

date. This strategic thrust must be, most appropriately, accompanied by an offer to immediately negotiate the establishment of a new monetary system modelled upon the International Development Bank proposal.

Since a majority of responsible forces of the advanced-capitalist sector, including anti-monetarist tendencies within Atlanticist ranks, have advanced certainty of the feasibility of the International Development Bank as a means for rapid global industrial recovery, such an apparently hard line by the developing-sector will evoke agreeable—if sometimes grudging—responses from among all sane forces of the

advanced-capitalist sector. At that point, the world will have escaped the clutches of the present depression and the other principal associated horrors, including the growing threat of general war.

In the interim, until such comprehensive measures can be put into effect, it is necessary to employ tactical improvisations to offset and unbalance last-ditch desperation atrocities attempted by the insane faction among the Atlanticists. An announced pre-commitment to the oil-blockade penalty has been recommended to that latter short-term purpose.

## Official Soviet Government Statement on Mideast

*NEW YORK, June 9 (NSIPS) — The following is a full translation of a statement by the Soviet government on the Middle East situation released today by Tass, the Soviet news agency.*

In the course of the latest developments, the events in Lebanon have become more and more tragic. The fratricidal war in which Arabs are fighting against Arabs is becoming ever more bloody. The number of victims from amongst the peaceful population — women, elderly people, and children — is increasing. The events in Lebanon extend beyond the borders of this country; this is proven by, among other things, France's statement in relation to the possibility of sending a contingent of French troops into Lebanon. The United States' naval forces continue to be held in the vicinity of the Lebanese coast. The Soviet Union considers that the situation in Lebanon and the Mideast as a whole could become still more complicated if no end is put to the attempted foreign interventions into Lebanese affairs.

The Syrian Arab Republic on its part has repeatedly issued statements that the mission of the Syrian troops sent to Lebanon consists in aiding in the termination of the blood-letting war. The fact is remarkable, nonetheless, that up to this day blood is still being spilled in Lebanon, and indeed the flow is still greater. At this time, when the Lebanese events threaten to grow into a still greater international conflict, the Soviet Union calls upon all countries to disregard any action which runs contrary to the principles of respect for independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity, so that

these internationally recognized principles can also be applied fully to Lebanon.

The crucial prerequisite for this is an end to the blood-letting. It is necessary for all sides who, in one way or another, are involved in the Lebanese events to immediately stop the shooting. As for the powers who are threatening a direct military intervention into Lebanese affairs under the pretense of their interest in the Lebanese situation, in this connection the Soviet Union sees itself compelled to make the following statement:

The Mideast region is situated much more closely to the Soviet Union than to those who are voicing such threats, and at all events it is no less interested in how the situation in and around Lebanon is developing, and how it will develop in the future. No one should disregard this. In the leading Soviet circles it is considered necessary to point out one further aspect of the events in Lebanon. As everybody knows, there are hundreds of thousands of Palestinians on Lebanese territory, who have now found accommodation in this country and who are now in the ranks of the Palestinian resistance movement, continuing their courageous fight for their legitimate, maximum rights, for the Arabs' common interests in eliminating the consequences of Israeli aggression. And what is happening to them now? They have likewise been sucked into the bloody fratricidal war. The Soviet Union expects the sides immediately involved in the events in Lebanon, as well as all other sides who are conscious of the danger of a further peaking of the situation, to immediately display proper responsibility.