

And, as long as that is so, as long as nobody on either side can make a concession without losing his political head or his physical head at home, then from our point of view this is something maybe you can contain; maybe you can handle it and maybe you can deal with it in some way; but it's nothing you can cut through and find a solution to.

QUESTION: Is there any political reaction in the oil-producing countries of the Middle East, to Russia's efforts for separate sale of oil to the West?

DR. CAMPBELL: No. They are obviously concerned and unhappy about it, but it's hard to find any way in which it has directly effected their relations with the Soviet Union. I think it's part of the picture that they have felt, I think, in the past few years more than ever, their dependence on Western Europe as opposed to the picture a few years before where everything seemed to be pointing to Western Europe's dependence on them.

It has certainly been shown, the fact of a change in the price, for example, of oil on the world price, can have such an effect on their whole national income and their economies, a thing which they don't really control, themselves. And the fact of Russia taking, in effect, part of the Western European market has not been a particularly happy event for the Middle Eastern countries for whom that has been the market, any more than it has been for the international oil companies themselves.

But it is a rather interesting commentary, it seems to me, on what some of the fears were about Russia and Middle Eastern oil at the time of Suez and before, when we somehow thought that maybe the Russians and