

Background to Hilex Food Control Maneuvers

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Integral to the entire Rockefeller-NATO Hilex 75 nuclear confrontation strategy is the use of the U.S.' so-called food weapon — via National Security Council-orchestrated U.S. grain export embargo against the Soviet Union and developing countries. The actual decision to impose the embargo dates back at least to the NATO Shapex 75 exercises in mid-May, the dry-run for the current live operation.

Following Shapex, a rapid-fire series of international deployments set the stage for the Hilex 75 food control operation.

Shapex

Participating in Shapex 75 was a representative of Lester Brown's World Watch Institute think-tank based in Washington, D.C., and funded by the Rockefellers. It was set up in early 1975 to study the "non-military aspects of national security," such as food and population control, weather modification, and deforestation.

Simultaneous with the Shapex 75 deployment, a closely guarded meeting of top Rockefeller agents took place on May 15 in Rensselaerville, N.Y. to plan their intervention into the then-upcoming United Nations' Special Session on Development and the World Food Council. Among the participants were economist Robert Triffin, World Watch and former U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) secretary Orvill Freeman, C. Fred Bergsten of the Brookings Institute, and Manuel Perez-Guerrero, Venezuela's Minister for International Economic Affairs. The chief outcome of this gathering was a renewed propaganda push around the old Kissinger plan for an international grain reserve as the key feature of an overall drive for top-down NSC control over world commodity flows.

Hilex Food Control Launched

On May 28, at the IEA-OECD meetings in Paris, Kissinger reiterated his call for a 30 million ton international grain reserve in deliberate counterposition to Third World demands for genuine food aid linked to agricultural development and debt moratoria along the lines of the International Caucus of Labor Committees' International Development Bank proposal. Kissinger's demand that the Soviets participate in this "food security system" was obvious blackmail, effectively requesting the Soviets to concede control over their own food supplies to a

supra-national U.S.-controlled authority!

At the June World Food Council (WFC) meeting, Iraq, Algeria, and other pro-development Third World governments successfully, but only temporarily, stymied this Rockefeller-Kissinger food control offensive. Charging that the World Food Council was controlled by the U.S., they demanded the resignation of WFC head John Hannah, a former Agency for International Development official and Rockefeller family intimate.

With the grain reserve plan temporarily relegated to the back burner, the Rockefeller forces turned to their second option: the direct sabotage of U.S. grain shipments to the Soviet Union. Subsequent deployments to wield the food weapon against the Soviet economy are a matter of public record, reviewed here summarily.

Cutoff Soviet Grain

On Sept. 3, the NSC officially took over control of U.S. grain trade, the source of over one-half of world grain supplies, in an operation conceived and directed by the State Department and Secretary of Labor John Dunlop. The operation was kicked off in late July when, at the bidding of these forces, the labor faker agents of Teddy Gleason's reactionary International Longshoreman's Association (ILA) voted at their convention to boycott any and all further grain shipments to the Soviet Union on the excuse that these shipments were inflationary. In early August at the AFL-CIO convention, AFL-CIO Secretary Treasurer and Trilateral Commission member Lane Kirkland persuaded the AFL-CIO to announce its backing of the Gleason boycott. In early August at the AFL-CIO convention, AFL-CIO President George Meany reiterated the boycott threat and longshoremen in the key port of Houston began implementing the boycott. This de facto boycott was subsequently pronounced to be official for the administration. Dunlop later claimed full responsibility for the announcement, pending Secretary of State Kissinger's approval, in an interview with the Washington Post.

Interestingly, the Washington Post reported at the same time that the Policy Planning staff of the State Department had decided on the embargo in secret meetings as early as August 1975. According to the Post, the

State Department decision was made on the basis of a report prepared by Wellesley College professor Marshall Goldman on the vulnerability of the Soviet economy to such action. Reportedly Goldman is currently in consultation with the State Department officials concerning a second embargo.

NSC Takes Over

Agriculture Department

On Sept. 11, Undersecretary of State William Robinson was dispatched to Moscow to begin grain trade talks with the Soviets. In late September, however, the State Department **unilaterally** embargoed all grain exports to Poland, an announcement made while the uninformed U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Earl Butz was negotiating on agricultural trade with Polish officials. The State Department simultaneously revealed that the U.S. was demanding a long-term grain-for-oil commitment from the Soviets. In response, Senator George McGovern (D-S.D.) vigorously protested against these maneuvers, which he termed a State Department-Dunlop takeover of policy matters normally under the control of the Department of Agriculture. Butz' reputation as a "free trader" resistant to export controls is well-known and clearly points up the undermining of the USDA's authority by the NSC.

In early October, a high official of the Export-Import Bank admitted to IPS that Kissinger's policy was to "force the Soviets to change their economic and political priorities" and that the grain-for-oil deal was "a private operation" run by Kissinger, Schlesinger and the think tanks, adding that the "deal is testing the waters, really."

Food Weapon Psy-War

Beginning in early December with the official activation of Hilex 75, a coordinate psy-war campaign was begun, involving the press, key Rockefeller cabal figures, and presidential candidates. A second grain embargo is now in the works, this time aimed not only against the Soviets but against OPEC and the pro-development Third World countries as well.

* On Dec. 3, at the Washington, D.C. Pacem in Terris conference, Robert O. Anderson, the president of Atlantic Richfield, stated the food control policy succinctly: "The U.S. has politicized food in the same way that OPEC has politicized petroleum." This statement came on the heels of presidential candi-

date and Georgia Governor Jimmy Carter's recommendation that the U.S. withhold its grain supplies in the event of another Arab oil embargo. Clear evidence indicates that the Rockefeller faction is, in fact, planning to provoke such an oil embargo, as part of the Hilex international manipulation.

* On Dec. 6 the New York Times and Baltimore Sun announced the relaunching of the August-September grain boycott operation in front page articles mooted the cutoff of shipments of grain already purchased under contract by the Soviet Union. According to these press sources, the threatened cutoff was due to Soviet refusal to extend a 1972 freight rate agreement whereby they agreed to pay \$16 per ton above the world market rates for U.S. shipments.

* Simultaneously ILA head Gleason threatened a renewed boycott, a threat accompanied by massive press trumpeting of Soviet crop failure. The bulk of the Soviet purchase, 8 million tons of a total 13 million, still remains to be shipped.

* On Dec. 5 the London Daily Telegraph editorialized that the USSR's grain crop was the worst Soviet economic disaster since World War II and questioned the rationale of trading with a country that "diverts so many resources for war production." In a similarly intentioned editorial, the London Daily Express urged the U.S., Canada and Australia not to bail out the Soviets, but to bring home through a food shortage how incompetent their leaders are."

* In a Dec. 7 New York Times feature Lester Brown declared that food will be a major topic at the Paris North-South conference. "Future access to food supplies is occupying more and more time of political leaders," Brown said. The article predicted the imminent operation of a U.S.-Canadian-run "global food rationing program."

More than current grain supplies are at stake. The sabotage of grain exports to the Soviet Union and Third World nations would create a glut in the domestic market, immediately collapsing the prices which U.S. farmers receive for their grain. Farm prices are already declining due to the worldwide depression and reduced exports. Wheat prices alone have fallen approximately 20 per cent since late August. If exports are further sabotaged, farmers will be driven into bankruptcy and the 1976 spring planting will be jeopardized.

State Department Unleashes Economic Warfare on World Shipping Trade

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The trade-starved world shipping industry has been targetted for stripping down and regimentation under top-down State Department-NATO control in a multi-front operation directed squarely against the Soviet Union and key pro-development Third World countries. The economic warfare drive is presently being run from the State Department's Regional Political-Economic and Military (RPE-RPM) "boiler room"—Henry Kissinger's hub of NATO Hilex operations — and is coordinated with provocative blasts on the Soviet "naval threat" emanating from NATO in Brussels.

Warfare Fronts

*RPE hatchmen are cooperating with Chase Manhattan Bank, Morgan Guaranty Trust and Citibank in ongoing private meetings with NATO-connected independent tanker owners to enforce an Intergovernmental Maritime Consultative Organization (IMCO)-sponsored "pollution control" scheme to reduce capacity by 30 to 50 per cent on a tanker-by-tanker basis throughout the industry. The scheme, refused by the tanker industry only at the price of immediate bankruptcy, is calculated to drive up rates and wreck havoc in the industry at the same time. State Department Maritime Affairs chief and RPE operative Richard Bank, who will lead the U.S. delegation at an otherwise secret, January OECD Maritime meeting where the IMCO scheme is expected to be finalized, is warning colleagues that the plan will cause a "major uproar" and will especially provoke the OPEC countries. This will provide a convenient pretext for the Rockefeller-run Saudi Arabians to self-righteously declare a new oil embargo hoax as per the Hilex script.

*Hoked-up hysteria about the "threat" of the Soviet bloc merchant fleet is being liberally wielded to enforce stringent rationalization and strict obedience to State Department marching orders throughout the shipping industry. Yesterday the Council of European and Japanese National Shippers Association (CENSA) issued a report in London charging the Soviet bloc with the "penetration" of the traditional Western-controlled shipping trade "in pursuit of political objectives," and demanded "concerted ac-

tion by Western governments to preserve the traditional free enterprise international shipping system." The CENSA report followed on the heels of the NATO Military Committee's noisy charges earlier this week in Brussels that the Soviet Union intended to establish port facilities in Nigeria and Angola for the purpose of "cutting the lifeline" between North America and Europe and the oil-producing countries. NATO's groundless charges were coupled with a call for complete integration of European civilian with NATO military transport.

*This week the NATO-connected Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) summoned Japanese officials to Paris to discuss "overcapacity problems," in a continuing effort to cut off the supply of Japanese ships to the Soviet bloc and leading pro-development Third World countries. Japan has recently concluded agreements to provide ships to India and Iraq, and is presently negotiating a \$1 billion shipbuilding contract with the Soviet Union. The Japanese, who have received the bulk of orders for new ships over the past four months, have been charged with "breaking OECD rules" on government subsidies to the shipbuilding industry.

*According to OECD Maritime Affairs controller Bank, the OECD is also "keeping an eye on" the attempt by eight Latin American nations headed by Mexico and Cuba to develop an independent Caribbean fleet. State Department sources report that Bank's deputy was in Mexico City today.

The HUB

The coordinated NATO-OECD-State Department assault on shipping is run through IMCO, an innocuous "environmental and safety" UN governmental treaty organization otherwise run from the office of Thomas Enders' Director of Maritime Affairs at the State Department, Richard Bank. Bank is State's controlling link to the OECD, handling all maritime deployments in connection with the RPE-RPM "boiler room." Sources confirm that IMCO, "headquarters" in London, operates a top-secret military security monitoring service for major shipping companies on a day-to-day basis.

Bank has acknowledged to insiders