agency operations in India. As a leader of India's railway unions, Fernandez led the national railway strike of 1974 and turned it into a massive provocation against the Indian government. Other trade unions have repeatedly accused Fernandez of launching U.S.-aided provocations against the Indian labor movement, according to the daily of the Indian Communist Party, New Age. An arrest warrant was issued by the government for Fernandez' arrest last July.

TOWER FORCED TO RESIGN AS FORD FLOOR MANAGER

WASHINGTON, D.C., June 12 (NSIPS)--Sen. John Tower (R-Texas) was forced to resign yesterday as President Ford's Convention floor manager because Tower could not get delegate status in his home state of Texas. Tower could not be effective on the convention floor unless he was a delegate.

A spokesman in Tower's office reported that the Senator had tried to get delegate status or delegate-at-large status all over the state, but that the Reagan forces who control the delegation refused to appoint him unless he declared for Reagan.

DEM WRECKERS SURFACE AROUND PLATFORM FIGHT

June 12 (NSIPS)--Sen. George McGovern (D-SD), the just appointed chairman of the CIA-spawned Americans for Democratic Action, has written a letter to the chairman of the Democratic Party's platform drafting subcommittee warning against the adoption of a "non-specific, fuzzy platform." Yesterday's Washington Post notes that the ADA-McGovern move is directed against candidate Jimmy Carter and his hesitancy at including support for the fascist Humphrey-Hawkins bill, the Kennedy health bill and forced busing in the platform.

McGovern led the party to its worst defeat this century in the 1972 elections.

BRANDT NOT IN GOOD SHAPE

WIESBADEN, W. GERMANY, June 11 (NSIPS)--Willy Brandt, Chairman of the West German Social Democratic Party, showed signs over the past weekend that the recent political climate has not been favorable to him. When he arrived in Frankfurt to address an SPD meeting, Brandt's nose presented a deep color in spite of his tanned face. When a member of the European Labor Party called this to Brandt's attention and inquired whether his long-time associate, John J. McCloy, Jr., was aware of his condition, Brandt suddenly became agitated and was about to physically threaten the inquirer when he was hauled away by well-wishers. The press later reported there were "no indications at the meeting."