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Kissinger's secret agenda for the White House

by Richard Cohen, Washington Bureau Chief

While the President is being sent around the country to exude an electoral image as a strong "leader of the free world" who would never back down on his announced policy commitments, former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger was telling an elite group of U.S. corporate, banking and political leaders at the secretive Bohemian Grove gathering July 23-24 that the United States must be made to renounce its superpower status in world affairs.

According to a reporter who penetrated the Bohemian Grove sessions (which exclude non-whites and Jews), the central theme of Kissinger's keynote address reasoned "that in the period following World War II, the United States controlled 55 percent of the world's gross national product. The figure today is more like 25 percent. Now as a result the United States needs to conduct a different kind of foreign policy that accounts for its diminished economic influence—a foreign policy that would be more like that of Great Britain."

In short Kissinger told the self-styled U.S. elite, "You are now a once-developed nation like Britain. You must now reduce your economic and military commitments globally, and instead resort to British tactics of psychological and cultural warfare." According to the reporter present, the drunken, foolish U.S. leaders present all cheered for policy that amounts to the final surrender of American principles.

Policy aims

While Henry Kissinger spoke, "Alexander Haig and Gerald Ford sat crosslegged before him. Secretary of State George Shultz and his guest Helmut Schmidt, the Chancellor of West Germany, were off to the side."

According to early information on the Kissinger plan, the permanent withdrawal from superpower rank will occur in tandem with moves authored by Kissinger and endorsed by Shultz to enforce horrible contraction on the developing sector and extreme austerity on the U.S. economy following the November elections. To accomplish this, advisers to Kissinger and Shultz are said to be considering broad schemes of developingsector debt rescheduling that would be linked to outright genocidal conditionalities. In addition, they are said to be considering a warmed-over version of Kissinger's 1975 proposal for the creation of an International Resources Bank; under this typically British scheme, developing-sector debt might be refinanced on the basis of mortgaging raw-material reserves. In the advanced sector, secondary banking structures linked to local trade and industrial and agricultural production will be triaged.

Permanent shrinkage of the U.S. economy and the world economy under the auspices of Kissinger-style crisis management or possibly a new global institution requires, according to Kissinger's estimates, the acqui-

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escence of the leadership of West Germany and the Soviet Union (see article, page 9). In addition it would require an irreversible Kissinger coup within the Reagan administration.

According to sources close to the Kennedy family's political operations and U.S. intelligence sources, the Kissinger operation within the Reagan administration will surface openly to attain these objectives after Reagan and "Reaganism" suffer stinging defeats in the November elections. White House sources have told me unequivocally that Shultz will make important new moves following those elections. A source familiar with the thinking of the Soviet Politburo confided to me that they are convinced that a "new turn" in U.S.-Soviet relations will develop after November. And a source with close ties to the Atlantic Council reported that, following private talks in California with both Shultz and Kissinger, Chancellor Schmidt is also convinced that relations with Washington will now improve.

The modus operandi

Intelligence sources here report that Kissinger is depending upon two key operations between now and November to build his assets in preparation for the policy coup. Kissinger is exerting all his influence to secure control over U.S. Middle East policy. As I reported last week, Kissinger's first meeting with Shultz focused upon the assignment of longtime Kissinger collaborator Helmut Sonnenfeldt to a crucial informal advisory and troubleshooting role with Shultz. It was Sonnenfeldt, when director of the sensitive Bureau of Intelligence and Research at the State Department in 1958-60, who leaked quantities of classified U.S. material to Israeli intelligence. In fact, Sonnenfeldt was almost retired from the foreign service when in 1958, State Department security officers caught him sending to Israeli intelligence secret information on Eisenhower's plans to send U.S. marines into Lebanon. At that time Sonnenfeldt was also helping to build Fat Henry's career by delivering classified material to the Harvard professor. Thus both Sonnenfeldt and Kissinger had established clandestine channels to Israeli intelligence around the Lebanon crisis of 1958. Kissinger then used the channels while National Security Advisor and Secretary of State. Former Secretary of State Alexander Haig became familiar with these channels while serving as Kissinger's "dirty tricks" caretaker at the National Security Council (see EIR, July 20). It was the use of these clandestine channels to elements of Israeli military intelligence associated with Defense Minister Ariel Sharon through which Haig connived to set up the Israeli invasion of Lebanon and for which he was summarily dismissed when the President was apprised

of the extent of the Secretary's duplicity.

Now Kissinger and Sonnenfeldt are once again playing these channels. In fact, it was reported that Kissinger is so intent on raising the heat throughout the Middle East, that he has connived to get both Haig and Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin to threaten the White House with alleged information that would find its way in to the major U.S. press "proving" that Reagan was aware of Israel's real intentions before the Israelis marched into Lebanon. This blackmail along with persistent warnings from the President's pollsters are said to have destroyed all hope of effective Presidential reaction against the annihilation of Beirut.

Presidential impotence presumed

Accordingly, while the Israelis sack Beirut and Iran's Khomeini builds for a final attack on Iraq—an assault which the White House is convinced will be successful—President Reagan is scripted to sit on his hands. This is an essential aspect of Kissinger's plans. Impotent Presidential rhetoric in the wake of blatant threats to Middle East oil supplies will guarantee not only devastating Republican losses in November but Western European desperation. According to Washington sources, this is exactly what Kissinger seeks as he moves to seize top-down control of the U.S. negotiating machinery. Kissinger will then ask for European compliance with his British controllers' post-election global economic reorganization, in exchange for his help in securing oil supplies!

Kissinger's second objective between now and November is to place more of his people into key positions within the Reagan administration. Most important here has been the joining of forces within the administration of people loyal to Kissinger and others loyal to Vice-President George Bush. Bush has only obliquely opposed the recent presidential decisions which his mouthpiece Commerce Secretary Malcolm Baldrige has publicly criticized. In a first attempt to create political distance between Bush and Reagan, Baldrige has made it known that he opposes the President's decision to continue arms sales to Taiwan, the Trans-Siberian pipeline sanctions decision, and Reagan's erroneous midyear budget-deficit projections. Washington intelligence sources have told me that the preliminary moves by the Bush group anticipate a Republican debacle in November; they are meant to precede a full-scale effort within the Republican Party to get the President to announce after the November elections that he will not run for a second term. These sources say that Reagan will be presented with only one other post-election alternative: to shift his policies 180 degrees. Either way, Kissinger obtains be oad control over White House policy.

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