

The IMF way to World War III

No technology for the Third World, says Secretary of State Vance

At a recent NATO symposium, General Alexander Haig and NATO Secretary-General Joseph Luns echoed each other—and the Royal Institute for International Affairs—by advocating that the military power of the Atlantic Alliance be projected into the so-called Third World.

This scheme, long advocated by Haig even though it is technically a violation of the NATO mandate, is not primarily aimed at confronting Soviet power and influence. Its chief objective is the ruthless enforcing of strict austerity regimes throughout the developing sector in conjunction with the conditional credit approach of the International Monetary Fund.

In effect, NATO—in Haig's vision—will be the debt collection agency of the IMF.

Such a course can only lead to a thermonuclear showdown with the Soviet Union that will leave North America a smoking rubble heap. For to enforce the type of austerity policy required to maintain the solvency of the IMF and the City of London must necessarily require the establishment of harsh, Chile-style dictatorships throughout Africa, Latin America, and Asia.

But—as pointed out in *The Danger of General War*, written in 1976 by U.S. Labor Party Chairman Lyndon H. LaRouche—such a policy, even before it is fully implemented, will represent an intolerable strategic provocation to the Soviet command.

In the following pages we review some of the strategic areas in which the London-NATO leadership has already begun to put into effect the strategy for “appropriate technology” and World Bank-style “rural development.” Most graphic is the case of Africa, where entire regions of that continent are being reduced to locust-infested, drought-stricken hells, inhabited only by marauding bands of tribal warlords and mercenary armies. The destruction of the immense industrial potential of the Indian subcontinent and Iran is also a case in point.

Equally exemplary is the sustained economic holocaust that has swept through South America's “south-

ern cone” of Brazil, Argentina, and Chile, covered in this issue's ECONOMIC SURVEY.

In a recent speech, Secretary of State Cyrus Vance explicitly endorsed the IMF perspective for the developing sector. Said Vance on March 30, “The developing sector must realize that making demands which the industrial nations cannot meet will produce international acrimony, not progress.” He warned the Third World against “endless debates on sterile texts”—an unobvious reference to calls in the Third World and in the West alike for a “new international economic order.” Major excerpts of the Vance speech appear below.

Reading the map

A quick glance across the map reveals the Haig strategy for IMF control in the Third World.

Perhaps the best example is the proposal, which has been floated from time to time in NATO circles in recent years, for the establishment of a South Atlantic Treaty Organization. This organization is meant to link South Africa, Brazil, and Argentina in an alliance with NATO. Its purpose is to provide the framework in which African states like Zaire, Zambia, Nigeria, and so forth can be brought firmly under the control of the IMF. By institutionalizing the leverage for NATO intervention in Africa, Haig is seeking to have a ready-made apparatus to breaking the resistance of key African political forces presently committed to the development perspective of the anti-IMF European Monetary System.

The SATO proposal is one of many. Recently, the Egyptian-Israeli treaty has created the basis for yet another regional bloc, the proposed Middle East Treaty Organization. Under this proposal, strongly backed by Haig and the Zionist lobby, Egypt would be assigned a role as policeman for North and East Africa—from Libya through Chad, Sudan, and Ethiopia into Uganda and Zaire—while Israeli intelligence would step up its activities throughout the continent of Africa.

Then, crucial to the METO bloc, such countries as

Turkey, Jordan, and the Arabian Gulf states would be compelled to join the alliance. Turkey, for instance, in the midst of a bitter battle with the IMF, is slated for destabilization by the NATO apparatus preparatory to a military coup that would entrench the pro-NATO faction in Ankara.

Further along the arc of crisis—Brzezinski's term for the Islamic region and the Indian subcontinent—Iran, Pakistan, Afghanistan, and India have already been severely destabilized and their economic crises pushed to the brink of catastrophe. The scene in Iran—where millions have been thrown out of work and the fanatic government of Ayatollah Khomeini, and his mobs are intent on destroying industry and depopulating Iran's cities in a "ruralization" program—is being held up as the future for the Indian subcontinent as well. The murder of Pakistan's Prime Minister Bhutto has already begun to trigger the "Iran treatment" there.

Antinuclear conspiracy

The key to the implementation of the NATO-IMF strategy for the developing sector is the destruction of the option for nuclear-power development in those areas. Although several countries in the Third World have highly ambitious programs for the development of nuclear energy, including research facilities and reprocessing centers, the Carter Administration, almost from its first day of office in 1977, has worked tirelessly against nuclear power for the developing world.

Now, several events have combined to hit hard at the plans of the Third World.

First, the sabotage of the Harrisburg Three Mile Island reactor last week has touched off a predictable campaign by the foes of nuclear power, including the environmentalist extremists and zero-growthers. In addition, the terrorist bombing of a French nuclear fabrication plant by Israeli intelligence commandos—a factory where a French company was constructing two nuclear power stations for Iraq—has raised in Europe a similar antinuclear campaign.

Meanwhile, the ostentatious cancellation of U.S. aid to Pakistan because of that country's possession of a nuclear device will be used everywhere as reason not to allow Third World countries access to nuclear technology—even though, according to intelligence sources, the Pakistanis acquired their atomic weapons capability as a gift from the British!

And Iran's nuclear program—by far the most advanced of any Third World country—has fallen apart in the wake of the Khomeini revolution.

—Robert Dreyfuss

Vance: the IMF's policy must prevail

On March 30, Secretary of State Cyrus Vance delivered a major policy speech to the Northwest Regional Conference on the Emerging International Order in Seattle, Wa. Titled "America's Commitment to Third World Development," Vance's speech gave carte blanche to the International Monetary Fund to endorse its policies of austerity throughout the developing sector. Excerpts from Secretary Vance's speech follow.

Ellipses in parenthesis denoted material that has been deleted by Executive Intelligence Review; other ellipses are as in Secretary Vance's text. Large subheads are added by EIR.

These past weeks have been a time to deal with immediate diplomatic issues of extraordinary importance to our nation. Today, I want to speak about an issue that may seem less immediate, but is no less important: our approach to the economic future of the developing nations.