

that of Benito Mussolini, Netanyahu deploys the religious right as his Black Shirts. Therefore, it is not surprising that, since Netanyahu's coming to power, Israel has become, even more than it was before, a center of operations for the Russian mafia.

Netanyahu's first move after coming to power was to change procedures for privatization of state industries, so as to give his office the power to privatize any industry, regardless of laws which might curtail foreign control of strategic sectors of the economy. This has had a dramatic effect, particularly in the banking sector.

For example, Bank Hapoalim, which had been controlled by the Labor Party's trade union federation, was sold to Ted Arison, a major financial contributor to Netanyahu's election campaign. Arison owns Carnival Cruise Lines, the largest cruise ship operator in the world, whose ships are floating casinos. Also, the Safra banking family, financial supporters of Netanyahu, whose international banking empire has been the target of investigation for money-laundering, has been allowed to bid for Israeli Discount Bank. Under the Labor government, the Safras had been blocked from expanding their bank holdings in Israel, because of allegations of illegal activities related to the earlier purchase of another Israeli bank.

Another part of this network is the American political campaign manager Arthur Finkelstein, who has worked with such right-wing Republicans as Sen. Jesse Helms (N.C.) and Newt Gingrich. *Ha'aretz* on June 4 reported that it is Finkelstein who has advised Netanyahu to take an intransigent position against the Clinton administration, in the latter's latest peace initiatives. Finkelstein was instrumental in creating the so-called Committee for a Secure Peace, which includes such right-wing Republicans as former Sen. Rudy Boschwitz (Minn.), and Rep. Jim Saxton (N.J.). The group has been lobbying to get support in Congress for Netanyahu's fight against Clinton.

The American Jewish community

Ha'aretz claims that this cozy relationship between Netanyahu and the Republican right wing is creating uneasiness in the American Jewish community, which is beginning to realize that "pro-Israel organizations are camouflaging Republican activities." They also report that the matter has come to the attention of the U.S. Attorney General's office, as violating American laws.

One last point on Finkelstein: *Ha'aretz* reports that the next U.S. Presidential campaign he could be managing, is that of Texas Gov. George W. Bush.

The British and terrorism

The photo shows demonstrators in London in May, protesting against British Prime Minister Tony Blair's safehousing of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), a Sri Lankan terrorist group.

As *EIR* has reported, 22 of the world's top terrorist groups have headquarters or other offices in London, and the British government does nothing to stop their murderous activities.

EIR's record on this matter was reported in the Italian daily *Il Giornale* on May 27: "Islamic terrorism stimulates scholars, historians, and politicians who sometimes propose suggestive hypotheses. Among them there is



certainly the U.S. magazine *Executive Intelligence Review*. The publication, supported by the Federalist Lyndon LaRouche, stated that among the 30 foremost international terrorist groups, 22 have offices in London, of-

fices that function as their headquarters and that take care of their logistics, propaganda, and funding. . . . *EIR* then lists a long series of alleged protections granted by the British monarchy. . . ."