

'New Yalta' plot for unholy war over Jerusalem exposed

by Jeffrey Steinberg

On Sunday, Aug. 7, *Avvenire*, the official daily newspaper of the Catholic Archdiocese of Milan, Italy published an extraordinary exposé of a secret deal between the United States, Russia, and Israel to recognize Jerusalem as the capital of Israel—possibly as early as December of this year. According to the *Avvenire* story, which was based on detailed information from a “deep throat around government circles in Washington,” the secret deal is to have the United States and the Soviet Union simultaneously recognize Jerusalem and move their embassies to the disputed city, which is the holy place of the world’s three great monotheistic religions. This was the critical factor prompting King Hussein of Jordan to abruptly announce on July 31 that he was dropping all claims of Hashemite sovereignty over the Israeli-occupied territories on the West Bank of the Jordan River, territories that include the holy sites of East Jerusalem.

According to *Avvenire*, King Hussein was initially warned about the Russian-American-Israeli “religious New Yalta deal” on July 24 by Michael Duke of Kent, the Grand Master of Scottish Rite Freemasonry.

Two days after the warning, Sen. Jesse Helms (R-N.C.) introduced an amendment on the floor of the Senate, Amendment 2682, which authorized the U.S. government to build two new diplomatic facilities, one in Tel Aviv and one in Jerusalem, thereby giving the President-elect the opportunity to choose between the two cities as the location of the U.S. embassy. Senator Helms requested that the amendment be taken up as an “emergency measure” attached to the Senate authorization bill for the State Department’s annual budget. The maneuver apparently stunned the other senators. On behalf of the Democratic majority, Sen. Fritz Hollings (D-S.C.) requested a recess until Sen. Claiborne Pell (D-R.I.),

the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, could be consulted.

By *Avvenire*’s accounts, Pell placed a telephone call to Gov. Michael Dukakis, who had already declared his support for U.S. recognition of Jerusalem as the capital of Israel. Dukakis gave his blessing to the Helms amendment, according to the Milan account, and several hours later, the Senate approved the amendment to S. 9925 by a voice vote. Sen. Warren Rudman (R-N.H.), a notorious Israel Lobby asset within the Congress, delivered the endorsement for the Republicans.

Max Kampelman: secret negotiator

The *Avvenire* account emphasized the role of Ambassador Max Kampelman, the United States’s chief arms control negotiator in Geneva, in the secret talks with the Soviets and the Israelis. Kampelman reportedly conducted the “most secret negotiations” at the personal behest of Secretary of State George Shultz. Neither President Reagan nor Vice President Bush were apparently provided with details on the nature of the Kampelman diplomacy. In fact, according to *Avvenire* and other accounts, Shultz ordered Kampelman to shuttle between Geneva, Moscow, and Washington, keeping him secretly apprised of developments. Reportedly, the only other person in Washington who was brought in on the secret deal was Senator Helms, who, under the influence of long-time Anglo-Soviet Trust agent Jon Speller, has been virtually captured by an extreme right-wing faction of the Israeli Likud that favors the three-way deal over Jerusalem.

The transcript of the Senate debate over the Helms amendment provides strong circumstantial corroboration of the *Avvenire* account. According to the *Congressional Re-*

cord of July 26, 1988 on page S9919, Senator Helms is quoted telling his fellow senators, "Mr. President, I have worked over a number of months with the State Department working to reach this compromise. Throughout our negotiations, the State Department has been frank, straightforward, and candid. It just goes to show how much can be accomplished when people sit down in good faith and patiently and diligently work out their differences. In addition, I would be remiss if I failed to mention my appreciation for the work of my good friend, Ambassador Max Kampelman, who so persistently and ably worked to put this compromise together through many months of discussion."

When Senator Helms introduced his amendment on the Senate floor on July 26, he told his colleagues, "This amendment has been agreed to by the administration."

In fact, according to *EIR*'s own Washington sources, most key administration officials were kept totally in the dark until the eleventh hour. One top official, National Security Adviser Gen. Colin Powell, who was at the time deeply involved in efforts to win congressional approval for a vital arms sale to Kuwait, learned of the Helms-Kampelman maneuver only at the point that the amendment was introduced onto the floor "with administration approval." Unable to reach Kampelman or Shultz, Powell reportedly went directly to President Reagan and got the President's okay to delay the vote until after the Kuwaiti arms sale had been passed. Too late to stop the final voice vote, Powell reportedly shifted his efforts to blocking the Israel Lobby's plans to kill the Kuwaiti sale. In what may yet prove to be a Pyrrhic victory, Powell reportedly got Reps. Mel Levine (D-Calif.) and Larry Smith (D-Fla.) to drop their Kuwait-bashing campaign, and won authorization for the F-18 fighter sales.

Conservative Republicans, bamboozled by the Helms-Shultz-Kampelman cabal, are reportedly now up in arms and considering moves to have Kampelman, long branded a "socialist" and a "liberal Democrat," booted out of the Reagan administration. In the meantime, the Helms amendment is now before a joint House-Senate conference committee and could be presented for a vote by the full House of Representatives at any time.

Avvenire spells out the deal

Among the key elements of the secret American-Russian-Israeli deal as reported by *Avvenire*:

- The Soviet Union will renovate two of the properties of the Russian Orthodox Church in Jerusalem for use as a Soviet embassy and cultural and consular offices, once Moscow reestablishes diplomatic ties with Israel.
- In return, Israel will cooperate with the Soviet Union in allowing the Patriarch of Moscow to establish and staff major ecclesiastical and monastic institutions in Jerusalem.
- The United States will announce its recognition of Jerusalem as the capital of Israel at the exact same moment that the Soviet Union restores diplomatic ties and announces

that it will establish its embassy in Jerusalem.

- And an Orthodox patriarch of Washington will be established with equal status to a Roman Catholic cardinal and the equivalent position in the Protestant denominations. This will legitimize Orthodoxy as a major religion in the United States.

Pivotal to the entire arrangement is the downgrading of the role of the Vatican, both within the holy city of Jerusalem and within world Christianity as a whole. "Rome is the ultimate target of this entire Russian move," said one senior U.S. intelligence veteran with years of experience in the Middle East.

Avvenire author Maurizio Blondet underscored the strategic implications of the three-way secret accord by ending the article on the following note:

"As far as Israel goes, it is an old dream to take the capital back to Jerusalem. It calls to mind a 1982 interview by David Ben-Gurion with *Look* magazine. Asked to describe his vision of the world in five years, 1987, his image was very clear: The Cold War is a thing of the past. In Russia, growing pressure by the intelligentsia and by the masses to have more prosperity and more liberty will lead to a gradual democratization of the Soviet powers. On the other side, the growing influence of the workers and men of science transforms the U.S.A. into a social state with a planned economy. Eastern Europe and Western Europe will become a federation of autonomous states ruled by a social democratic regime. In Jerusalem, the United Nations—the true United Nations—will build a Temple of the Prophets to serve the federated union of all the continents. This will be the supreme court of humanity destined to level all controversies among the federated states as Isaiah prophesied. At the same time, a pill capable of preventing pregnancy will slow down the demographic growth. No more armies or wars."

In the short term, the reports of the new Washington-Moscow-Jerusalem secret deal have apparently prompted King Hussein to "count himself out" of the unraveling Palestinian crisis—leaving the PLO to sink or swim. According to sources in Washington and Tel Aviv, the Shamir government has already struck another secret accord—this one with Syria, in which the two countries agree to collaborate in the extermination of the PLO. That process already began on Aug. 9, when Israeli artillery bombarded a PLO camp east of Sidon, Lebanon for hours. PLO chairman Yasser Arafat is reportedly the target of a joint Israeli-Syrian assassination scheme, to be activated the moment that the PLO attempts to establish a government-in-exile to rule over the West Bank.

On the broader horizon, to the extent that Russian Orthodoxy establishes a deeper hold in Jerusalem in collusion with extremist elements within Israel, events in the region will move inevitably in the direction of war. Just as the Balkan crisis set the stage for World War I, so the apparent "solution" to the Jerusalem question sows the seeds of a strategic miscalculation whose consequences may decimate civilization.

The Helms amendment on Jerusalem

The transcript which follows is taken from the Congressional Record of July 26, 1988, pp. S9919-9920 and S9925. The remarks by Sen. Jesse Helms (R-N.C.) and others were made before a full session of the U.S. Senate, convened to consider the Senate's version of the FY1989 State Department Authorization.

This is the one record in the public domain which helps to substantiate allegations reported in the Italian newspaper Avvenire (see article, page 40), that King Hussein of Jordan had been warned of a Russian-American-Israeli deal to make Jerusalem the capital of Israel, and that Senator Helms introduced the amendment reported here to aid that deal. The transcript also records the recess for consultation with Senator Pell, during which time, Avvenire reports, Pell would have gotten the go-ahead by telephone from the Democratic presidential nominee, Michael Dukakis.

Amendment No. 2682 to S. 9925

(Purpose: To provide for the diplomatic mission in Israel.)

MR. HELMS: Mr. President, I send an amendment to the desk and ask for its immediate consideration. . . . The Senator from North Carolina proposes an amendment numbered 2682:

On page 58, between lines 17 and 18, insert the following:

Sec 304. Notwithstanding Section 130 of the Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Fiscal Years 1988-89 and Section 414 of the Diplomatic Security Act and any other provisions of law, such funds as are authorized, or that may be authorized, under the Diplomatic Security Act or any other statute, and appropriated to the Department of State under this or any other Act, may be hereafter obligated or expended for site acquisition, development, and construction of two new diplomatic facilities in Israel, Jerusalem, or the West Bank, provided that each facility (A) equally preserves the ability of the United States to locate its Ambassador or its Consul General at that site, consistent with United States policy, (B) shall not be denominated as the United States Embassy or Consulate until after construction of both facilities has

begun, and construction of one facility has been completed, or is near completion; and (C) unless security considerations require otherwise, commences operation simultaneously.

. . . Obviously, this amendment is the result of intense and extensive negotiations between the administration and myself. . . . This amendment has been agreed to by the administration.

It permits the State Department to undertake site acquisition, development and construction of "two" new diplomatic facilities in Israel understood to be in Tel Aviv and Jerusalem, provided that each facility preserves the ability of the United States to locate its Ambassador at that location.

In addition, the amendment provides that neither facility be selected to be the U.S. Embassy until one facility is completed or near completion. Obviously, this effectively will leave the decision as to which facility shall be our new Embassy up to the new President of the United States, whoever he may be. . . .

As my colleagues are well aware, this question of the location of the American Embassy in Israel has been an issue for some time now.

Many of us here in the Senate—I venture to say most of us here—believe that Israel has a right to choose its own capital, and that the United States should locate its embassy accordingly. . . .

Mr. President, I have worked over a number of months with the State Department, working to reach this compromise. Throughout our negotiations, the State Department has been frank, straightforward, and candid. It just goes to show how much can be accomplished when people sit down in good faith and patiently and diligently work out their differences. In addition, I would be remiss if I failed to mention my appreciation for the work of my good friend Ambassador Max Kampelman, who so persistently and ably worked to put this compromise together through many months of discussion. . . .

MR. HOLLINGS: Mr. President, I am not prepared on this particular amendment. It affects our foreign relations field, and I have asked the distinguished Senator from Rhode Island, Mr. [Claiborne] Pell to be consulted. While he is being consulted, I suggest the absence of a quorum. . . .

MR. HOLLINGS: Mr. President, I have had the opportunity now to check with our distinguished chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, Senator Pell, and I understand this amendment would be acceptable.

So on this side, we are prepared to accept the amendment.

MR. HELMS: I thank the Senator. . . .

MR. RUDMAN: Mr. President, I am glad we were able to work this out. The amendment has been carefully drafted. It reserves to the State Department and the President ultimately the determination of U.S. policy. It does not change policy, and it is acceptable on this side.