

NEW SOLIDARITY INTERNATIONAL PRESS SERVICE



Mideast Report

Insane Advisors Say: "Try and Stop Us"

Kissinger Moves For War Provocations Against Soviets

A consensus on nuclear brinkmanship has been reached among the top strata of Atlanticist policy makers to press forward — even at the risk of igniting a direct confrontation with the USSR — with the bloody military offensive by Syria and its Lebanese Christian allies. A bloody challenge has been issued by Henry Kissinger to the Soviets: Either you permit Syria and the Falangists to annihilate the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Lebanese left — or prepare for nuclear war. As the following interviews show, the essential message from a sample of NATO-linked policy planners is the same: "Try and stop us."

In fact, a number of strategists interviewed this week, and the Western press, virtually taunted Moscow with the fate of its political allies in Lebanon should they be abandoned. A top adviser to Kissinger, Dr. L., said it most plainly. "The Lebanon episode is revealing the Soviets' impotence. The Soviet failure to support its clients is hurting. Arafat wants the Soviets to make good on its promises." Others, of a similar view, refused to acknowledge that at the point at which the Soviets decide that they are being intolerably isolated from their allies in the Mideast and the Third World, they will not only intervene militarily to stop the bloodshed in Lebanon, but launch a general war.

The Soviets have thus far reacted with excruciating tolerance to the murderous fighting in Lebanon. Statements from the Soviet Communist Party in Pravda have named the U.S., France, Israel, and Saudi Arabia as conspiring to supply the Lebanese right with arms and ammunition, and Soviet spokesmen have let it be known that they are firmly opposed to the Syrian invasion force in Lebanon. It is considered that, at this point, the Soviets are dimly trying to work out an accord between Syria and the Palestinians that will prevent a final showdown in Lebanon itself. There have been recurring reports that the Soviets have suspended arms shipments to Syria, and — in diplomatic discussions — are pressuring Syria to get out of Lebanon.

The Atlanticist press has also eagerly given wide circulation to the reports from Lebanon, via the Lebanese left, that the Soviets are also considering military action. While such action is no doubt being considered as a last resort, Soviet sources have reportedly denied any plan for imminent intervention into Lebanon. Earlier this week, the leftist-controlled Beirut Radio reported that Soviet Ambassador to Lebanon Soldatov told Palestine Liberation Organization leaders that the USSR was planning to take "urgent action" to defend Lebanon. Although no action was actually specified, rumors rippled throughout the Western press. For instance, the Jerusalem Post cited reports that the Soviets had constructed a series of airfields in southern Lebanon for transshipment of military and food supplies to besieged Palestinian camps near Beirut.

The Soviets, should they actually intervene, would immediately touch off a worldwide nuclear confrontation as happened in October 1973 during the Arab Israeli war, when Kissinger ordered the activation of U.S. nuclear facilities across the globe.

Another option besides direct military involvement is available to Moscow and its Arab allies to halt the bloodshed in Lebanon.

What is immediately required is that Moscow declare its open intention to wreck and replace the shattered remains of the dollar-based international monetary system by supporting a general moratorium on Third World debt payments both to Moscow and the New York banks. The Egyptians, with a \$16 billion debt, are strategically situated for Moscow to begin that process, a process guaranteed to break the power of the New York banks whose desperation is fueling the Syrian attack on Lebanon in the first place.

NSIPS Exclusive Interview with L. Dean Brown:

"We've Just Beaten Up Everybody At The U.N."

WASHINGTON; D.C., July 16 (NSIPS) — The following interview granted by former U.S. special envoy to Lebanon L. Dean Brown to a journalist on July 13 has been made available exclusively to NSIPS.

Reporter: Reports have come in today about the Soviets readying intervention on the side of the left in Lebanon. What's your assessment?

Brown: I would doubt it very much. If they intervene on the side of the Palestinians, you could imagine what their enemies would do. The U.S. would intervene in turn. So what do you mean by 'intervention'?

Reporter: Running Syria's blockade for example...

Brown: Then they would run into the Israelis. Anyway, you must understand that for the Soviets to intervene as you are talking about in Lebanon would be their first overt action there. Sure, they've been critical of the Syrians, but the Syrians have rubbed it into them. I doubt we'll see the Soviets doing anything militarily in terms of intervention without discussions with the Administration here in advance.

If the Soviets simply intervened, the U.S. would react very vehemently. Look, we've just beaten up everybody at the U.N. with our statements on Palestinian terrorism, you think we'll just let the Soviets intervene on the side of the Palestinians? I don't see Henry Kissinger playing the game like that, he'd have his head shot at, think what Reagan would do with that.

Furthermore, the Soviets know for sure that they couldn't just start up something in Lebanon and then pull back, they'd have to get the job done and over with, which presents risks from their standpoint.

Reporter: So what do you see in store for Lebanon, a Syrian takeover?

Brown: Yes, the Syrians' taking over the country is a good possibility, at least most parts of it, excluding parts they don't care about.

Reporter: What's in store for the Palestinians?

Brown: The Palestinian resistance is in grave trouble. It's probably breaking up. What to do next is a big problem for them.

Reporter: What about Kuwait being a flashpoint for Palestinian activity and confrontation?

Brown: Kuwait? Not in the close future. Kuwait has a good control system, police and money, security, holding these over the Palestinians. No one will accept Palestinian unrest. The Kuwaitis are very good at giving the first plane ticket out to troublemakers. The Syrians don't really want to destroy the resistance, they want to reorganize it. Anyway, you can't destroy the Palestinians as such, there's too many of them, you can't drive them out. . .

NSC Mideast Director Confirms:

"The Lebanese Left Will Be Slaughtered"

WASHINGTON, D.C., July 14 (NSIPS) — The following are excerpts from an interview with Robert Oakley, the National Security Council Director of Middle Eastern Affairs. The interview coincided with demands for Soviet and Iraqi aid by the Palestinians and Lebanese leftists and indications from Comecon sector media that the Soviets were planning some form of help.

NSIPS: Mr. Oakley, are recent reports that the Soviets are planning "urgent action" in Lebanon correct?

Oakley: (Leftist leader Kameal) Jumblatt and (Palestine Liberation Organization head) Arafat were told that today by the Soviet Ambassador. But I have no idea what it might mean.

NSIPS: Do you think the Soviets will take strong action, even military action, to aid the Palestinians and left?

Oakley: I doubt they will intervene militarily.

NSIPS: But they obviously will not stand by while the Syrians massacre the Palestinians and left.

Oakley: My personal assessment is that the editorial of the New York Times of yesterday was correct in saying that the Palestinians and left have missed their chance for discussion. I'm not sure they can make an agreement. I'm hoping something will happen — but there are too many people involved.

NSIPS: So you believe the Syrians will slaughter the left, and that the Soviets and the Iraqis, who are now saying they will not allow this, will just watch?

Oakley: The Middle East is noted for its talk, less for its action. October 1973 (the Arab-Israeli War - ed.) was an exception and that includes the Iraqis.

NSIPS: You are agreeing that the Syrians are planning to slaughter the left?

Oakley: If you want to call it slaughter. There were earlier reports that the Palestinians and left slaughtered the Syrians.

NSIPS: (Syrian President) Assad will not last long if the Syrians continue their assault. Yesterday apparently there was an attempted coup against him.

Oakley: You and some of your friends have said that Assad is about to go but he hasn't. Syria has a history of rumors like that. . . Go back and match what has been said by the parties in the Middle East to what they have done! We are not playing the games you claim! We're not controlling the situation despite what you might think!

Eugene Rostow Calls For U.S.-Soviet Confrontation In Mideast

July 17 (NSIPS) — The following conversation between Eugene Rostow, currently of Yale University and the Citizens Alliance for Mediterranean Freedom (CAMF) and former top State Department official, and a reporter on the Mideast crisis on July 13, has been obtained exclusively by NSIPS.

Reporter: Has CAMF formed a policy for the Middle East and Lebanon?

Rostow: Not yet as far as I know. They are in the throes of sitting down and working out a policy which will be similar to the U.S.'s and the Atlantic Alliance, that is, peace between Israel and her neighbors before we do anything like deploying and mobilizing both politically and militarily to reverse Soviet penetration.

Reporter: What about Soviet support and action on behalf of the Palestinians?

Rostow: I'm not surprised. The Economic Intelligence Service said over a month ago that the Soviet Chief of Staff had his HQ in a warship off the Lebanese coast. It must be fearful and bewildering for them. After all, someone must be supplying the Christians.

Reporter: Who?

Rostow: The French and the Israelis of course.

Reporter: But this sounds like there could be an intervention by the Israelis and possibly the U.S. and there would be one big war.

Rostow: What do you think has been going on, girl? When the Israelis kill any Soviets they smuggle them out of the country. They don't want people to know about it. Remember in '67 — over the canal, you never heard about it again.

Reporter: But why, . . . you would think the Israelis would want to publish it.

Rostow: They don't want to provoke the Russians. They are terrified.

Reporter: Are the Soviets moving?

Rostow: Are the Soviets moving? — Well, I am up here in Vermont and not at the State Department. We are forming another group; we don't want it (CAMF - ed.) to be tied into each episode that comes along.

Reporter: What do you mean another group forming?

Rostow: You didn't hear I said that. I didn't speak. It's a slip of the tongue.

Reporter: What do you think about the Uganda hijacking?

Rostow: I'm not following it too much, and CAMF has not yet drafted anything on this, though they might. . . I was very pleased that Scranton said what he did finally. I had a public letter ready saying just what Scranton said.

Reporter: What about the Seventh Fleet moving into the Indian Ocean?

Rostow: I didn't know about that but it's a good idea. The threat to the Horn of Africa is great. Of course the French are working closely with the U.S. over this. It looks like a renewal of the Red Sea Regatta concept of '67 and '73.

Reporter: What about Kuwait — with the Israelis blaming Kuwait for the hijacking, has the emphasis moved to the Gulf?

Rostow: It already has. The question is what will Soviet policy be around the U.S. elections. They always do something crazy around election time. The problem is, they assume — falsely — that Ford and Kissinger are paralyzed.

Reporter: Will NATO act in a situation like this (the Mideast)?

Rostow: I wish I did see NATO moving into the situation. A NATO strike force is preparing to go to the area. But it isn't ready yet.