

Outside the palace, however, in the army and among Egypt's population, a guillotine for President Sadat is being fashioned by those educated in Nasserism.

Egypt without Islam?

The sudden about-face in Sadat's long-held commitment to a comprehensive peace settlement in favor of a separate pact with Israel is an assault on the Egyptian national character. More than 1,000 years after the founding of Cairo by Islamic humanists, Egypt is being forced through a dramatic transformation aimed at creating a new mythology: namely, that the real Egypt is the Pharaonic-Ptolemaic-Coptic Egypt, the ancient Egypt of the Cult of Isis. Like the spurious Falangist Nazi argument in neighboring Lebanon about that country's Phoenician roots, Egyptian pseudo-intellectuals like Louis Awad, a Copt, are arguing in *Al Ahram* that Egypt "is not an Arab state," mimicking an intelligence report circulated by the British Bank of the Middle East and Britain's SIS that "only 8 percent of Egyptians are actually Arabs."

The threat, however remote in reality, that Egypt might abandon the Arab world — withdrawing fully one-third of the entire Arab population from the bloc of Arab states — has solidified Arab opposition to the Camp David framework, uniting the conservative Saudi Arabians with Iraq and Libya.

An analysis of the new Egyptian Cabinet, put together by our Middle East desk, indicates the depth of the radical turn by Anwar Sadat:

The new Prime Minister Mustafa Khalil, also the first chairman of the fledgling National Democratic Party, has been given the task of steering Egypt out of the Arab bloc. According to the Associated Press, Khalil was the architect of the anti-Soviet tilt by Sadat, beginning with the 1972 expulsion of Soviet military advisers. In the 1960s, Khalil twice resigned from minor government posts in protest against then-President Nasser's cooperation with the USSR. In a commentary on Oct. 2, immediately after Khalil was named Prime Minister, Radio Jerusalem reported that his primary job would be to lessen Egypt's dependence on Saudi Arabia! The Saudis, of course, are the bitterest opponents of both the Zionist establishment and the British.

Khalil's NDP, which was founded in cooperation with the British-Zionist section of the Socialist International, has been invited by West Germany's Willy Brandt to attend the Nov. 3 Vancouver meeting of the International. It was Brandt, of course, who together with Austria's Bruno Kreisky put forward the "Brandt-Kreisky plan" for an Egypt-Israel separate deal during a Vienna meeting between Sadat and Israeli Labour Party Chairman Shimon Peres. It was that plan, worked out in coordination with Kissinger, that became the basis for the Camp David "framework."

The new Deputy Prime Minister, Makram Obeid, a largely unknown figure, is a Copt — the first Copt to hold such a high position in Moslem Egypt.

The new Foreign Minister Boutros Boutros-Ghali, also a Copt, served briefly as Foreign Minister in 1977, after then Foreign Minister Ismail Fahmi resigned in the wake of Sadat's Jerusalem visit. Then, when Foreign Minister Ibrahim Kamel — who was a confidante of West German Chancellor Schmidt — resigned on the eve of the initialling of the Camp David pact, Boutros-Ghali was called on to serve once again. He is reportedly an extremely wealthy man with ties to Europe's Black nobility, and he is married to an Italian Jew.

Kameleddine Hassan Ali, the new Defense Minister, is a long-time veteran of Egypt's secret intelligence and internal security service. A nondescript man, he replaces Gen. Abdel-Ghani Gamassi, the former highly influential Minister of War. Gamassi, who refused to attend the Camp David meeting in a show of opposition to Sadat, was offered a consolation post of "Presidential adviser," but he did not accept.

Also ousted along with Gamassi was Chief of Staff Gen. Mohammed Ali Fahmi, a friend of Gamassi's.

Another key Egyptian official replaced was Education Minister Mustafa Hilmi, a leading humanist-scientist. His replacement, Hassan Mohammed Ismail, is a member of Egypt's "Apollo Club." Along with Tuhaimi, Osman el-Baz, and a handful of others, these are the men who will attempt to break off Egypt's commitment to the Arab world.

—Robert Dreyfuss

The Egyptian nation against Sadat

While the negotiations proceed in Washington, opposition among high-level circles in Egypt to President Anwar Sadat's policies is on the rise. Especially significant is reported unrest within the military, given impetus by last week's refusal of former War Minister Mohammed Gamassi to accept an appointed post as a "special presidential advisor."

A survey of international press on the Egyptian domestic situation reports:

London Guardian, from Cairo, Oct. 11:

...Criticisms of the Camp David agreements and continued Egyptian-Israeli dealings is spreading here.

The Lawyers Syndicate has held a meeting to protest against Camp David and Egypt's unilateral peace with Israel. Three pro-Western members of the 1952

Revolution Command Council wrote to President Sadat denouncing Camp David which, they said, violated the principles of Arab nationalism.

Earlier, the Left-wing Progressive Unionists, attacked the agreements. In their sermons, sheikhs criticised the accords for failing to mention Arab Jerusalem. The Muslim Brotherhood did likewise.

President Nasser's daughter, Hoda Abdel Nasser, submitted a personal statement to the People's Assembly, criticizing the agreements point by point. She can be said to be representative of a large section of Egyptian youth.

The most recent attacks came from three members of the People's Assembly, during a debate on Monday night. All objected to establishing normal relations with Israel before total Israeli evacuation of Sinai, and to the long timetable for evacuation.

They expressed fears also of an Israeli takeover of the Egyptian economy, and demanded that it should be protected

Iraq News Agency, from Beirut (on a memorandum to Sadat by four members of the 1952 Revolutionary Command Council which created the Egyptian republic), Oct. 8:

The memorandum ridiculed As-Sadat's claims of restoring Egyptian sovereignty over Sinai or achieving any breakthrough for the deteriorating Egyptian economy which was the outcome of As-Sadat's policy. It further charged the As-Sadat regime with discarding Egypt's pan-Arab responsibilities. The memorandum was signed by surviving members of the Command Council that led the 23d July Revolution in Egypt, namely Husayn as-Shafi'i, Zakariya Muhyi ad-Din, Kamal ad-Din Husayn and 'Abd al-Latif Baghdad.

Emirates News Agency, Abu Dhabi, Oct. 5:

During his meeting in Abu Dhabi today with members of the Palestinian community, Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, revealed that he had received a letter from former Egyptian Foreign Minister Muhammad Ibrahim Kamil explaining what happened at Camp David and affirming that he was not responsible for its results. 'Arafat said that Kamil, who resigned his post immediately after the signing of the two Camp David agreements, explained in the letter the reason which made him resign.

'Arafat also said that he had received a similar letter from former Egyptian chief of Staff Lt. Gen. Muhammad 'Ali Fahmi. 'Arafat said that Lieutenant General Fahmi, who was appointed as military adviser by President Anwar as-Sadat the day before yesterday, has not appeared publicly since President as-Sadat's initiative.

Kuwait Ar-Ra'y Al-'Amm, Oct. 7:

Well-informed diplomatic sources have told *Ar-Ra'y Al-'Amm* that the intelligence service of a foreign

state has informed the Egyptian leadership that a plot was being prepared within the army to overthrow the regime.

The sources said the removal of Gen 'Abd al-Ghani al-Jamasi and Gen Muhammad 'Ali Fahmi from office was connected with the information received by the Egyptian leadership. The sources also said that the Egyptian leadership preferred not to reveal the planned coup so as not to show that there is opposition to its policy in the country. The Egyptian leadership was advised to do so; it was told by the intelligence quarters concerned with the security of the Egyptian regime that they would keep an eye open to protect the regime and help it.

Therefore, the story (of Generals al-Jamasi and Fahmi) was put out as if it was something natural and as if the authorities were confident and not facing any serious opposition.

Camp David's 'IMF conditions'

Informed observers agree that an important feature of the Egypt-Israel separate peace is the swift imposition of the International Monetary Fund's package for Egypt: The public sector is to be dismantled in favor of what the British aristocracy calls "free enterprise"; the economy is to shift towards labor-intensive, low-energy, small-scale programs; and the notions of industrial growth associated with the Nasser presidency are to be abandoned.

The added intention is to use the "economic side" of Camp David as a beacon-example of IMF policy for whole Third World. Last week Senators Jackson, Church, Case, Stone, and Javits — the core of the Capitol Hill Zionist Lobby crowd — called for a "Marshall Plan" development program for Egypt and Israel to underwrite the separate peace negotiations.

A congressional aide close to Sen. Jackson outlined the conception behind this "Marshall Plan" in a discussion Oct. 17:

"We are concerned about the economic situation in Egypt, so we want to channel more U.S. aid into the country, into medium and small-scale technology, and into private enterprise.

"These foci were the bases of last year's Case-Humphrey amendment to channel more aid into Egypt into these types of programs. The thinking was that *big* projects don't go very far in Egypt. Also, since the Nasserists, who like the public sector can, within the bureaucracy, act to slow