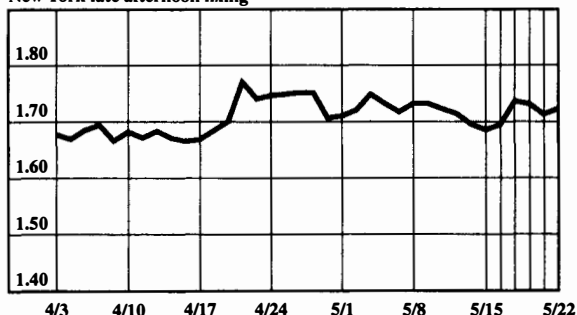


## Currency Rates

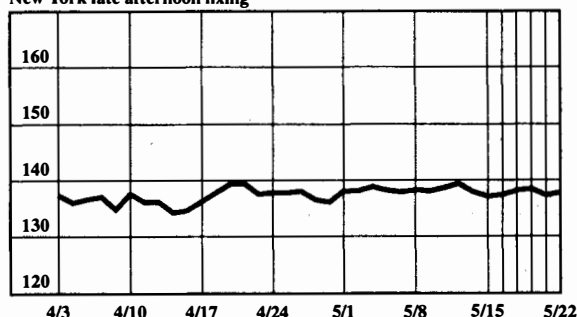
### The dollar in deutschemarks

New York late afternoon fixing



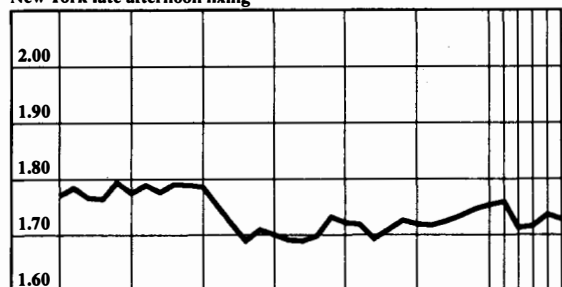
### The dollar in yen

New York late afternoon fixing



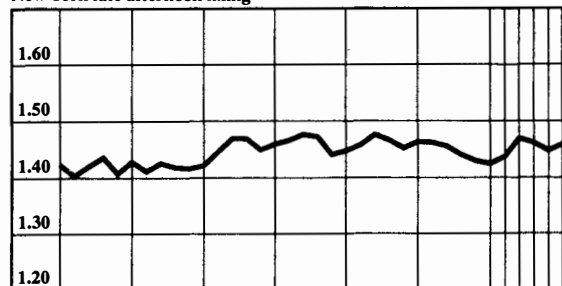
### The British pound in dollars

New York late afternoon fixing



### The dollar in Swiss francs

New York late afternoon fixing



the children in Iraq?

**Skov-Hansen:** Our very first contact in Baghdad was with the Saddam Children's Hospital, the main children's hospital in Iraq, where we spoke to the director and the chief surgeon. They were extremely good contacts, because they were very open and kind. In this way we also got a good sense of the situation in the country as a whole, because the children were referred to the hospital not only from Baghdad, but also from the rest of the country. When we were there the situation was chaotic. The hospital was overcrowded and there was no medicine. Later, we visited the hospital several times, when we had new shipments. Yes, now they have started to receive medicine and the things they need to help the children, but there are still a lot of reports of diarrhea and intestinal problems, mainly from the polluted drinking water. The situation in the hospital is better and some of the supplies can be further distributed, but the number of cases they receive show that the water supplies are far from being satisfactory.

**EIR:** Looking at the proportions of the problems in Iraq, Iran, and Kuwait, can this be handled by the private relief organizations alone, or do we have to involve the Western governments?

**Skov-Hansen:** There is no way that we can handle it on a private basis. We have never said that we could. We could never reach anything that resembles effective help for Iraq. Danchurchaid couldn't; 120 relief organizations couldn't, because we are talking about immense resources that are needed. What we have participated in—and I would say in an effective manner as a voluntary private organization—has been a limited first aid. But in the long run that is no help. What is needed is a totally different kind of effective help and reconstruction. Maybe we have saved some children, like at the Saddam Children's Hospital—which now functions and can take care of the patients, which it couldn't do when we arrived on March 7, thanks to the medicine and food which we and others have supplied. That is what we call first aid. But we have to reach the stage where all the health institutions and the hospitals, so to speak, make themselves superfluous. That is not happening. Of course, there will be children hospitalized even under normal circumstances. But the kind of diseases they are getting now, the cases of diarrhea and malnutrition, are due to an abnormal and very catastrophic situation.

These are clear signs that something else has to be rectified, and that is the food situation—the rebuilding of the domestic agriculture, and more than anything else, that means imports of pesticides, fertilizers, and seed grain. They do not even have that in the area to get the agriculture functioning again. In addition, they have to import food. Probably 40-60-70% of the food has to be imported.

**EIR:** And that means lifting the sanctions?

**Skov-Hansen:** Yes.