

EIR Special Report

The Billygate networks: oil, drugs, terrorism

by Vivian Freyre Zoakos

In the fall of 1978, three events occur involving the Middle East. First, the Camp David accords are signed, following the summit meetings among President Carter, Egyptian President Anwar Sadat, and Israeli President Menachem Begin.

Second, the Iranian revolution, under the direction of the covert Muslim Brotherhood, becomes irreversible, culminating with the January flight of the Shah from the country.

Third, the President's brother, Billy Carter, meets in Atlanta with Libya's ambassador to Rome, Gibril Shallouf, and Sicilian lawyer Michele Papa. They fly to Rome and then to Libya, where Billy's career as a Libyan agent begins. In Libya, Billy was to be hosted by the same Muslim Brotherhood networks who were simultaneously orchestrating the Iranian revolt.

Billy's initiation into the Middle East comes together with the timing of Camp David and the fact that the U.S. President and the National Security Council were aware from the outset of the junior Carter's activities. In fact, the weight of evidence supports the conclusion that Jimmy Carter is not involved in a scandal over Libya because of his brother. Rather, Billy's Libyan adventures were a byproduct of Carter administration policy.

Libya's role in Camp David involved two forms of blackmail, reflecting the extent to which Israeli intelligence, and forces sympathetic with it, control segments of the Libyan leadership. One was Israeli blackmail against Egypt, given Israel's capacity to use Libyan extremism against Egypt, a threat that may have helped Sadat cave in to the Camp David process. Additionally, Israel gained an insurance policy vis-à-vis the Carter administration, entrapping the Carter family in dubious dealings and thus gaining blackmail leverage against the administration.

The so-called secret clauses of the Camp David accords included a working alliance between the U.S., Egyptian and Israeli secret services and the covert controllers of Muslim fanaticism in the Muslim Brotherhood. Reportedly Sadat was promised enhanced control over Libya—and its



Mario Leanza, Billy Carter, Ahmed Shahati and Georgia State Senator Lloyd Hudgins in Rome in September 1978.

financial resources—to counter its activities against his government.

More broadly, Camp David was not a peace treaty, but a deliberate blockage of alternate efforts toward a comprehensive Middle East settlement involving Western European industrial-development commitments for the region as a whole that would help make a Palestinian state a realistic proposition, in a framework of security guarantees for Israel acceptable to both Israeli moderates and the Middle East's Soviet neighbors.

Camp David was viewed by its creators in Anglo-American intelligence as a transition to a new Middle East conflict, like the diplomatic maneuverings of Henry Kissinger prior to the 1973 Arab-Israeli war. Such a conflict would ensure massive cutbacks in world oil supplies and resulting slashes in industrial production and living standards consonant with the “new Dark Ages” policies of these strategists. Beyond the diplomatic level, the same British networks facilitated the spread of Islamic fundamentalist cults throughout the Middle East, and the buildup of terrorist capabilities against key leaders and nations, as well as the proliferation of drugs as a lever against economic development potentialities.

Accomplices of the British oligarchy among the old Libyan aristocratic families, to which Gibril Shallouf and his partners in the Billygate affair belong, have shown themselves eager to double and quadruple the price of Middle East oil upon which the economies of Western Europe and Japan depend. Every major oil price hike since Qaddafi was installed has been triggered by

Libya in collaboration with British Petroleum and such BP proxies as Armand Hammer's Occidental Petroleum.

The Billygate background

The networks that involved Billy Carter in the Libyan affair represent the dirtier underbelly of the self-described Olympian families who are the architects of the deindustrialization policy which a new round of Middle East conflict is to help usher in. The 300 elite families include the continental black nobility, especially the Italian House of Savoy and its allies in Eastern Europe and the Middle East (e.g., the Sursoks, Pallavicinis, and Farouk dynasty), as well as the British oligarchy. Staff members for these Olympians, many of whose present ranks were groomed during World War II by the British Special Operations Executive (SOE), are the controllers behind European terrorism, the \$200 billion international narcotics cartel, and the offshore facilities in British colonial outposts like the Bahamas which launder the funds for these dirty operations.

It is by now a publicly held secret that Jimmy Carter, the poor peanut farmer from Plains, Georgia, was picked up and groomed for the presidency by the Trilateral Commission, one of the Olympians' top policymaking institutions. In Billygate we find the President and his brother merely playing back the lessons in corruption. Where these oligarchs seek to make billions in short-term profits from rising oil profits, and to perpetuate their rule at the expense of rival powers committed to high-technology growth, Billygate dis-

plays the Carter family grabbing millions through oil deals and influence-peddling for the day when Jimmy Carter is no longer the President.

It was Ahmed Shehata, chief of foreign affairs for the Libyan ruling party and one of the three Libyans most directly involved with Billy Carter, who in January 1978 trip to Libya. To trace his activities while in the nominally as a return visit for Billy Carter's September 1979 trip to Libya. To trace his activities while in the United States is to unearth a part of the hidden story of Billygate, as his path and that of the people with whom he associates repeatedly intersects the dirty operations of key Olympian staff members.

Shehata, together with Libyan ambassador to Rome Shallouf, was hosted in Washington at the National Association of Arab-Americans in an affair organized by Clovis Maksoud, the Arab League Ambassador to the United Nations and a collaborator of the Muslim Brotherhood. The actual host of this event, however, was ex-Senator J. William Fulbright, a top staff member of the Anglo-American establishment with oversight responsibility for the Middle East. He was assisted by Congressman Robert Abourezk, whose family law firm later represented the 191 Iranian students arrested in Washington, D.C. in the rioting which followed the Muslim Brotherhood assassination of anti-Khomeini leader Ali Akbar Tabatabai.

The Vesco link

Following a visit by Shehata to Atlanta, Georgia for further meetings with Billy Carter, he and his entourage traveled to Jacksonville, Florida. There Shehata met Raymond Mason, chief executive of the Charter Co. Days later, Mason flew to the Bahamas to meet with Robert Vesco, the financier who fled to the Caribbean in the early 1970s with over \$200 million in looted assets. Mason wanted help in Charter's takeover of a Bahamian refinery owned by Carey Energy Corporation, which depended on Libyan and Iranian crude oil.

As we detail in this report, the nearly bankrupt Charter Co. was able to snap up this refinery over the heads of more serious bidders due to explicit instructions of both the National Oil Company of Libya and the National Iranian Oil Company. More importantly, the Charter Co. extended Billy Carter an offer which would net him \$25 million, a sum high-level Libyan sources claim was actually paid to the President's brother, to guarantee embargo-free crude oil supplies from his Libyan friends. And, during the politically sensitive negotiations for the Charter-Carey takeover that were concluded in May 1979, we have two special consultants, both personal friends of the Carter family, meeting with Jimmy Carter in the White House.

The most important of these Charter "consultants" is Peter Jay, who had been groomed to play the same intimate role as British Ambassador to the Carter White

House that his predecessor, Lord Harlech, played with the Kennedys.

Assuming the post of financial editor at age 30 to the *London Times*—the centerpiece of the publishing empire built by Beaverbrook's heir, Lord Thomson—Jay has been trained as a British intelligence agent. It is Jay, for example, who publicly charged that the "regional nationalism" encouraged by the European Monetary System (the first phase of a program for high-technology transfer to the Third World planned by France and Germany) would lead to the revival of the "Reich." Jay blended in with Jimmy Carter's "Atlanta mafia" and National Security Adviser Zbigniew Brzezinski—providing Charter Co. with a perfect conduit for its proposed refinery takeover deal.

It was these same SOE circles—led by Canadian financier E.P. Taylor, an associate of Jay's father during World War II—who built up the Caribbean in the post-war period into an offshore haven for drug running and dirty money laundering activity. Robert Vesco, prominent throughout Billygate, was later granted asylum in the Bahamas as a junior partner, acting as an intermediary between these staff members of the Olympians and such kingpins of organized crime as Meyer Lansky.

Through these international narcotics and hot-money laundering operations we find one of the interfaces with the continental black nobility who first contacted Billy Carter through their man, Michele Papa. A petty mafioso, Papa is also linked to some of the most notorious right-wing leaders and terrorist gangs in Europe. Illustrating this is the case of Italo-American realtor Mario Leanza, a petty informant for the Justice Department as he once was for Benito Mussolini. Leanza put the wheels in motion to bring Billy Carter to Libya as repayment on a "favor" he owed to Papa. Like Vesco, Papa is an intermediary or "cutout" for another branch of the Olympians, the House of Savoy and allied families who run the Sicilian separatist movement of which Papa is a titular leader.

All relevant features of Billygate were known to the President through such Justice Department informants as Leanza, among numerous other intelligence-gathering personnel and techniques used to monitor Billy Carter's activities. Throughout his tour of Libya the President's brother was under intensive surveillance.

When President Carter feigns ignorance of his brother's activities we are forced to conclude that he is either lying, or that Zbigniew Brzezinski and the Attorney General deliberately withheld information from him. The latter is clearly impossible given the parallels between Billy's activities and the President's own foreign policy. Indeed, if there is a crime involved, it is not brother Billy's relationship with the Libyans, but the collusion of the administration with those forces, such as the Muslim Brotherhood, who are enemies of America through their commitment to a new Dark Ages.