

Algeria, Libya Leaders For Mediterranean Peace And Security Pact

Sept. 10 (NSIPS) — Moves are now underway by Non-Aligned, socialist, and key Western European nations and political leaders to bring about a peace and security accord in the Mediterranean and Middle East. The moves aim at implementing provisions of last year's Helsinki European Security and Cooperation accords which call for extension of that treaty to the Mediterranean, and are in line with a call for implementation of this aspect of the Helsinki agreement issued by last month's Colombo Non-Aligned summit. The political declaration issued by the summit warned "that the security of Europe, the Mediterranean and the Mideast are closely interrelated and that it is of imperative importance to make new efforts to remove the causes of tension and attain peace and security in that area."

Algeria and Libya, two of the region's key oil-producing states, are leading the political push for the Mediterranean peace and security agreement.

* Prime Minister Dom Mintoff of Malta, a Mediterranean island state, announced the initiative by Algeria and Libya during a visit to Algeria last week. Mintoff, who had just met with Libyan President Muammar Qaddafi, declared that Malta, Algeria and Libya "are working together for the realization of a durable peace in the Mediterranean," reported the Algerian daily *Al-Moudjahid*. Diplomatic feelers will soon be extended to Italy, France, Yugoslavia, Egypt, and "progressive forces in Spain and Portugal," according to Algerian diplomatic sources, who also stated that the proposed security pact would take Helsinki as a model.

* The Mediterranean initiative is the political extension of the increasing cooperation between Italy, Algeria, Libya, and the Soviet Union on oil supplies and development.

Italy is actively now seeking to secure its national energy supplies in a series of trade and technology agreements with the Arab oil-producing states of Libya, Algeria, Iraq and others to gain strategic depth for breaking with the Rockefeller-controlled oil multinationals. An Italo-Soviet petroleum company has just been established, which will reportedly deal primarily with Libya and Algeria.

At the same time, Italy's Prime Minister Giulio Andreotti and Foreign Minister Arnaldo Forlani have recently taken up direct initiatives to defuse the Lebanon crisis and bring the warring parties to the negotiating table. The Malta Pact proposal thus provides an overall context in which Italy can consolidate its developing pro-development ties to the Arab states and its European allies.

* Bulgarian Prime Minister Todor Zhivkov yesterday proposed that the prime ministers of Greece and Turkey, two squabbling NATO allies, meet in Bulgaria in a closed meeting to discuss and settle their differences on Cyprus and the Aegean Sea. The Zhivkov proposal, which came in a letter sent to both heads of state, was on Soviet prompting, according to the Greek press.

The proposal undoubtedly figures in discussions last week in Bulgaria between Greek Communist party (KKE) leader Charilaos Florakis and Portuguese Communist leader Alvaro Cunhal.

Intense diplomacy is also underway to resolve the explosive dispute between Libya and Egypt. Algerian President Boumedienne and Yugoslav leader Josip Broz Tito have both offered to mediate the conflict, and President Qaddafi has offered

to meet with Egyptian President Sadat for talks on ending their feud. The Libyans have moved to derail Atlanticist efforts to isolate them as part of an international "terrorist conspiracy." Following Qaddafi's conciliatory gesture toward Egypt, Libyan Foreign Minister Abu Zair Dura last week sharply dissociated Libya from international terrorist acts, and issued a biting denunciation of terrorism by the United States.

Colombo Statement On Mediterranean

Sept. 10 (NSIPS) — Following are portions of the final political declaration of last month's Non-Aligned summit in Colombo which deal with the situation in the Mediterranean. The statement was reported by the Yugoslav news agency, *Tanjug*.

"... The Non-Aligned group expressed its concern over the increasing tension in the Mediterranean, which stems from imperialist aggression, and which is characterized by the consolidation of existing military bases and an increasing influx of foreign naval forces, despite the commitments contained in the document on the Mediterranean in the Helsinki final declaration.

"The conference also stressed that the security of Europe, the Mediterranean and the Mideast are closely interrelated and that it is of imperative importance to make new efforts to remove the causes of tension and attain peace and security in that area.

"Accordingly, the conference appealed to the countries that participated in the European Security and Cooperation Conference to tackle without delay the full application of the document on the Mediterranean contained in the Helsinki final declaration. The conference also called on the Non-Aligned countries in the Mediterranean to act in consonance with the decisions and resolutions of the conference of Non-Aligned countries, so as to remove all obstacles preventing the transformation of the Mediterranean into a zone of peace and cooperation to the advantage of the interested countries, and in the interests of international peace and security.

"Bearing this in mind, the conference called on the Non-Aligned countries in the Mediterranean to consult one another so as to attain a united stand expressing the aspirations of the Non-Aligned movement as a whole, which will be set forth at the Belgrade conference in 1977 concerning the implementation of the decisions taken at the Conference on European Security and Cooperation."

Report On Algeria-Malta Talks

Al-Moudjahid (Algeria), Aug. 31, "Prime Minister of Malta in Algiers, Political Discussions Between Boumedienne and Dom Mintoff":

Political discussion (was held) on the security of the Mediterranean. . . . To a question about the political situation in the Mediterranean, the Prime Minister of Malta answered that "Malta belongs to the Non-Aligned movement and Malta, Algeria and Libya are working together for the realization of a durable peace in the Mediterranean Sea."

Al-Moudjahid, Sept. 1, "Dom Mintoff Leaves Algiers":

What is happening now in Lebanon and around Cyprus illustrated very well the value of this declaration of intent from these states (i.e. the declaration to promote the development of peaceful relations between the Mediterranean countries-ed.). It

seems that the political analysis made by Algeria during the conference is confirmed. Didn't we warn the participants of the threat that Europe will discover the "deus ex machina" of its security by fragmenting the world into "privileged peaceful zones" and "zones of tension and insecurity" for the Third World countries.

In its move, which was full of clarity, Algeria expressed that political detente in the center of Europe cannot be accompanied by a re-deployment of forces into the Mediterranean where certain people have some views incompatible with the independence and sovereignty of the states in the region. Such a detente cannot work. In this regard, the joint planning between Algeria and Malta is taking on a particular importance.

Excerpts from the joint communique issued by Algeria and Malta following talks between Algerian President Houari Boumedienne and Maltese Prime Minister Dom Mintoff and reported in Al-Moudjahid, Sept. 1:

... The Middle East situation, as well as the African one, was particularly studied by the two delegations.

Both parties expressed their deep concern in regard to the Lebanese conflict and the great loss of human life which it has caused. They stressed that the continuation of tension in the Middle East is the result of the denial of the national rights of the Palestinian people and that any solution must necessarily take into account the recognition and the restoration of such rights. They condemned the continuous aggression against the Palestinian people and the Israeli occupation of Arab territories.

Both sides expressed their support to the African people in their fight for the independence of Zimbabwe, of Namibia, and in South Africa.

In a general manner, they expressed their will to work jointly to end tension in the world. They stressed the detente now existing in Europe, and underlined the relation between security in Europe and in the Mediterranean. They reiterated their full adherence to the political and economic resolutions of the Non-Aligned meeting in Colombo.

Greek Socialist Papandreou: A Non-Aligned Future For Greece

Sept. 9 (NSIPS) — The following are excerpts of an interview with Greek Socialist leader Andreas Papandreou which appeared in the Sept. 6 issue of the West German weekly news magazine Der Spiegel. At the opening of the interview, Papandreou characterized as "interference into the duties of justice" the West German government's recent demands for the extradition of Baader-Meinhof-connected terrorist Phole, arrested last month in by Greek police in Athens. Papandreou continues his criticism with references to other interference by the West German government:

Spiegel: The German public nonetheless finds it difficult to understand why the Greek left — represented not only by you — has escalated the matter into expressions such as "neo-Nazism" and "barbarism" (against West German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt's government). Aren't you giving in to your Hellenic temperament?

Papandreou: This is not merely a matter of Pöhle. Wasn't there recently an event of great historical significance: the unbelievable intervention by your Chancellor Schmidt into the domestic affairs of Italy, and thus in those of all southern Europe? If up that time any illusions had remained about the role currently

played by the German government in relation to other European countries, then such illusions were quickly dispelled by this statement of Helmut Schmidt. Moreover, the case of Greece not only concerns Mr. Schmidt, but also concerns (West German Christian Social Union leader) Mr. Strauss, who visits us often, keeps up regular contacts with the Junta and aids them in building up the Junta-allied Right Party.

Spiegel: The Greek democrats, and not only you yourself, were quite glad a few years ago when the Social Democratic Bonn government interfered by supporting the democratic forces against the colonels' Junta. Have you forgotten that so quickly?

Papandreou: We have not forgotten this. However, the statements of former Chancellor Brandt on the Junta, for example, were very careful and hesitant. Second, the (West) German Social Democrats have only supported certain groups of Greek politicians and were thereby preparing a solution for the post-Junta period behind the scenes — precisely as they are doing in Portugal and in Spain. In Greece they supported (Greek Prime Minister) Karamanlis and the so-called new forces, in Portugal they gave financial and technical help to the Socialist (Party leader Mario) Soares. In Spain they maintain close contact with (the Socialist Party leader Felipe) Gonzalez and are educating Spanish foreign workers to infiltrate the trade unions and from there to influence the party's future course.

Spiegel: So according to this the ugly German is engaged in subversive activity all around the Mediterranean and is interfering in the affairs of southern European populations?

Papandreou: I do not like the expression "ugly German," since I am not referring to the Germans, but rather to the political power structure in (West) Germany and the policies of your Federal government. And there we are sensitive — all the more sensitive because of your government's close ties with that of the U.S. For us, the Federal government is Washington's satrapy within the Common Market and in Europe as a whole.

Spiegel: You do not think much of NATO, the Common Market, the Americans and the Western Europeans — but little Greece needs some friends somewhere to realize its international interests. Where will you get them from?

Papandreou: You forget countries such as Yugoslavia, Algeria, Libya, Sweden and other non-aligned friends?

Spiegel: A good question, considering that it comes following the not-very-encouraging spectacle of the Non-Aligned conference in Colombo. Do you actually see Greece's salvation with the Non-Aligned?

Papandreou: Yes. Greece should primarily support itself on its own steam, and after that there will also be international support.

Libya Denounces Terrorism

Sept. 5 (NSIPS) — Following is Libyan Foreign Minister Abu Zair Dura's denunciation of terrorism issued yesterday. He said:

Libya supports liberation forces throughout the world, but this is not terrorism.

To station American forces overseas is terrorism. To monopolize the wealth of countries is terrorism. To dominate the outlets of seas and oceans is terrorism. To provide aging regimes with sophisticated weapons to oppress the people is terrorism. To use wheat and gold as political toys when the world is starving is terrorism. We did not occupy Vietnam or go to war in Korea. We did not fight in Cambodia. We did not plan a coup d'etat in Chile. But yes, hijacking is terrorism and we stand against hijacking.