

## Editorial

### *Let's start the digging*

It is very important that the recent meeting between Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres and Jordan's Crown Prince Hassan move to a stage of implementation of the agreed-upon joint infrastructure development.

That the meeting between the representatives of the two governments, on Oct. 4, was held in Washington and included President Clinton is a hopeful sign. Notwithstanding that solving the Northern Ireland "problem" and progress in establishing normal relations between South and North Korea are also extremely important policy objectives of the Clinton administration, establishing a durable Mideast peace is a crucial step in what LaRouche has called building the bridge from Hell to Purgatory.

After meeting with the U.S. President for an hour on Oct. 3, the two foreign ministers announced a series of joint ventures that Clinton called "the building blocks of a modern peace between these two ancient lands." Readers of *EIR* will recognize the projects which were enumerated in a press release from the meeting. One such is to be a conference to explore possibilities for building a canal linking the Red Sea and the Dead Sea.

Associated with this are various schemes to ease the region's critical water shortage. The obvious way is through desalination which should go hand-in-hand with building power and transportation infrastructure. On Aug. 31, 1990, *EIR* carried a major article by Lyndon LaRouche in which he addressed the thorny issue of a peace plan in the true interests of the Arab states and Israel. Tragically, his proposal ran counter to the Thatcher-Bush geopolitical game plan, which was based upon fostering enmity among the Arab states as well as between them and Israel.

It is useful to remind ourselves of LaRouche's words at that time. "Without a policy of economic development, the Arabs and Israelis *have no common basis for political agreement: no common interest*. Such a policy would be opposite to the physiocratic idea fostered by the British upon the Arabs, that their role is to pump oil in exchange for the opportunity to *import technology*."

Establishment of a financial basis for the technology agreements now in place, will be helped by the creation of regional economic and financial institutes, modeled on the way the European Common Market worked—which was also mentioned in the communiqué from the Oct. 4 meeting. The kind of large-scale development being discussed is also crucial for creating a cultural rebirth in the area.

What is needed is not merely the importation of technology from Israel, or from Germany or the United States, to develop Palestine, but creating the opportunity especially for *young* men and women, from Israel and the Arab States, to actively participate in building a future for generations to come.

Again to quote from LaRouche's 1990 feature, on the subject of a durable peace for the Mideast: "The essential principle . . . is the relationship of man to nature. Man is unlike any other creature, in that man's relationship to nature is defined by the potential for creative reason in man.

"By creative reason we mean specifically, the powers of the discovery, which are associated with the discovery of valid, new scientific principles—valid, new principles of natural science. We also mean principles of discovery, creativity, as they're associated with the classical forms of art. But it's sufficient, for our purposes here, to identify, essentially, the notion of scientific and technological progress.

"Man's history—essentially, his successful history of survival—is determined by the exercise of this power of scientific creative reason: the ability of man to generate, to transmit, and to assimilate efficiently, advances, or lessening of imperfection, in man's knowledge of the principles of nature."

It is imperative that physical progress be made now on some of the major projects being discussed. It is necessary to deal with the endemic economic problems in the region, not only to heal the wounds created by 50 years of hostilities; but to create the climate of hope in which creativity can flourish. One cannot simply pluck the fruit from the tree of knowledge, as the Bible tells us. We must earn the right to eat the fruit by the sweat of our brows.