

worth of serum stocks, while another had only aspirin to dispense. Detection of sugar in the urine, a traditional test for diabetes, is now being conducted at these hospitals by having the patient urinate on the ground to see if ants would be attracted to the puddle. Said one nurse, "I don't know what we'll do when cholera arrives. What I am sure of is that thousands are going to die." Another commented ironically: "We have dengue, malaria, rubeola, Sandinista mobs, measles, tuberculosis, and soon, cholera. The seven plagues of Egypt have descended upon us."

In Peru, a resurgence of the cholera epidemic that claimed thousands of lives earlier this year is being predicted by the authorities when summer begins next December. Although the epidemic had slowed somewhat in the Andean highlands and coastal regions over the past few months, it has continued unabated in the tropical lowlands, and remains endemic throughout the country. Lima still reports 20-30 cholera cases a day.

Peru's former Health Minister Dr. Uriel García insists that the reduced intensity of the epidemic has absolutely nothing to do with government measures taken to fight the disease. "It has gone by itself, absolutely by itself. [The government] took no measures to supply Lima slums with emergency sources of clean drinking water, and feeble government educational efforts accomplished nothing." García predicted that "recurrent surges of cholera will be inevitable" until the billions of dollars required to build water and sewage infrastructure are allocated.

A 'malthusian' mentality

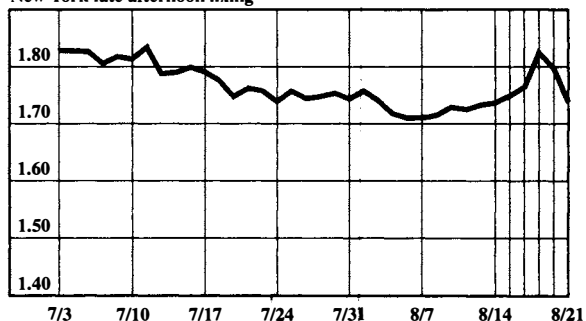
That it is not entirely a question of dollars invested, but also a question of drastically altering government priorities, was emphasized by an article published by journalist Antonio Cerda Ardura in the latest edition of the Mexican magazine *Siempre*. Cerda denounces the population control obsession of the superpowers toward, especially, the Third World, and suggests that lack of funding for sanitation infrastructure, adequate housing and medical care, and so forth, are the deliberate products of the "malthusian mentality" behind the international credit institutions, which are as interested in collecting their debt as they are in de-populating the underdeveloped nations of the world. To accomplish these goals, writes Cerda, "it has been indispensable to create more misery and to turn the 'rabble' in the countryside into a breeding ground for epidemics; that is, to conduct virtual biological warfare."

Cerda also documents the work of a task force set up in 1974 by "the controversial U.S. economist Lyndon H. LaRouche," who warned that the continued enforcement of the austerity policies of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund would lead to "biological holocaust" in the developing sector. Cerda concludes that the outbreak of cholera in Peru and in the rest of Ibero-America reflects a deliberate IMF plan to "Africanize" the continent.

Currency Rates

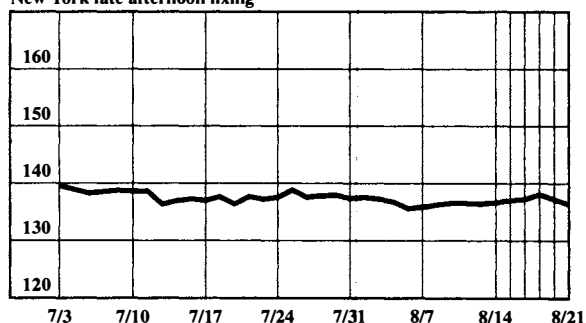
The dollar in deutschemarks

New York late afternoon fixing



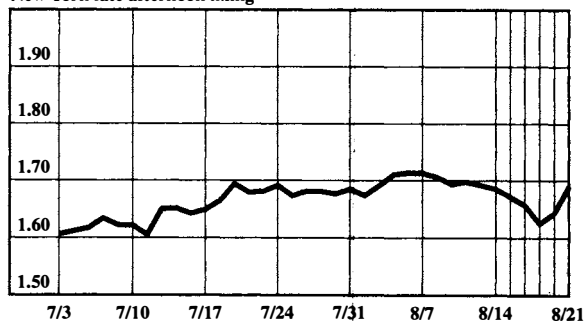
The dollar in yen

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

