

Kissinger and the West Bank landscam

by Joseph Brewda

Back during October 1982, Lord Harlech (a.k.a. David Ormsby-Gore) was putting together an international combination of business and political interests to invest enormous sums in real estate on the Israeli-occupied West Bank of the Jordan River. Among the key figures that Harlech reported were involved in this venture was former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger, then in the process of forming Kissinger Associates. Others active in the venture reportedly included: Lord Carrington, Kissinger's partner at Kissinger Associates; British Parliament member Julian Amery; former U.S. Secretary of Defense Robert McNamara; and former U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig.

According to Harlech's cronies, third-party Arab buyers would purchase blocks of real estate on behalf of the Harlech group. These areas, which would eventually become "Arab free," would be used to settle the large numbers of Soviet Jews expected to emigrate to Israel.

EIR's investigations quickly established that, far from being a simple business venture, the Harlech group's enterprise was part of a plan to destabilize the entire Middle East, through fostering both Jewish fundamentalist and Muslim fundamentalist violence in Jerusalem. According to the scenario, Jewish crazies would blow up Jerusalem's Al Aqsa mosque on the Temple Mount, setting off Muslim riots, particularly targeting the Saudi Kingdom.

To prepare for this caper, then Israeli Defense Minister Ariel Sharon had held a meeting at his farm in the spring of 1982 with a number of his cronies, including Rafi Eytan, then the prime minister's Adviser on the Warfare against Terror; Gen. Rehavam Ze'evi, a leading member of the Israel mafia; and Meshulem Riklis, the New York-based chairman of Rapid-American and Sharon's patron. Follow-up meetings worked out the details of the destabilization ordered by the Anglo-Americans.

The Sharon group was particularly well suited to handle this task. As agriculture minister, Sharon had overseen the construction of numerous West Bank settlements of the fundamentalist Gush Emunim, and the Jewish Defense League (JDL, or Kach party), lead by former CIA agent Rabbi Meier Kahane. Since moving to Israel, Kahane's operations have fallen under the local supervision of Sharon side-kick Eytan, while retaining their international connections.

Shortly after the Harlech-Kissinger discussions, and the Sharon field-hand meetings, the Jewish fundamentalist cra-

zies went into high gear. Since 1982, JDL and Gush Emunim throw-aways have been caught red-handed in several efforts to bomb the Temple Mount. During the middle of the Palestinian uprising in the West Bank last year, Israeli soldiers, acting in furtherance of this scenario, even shot into the mosque, predictably leading to more riots.

EIR coverage of the "landscam" and "Temple Mount" plots provoked an international uproar, particularly among the oligarchical circles of Europe, not the least because the exposé showed that the Kissinger network was run at the highest level out of the United Kingdom. U.S. documents made available to *EIR* through the Freedom of Information Act show that Henry Kissinger was particularly incensed by those 1983 articles.

Not a mere Israeli affair

One of the specific reasons for the international outcry was that *EIR* had traced back Harlech and Kissinger's game to the Quatuor Coronati Lodge of Scottish Rite Freemasonry, housed in London. Masons, as is well known, claim their descent from the builders of Solomon's Temple. The plot to blow up the Temple Mount was, consequently, ideologically motivated as well.

The sponsorship of the Harlech-Kissinger group by the Masonic order was quite overt. As a Quatuor Coronati Lodge spokesman put it at the time, "The Middle East could be hit by a new wave of fundamentalism. . . . The one thing that would unite the whole Arab world would be an attempt to rebuild Solomon's Temple; this would lead to no end of trouble. . . . It would nice to see the Temple of Solomon there, but you would have to do something with the mosque first, like blow it up."

Meanwhile, *Biblical Archeological Review*, an organ effectively under the control of the Lodge, published a piece entitled "Where was Solomon's Temple," setting out the scenario for blowing up the mosque and rebuilding the Temple.

The U.S. side of this operation was run by the Temple Mount Foundation, founded by Terry Reisenhuver, whose vast North slope oil concessions had been sponsored by Kissinger Associates board member Robert O. Anderson. Reisenhuver's group, composed primarily of Protestant fundamentalists, aided their British cousins by generously funding the JDL and the Gush Emunim, even in opposition to many Israeli groups that feared the consequences of the plot. Many Israeli intelligence professionals, for example, were not ignorant of the fact that the Masonic lunatics proposing the construction of the Temple Mount were also intent on shattering the Israeli state. Kissinger's duplicity had hardly been to Israeli national advantage.

Such suspicions seemed to have been confirmed when the Palestinian uprising on the West Bank began in November 1987, the same week that General Secretary Gorbachov held his Pearl Harbor Day summit with President Reagan.