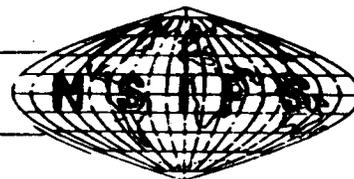


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Mideast Newsletter

Iraq To Intervene In Lebanon War To Halt Kissinger Massacre Of Left

July 4 (NSIPS)—Iraq and the Soviet Union are moving politically and militarily to break the deadly offensive by Syria and the Lebanese right in Lebanon. The Iraqis announced July 2 that they decided to send their armed forces

The Rockefeller forces, including the crazed Israeli Soviet Union to the fullest extent. Like the role of Cuban forces in Angola, the Iraqi decision is a response to intolerable aggression by Kissinger-directed thugs and terrorists and is fully supported by the progressive forces of the entire Arab sector.

The Rockefeller forces, including the crazed Israeli warhawks around Moshe Dayan and Defense Minister Shimon Peres, can be expected to use the Iraqi action as a pretext to precipitate a nuclear confrontation in the Middle East. The barbaric Israeli exercise in officially sanctioned "counterterror" in Uganda, where Israeli commandos invaded Entebbe Airport to rescue 100 hostages held by Kissinger-controlled terrorists, has electrified Israel's population and provided critical leverage to the Dayan-Peres faction in their efforts to launch a long-threatened invasion of southern Lebanon.

The Iraqi action brings the 15-month-long Lebanese civil war to a new phase. It comes in the midst of bloodiest offensive of the war by CIA-backed Christian rightist militia, supported by 13,000 Syrian troops, against leftist and Palestinian positions throughout Lebanon, including the strategically vital Palestinian refugee camp at Tal Zaatar in eastern Beirut. The battle for Tal Zaatar is entering its third week, having already left an estimated 3,000 dead, and is generally being viewed as the decisive battle of the war. The fall of Tal Zaatar to the Syrians and the right would symbolize Syria's intentions to perpetrate a "Black September" massacre of the Palestine Liberation Organization in Lebanon, and—with or without Iraqi intervention—would trigger an explosion throughout the Arab world which, Palestinian leaders say, would topple several Arab regimes.

Iraq: "Syrian Regime Doomed"

The Iraqi decision to intervene into Lebanon was announced in Cairo at a meeting of Arab foreign ministers by Iraqi Foreign Minister Saadun Hammadi. The decision came after the Arab League, which is largely controlled by Egypt, again failed to take any action concerning the grinding war in Lebanon. The decision was widely hailed in the Iraqi press, and reported favorably by media in the Soviet Union and the German Democratic Republic. Neues Deutschland, the newspaper of the DDR, yesterday reported the military mobilization in Baghdad, and coupled this report with an attack on Syria's collusion with the Lebanese right.

In an interview in the French daily Le Monde yesterday, Iraqi

Prime Minister Saddam Hussein laid down the basis for the Iraqi policy toward Lebanon. "All Arab regimes who carry out maneuvers behind the scenes to destroy the Palestinian movement will pay dearly, very dearly for their treachery. Those regimes will fall one after the other. They have no popular legitimacy," said the Iraqi leader. The Syrian position is particularly weak, said Hussein, who noted that Syrian President Assad "cannot retreat, and his regime is definitely doomed. He has already lost his power. There is only one thing left to do now: to announce the formation of a new government on the radio."

Virtually every Arab regime, including especially Syria, Egypt, and the Sudan, which has been either openly supporting the Syrian butchery in Lebanon or passively tolerating it is now threatened with popular and military revolt unless they take immediate action to halt the Syrian advance. In Syria, several groups of military officers are reportedly making "feverish plans," according to the French press, to overthrow the Assad regime. Jaafar Numeiri, the president of Sudan, narrowly missed being ousted two days ago by left-wing nationalist army officers who launched an unsuccessful bid for a coup d'etat; over 300 people dies in bitter street fighting during the coup attempt.

The Sudanese events were reportedly watched with extreme care by Egypt's shaky President Anwar Sadat, himself a possible victim of a military revolt. The political repercussions of the Lebanese civil war have intersected in Egypt with a horrendous economic collapse caused by Egypt's \$14 billion debt burden, resulting in a political admixture which has led observers to expect an imminent explosion. A former high-ranking U.S. diplomat to the Middle East said this week that he expects a coup in Egypt "within a few months, and certainly before the end of the year." As a result, Sadat has been extremely careful to pay lip service to the defense of the PLO in Lebanon—but most Egyptians reportedly feel that their president's Lebanon policy is at best "two faced." According to Le Monde, Egypt and Syria struck a political deal last week at a leadership meeting in Saudi Arabia, by which Egypt will agree not to obstruct the Syrian massacre in Lebanon if Syria refrains from criticizing Egypt.

Taking full advantage of the spreading political paralysis of the rightist Arab regimes, Iraq has taken the opportunity to launch a broad organizing offensive throughout the Arab world. Four days ago, in Baghdad, Iraq, a conference concluded of socialist and communist forces from virtually every Arab country to condemn the Syrian invasion of Lebanon and support the left and the PLO. Present were eight Arab Communist parties, the entire Arab Baath

Socialist Party apparatus, and various pro-socialist parties from a dozen Arab states including the ruling parties of Sudan, Egypt, and Libya. Previous to the conference, Iraqi delegations had visited most countries of the Arab sector to pull together the progressive forces around the defense of Lebanon. At the meeting, PLO representatives appealed to Iraq for military assistance.

The fighting in Lebanon itself continues to rage unchecked. At least 7,000 rightists have surrounded the Tal Zaatar camp and are pounding it with artillery and mortars. The right-wing militia have reportedly penetrated the perimeter of the camp in several places, and its situation is described as "desperate" even by the PLO. A nearby camp, Jisr el-Pasha, much smaller than Tal Zaatar and composed of Christian Palestinians, fell earlier in the week to the fascists. Over 500

people were massacred by the invaders in Jisr el-Pasha, and numerous atrocities were reported. Men were castrated, and women had their breasts chopped off by frenzied Falangists and followers of hated Interior Minister Camille Chamoun.

"If the right-wing fascists even enter Tal Zaatar, several regimes in the Arab world will collapse," said a senior aide to PLO leader Yasser Arafat yesterday. Arafat returned secretly to Beirut, Lebanon's capital, today, from a two-week tour of the Arab world, to prepare the final defense of Tal Zaatar. Observers report an atmosphere of expectation of a showdown between the left and right in Lebanon soon, and one indication of the danger of the next week or so is that the Soviet Union quietly decided this week to begin the evacuation of Soviet citizens from Lebanon.

Rude Pravo Warns Syrians On Lebanon

June 3 (NSIPS) — The following article appeared in the June 30 Rude Pravo, the official daily of the Czech Communist Party.

The joint leadership of the Lebanese national and patriotic forces and the Palestinian movement announced Wednesday (June 30) that rightist units with support from 130 tanks have occupied the Palestinian camp Djisr-al-Pasha in the Beirut suburbs. The rightist offensive against the Djisr al-Pasha and Tell Al-Zataar camps began nine days ago and was made possible by the fact that the rightists have, over the past months, been supplied with arms through the port of Junieh north of Beirut and that the Palestinian movement was cut off from its supply sources by Syrian blockade.

The leadership of the national and patriotic forces and the Palestinian movement stated further, that simultaneous with the right's military actions, national-patriotic and Palestinian positions in the mountainous region north-east of Beirut have come under bombardment from Syrian units. On Tuesday (June 29) night, Syrian units continued to bombard the southern Lebanese port of Saida and the Palestinian camps nearby.

Political circles in Beirut are of the opinion that the Lebanese right in coordination with Arab regimes wants to liquidate the Palestinian movement and weaken the national-patriotic forces.