



Kissinger Readies U.S., French Military Action In Lebanon

Lebanese, PLO Brace For New Syrian Offensive

June 19 (NSIPS) — Warships of the U.S. Sixth Fleet, including the helicopter-carrier Guadalcanal and a support contingent of seven vessels, moved into position off the coast of Lebanon yesterday. The U.S. naval deployment, which is backed by a fleet of French and British ships, threatens a reckless military intervention into Lebanon on the pretext of rescuing a small number of U.S. citizens stranded as a result of the Lebanese civil war. Henry Kissinger and the National Security Council, the ringleaders of the Rockefeller insurrection against the U.S. Constitution, have intensified their efforts to provoke a NATO action in the Middle East in the wake of the murder, by Kissinger-controlled terrorists, of Francis Meloy, the U.S. ambassador to Lebanon, June 16.

The kidnapping and eventual murder of Ambassador Meloy, an aide and their chauffeur came as Meloy was driving to meet with Sarkis about a possible resolution of the 95-month civil war. Libyan diplomatic sources reported that after the murder, Syria reneged on its agreement to withdraw its forces in favor of a Pan Arab peace keeping force. The French daily *Le Monde* meanwhile has reported that Meloy carried a personal message from President Ford.

New threats of an evacuation move by U.S. marines were raised today with the collapse of an overland convoy of vehicles carrying U.S. and British nationals. The land convoy, from Beirut to Damascus, was ordered yesterday by President Ford, who overruled demands from Kissinger and the NSC for an extremely dangerous intervention by air and sea. The decision by Ford, which came at the end of a tense day of meetings in Washington between Ford, Kissinger, and U.S. national security officials, temporarily blocked the Rockefeller drive for a military show of force in the Middle East. But new fighting between Palestinians and Syria along the road from Beirut to Damascus today forced the postponement of the convoy, and State Department officials in Washington today hinted that, according to UPI, the use of the Sixth Fleet was still a live option.

(Reports received as we go to press, reveal that President Ford has rejected this attempt by Kissinger to stage a provocation. With the overland convoy made too risky by continued Syrian and Falange provocations, the President ordered a sea evacuation to Athens of more than 250 U.S. and other foreign nationals by an unarmed U.S. naval vessel. The evacuation took place without a hitch this morning (June 20) from a Beirut beach, guarded by units of the PLO. President Ford supervised the entire operation, maintaining an all night vigil at the White House.)

The Kissinger push for U.S. military action coincided with the preparation for a renewed Syrian Army offensive in Lebanon to crush the revolutionary Lebanese left and the Palestine Liberation Organization. Syrian President Hafez Assad, a leading Kissinger stooge, today completed a lightning visit to Paris, where he conferred four times with Atlanticist French President Giscard d'Estaing. According to *L'Humanite*, the newspaper of the French Communist Party, the Palestinians charged that Giscard has given Assad a green light to renew the Syrian march into Beirut and other Lebanese cities. At least 25,000 Syrian troops are already in Lebanon, backed by a force of 500 tanks and hundreds of armored vehicles and artillery.

A huge Syrian armored column stands poised only 14 miles from Beirut. Other Syrian forces — heavily reinforced since June 11 — have taken over most of southern Lebanon, coming within four miles of the Israeli border. Key Palestinian camps in the Lebanese south fell to the Syrians: heavy fighting is reported in central Lebanon around Faraya and Aintoura, strategic villages taken by the left-Palestinian forces in April and May. While Damascus has thus far held back from an all-out onslaught, fearing the domestic political consequences, Palestinian sources said that a final showdown will come within the next week unless the crisis is diffused.

A new Syrian advance, which is expected to meet heavy military resistance, could provoke a coup d'etat by nationalist and pro-Iraqi Syrian army officers against Assad. The threatened "rescue" mission by the U.S. together with possible military action by Israel, is meant to provide strategic support for the crumbling Assad regime. Kissinger has quietly let it be known that the fall of Assad would be the trigger for a joint Israeli-NATO offensive in a general Middle East war.

An editorial in June 16 *Washington Post*, clearly written from information from Kissinger's inner circle, calls on Assad to "trim the Palestinians to size." Should Assad succeed in butchering the left and Palestinians in Lebanon, the threat of war will recede, says the *Post*. Otherwise, his overthrow will lead the Israelis "to make a military move of their own." The *Post* emphasizes that peace cannot come to the Middle East "while the possibility of Palestinian-leftist control still exists." Thought to reflect secret testimony by Kissinger aide Alfred Atherton to a Senate Committee yesterday, the *Post* editorial in effect places the Israeli nuclear umbrella over the planned Syrian military escalation.

The Soviet Union and Iraq have stated their total, implacable opposition to any Israeli or U.S. military action in support of Syria's butchery. Both countries have demanded that the Syrians withdraw their forces. In a series of statements since June 9, Moscow has warned explicitly that foreign intervention into Lebanon will result in World War III. Rose al-Yousef, an Egyptian weekly, reported that Soviet Prime Minister Alexei Kosygin warned during his recent trip to Iraq and Syria that in case of NATO intervention, several divisions of the Soviet armed forces would be airlifted to Lebanon, backed by Algerian troops. The Soviet action, reported the Egyptian newspaper, would also be supported by an Iraqi invasion of Syria. Underscoring the threat of a regional explosion, Baghdad Radio announced June 15 that Iraq had called up its military reserves, and that more Israeli troops had been sent to the Syrian border.

L. Dean Brown, a top adviser to Henry Kissinger and a recent special U.S. envoy to the Middle East, strongly endorsed the Syrian invasion of Lebanon this week in a radio interview. "Let's hope that Syria can bring some order to Lebanon," said Brown, who portrayed the country — now largely governed by the Unified Command of the forces of the left and the PLO — as "chaotic" and anarchistic.

The danger of foreign intervention into Lebanon was underlined two days ago with the illegal appointment of Camille Chamoun, Lebanon's interior minister, to the post of foreign minister. Chamoun's appointment, which was announced not by the prime minister but by President Suleiman Frangieh, puts a known advocate of NATO and Israeli action in Lebanon into that powerful position. Chamoun, who as president of Lebanon in 1958 was the man who invited U.S. marines to land during the civil war of that year, yesterday said that "foreign intervention" by France, Israel, or any other power might be necessary — against which the Soviet Union has issued strong warnings.

PLO Arrests Kissinger's Killers

In Beirut, the PLO announced June 17 that the killer of Ambassador Meloy and his aide had been found and arrested, and would be placed under the control of the left-PLO Unified Command until the arrival of a planned pan-Arab peacekeeping force. In the strongest terms, the PLO denied responsibility for the killings, despite the charges in Washington by Kissinger, who told Congress that a "splinter group of radicals from the Palestinian rejection front" was to blame for the murder. In a message of condolence to the relatives of the murdered Americans, the Palestinians said: "It is obvious that such provocations always occur when there exists a chance for a political settlement."

In an official statement, the PLO said that they believed Syria, Israel, the Lebanese Falange, and the CIA were jointly responsible for the assassinations.

At a Paris press conference, timed to coincide with the arrival of Assad in Paris, the PLO declared that it was prepared to ask for the full economic power of the Arab states to be employed should any Western power, including France, send its military forces into Lebanon. The PLO statement, which implied that the Palestinians would pressure for an oil embargo to counter NATO threats, came only days after a policy statement by U.S. Labor Party Presidential candidate Lyndon LaRouche, "Why I Proposed a New Oil Threat." The LaRouche statement, according to Palestinian sources, was widely circulated throughout the Middle East, including the Palestinian population of the Israeli-occupied West Bank.

Yasser Arafat, the chairman of the PLO, was on a tour of Arab oil-producing states this week. Arafat visited Algeria, Libya, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Iraq and Bahrain in four days, gathering support for the Palestinians against Syria in Lebanon.

From Moscow, the Soviet Union sent a message of support to PLO foreign relations chief Faruq Kaddumi. Yesterday, Kaddumi held a meeting with Soviet Ambassador Alexander Soldatov in Beirut, and urged the Soviets to take "all measures to prevent an international confrontation."

Meanwhile, efforts continued in Lebanon for a political solution to the civil war and the Syrian occupation of eastern and northern Lebanon. Libyan Prime Minister Jalloud and Arab League chairman Mahmoud Riad shuttled from Beirut to Damascus seeking an agreement of the forces involved in a ceasefire and Syrian withdrawal. According to the Baltimore Sun, the Meloy killing "soured" the negotiations on a settlement, but did not destroy them as originally feared. According to the Arab League, talks were almost completed on reopening Beirut International Airport, which would permit the arrival of an Arab League peacekeeping force.

But political sources reported that the Syrian acceptance of the League's plan for a ceasefire was only tactical and a game to buy time. The return to Damascus by Assad is widely feared to signal a renewed Syrian military drive, and the flat rejection of the ceasefire by Lebanese Chamoun, a top ally of Assad and Kissinger, is being viewed as proof.

Assad Crumbling

Soviet, Iraqi, and Arab pressure on the Syrian government has taken a heavy toll in the political underpinnings of the Assad regime. Le Monde reports a climate of tension and fear in Damascus, with periodic unexplained explosions and official silence. After an entire brigade of the Syrian infantry reportedly rebelled against orders to move into Lebanon, Assad ordered his brother Rifaat Assad, commander of the palace guard, to lead an Air Force attack against the rebellious garrison. Several Syrian pilots have reportedly defected to Iraq, taking their Mig-23 jet fighters to Baghdad with them. Even the Syrian Army Chief of Staff, Hikmat Chehabi, has been placed under house arrest by the isolated Assad clique. To counter reports of an imminent coup and build confidence in his crumbling regime prior to tomorrow's scheduled trip to Paris, Assad staged a massive display of infantry and air power in the Syrian capital, June 15.

Iraq's political pressure on Damascus has led to a series of Kissinger-inspired warnings to Iraq. The New York Times reports a Pentagon sale of 1900 sidewinder air-to-air missiles to Saudi Arabia, because of "fears of a war with Iraq," and quotes unnamed Syrians as saying "We would prefer to fight the Iraqis." Israeli aides issued thinly veiled threats against Iraq and Algeria should they send the peace-keeping contingents to Lebanon, while Rifaat Assad has called the Iraqis "gangsters, torturers, traitors, and allies of the devil." Most ominous, however, was the Kissinger meeting with the Israeli ambassador in the U.S., signalling an unmistakable NSC threat to unleash the Israelis against Iraq if Assad is overthrown.

Problems In Israel

Kissinger's desperation is fueled by the growing realization that even his most trusted clients, the Israeli government, has begun to break with that country's warhawks. With the support of President Ford — whose personal envoy James Lynn arrived in Jerusalem earlier in the week — the Israeli government has begun to clean out the hawk faction, led by Moshe Dayan and Defense Minister

Shimon Peres. Rabin announced June 4 that he will introduce legislation allowing him to dismiss ministers — a measure aimed squarely at Peres, who has been at odds with Rabin for months. Rabin's actions are fully backed by the Mapam party, a left-leaning coalition partner of the ruling Labour party. At its annual congress this week the Mapam backed Rabin and demanded the ouster of the Dayan-Peres outlaws from the regime. A Mapam spokesman said that his party is seeking to build a governing coalition with Labour party doves, led by Abba Eban.

In a significant acknowledgement of the ICLC's central role in backing moves for Middle East peace, the Mapam daily newspaper Al Hamishmar printed the text of a message sent from USLP Presidential candidate Lyndon LaRouche and the European Labor Committee's Executive Committee to the Mapam congress.

Top State Department Advisor:

“Ford Is Playing President...

We Should Send the Marines”

WASHINGTON, D.C., June 17 (NSIPS) — The following interview was conducted today by NSIPS with a top U.S. State Department advisor for Middle East Affairs following the assassination of U.S. Ambassador to Lebanon Francis Meloy.

NSIPS: Dr. L—, there are high-level reports being issued concerning a revision of United States policy toward Lebanon in the wake of the recent Syrian invasion of that country.

Dr. L—: Bullshit. That's White House crap. It's Ford playing President. We have no policy in Lebanon. We're not going to do anything. You do not influence events in a country like Lebanon without putting your blood and your money on the table. We are doing neither. He's acting Swedish.

And the Russians have no policy either. The last hope the Russians had to kill Jews was the PLO (Palestine Liberation Organization), and now they will be crushed.

If the U.S. were not totally corrupted, then the U.S. would have done the right thing: send in Marines to clean up. But we're not doing fuck-all. The whole thing was run out of the White House, and it's bullshit. Ha! If you believe the White House is saying that we are revising our policy, that we will send a new Ambassador to walk around stupid and blinking and doing nothing, that we will “continue the search for peace,” that we will “discuss with all parties,” etc. then you are very naïve. The President is fighting for his life against (Republican Presidential hopeful) Mr. Ronald Reagan; are you aware of that? Are you? So he's acting like a stupid Swede, acting Presidential, making grand, sweeping statements that have no force whatsoever behind them. We have no influence in the Middle East.

NSIPS: Are you advocating the use of U.S. military forces in Lebanon even after warnings last week from the Soviet Union against any such intervention by the U.S. or France?

Dr. L—: Ha! The Soviets have no military options. Of course, I cannot exclude insanity. But, if we introduce our divisions there, they cannot stop us. What can they do? Fly in troops to the airport? The Syrians control the airport totally, and could

close it down with a single 22-millimeter cannon produced by the Syrians' fraternal socialist allies and their comradely workers in the people's democracies. The Soviets can say whatever they like. This is 1958 (the U.S. sent a “peace-keeping” force to Lebanon in 1958-ed.). What crisis would erupt?

NSIPS: What about the Iraqis? and the (Egyptian newspaper-ed.) Rose al-Yousef scenario of a Soviet, Iraqi and Algerian military response to an intervention by the United States, France or Israel?

Dr. L—: The Iraqis are a joke. The Iraqis — who committed two divisions to the 1973 (Arab-Israeli) war, one of which was wiped out in 25 minutes and the second two hours later — the Iraqis have only killed defenseless Kurdish civilians, with your support, I suppose. The Syrians have a battle-trained army that has fought the Israelis a few times. Israelis wiped out the Iraqis, and even the Syrians would massacre them. An Iraqi intervention would be a political move, but its military weight would be less than nothing. And if those Iraqi divisions would be chopped up, that would not do so well for the regime back in Baghdad.

It's a question of training and technology. Fifty Europeans could march from one end of Africa to the other. The same in the Middle East. But you'll write what you want anyway. Just say this: That the U.S. is acting like goddamn Sweden, and that Ford is play-acting President.

NSIPS: All reports indicate that the Assad regime in Syria faces imminent collapse and possible coup. . . .

Dr. L—: Of course, there could be a coup! There is always a potential coup in that backward desert. Damascus (Syria) is run by a bunch of paranoid, stupid, narrow-minded soldiers. Now the pressure is relatively increased — but on any sunny day, with no war, there might be a coup in Syria.

Mideast Thinktanker Pins

Faisal Murder on Kissinger

June 18 (NSIPS) — A leading liberal policy analyst from the Mideast, reviewing the current situation in Lebanon, pinned the blame for the March 1975 assassination of Saudi Arabia's King Faisal squarely on Secretary of State Henry Kissinger, and termed the assassination key to understanding Kissinger and his present policy.

“I really believe that since 1973 he (Kissinger) has been systematically working on destabilizing Lebanon, taking Egypt out of the picture, giving the Syrians promises. Systematically, Kissinger has been working on a clear pattern: the seduction and taming of Sadat and the luring of Syria, reminiscent now in the latter case of Jordan in 1970,” the thinktanker said.

Developing this analysis, the Mideast policy analyst said “The key thing in understanding Kissinger is the Faisal assassination. I knew Prince Faisal, the alleged assassin, very closely when he was in Colorado. I've never been convinced that King Faisal's death was accidental; this is not persuasive. The removal of Faisal was a critical event in Mideast politics.”

The thinktanker then laid out piece by piece what the Faisal murder accomplished in Mideast politics: “(Egyptian