

# Schlesinger Goes Public With Persian Gulf Invasion Threat

Speaking before the Association of the U.S. Army this week, Energy Secretary James Schlesinger said that if the Carter Administration energy package is not passed, it would create all sorts of pressures — including pressures for the U.S. to invade the Persian Gulf to insure its oil supplies. Stressing the urgency of the situation, Schlesinger said that nuclear energy is a “resource of last resort,” and that the “era of last resort”

Schlesinger’s statements come on the heels of the announcement that the Secretary will visit the Persian Gulf oil producing countries early next month.

Schlesinger’s plan is to attempt to provoke OPEC into using its so-called oil weapon against the U.S., Western Europe and Japan. This accomplished, Schlesinger calculates he can enforce a fascist energy dictatorship on the U.S. economy, with at least tacit support from America’s business leadership and the nation’s industrial allies.

### *Invasion on the Agenda*

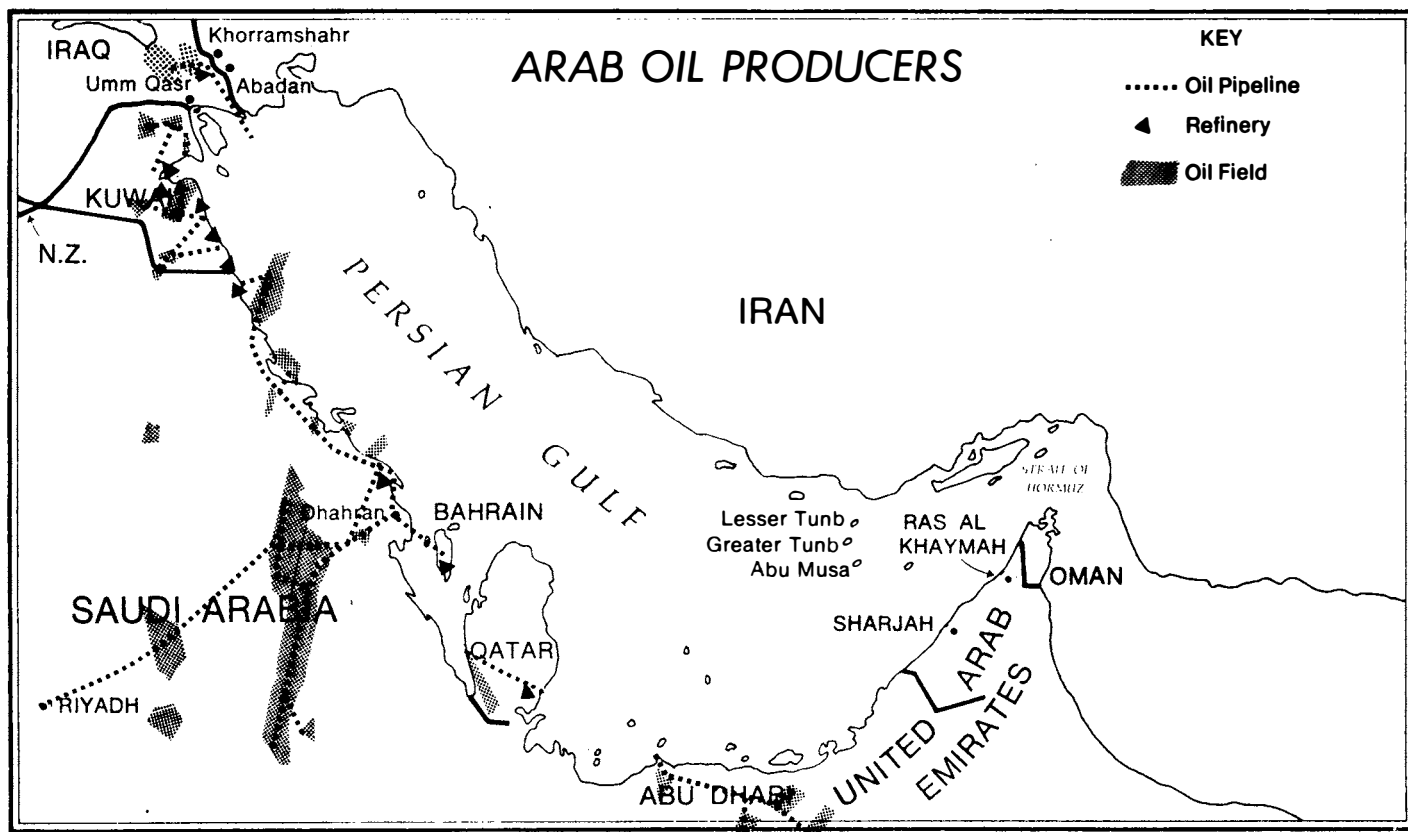
If gentle persuasion is not enough, Schlesinger, the British, and the London allied Israeli networks of Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan are prepared to begin a new Mideast war and invade the Gulf oilfields to break OPEC’s resistance. According to the London Economist,

Schlesinger is unhappy with the “constraints” imposed on his functioning at the new U.S. Department of Energy, and his patience has been brought to the breaking point by U.S. Senate and International Energy Agency refusals to buy his energy austerity package.

The Persian Gulf states are aware of Schlesinger’s options for taking over their oilfields, a knowledge which adds to OPEC’s profiled confrontationist attitude towards the West. The Kuwait government has received privileged documents outlining U.S. “plans” for a move into the Gulf, documents which have been circulated to a number of oil-producing governments. Iraqi President Bakr and the Kuwaiti Acting Foreign Minister have publicly denounced the plan and called for tightened regional security.

The malleable Carter Administration is being manipulated with scenarios detailing the imminent “disruption of Gulf oil flows.” Last month the National Security Council, through a classified Presidential Memorandum-10, advised Carter to prepare the Pentagon for a possible lightning move into the Gulf. An informed Washington source has confirmed that the Administration has ordered three light divisions be readied for such a move.

The press is fueling the crisis climate. Last week, the *Christian Science Monitor* reported that the Department



of Defense has recognized "an absolute need to maintain the flow of Middle Eastern oil at all costs," warning that Saudi Arabia is "under radical Arab pressure" to turn its oil into a weapon.

Also suckered into the Schlesinger-City of London trap are the Arab nations themselves. Ali Attiga, the head of the Arab Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) last week stated that "oil will be a natural weapon" in any future Mideast war. He noted that production cutbacks such as Saudi Arabia's enormous 1.2 million barrel a day cut were "reinforced by political factors." Some OPEC countries are calling for another price rise come the December meeting of the cartel in Caracas. In a recent Vienna speech, the vice president of Algeria's Sonatrach oil company endorsed a 100 percent oil price rise to an insane \$25.00 a barrel.

## Arabs React To Schlesinger Provocations

Two Persian Gulf oil producing countries, Iraq and Kuwait, have reacted strongly to a recent report published in the *Washington Star* that President Carter on August 25 signed a document entitled "Presidential Review Memorandum No. 10" directing the Pentagon to prepare to defend Middle East oil supply sources "against possible Soviet attack."

In a statement carried by the official Iraqi news agency, Iraqi President, Mr. Ahmad Hasan al-Bakr said his government categorically rejected "the imperialist plan to gain control over the oil resources of the Arabian Gulf." He said that repeated U.S. statements about preparations to defend Middle East oil supply sources and safeguard U.S. oil interests in the Arab Gulf "reveal the presence of aggressive intentions toward the people and security of the area and are closely linked with the imperialist plan for a Middle East settlement, which

ignores the aspirations of the Arab nation."

Asked to comment on the *Washington Star* report, the Kuwait Minister of the State for Cabinet Affairs, Mr. Abd al-Aziz Hussain, told the Middle East Agency on September 20 that "Kuwait is opposed to the introduction of any foreign influences into the area, irrespective of their form or their origin." He added, "If the countries of the Gulf were left alone and allowed to live in peace with each other, to make their own security arrangements and to press on with the social and economic development of their people, there would be no danger of their resources being exploited to anyone's detriment." Moreover, the Kuwaiti Minister called for the creation of an Arab Security System to extend beyond the Gulf to the entire Arab world, because "It is a strategic priority to defend the Gulf against any foreign aggression."

The Kuwaiti daily *As-Siyassah* on September 11 reported that high-level diplomatic reports containing details of a U.S. military plan to defend the Gulf and its oil supplies are currently being circulated in some Gulf states. *As-Siyassah* further states that if implemented, "this American plan will put the area under direct U.S. protection in a manner which would provoke other international forces and would also exacerbate regional national feelings. This would immediately make the Gulf area an international hotspot.

Even before the "Presidential Review Memorandum No. 10" story was leaked to the *Washington Star*, the West German daily *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung* reported that the Foreign Ministers of the United Arab Emirates and Kuwait had informed their counterparts in the Gulf states and Iran that their countries are taking seriously certain inclinations by western countries to invade the oil fields of the area. The two ministers called for meeting in the United Nations of all the Gulf foreign ministers, including Iran, to discuss the danger and arrange a summit meeting to adopt a common Gulf Security Pact.