

From Arms Sales to Disarmament

While the arms sale is considered as having effectively removed a roadblock to Middle East peace prospects, the effect on the critical Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty (SALT II) talks demands unequivocal action by Carter to dispel the "fear of the Reds" climate used to block Israeli demands for exclusive military support.

The latest progress towards SALT II makes the point. Last week the Politico-Military affairs committee of the State Department released a joint communiqué of the U.S.-Soviet standing committee to limit conventional arms sales: "It was agreed that the problem limiting international traffic of conventional arms is urgent...and to solve it is to promote international peace and security and strengthen détente."

Simultaneously, the joint commission on limits of radiological weapons meeting in Geneva achieved what was described as a near breakthrough in limiting new types of weapons of mass destruction. On SALT itself, the commission on disarmament has been announcing agreements on technical aspects covering the U.S. cruise missile, the Soviet backfire bomber, and has set the numbers of allowable strategic missiles and warheads. It is reported that agreement on remaining questions can easily be reached in time to allow Carter and Brezhnev to initial a treaty at a summit conference.

Enter Kissinger, Stage "Left-Right"

Disruption of Soviet-U.S. arms agreements can be traced on virtually every account to Henry Kissinger's hard confrontationist stance against the Soviets on the one hand, and to Ted Kennedy's network of "human rights" dissident campaigns on the other.

Kissinger, in a lying interview last week on NBC-TV, used the Zaire "Cuban-USSR" scare stories to challenge the very principle of negotiations with the Soviets. (See *International Report*.)

Interviews with Senator Kennedy's office, Pat Derian,

head of State Department's human rights division, and Kennedy-linked staffers at the Democratic National Committee reveal that the Kennedy side of the Kissinger operation is to limit all Soviet-U.S. relations strictly to SALT accords eliminating any possibility of trade expansion agreements or similar "entente agreements."

At the same time, Carter's National Security advisor, Zbigniew Brzezinski, has scheduled a trip to China, where he will be holding "global strategic discussions" according to a National Security spokesman. But the word around Washington is that Brzezinski has nothing to offer the Chinese, given the policy fight in Washington, since China's one non-negotiable demand is that the United States pursue a policy of world-wide confrontation toward the Soviets. An NSC spokesman cautioned that nothing should be expected as an immediate result of Brzezinski's trip.

With Soviet Foreign Minister Gromyko due in Washington this week for further negotiations, the possibility for real progress on détente is nevertheless wide open.

Acting as mediator, Chancellor Helmut Schmidt has been in constant communication with President Carter concerning the progress of the 25-year trade deal recently signed by Brezhnev and Schmidt. With an estimated \$3.7 trillion market to be generated through the accords, U.S. high-technology exports are seen as vital to the success of the European initiatives.

Open to Manipulation

However, without active public organizing for such a policy, the Carter Administration will quickly find itself on track toward a new Mideast war, "threats to U.S. oil supplies," and confrontation with the Soviets through Kissinger's "breakaway ally" option of an Israeli preemptive strike against Syria.

Indeed, the Israeli government has already released a statement identifying the Senate vote with "a state of

Once Again... Who's Kissinger Now?

Henry Kissinger has recently lost 30 pounds. Friends say it comes from climbing up the Hill so often to brief GOP Senators on how to link SALT to the fall elections.

An inquiring reporter told us that Fritz Kraemer, Henry's self-confessed mentor thinks Henry may have lost more than fat when he went to China for the first time. "The Chinese are the most intellectually seductive people in the whole world," said the astute Mr. Kraemer. "They simply seduced Henry on his first trip."

Richard Perl, Scoop Jackson's China hand was more satisfied with his own China experience: "I wasn't dealing with the Chinese at that level. I found them more agile than seductive."

At the moment it appeared that the administration would win the vote for its arms sales proposals, Kissinger scurried to give his testimony, offering blackmail and insults rather than open opposition. He promised to deliver the vote if the Administration would offer a large number of additional planes to Israel, and

virtually called the President a liar when the White House claimed sales to Saudi Arabia is a continuation of U.S. policy in the Middle East.

It took no crystal ball to plot Henry's next move. Once the Administration made the concession on 20 additional planes to Israel, Kissinger pulled out the rug and directed the Senate's Israel Lobby to vote against the sales.

Jogging over to the Quadrangle Conference on Energy at Georgetown University Henry simply bleated that the OPEC nations are a threat to the world. Answering the Saudi's proposals to spend billions for U.S. technology with his usual display of feigned omniscience, he lamented, "The interests of all nations are complementary, but that's a platitude and not always so in the short term. The enormous overhang of wealth of the OPEC countries could become a weapon against the world monetary system."