

Administration Policy Breakdown Feeds Mideast War Threat

The Carter Administration's Mideast policy breakdown-crisis continued and reached new and dangerous heights this week as evidenced in the President's July 6 meeting with 53 American Jewish leaders. During that meeting the President renounced his own "three week moratorium" on Mideast policy formulations declared on July 1. According to participants at the meeting, the President dramatically flip-flopped from his earlier "pro-Palestinian" pronouncements, and declared that he was inalterably opposed to the formation of an independent Palestinian state next to Israel, since it would be a haven for "turmoil and terrorism," and would be Libyan and Soviet-backed. The President's words, the *Washington Post* wryly commented, were those "most palatable to a Jewish audience."

Capping off a week's worth of strongly pro-Israel statements that began with a June 30 promise to never abandon "our deep and permanent commitment to Israel," Carter's latest farcical mouthings only further destabilize a Mideast situation that has been moving toward the precipice of war since the May 17 ascension to power of the extremist Israeli Likud Party. Carter's promise to thwart formation of a Palestinian state is part of an Administration effort to organize genocide against the Palestinian Arab community, through the agency of expansionist circles in Israel who are preparing to launch sweeping military operations through southern Lebanon.

A sudden upsurge in terrorism of suspicious origins in Israel, Egypt, and Syria provides the pretext for this genocide policy.

The thinking of Carter's mentors, Brzezinski, Vance, et al., was revealed in the July 7 *New York Times*. Ignoring all reportage of European and Palestinian moves to bring about an Israeli-Arab peace, the *Times* accompanied its front-page piece on Carter's Jewish leaders meeting with a full page of gore on the latest terrorism in Tel Aviv, Cairo, and a rambling psychological warfare feature entitled, "New Fighting in Lebanon Raises Arab-Israeli Tensions."

Well-informed Washington sources frankly expressed their concern that the antics of Carter and his advisers would plunge the U.S. into a disastrous confrontation with the Soviet Union. According to one source, "Carter has already suffered a moral defeat in the Mideast. The risk is extremely high, and if we confront the Russians, and they do not back down, then we have to back down," which would lead to "an across-the-board collapse in U.S. foreign policy."

The source also stressed that the Administration's efforts to blackmail the Arab states into acquiescing in

the elimination of the Palestine Liberation Organization as an independent regional political force would be a resounding failure.

This assessment received some firm backing from the Soviet Union itself. A July 3 commentary on the Mideast by V. Kudryavtsev, appearing in several Soviet dailies, warned that the U.S. attempt to "brush (the Palestinian problem) aside ... does not correspond to reality." Kudryavtsev dismissed the past weeks of Carter "soft line" on the Palestinians as "trapping the Arabs with demagoguery" while "behind the scenes ... the Carter Administration is ... preparing a deal with Israel which could guarantee the USA neo-colonialist dominance in the Mideast."

Because of such U.S. moves, Kudryavtsev concludes, "the Mideast can again find itself on the threshold of a new armed conflict which will draw into its orbit *not only* the Mideast countries."

Carter's promise to combat a Palestinian state rudely ripped the cover off a delicate Administration operation up to this point to deceive the Arab states that the White House was amenable to just such Palestinian national claims. As planned by National Security Council chief Zbigniew Brzezinski, this illusion would be useful in making a "deal" with Syria, Egypt, and Saudi Arabia to decapitate the PLO, in exchange for U.S. removal of Israeli Premier Begin, and for tiny Israeli territorial concessions on the West Bank. This scheme would be a modified version of the widely known "Allon Plan" for former Israeli Foreign Minister Yigal Allon. Allon developed the idea in close collaboration with the Rockefeller's New York Council on Foreign Relations.

As the "illusion" component of this plan was steadily knocked to pieces this week, there emerged at the same time several overt moves to deny that the Palestinians ever existed!

At a convention concluded this week in Israel, the American-based B'nai B'rith and related organizations issued instructions to their memberships to return to the U.S. and propagandize that "there is no such thing as the Palestinian Arab people." Henceforth, the B'nai B'rith insisted, Palestinians are to be labelled "Arabs."

On the same day, New York's Senator Jacob Javits, concluding a five-day stopover in Israel, gushed that he was "struck by the near unanimity of Israelis on how essential was control of large sections of the West Bank of Jordan for the security of Israel." Javits expressed his wish that Begin, during his July 19-21 visit to the U.S., will "convey that point to my country."

Javits quickly left for Jordan and Saudi Arabia to test the willingness of the Arab countries to see the

Palestinians eliminated as viable negotiating partners for an overall regional settlement.

Before leaving for the Mideast, the "Senator from Chase Manhattan" had harshly criticized Palestinian political goals in the Mideast. When asked if a Palestinian homeland would entail "a movement of Palestinians from other parts of the world into that homeland," he replied, "The only contemplation of that migration that I see is the concept of the incursion of a lot of PLO riflemen into the West Bank."

In a July 5 interview, a Washington strategist just returned from the Mideast insisted to NSIPS that the U.S. must "absolutely" pacify the PLO in order to "liquidate the vipers' nest in a vipers' land." The strategist then exposed Carter's efforts to manipulate the Israelis into carrying out this role. He reported that "it is in Begin's interest" to make a decisive show of strength in Lebanon against the Palestinians, to counteract the "pressure" resulting from Carter's earlier "homeland" statements.

In a statement from Wiesbaden, West Germany, issued last weekend, U.S. Labor Party Chairman Lyndon H. LaRouche warned that the Carter Administration's tactic of provoking Israeli moves against the Palestinians through provocative use of the word "homeland" tactic would have the ironic and devastating effect of removing from the scene exactly that grouping — the Palestinians — with whom the Israelis can most viably negotiate a regional settlement.

Lebanon Tension and Terrorism

Under pressure of Washington's tactics, the threat is growing that Lebanon will become an uncontrollable tinderbox in the coming days. On July 5, the radio of the right-wing Lebanese Falange Party ominously warned that Israel is preparing a mop-up operation against the Palestinians and leftists in the south, similar to a three-day September 1972 invasion that involved tanks, helicopters, and sweeping deployments throughout the region.

Intense fighting has been taking place all week in Lebanon's south; this has included non-stop Israeli reconnaissance overflights. Combat has centered on the town of Yarin, practically on the Israeli border, and on Marjayoun, a stronghold of the Palestinian-allied left. During the week, Israel has coupled its logistical support

for the right-wing militias with new warnings to Syria not to cross a "red line" beyond which Israel would react with large-scale military moves against the Syrian army.

Adding to the pretexts for large-scale Israeli strikes against the Palestinians in Lebanon was a July 6 bombing in Tel Aviv that resulted in one death and 20 wounded. Described by Israeli authorities as the worst such terrorist strike since May 1976, the bombing immediately triggered an intense anti-Arab "race riot" mood in the city and was followed by the arrest of over 100 Arab suspects.

Terrorism also reared its ugly head in Egypt this week, with the kidnapping and murder of the Minister of Religious Affairs by a band of heretofore unknown Muslim fanatics. This episode was rapidly followed by a series of bombings July 6 in movie theaters and other public institutions in Egyptian cities. According to reports from Cairo, the Egyptian government is "alarmed" and "shocked" by this sudden outbreak.

The most likely explanation for the terrorism is that private Saudi-Exxon networks have activated right-wing groups to completely box in Egyptian President Sadat and possibly even to prepare the way for a rightist putsch in Egypt. Until now, Sadat, for all his pro-U.S. leanings, has refused to publicly break with the PLO, which has slowed down the Carter Administration's regional gameplan. According to reliable Egyptian sources, Sadat knows that he would be overthrown if he tried to break with the PLO, and is therefore resisting doing so. The Rockefellers, therefore, are apparently mounting a full-scale destabilization in the country, to at least keep strategically vital Egypt off balance.

The terror wave this week also struck Damascus, with the assassination of two key leaders in the country's missile corps, known to be a bastion of the traditional pro-Soviet section of the military. Two weeks ago, the head of the missile corps, Brigadier Razouk, was also murdered. The removal of this force from the Syrian scene would remove a key impediment to plans being hatched in Washington to have the Syrian army carry out a new wave of repression against the PLO in Lebanon. Syrian President Assad, already "hanging by a nail" according to one informed Washington source, could not mount such an operation and survive under the currently existing correlation of forces in his country.

— Mark Burdman