

of the name, 'the Third River' for the Main Drain. . . .

The 'marsh dwellers' argument refuted

"The foregoing attested technical facts show the gross ignorance and dubious purpose of the special rapporteur's report as it relates to the Main Drain (Third River) project. The project does not specifically target the marshlands or their inhabitants. It is not a new project undertaken with a view to achieving the objectives stated by the special rapporteur, which have no basis in the objective reality of the project.

"The total length of the course taken by the project from its starting-point to its terminus in the Shatt al-Basrah Canal is 565 kilometers, while the section of the marshlands which runs parallel to the river, namely Hawr al-Hammar, is only 40 kilometers long. Hence it appears that the parties behind the special rapporteur's report do not want the small number of those raising water-buffalo and living in the marshlands in backward conditions to develop and become cultivators within a modern framework. They also do not want Iraq to rid itself of the saline water that is destroying its soil. They do not want it to regulate the utilization of its apportionment of water, a large part of which is being withheld in Turkish and Syrian territory in violation of international law.

"The parties that planned the report of the special rapporteur apparently want the Iraqi government to remain unable to provide for the food needs of its citizens, or a vital part of them, from inside Iraq, so that those who have the intention of maintaining the embargo may achieve their objectives at the expense of the security, stability, and sovereignty of Iraq.

"Do states or human rights organizations prevent countries from regulating their water, from building dams, from draining lakes, or from inundating parts of their territory with water that belongs to them?"

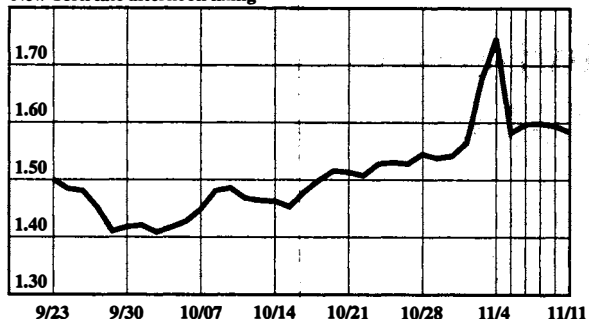
Turkey withholds Euphrates water

"With regard to the question of the paucity of water in the marshlands, this bears no relation whatever to the project. It is well known that the marshlands are for the most part fed by water from the Euphrates River and that the paucity of the water that has been noted has been caused by the great reduction of the water in the Euphrates resulting from the construction and operation of the Kayban and Karakaya dams in Turkey, the Tabqah Dam in Syria, and the project, begun in 1990, to fill the reservoir of the very large Ataturk Dam in Turkey. To prove this objective fact, it suffices to say that since it began to fill the Ataturk Dam, Turkey has imposed on both Syria and Iraq a water quota of 500 cubic meters per second instead of 900. Of this quota, 290 cubic meters per second are presently reaching Iraq instead of the previous 700 cubic meters. It is this that has brought about the paucity of water in the marshlands."

Currency Rates

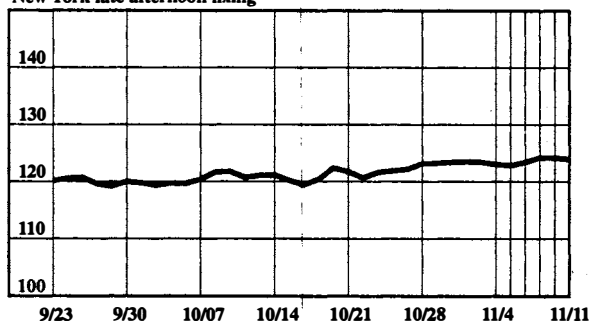
The dollar in deutschemarks

New York late afternoon fixing



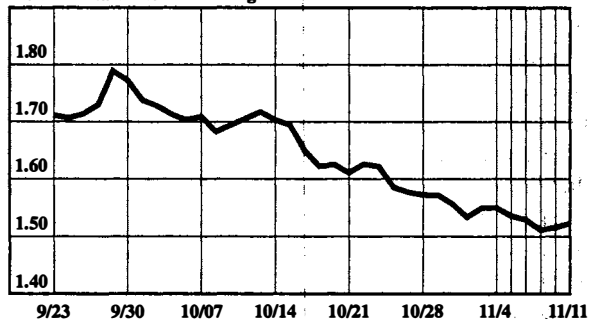
The dollar in yen

New York late afternoon fixing



The British pound in dollars

New York late afternoon fixing



The dollar in Swiss francs

New York late afternoon fixing

