

the Russians and the Big Five grain trading houses. Joseph was head of the Minneapolis-based soybean trading house I. S. Joseph, widely known in agriculture circles as a front for the Big Five—Cargill, Continental, Louis-Dreyfus, Bunge, and Andre. It is Joseph who reportedly “opened the doors” to an unknown Turkish-Jewish refugee, then teaching at a Hebrew school in Minneapolis, and launched the less-than-kosher career of Meshulam Riklis. Riklis is co-owner with the late mobster Meyer Lansky’s reputed front-man Carl Lindner of the Rapid America Corporation, a giant holding company which owns Schenley Liquors, various race tracks, Cartier diamonds, real estate operations in New York, and Botany “500” clothing. Riklis was a major holder of the Meyer Lansky-run (now-defunct) Investors Overseas Services, through which hundreds of millions of dollars from organized crime were laundered until the collapse of IOS founder Bernie Cornfeld and Nixon backer Robert Vesco in the early 1970s. Riklis, when not gazing at his porno film star wife, Pia Zadora, is reported to be a major covert financial backer of Israeli cabinet minister operative Ariel Sharon.

Burton Joseph himself is one of the world’s most influential men in the murky and enormously powerful world of food commodity trading. He is associated with Tel Aviv-based Shaul Eisenberg, one of the world’s leading arms and food commodity-traders whose ties to the old Lansky syndicate of organized crime are considerable.



Lane Kirkland

## Business International: zero growth associates

Since its establishment in 1954, Business International (BI) has become one of the most influential corporate intelligence sources for American companies doing business abroad. BI on the surface is a blue-ribbon “objective” research and advisory group, providing essential intelligence on market stability, investment prospects around the world, and the like. A look at who is behind this group demolishes this facade.

Headed by Chairman Orville Freeman, the BI board of directors is made up of some of the world’s leading advocates of Malthusian deindustrialization and zero growth. Joining Freeman is the man who heads up the infamous Club of Rome, Aurelio Peccei. Also on the board are Lord Alastair Pilkington and his wife. Lord Pilkington is a director of the Bank of England and British Petroleum (BP). BP was complicit in the 1978-79 destabilization of the Shah of Iran, among other crimes. Also sitting with Freeman on BI’s board is Sol Linowitz, a Kissinger crony and one of Mondale’s leading foreign-policy advisers, whose Linowitz Commission on Central America paved the way for the re-entry of Henry Kissinger into official Washington politics.

Another board member of BI, Walter Stoessel, is one of the Council on Foreign Relations’ top Moscow hands. Stoessel was credited with drafting Kissinger’s 1969 “China Card” policy, which undercut the vital Pacific alliance built up after the war. Considered close to Averell Harriman, Stoessel was ambassador to Moscow from 1974 to 1976, the most critical post in the Kissinger State Department.

BI can play an essential support role for various political destabilization operations by circulating a carefully crafted scenario, like its 1982 report that because of President Ferdinand Marcos’ poor health, Philippine investment stability must be considered riskier. BI is a vehicle for creating self-fulfilling prophecies, through channels for Anglo-Soviet intelligence which intend to undermine U.S. industrial export ties in strategic regions of the world.