recession by the high-interest-rate policies and the other causes we have discussed here today. This is where the real evil lies.

**EIR:** What possibilities do you see that the Federal Republic of Germany could participate in such great projects?

Niemeyer: Naturally it is conceivable that, for example, an organ of the federal government or a private business could take on such a great project, which would have short-term as well as long-term uses. Short term in so far as the necessary equipment must first be supplied; for example, you want to build a big power utility for irrigation projects. You have to think also about the electric transmission grid that would be required to distribute the energy. This would put our steel industry afloat again. For such a region, about six times the size of the Federal Republic of Germany, how many tractors would be needed, how many agricultural machines in total, to work such an area with modern methods!

EIR: Lyndon LaRouche's "Operation Juárez" document is being discussed in Latin America; it says that if the industrial countries are not willing to cooperate in solving the debt problem, then South-South cooperation should be adopted. How would this affect the possibilities for such great projects, which are to a great extent dependent upon the capital goods of the industrial countries? Would this drastically slow down the development process?

Niemeyer: Yes, it would at first.

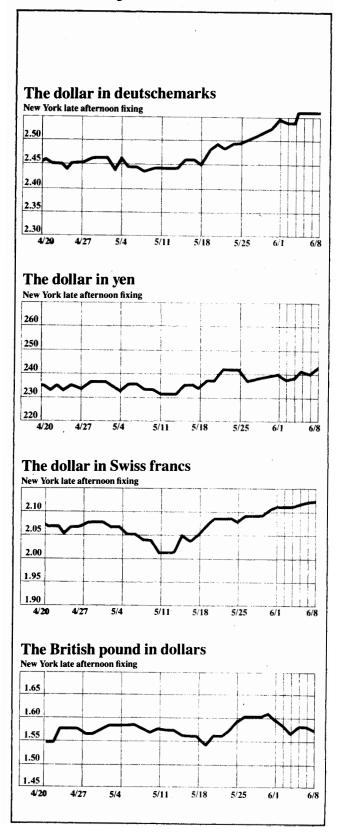
**EIR:** But the possibility would still exist to begin the projects despite such a setback?

Niemeyer: If the North really pulls out completely, what we all fear would happen: that in the developing sector many, many people, millions of people, would starve. But these countries would not disappear; the countries would continue to exist, and there would be people there. And don't forget that in all these countries today one must and can count on the real potential of scientists and technicians in all fields, excellent specialists who could take on such projects themselves. The process would proceed very slowly, but it would proceed.

**EIR:** The real ones to suffer would thus be us, the industrial nations?

Niemeyer: Yes, since we would no longer be needed. If we proceed today from the standpoint that we need markets, where will we turn then? Belgium is certainly no market for us. But if we think in terms of the gigantic regions that we are discussing now, if we were really to see to it that great structural improvement projects were launched in these regions, then an enormous demand would arise. I would like to put it this way: we can do the best for the world, we can do good for others while bringing our own budget into order. That is really the ideal.

## **Currency Rates**



14 Economics

EIR June 21, 1983