
V. London's NGO Army Against Sudan

Baroness Cox readies a new Crusade

by Joseph Brewda

Tearful displays of concern over "human rights violations" in order to justify British land-grabs and mass-murder were a favorite British imperialist technique in the nineteenth century. Prime Minister William Gladstone, for example, was a master of such cynicism, as his sanctimonious diatribes against the Ottoman Empire for its massacres of Christian Bulgarians and Armenians attest. Unfortunately, this technique lives on, and among its modern-day masters is Deputy Speaker of the House of Lords Baroness (Caroline) Cox of Queensbury.

A trained specialist in psychological warfare, Baroness Cox has been assigned the task of luring the Clinton administration into confrontation with Sudan, an urgent geopolitical aim on the part of London. Working with her on this task are her old cronies, former Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher (now Baroness Thatcher of Kesteven), and Baroness (Lynda) Chalker of Wallasey, Minister of Overseas Development.

In the first week of February, Baroness Cox led a delegation to Washington charged with this task. The Sudanese regime has killed over a million and a half people through "forced Islamicization," she told the congressional Human Rights Caucus on Feb. 6, and called this "genocide" a threat to the region. She demanded that the U.S. and British governments "recognize the right of self-determination" of the southern Sudanese rebels, and impose an "arms and oil embargo against Sudan" and an "air exclusion zone over Sudan." Baroness Cox's delegation was composed of members of Christian Solidarity International, a Swiss-based British intelligence organization for which she is the most prestigious spokesman.

In her private discussions, the baroness had an additional message. "We feel the time is now ripe for the U.S. government, with the backing of the British government, to overthrow this regime," she told one congressman after her testimony, an assessment presumably repeated in her discussions with several U.S. intelligence agencies that week.

Simultaneous with Baroness Cox's arrival, Baroness Thatcher arrived in Washington, D.C., where she met many of her old cronies from the Bush administration whom she had used to lure the United States into its 1991 war against Iraq.

Also simultaneous with Baroness Cox's arrival, the bankrupt President of Eritrea, Assiyas Afwerki, began a three-

week stay in Washington, where he offered to make his country into a new base of U.S. operations in the region. Two months earlier, Eritrea broke diplomatic relations with Sudan at Britain's request, and sponsored a conference of the Sudanese opposition, where for the first time all parties agreed to the right of the south to secede, paving the way for a British grab of the oil resources of the area.

The British effort to dupe Washington into aiding their plan has had mixed results. Rep. Frank Wolf (R-Va.), a member of Christian Solidarity International U.S. board, was enthusiastic, as were elements of the traditionally Anglophile U.S. State Department. On March 24, the CSI delegation returned for hearings on Sudan before the House Subcommittee on Africa, and it was clear that progress had been made, from their standpoint. Wolf called for "stepped up operations" against Sudan, while State Department Africa hand Edward Brynn said that a "closed session" would be necessary for him to answer one congressman's query as to whether the United States was now supplying arms to the Sudanese opposition forces based in Eritrea.

But such U.S. actions have certainly not satisfied Baroness Cox, who in early May denounced former President Jimmy Carter to a gathering of the Sudanese opposition in Cairo, Egypt. Carter, who has served as an unofficial envoy of President Clinton, had in the interim negotiated a fragile cease-fire between the government and the southern rebels. The initiative, she lamented, "only helped the government," and led to the "displacement of 60,000 people." Meanwhile, the negotiating role played by Clinton's special representative to Khartoum, Melissa Wells, who frequently bypasses Donald Petterson, the abrasive U.S. ambassador there, has been repeatedly criticized by CSI officials.

Who is Baroness Cox?

A life peer appointed by Thatcher, Baroness Cox began her career as a Tavistock Institute-trained expert on nursing education. Tavistock is British intelligence's psychological warfare division and was the center of British Army psychological warfare operations in World War II. Among her studies were the reactions of the average member of society, the prospective nurse, to an environment of suffering and death. The manipulation made possible by such an environment has long been a Tavistock focus of investigation. One of her

mentors there, Dr. R.D. Laing, had earlier championed "madness" as a means of political "liberation."

Baroness Cox's training served her well in the 1980s, when she began her first important field assignment as a leading would-be defender of Polish freedom from Soviet Russian aggression.

By 1990, Baroness Cox emerged as the principal international defender of Armenia in its efforts to seize the Armenian ethnic enclave of Nagorno-Karabakh in neighboring Azerbaijan. It is here that one sees the manipulative techniques that she has since used against the government of Sudan.

Since 1990, Baroness Cox has traveled to Nagorno-Karabakh over a dozen times on Christian Solidarity International "fact-finding trips." She has repeatedly testified before the U.S. Congress and European parliaments on the theme that Azeri "Islamic extremism" and "hatred of Christianity" are the cause of the war. She has tried hard to rope in American Protestant evangelicals into supporting the "Armenian cause." "Azerbaijan has adopted an explicit policy of ethnic cleansing of the Armenians from Karabakh," she claimed, during the February 1995 National Prayer Breakfast in Washington. "The Armenians have been fighting for the survival of their lives, and their—and our—Christian heritage." And, as in the case of Sudan, she has demanded the posting of international "human rights monitors" to stop "genocide," the airlift of supplies to the Armenians, and international sanctions against Azerbaijan.

In 1992, Baroness Cox began to concentrate on Sudan. Since then, she has traveled there seven times, emerging as simultaneously the world's leading champion of Armenia and the southern Sudanese Christians—in addition to her other responsibilities as deputy speaker of the House of Lords. The common feature of her displays on Poland, Armenia, and Sudan, is alleged support of western Christian values against the Orient, and in respect to the latter two cases, also Christianity against Islam. But this campaign has a geopolitical edge, coming right at the time that Great Britain has been attempting to put together a Russian-centered alliance of Serbia, Greece, and Armenia, against a Turkish-centered alliance of Bosnia, Albania, and Azerbaijan.

CSI: a British propaganda tool

Throughout her career, Baroness Cox has been a leader of Christian Solidarity International, which she describes as an "inter-denominational Christian human rights organization which tries to help victims of repression, regardless of their color, creed, or nationality." Well, not quite.

The fact that neither Baroness Cox nor Christian Solidarity International has ever been known to attack Serbian ethnic cleansing and genocide against Bosnia, gives one pause. In a January 1993 Moscow press conference on Armenia, Baroness Cox even went so far as to decry "media preoccupation with former Yugoslavia," calling this "one of the greatest problems with the present situation," since it leads to ignoring Armenian suffering. And, CSI's annual

rating of the world's nations in respect to religious liberty, which places Azerbaijan and Sudan at the bottom of the list, omits any classification of former Yugoslavia. It reports that there is "insufficient evidence" to determine whether religious liberties there are being violated. Based in Switzerland, with representative offices in 20 countries, CSI specializes in "human rights campaigns" which serve British geopolitical goals.

CSI was launched by Rev. Canon Michael Bourdeaux, the staff director and founder of the Keston Institute in Oxford, England. Many CSI officials, for example its specialist on Islam, John Eibner, were drawn from the Keston Institute's staff. Operating under the patronage of the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Keston Institute was formed in 1969 to "supply factual information on religious life in communist lands," and to aid underground missionaries operating there. From its inception, it has been deeply involved in operations in eastern Europe, working closely with BBC, the Royal Institute of International Affairs, and Oxford University. In 1984, Prince Philip, an avowed anti-Christian, granted Bourdeaux the coveted Templeton Prize for Progress in Religion. Since the fall of communism in Russia and eastern Europe, the institute has broadened its mandate to research the life of Christian minorities, such as those in Sudan.

Lies and propaganda

Christian Solidarity International has never let facts deter it from its crusades. Wildly propagandistic, CSI literature claims that Turkey, the most secular of all states with a Muslim majority, is "encouraging violent crimes by Islamic extremists against Christians." It bizarrely classifies the Egyptian government of President Hosni Mubarak as an "Islamic fundamentalist state," committed to crushing the minority Coptic Christians.

But CSI does not just target Muslim countries. Its literature targets Mexico, for example, where it says that "violent attacks and murders have been waged against evangelical Christians in predominantly Catholic-controlled areas of central Mexico," not so far from the Chiapas rebellion. It also charges that the Peruvian government has carried out "violent attacks" against "thousands of Christians" who have refused to participate in government efforts against the narco-terrorist Shining Path.

Since 1990, this British intelligence spinoff has concentrated on building up its U.S. organization, and here one finds that it is deeply involved with those networks most closely associated with former President George Bush. One CSI U.S. board member is Faith Whittlesey, who, as U.S. ambassador to Switzerland, established Oliver North's "Iran-Contra" bank accounts, using funds and operatives provided by the National Endowment for Democracy.

Reps. Frank Wolf, Chris Smith (R-N.J.), and former congressman Mark Siljander (R-Mich.), all anti-Clinton activists within the "religious right," are also on the U.S. board of Christian Solidarity International.