

## Editorial

### *Time to step out of the trap*

For the fourth time in a year, enemies of President Clinton—inside his own administration, in London, in Tel Aviv, and in the Anglo-American media—are attempting to force him to take senseless punitive military action against Iraq, action which his own military planners acknowledge will not drive Saddam Hussein from power nor accomplish any other intermediate strategic objective. Yet, as this issue of *EIR* goes to press, there are indications, from sources close to the White House, that the President has all but decided to unleash a substantial aerial bombardment of “military sites” inside Iraq.

The issue confronting the President is not Saddam Hussein, who is the perfect foil for President Clinton’s enemies, particularly his British and Israeli enemies. The issue is Bill Clinton. How many times does the President have to step into the same trap, before he realizes that his real enemies are those trying to lure him into a military action that will further isolate the United States from key nations in the Arab world, Russia, China, and others, while accomplishing little more than building up the body-count of Iraqi children and other innocents? Doesn’t it dawn on the President that, every time the U.S. administration turns up the heat on Israel—as in the recent Wye Plantation diplomacy—or on the British, or on the financial oligarchy, a new “Iraq crisis” erupts to steal the President’s attention?

It’s time for the President to see that bigger picture and break free, especially, from the clutches of his so-called “partner,” Tony Blair; or, as Lyndon LaRouche warned our readers last week, “the U.S.A. will discover, very soon, that it has been lured into the most deadly global strategic trap of the century.”

If that simple truth is not clear, the President’s men would do well to prepare a chronology of the unfolding “Iraq Crisis, Take Five.”

The “monkey trap” was first sprung on the President in late summer, when Scott Ritter, an American weapons inspector with UNSCOM, resigned “in protest” over the Clinton administration’s alleged coverup of Iraqi violations. Ritter has publicly admitted that his “intelligence” on Iraq’s hidden weapons of mass destruction

(WMD) came exclusively from Israel. Both the FBI and the National Security Council view Ritter as an Israeli “mole.”

The British government later weighed in with its own dubious “proof” that top Iraqi officials have successfully hidden their WMD from UN inspectors. As Britain was preparing to turn over the rotating chairmanship of the UN Security Council to the United States, at the end of October, the Blair government escalated the crisis, by demanding that the United States prepare to take action against Saddam’s purported arsenal of wonder-weapons. British Defence Secretary Robertson and Foreign Secretary Cook have been “out-Thatchering Thatcher” in their zeal to push President Clinton into a flight forward.

Next, the French government weighed in with its own belated “discovery” that some of Iraq’s Gulf War missiles had contained traces of VX, the very same biological weapon that President Clinton had been earlier duped into believing had been manufactured at the Al-Shifa pharmaceutical plant in Khartoum, Sudan.

Had anyone bothered to look, the VX scare story would have been traced to Yossef Bodansky, the Anglo-Israeli disinformation agent and one-time controller of Israeli spy Jonathan Jay Pollard, who published the Iraq-Sudan disinformation in a report released by the House Republican Study Group on Unconventional Warfare in the spring of 1998.

On Oct. 30, Iraq’s Deputy Prime Minister, Dr. Tariq Aziz, released detailed evidence that the UNSCOM teams had been illegally smuggling Israeli intelligence officers into Iraq, using phony United Nations IDs, a provocation guaranteed to send Saddam into his own flight forward. Within hours, the Iraqi Revolutionary Council had voted to expel the UNSCOM team, and the countdown was on. Richard Butler, the Australian chief of the Iraq UN inspection operation, should be forced to come clean on this provocation.

In the meantime, President Clinton should just say “no” to Blair, Bibi, and the rest of his enemies—once and for all.