

attacking Sadat directly for carrying on unilateral negotiations, Assad declared that Israel and the PLO should talk directly.

Jan. 9—the Shah of Iran to Egypt.

Upon leaving Aswan, the Shah congratulated Sadat on his peace initiative and declared that “the ball is now in the Israeli court.” According to the French daily, *Le Figaro* of Jan. 11, “the Shah’s visit is considered an important element in the present peace process.”

Jan. 10—the Shah to Saudi Arabia.

While Boumedienne was meeting with Hussein, the

Shah conferred with Saudi leaders. In addition to discussing OPEC-related matters, the Shah confirmed his support of the Sadat peace initiative. According to the French press, the Shah and King Khaled discussed the Mideast in minute detail.

Jan. 12—Boumedienne to Syria.

The results of Boumedienne’s factfinding tour were discussed with Syria’s Assad. According to the press accounts, the Syrian-Iraqi rapprochement was the top agenda item.

Schlesinger Organizing The ‘Crash Of ‘79?’

The most reliable reports from Riyadh this week indicate that the visiting Shah of Iran and the Saudis reached common perspectives on the need for stabilizing the Persian Gulf and for mediating various outstanding crises in the Middle East-North African region. Agreement was also reiterated on the touchy subject of oil prices.

Nonetheless, coinciding with U.S. Energy Czar James Schlesinger’s current visits to Morocco and Saudi Arabia, various British press outlets have begun to propagandize the likelihood of a new Cold War taking over the region. France’s *Le Matin*, mouthpiece for François Mitterrand of the French Socialist Party, predicted on Jan. 9 an anti-Soviet, anti-radical bloc of Iran, Israel, Egypt, and Morocco forming to police the region. The *Christian Science Monitor* on Jan. 11 claimed that the Saudi-

Iranian talks were concerned mainly with Soviet spy reconnaissance flights over the oil-producing countries!

No doubt Schlesinger is working according to the scenario recently detailed by Senator Henry Jackson in a special Senate Energy Committee report recommending U.S. dependence on Israel and Iran as the U.S. bulwarks in the Mideast against the Arab producers. This is Henry Kissinger’s favored gameplan...and, interestingly, appears to be a realization of the scenario for World War Three in the recent bestseller, “The Crash of ‘79.”

Next week *EIR* will carry a special feature on the politics of the Gulf, contrasting the actual politics of the region and the increasing European input there with Schlesinger’s unfortunate meanderings.