

Middle East as a counterpoint to the CIA's deceptive carrot of continued detente arrangements.

The immediate objective of the Rockefeller forces in the Middle East is to draw the Soviets into a joint-policing setup along the Arab-Israeli ceasefire lines, an arrangement which by its very nature would fatally undercut the USSR's credibility and virtually prevent the continued evolution of Soviet moves toward international resistance to Rockefeller.

The first step toward the activation of a combined U.S.-Soviet Middle East police force--explicitly called for two weeks ago by Rockefeller's fascist Trilateral Commission--is the reconvening of the Geneva "peace conference"--on Rockefeller's terms. Despite recent blustering by CIA-allied Arabs and Israelis complete with numerous "hardline" positions, the CIA has neatly engineered a consensus that only a return to Geneva can solve the "insoluble" Middle East crisis.

To underline the fact that Rockefeller wants the Soviets to behave at Geneva should the United States and Israel agree to the resumption of talks there, the CIA has staged the latest escalation of the rigged Arab-Israeli conflict. The message is clear: the USSR must choose between an uneasy American-controlled peace and a Cuban missile crisis-style confrontation. Should the Soviets show the slightest wavering in Rockefeller's brinkmanship war of nerves, the resulting Arab-Israeli war and coincidental Second Oil Hoax would immediately follow, most likely accompanied by an Israeli-Iranian strike against pro-socialist, Soviet-allied Iraq.

On cue, Egypt's fascist leader Sadat called for a ceasefire in Lebanon--backed by a joint U.S.-Soviet guarantee. In calling for U.S. and Soviet policing of the area, Sadat explicitly adopted the Trilateral Commission line. As the Baltimore Sun put it last week: "Thus Egypt puts one arm around the U.S. and the other around the Soviet Union, as though Egypt is a linkage in detente." Or, thus Rockefeller uses Egypt to ram detente down the Soviets' throat.

#### EGYPTIAN AND SYRIAN ARMIES ON ALERT TO BACK LEBANON

Dec. 21 (IPS)--Egyptian and Syrian armies were placed on a state of high alert today following reports that the Israelis were planning a "very heavy blow" against Palestinian guerrilla encampments in southern Lebanon. The circulation of this rumor coincides with increased talk within Israel about striking back at guerrilla bases following a week of intense fighting across the Israeli-Lebanese border. Included in this tactic would be the reactivation of the "underground" Israeli terrorist network headed up by the infamous Brigade 101.

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As the tension rose along the Lebanese front, Syrian dictator Hafez al-Assad blustered that, "If a war breaks out, we shall see to it that it is a long war." The "tough" Syrian position followed by days an absurd hardline demand from Egypt that Israel restrict Jewish immigration for 50 years as a condition for peace.

Upon closer examination, however, the macho Syrian and Egyptian stands melt away. A Syrian diplomat revealed the truth behind Assad's tough talk: "Ha, ha, ha," he laughed when told about Assad's remark. "The purpose is to draw everyone into solidarity to get the Geneva talks going."

Behind such obvious instances of Rockefeller-rigged staging of a confrontation, there certainly exists the very real chance of a war if the Soviets should leave an opening. The rumored attack on Lebanon, unlike past situations, would now involve the immediate participation of Soviet-armed Syria after the unprecedented alliance formed this week between Lebanon and Syria. The traditionally neutral Lebanese have now involved themselves in another Mideast war trigger via the embryonic alliance with Syria, thus considerably raising the stakes on an Israeli attack on Lebanon.

#### WEST GERMAN PRESS AND MEDIA COVER OPENING OF ELC CONFERENCE

Dec. 21 (IPS)--Representatives of the official West German press agency, the DPA, attended a press conference immediately preceding the opening of the European Labor Committees' Strategy for Socialism Conference in Wiesbaden, West Germany this morning and filed a story on the conference over the DPA wire. Regional radio and television broadcasters also attended, and a report on the conference has already been carried on radio stations in northern Germany.

In addition, at least two unofficial representatives of the West German Social Democratic and Communist Parties are in attendance at the conference. Both describe themselves as journalists.

According to preliminary estimates, more than 300 European socialist organizers have gathered in Wiesbaden to plan ELC strategy for building the international united front of working class forces--represented in embryonic form by the pro-ELC Unity for Socialism tendency in the European mass working-class parties --into a political strike force capable of putting an end to the Rockefellers' immediate threat to human existence.