

The Iranian Threat

Rockefeller's leading capability against Iraq is the well-oiled army of the Shah of Iran, directed by the Shah's controller, U.S. Ambassador Richard Helms, formerly Director of the CIA.

A Middle East military expert for a Washington-based think-tank confirmed the Labor Committee analysis that Iran was trying to provoke Iraq into counterattacking, thereby providing Iran with an excuse to launch a full military attack. When pressed, this strategist agreed that it was the U.S. who was behind the military and propaganda campaign against Iraq, and added: "I don't suspect that the whole thing will blow open until the spring; the Arab-Israeli situation will probably break sooner--at the end of this year or the beginning of the next." The source also described the close cooperation between Israel and Iran.

Should major fighting actually occur, all military analysts agree that Iran's forces are far superior to Iraq's. Without full Soviet commitment to defend Iraq--including the threat of the USSR's nuclear arsenal--the lone Middle East holdout against U.S. control will be eliminated. And despite Soviet hopes that illusory "detente" will save Iraq, a spokesman for the State Department in Washington told IPS: "You have to consider the importance of detente in a local conflict. Detente is a broad spectrum and does not ensure the absence of conflicts. It must be applied unevenly."

In a similar vein, a source at CIA headquarters became defensive when questioned about possible CIA involvement in the attack on Iraq and blurted: "As you know, the CIA does have and maintain its covert actions--that's that! Any further I can't speculate on the situation."

IRAQ MOVES AGAINST ROCKY'S ARAB STOOGES

Oct. 23 (IPS)--Despite a steady stream of CIA press "leaks" intended to help set up Soviet-allied Iraq for annihilation, the Baathist government of Iraq has established itself as an active center of resistance to Rockefeller's Mideast strategy. As usual, the lying press reports have been spearheaded by the London Financial Times' reporter Gwynne Roberts. Yesterday Roberts outdid her past efforts with an article entitled "Iraq Moving Away from Moscow." Citing shreds of non-evidence, her article aims at fomenting a split between Iraq and the USSR and weakening the Iraqi battle to eradicate the CIA-backed rebellion of Kurdish nationalists in northern Iraq.

In reality the Baathists, in alliance with the Iraqi Communist Party, have undertaken an offensive against Rockefeller's Arab stooges.

Following the visit of Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) leader George Habash to Iraq from October 6-10,

the Baath party and the Palestinians led by Habash issued a joint communique calling for the "convening of a conference of all Arab national and progressive forces," a concrete step toward the establishment of an alternate Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) to draw together all anti-Arafat, anti-Sadat forces. The joint tactic of Iraq and the PFLP--which withdrew Sept. 27 from the Palestine Liberation Organization with a blast at PLO traitor Yasser Arafat--is to undercut the hollow calls for "Arab solidarity" coming from Sadat and Arafat by exposing the connections of these agents to "imperialist-reactionary intrigues."

Anti-Rockefeller Weapon

If combined with Soviet pressure on the conservative Arab regimes and Soviet support for the PFLP faction of the PLO, the Iraqi-PFLP moves will represent a major weapon for reducing the maneuverability of the Rockefeller-CIA forces in the Middle East, greatly weakening the ability of Rockefeller to pull off another Oil Hoax and a fifth Arab-Israeli war. The Iraqi press has coupled its reporting of the moves toward creating a new PLO with a reaffirmation of its ties with the Soviet bloc and its strong condemnation of Egypt and Saudi Arabia.

In Iraq's English-language daily the Baghdad Observer Oct. 16 an Iraqi writer cites the major achievements of Iraq since 1968 as the following: "The oil nationalization, the National Front (that is, the alliance with the Communists), the Treaty with the Soviet Union, and the radical changes in the industrial and agricultural sector," thus flatly dispelling the notion that Iraq is "moving away from Moscow."

At the same time, an editorial in Al Joumhuriya stated Iraq's basic outlook for the coming period: "The formation of a United Front based on scientific principles after making a total and radical review of the full course of the struggle of the resistance movement," citing the Baath-PFLP joint communique.

Complementing the Financial Times' devious Roberts' dispatches from Baghdad, however, other Western papers have ganged up to slander the Iraqis as brutal and ruthless extremists. The Washington Post and the liberal fascist Manchester Guardian ran long red-scare articles on Soviet support for the Iraqi anti-Kurdish campaign.

Rundschau Terrorism

But the prize for "predicting" the future goes to the West German daily Frankfurter Rundschau. Citing the violent split between Iraq and the Egyptian-Saudi axis, the Rundschau slyly indicated the "possibility" of terrorist attacks by the Iraqi-linked PFLP on the participants at the Oct. 26 Arab Summit in Rabat, Morocco. Right on cue, the following day all the wire services carried a report that Moroccan police had arrested 15 PFLP members supposedly plotting to assassinate reactionary King Hussein of Jordan--despite PFLP's public renunciations of terrorist methods.

Apparently, UPI got its wires crossed, and the UPI report blamed the plot on Arafat and the PLO. A call by IPS to the UPI desk in New York received an embarrassed reply that, "We must have made a mistake; we're echecking." Needless to say, newspaper reports of the fabricated "plot" blamed the affair on the PFLP, ignoring the UPI "mistake."

A spokesman for the government of Morocco told IPS that the entire affair had no basis in reality.

PALME TAKES "SWEDISH WAY" FASCISM ON TOUR

OTTAWA, Oct. 23 (IPS)--Rockefeller-agent Olof Palme led a gaggle of Swedish social fascists on a four-day visit with Canada's Premier Pierre Trudeau this week. The press accounts in both Canada and Sweden have been filled with nonsensical pseudo-left rhetoric to the effect that Canada and Sweden will "exchange information on the ownership, control, and operations of big companies." Despite Palme's tactic of "Little Powers vs. Big Powers," Sweden has been converted into a virtual subsidiary of the Rockefeller family since the late 1960s with his assistance.

The motivations for the extraordinary Palme trip clearly fit in with Rockefeller's plans for labor-intensive redevelopment. Canadian Minister of Trade and Energy Eric Janeson has announced that Canada could provide Sweden with seven to nine million tons of metallurgical coal to fuel the steel plant now being built up by the Palme government as a major redevelopment area in Lapland. Two interesting elements are involved in these coal negotiations. First, Palme has been playing games with Poland, from whom she now imports most of her coal. After weeks of uncertainty about the Polish deals, Palme announced that the Polish government is demanding too much for its coal and therefore the Canadian coal is "interesting." Second and less talked about is a potential international arrangement by which Palme would provide skilled Swedish labor for "co-production" of the Canadian coal on massive slave labor projects such as the Athabasca Sands in Northwest Canada.

The Canada trip was the first in a series through which Palme will push the "fascism with a democratic face" line that has been built up throughout the international press as a "socialist workers' paradise." This week Palme will visit the CIA-controlled Socialist Party of Portugal. The following week he goes to Algeria, whose government fronts for Rockefeller as the "anti-imperialist" voice of the Arab bloc.