

Editorial

The oligarchy has no clothes

An insight into the dilemma faced by the international oligarchy in its machinations to carry out "controlled disintegration" of the world economy was afforded to *EIR* by an official of the Swiss-based Bank for International Settlements last week. The problem with the central bankers' current plans for handling a monetary crisis, he confessed, is that "they want the patient to contract a mild disease, to be vaccinated to avoid the epidemic. But it's the wrong moment to vaccinate. The patient," the international financial system, "is so weak, it might contract the disease for good, and die."

The simile is apt for the quack-salvers now gathered around the corpse of the Bretton Woods monetary system. The latest august body of doctors to come to our attention is "Kissinger Associates," which has set up for business in New York and Washington. Besides Henry Kissinger, who will be remembered for having worked wonders for the Chilean economy and for the salubrious oil price rise after his 1973 Middle East war, the firm's major operatives include former British Foreign Secretary Lord Carrington, former Arco chairman and current head of the Aspen Institute, Robert O. Anderson, and Pehr C. Gyllenhammar, a member of the Board of Trustees of Aspen and the President of Volvo in Sweden.

Readers of this review need no introduction to the Aspen Institute, even if they don't already share the visceral hatred for Robert O. Anderson's war on water resources and high-technology energy of our readers in the U.S. Western states. It was Aspen that mapped the Khomeini takeover in Iran, it is Aspen that has been actively plotting the overthrow of West German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt, and it is Aspen that recently issued the blueprint for reduplicating the Iran "revolution" south of the Rio Grande.

The fairly obvious conclusion to be drawn is that the circles who run Kissinger have nothing to offer any nation in the world except destruction.

One often hears in developing countries today the wishful delusion: "We must remain credit-worthy." Ostensibly, unless this precious commodity called "credit-worthiness" is protected with utmost zeal, the angered international financial institutions will withhold new is-

suages of credit. But this is a delusion on three counts.

First, during winter 1981-82, the continuation of the Volcker measures in the United States triggered the eruption of a second worldwide "Herbert Hoover" depression. This will lead into a general, chain-reaction collapse of financial institutions by early 1983 at the latest. In these conditions, the external debt of all developing states will be pushed into a condition of irreparable default, and there will be no margin of international lending to provide refinancing or any other significant form of new credit.

Second, as a matter of policy, the principal international financial centers, including the irregular Eurodollar market, have resolved to "de-couple" from further financial commitments to Ibero-America, Africa, and Asia—barring a handful of possible exceptions among the nations of those continents. Rather, the appearance of "threatening not to lend" is being used merely to seduce credulous governments into accepting cruel, arbitrary devaluations and savage austerities.

Third, it is the commitment of forces behind former U.S. Secretary of State Kissinger to destroy the nations and populations of the "South" through scenarios which combine austerity, insurrections, and regional warfare, to unleash the depopulation effects of perpetual "Thirty Years Wars" for decades to come.

Nor will these effects be limited to poor countries; the oligarchy fully intends to turn the Dark Age thus unleashed back into the OECD countries, destroying every nation-state.

The debtor nations must realize they have the upper hand. The mass of non-performing debt gives them the collective edge on the overextended creditors. They can make an offer no advanced-sector banker or government could refuse—and survive. "Either you come to terms and reorganize this debt our way, to generate the credit we need to build up our economies—or you won't get a penny."

Kissinger and Co.'s "debt weapon" is a trick with mirrors—the threat of withholding future credit they don't intend to give anyway. Now, let those who actually hold the debt weapon wield it to bring into being the New World Economic Order.