

chief-makers that he was elected by the Israeli people as a whole. Recent polls suggest that over 60% of Israelis strongly support his efforts to make peace with the Palestinians, Syrians, and Lebanese, and an even larger percentage accepts that there will be a Palestinian state.

Israeli sources have told *EIR* that Barak is prepared to follow up a deal at Camp David with early elections and a referendum on the peace agreement, to expand his popular mandate and force the hand of those in the political establishment who are on the fence or in opposition, on the question of peace.

Furthermore, in the weeks leading up to Camp David, the Barak government leaked most of the details of the plan he will be presenting at the summit, the key ingredients of which are: turnover of 90% of the West Bank to the Palestinians; transfer of control over the Arab quarters of East Jerusalem and several suburbs of Jerusalem to the Palestinian Authority; permission for a fixed number of Palestinians in the diaspora to return to Israel; and creation of a security buffer zone along the Jordan River, separating the West Bank from the Kingdom of Jordan.

Just before the no-confidence vote, Barak had met Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and Jordan's King Abdullah.

Water, Water . . .

One of the most pressing issues to be solved—in addition to territorial issues, including Jerusalem—is the growing crisis over lack of fresh water. The day Camp David began, Israel's Ministry of Environment warned, "After several years of drought, there simply isn't water, and, according to all the measurements, the situation is getting worse." Environment Minister Dalia Itzik told the *New York Times* that within a few months, Israel will exhaust its supply of drinking water.

As Lyndon LaRouche has warned for years, unless the water crisis is solved, Mideast peace will never be achieved, despite the best intentions of Clinton, Barak, and Arafat. Only through investment in massive desalination programs, including nuclear-powered desalination, will the economic foundations for peace be securely laid.

Until very recently, President Clinton has let it be known that he will not take on the right-wing Zionist Lobby apparatus, for fear that they will turn on Presidential candidate Al Gore and the First Lady, who is running for Senate in the Zionist Lobby's backyard, New York. If that sorry situation does not change, there is little prospect of the summit succeeding—and at that point, Barak and Arafat will both be in deep trouble, and the entire Middle East on a possible confrontation course.

President Arafat has already made it clear that he will declare Palestinian statehood on Sept. 13, when the final status talks are supposed to be completed, if there is no breakthrough at Camp David. If a breakthrough occurs, statehood would be an integral part of the deal, and would come about with Israeli approval.

Will Blair Ouster Ruin Al Gore?

by Mark Burdman

Powerful elements within the British establishment have, during early July, initiated a no-holds-barred campaign, that is being carried out in the extremely nasty and brutal manner characteristic of British political operations, to destabilize British Prime Minister Tony Blair. The aim is to remove Blair from office as soon as possible, and to propel opposition Conservative Party leader William Hague into power. This is hardly a "British internal affair," but has the most significant international ramifications, particularly concerning the Presidential ambitions of U.S. Vice President Al Gore.

Blair himself is showing extreme symptoms of nervousness and unease, in response to the destabilization, to the extent that the British media are talking about him "unraveling" and "crumbling." "People and Politics," the leading weekly show about the British political scene, broadcast by the government-owned British Broadcasting Corp. (BBC), was savage about Blair on July 8, proclaiming, "Tony Blair has, until now, been the master of 'spin' and control, but now he is beginning to spin out of control."

Best estimates are, that Blair's decline is causing panic in the Clinton White House and in the Gore Presidential campaign. Blair has, since coming to power on May 1, 1997, built a close relationship with President Bill Clinton. But more than that, Blair and his entourage are, ideologically and politically, very close to Gore. Blair's "Third Way" and Gore's "New Democrats" and "triangulation" policies, are identical. Blair's removal from power, and replacement by Hague, would do extreme damage to Gore, given the influence of London on U.S. political processes, both directly, and through London's allies on Wall Street.

Hague, by contrast, is backed by those British elements, typified by Hollinger Corp. and Telegraph newspaper chain owner Conrad Black, and by London *Times* former editor Lord William Rees-Mogg, who are fully committed to a George W. Bush Presidency in the United States. As City of London sources have stressed to *EIR*, there is a realignment in the U.S.-British "special relationship," toward a Bush-Hague axis, in a post-Clinton era.

A 'Message' to Blair

The viciousness of the destabilization was displayed on July 6. On that date, Blair's 16-year-old son Euan was found on the ground, dead drunk, in London's Leicester Square. He was hauled to a police station, and reportedly gave a false

identity, until he was correctly identified as Blair's son.

While the incident was followed by much tear-jerking, soap-opera-type pronunciations from Tony Blair about father-son relationships and related matters, the fact is, that the British Prime Minister, and everybody else in the know, is fully aware, that what had been done on July 6, was an intelligence operation, with the aim of communicating to Blair: "Now you know we can get your family, and you'd better find a way to listen, and get yourself out of office."

From top to bottom, the story about Euan, as reported by the media, makes no sense. Supposedly, he was celebrating the end of his school-year exams, and drank too much. But Leicester Square is not just anywhere in London; it is one of the seediest areas of the city, notorious for rampant alcoholism, drug-taking, and trade in "rent boys," the British term for young male prostitutes. The fact is, the son of a Prime Minister is always supposed to be protected by a comprehensive security screen. The only possibilities, then, are that some dirty operation was run by somebody, or somebodies, *within* the security screen, or that, for reasons unknown and unexplained, there was a stripping of the security screen, to allow someone to carry out unusual hanky-panky.

A very well-connected British source commented to *EIR* on July 12, as soon as the Euan Blair matter was brought up to him, that he was certain that "somebody loaded his drinks." He said it was most extraordinary, that the Prime Minister's son, of all people, would end up on Leicester Square. According to this source, "This was all an ideal set-up. Somebody must have arranged all this."

This individual stressed, that the British press, after its initial spectacular coverage of the affair, was told "to stay away" from the story, because of its obvious explosive implications.

Policies Fall Apart

In response to this and other shocks, Blair began to show signs of becoming psychologically deranged.

The week of July 3 had begun badly for him. While in Germany two days earlier, he had made an odd proposal, that violent hooligans, after being picked up by police, should be marched over to pay an immediate fine, without being formally charged. This was supposed to be a novel idea, for "fighting crime." But the idea was universally lambasted; on July 8, BBC reported that British police ridiculed the idea as "ludicrous and unworkable." It became all the more bizarre, when the "drunk Euan" affair occurred less than a week later.

On two other fronts, Northern Ireland and Europe, Blair was watching his policies shatter into pieces. Throughout the week of July 3, and up to the point of our writing, there have been violent confrontations in Northern Ireland, between police and Protestant militants, who were protesting the refusal of the British government to allow them to carry out the traditional "Orange Order" march. The violence has involved Molotov cocktails, setting buildings and cars ablaze, and more.



British Prime Minister Tony Blair. The British establishment has launched a campaign to oust him quickly, which doesn't bode well for Vice President Al Gore.

This march is supposed to commemorate the victory of William of Orange over James II, in 1690, and expresses the triumphalism of "Protestantism" over Irish Catholicism, especially as the marchers insist on marching through a Catholic neighborhood in Northern Ireland—somewhat like the Ku Klux Klan insisting on marching through Harlem in New York City.

The violence was particularly embarrassing, and ruinous, for the much-touted "peace program" for Northern Ireland worked out by Northern Ireland Secretary Peter Mandelson. Mandelson is a long-standing Blair intimate, and one of the chief architects of Blair's "Third Way." It should be kept in mind, that the Protestant militants are, to a significant extent, aligned with the British Conservative Party.

The "Third Way" also has suffered a stunning reversal in continental Europe. After he was elected by a landslide, Blair and his "Third Way" were heralded by many on the continent as the "wave of the future," and Blair was being groomed by key elements of the British establishment as a Prime Minister who could penetrate and manipulate Europe, on behalf of British geopolitical interests, from within. But the recent efforts of French President Jacques Chirac, to create a "core

Europe,” centered around France and Germany, and excluding Britain, have isolated Blair, and wrecked one of the key pillars of this strategy.

Blair was already reeling from electoral humiliations of May 4, especially the victory of maverick Labourite Ken Livingstone as London Mayor. In early June, Blair suffered a second setback, when he was booed, jeered, and heckled by the normally staid Women’s Institute (see “Britain’s Tony Blair Is Decomposing Like Gore,” *EIR*, June 30, 2000; “Debacles of Britain’s Blair Undermine Gore, ‘Third Way,’ ” May 12, 2000).

‘The Emperor Has No Clothes’

During the week of July 3, an obviously unbalanced Blair made a series of wild gaffes, in statements to the British Parliament.

First, was when he spoke of a new memorial honoring Australian soldiers who had died in combat during World War II, and announced that this would be a commemoration for “the Americans” who died in the war. This was greeted by hooting and jeering, at which point he started mumbling, “I mean ‘the Australians.’ Forgive me, forgive me.”

Second, was when Blair declared, to the shock of supporters and to the derision of the opposition, that his government was all “spin, not substance.”

Third, was in a contorted formulation, in which he stated that Hague would, in the future, be British Prime Minister.

Such behavior led *Sunday Times* commentator Melanie Phillips, in an article on July 9 entitled “The Crumbling of Blair,” to write: “Is Tony Blair losing the plot? The acid test for any Prime Minister is how he reacts to adversity, both personal and political. It is alarming to see how badly Blair is failing on both counts. . . . Under fire, he is visibly crumbling, startlingly demonstrated by his gaffe-laden performance at Prime Minister’s questions last week. . . . He can’t take the heat. . . . It’s a big mistake to think his control-freakery is a sign of strength. On the contrary, it is a sign of considerable weakness. . . . The phenomenon of Blair is the construction of an artificial political personality.”

Phillips charged: “Blair lacks any firm political beliefs, is ignorant of history, and unable to think complicated issues through. . . . Faced with serious criticism, the Prime Minister panics because he has nothing on which to draw for a convincing response. He’s been in a sweat ever since the health service fell to bits last winter, and he realized he’s being expected to deliver results which he hasn’t got a clue how to achieve. He is the emperor with no clothes.”

Blair Is ‘Dumbing Down’ Britain

During the week of July 10, a new flank opened against Blair, hitting him on what is, ultimately, his most vulnerable flank: the devastation that he is bringing to British culture and the British economy.

A leading British writer, Trinidad-born Sir Vidia Naipaul,

gave an interview to the magazine *Tatler*, in which he charged that Blair and his government are “vandalizing” and “destroying” British culture, the arts, historical identity, and language. He warned that “this appalling government” is systematically “dumbing down” Britain, thereby “creating a cultural void that will have a long-term effect on the economy.” He stated that, “for the first time in 50 years of living here, I feel depressed by a government.”

He affirmed: “I am depressed by their dreadful use of rhetoric, the misuse of language. I hate all their language. They don’t believe half the things they say, and they are trying to cover up their lack of belief. . . . [Blair] comes at the end of a period of destruction going back 50 years. But yes, yes, he is in command now, holder of the black flag, the skull and crossbones.”

Naipaul’s attack was covered, front-page, by the *Daily Telegraph* on July 11, and was then extensively reported on, on the widely listened-to Radio 4, that same night. A British source told *EIR* the next day, that Naipaul’s violent polemic was the equivalent of a “bomb that has exploded. This is a very formidable attack.”

These debacles have worked to Hague’s advantage. On July 11, the *Telegraph* ran an interview with Hague, with a picture showing him confidently smiling, and a caption quoting him that Blair’s ratings are on a “permanent downward slope.” The Hollinger daily touted him as “the down-to-earth, unspun voice of Middle England. There is a new air of confidence about Mr. Hague.”

Hague told the paper that “there is a huge amount of disappointment and dissatisfaction with the government, some of which has turned into enthusiasm for the Conservative Party. There are millions of people who feel very let down by the government.”

The *Telegraph* noted that, this summer, Hague and his wife Fion “will be holidaying in the Deep South of the United States”—undoubtedly an occasion for making further buddy-buddy with George W. Bush and the Bush networks.

On July 7, the same *Telegraph* ran a long interview with “Dubya,” in which he exulted that the British-American relationship is “more special than special. . . . The Brits have been very loyal allies, and I hope the alliance is viewed in the same way the United States has been loyal allies to the Brits.”

But in the vicious environment of the current British power wars, a “message” may also have been delivered to Hague, perhaps by pro-Blair loyalists in the secret services. On July 11, a key Hague adviser, John Morgan, who had advised Hague on “image” and related matters, was found dead, under mysterious circumstances. According to preliminary police reports, Morgan had “fallen” from his third-floor apartment, in the Albany district of London. No explanation has been given for how or why this happened. Morgan was well-liked in his social circles, and had no apparent major problems or conflicts. Foul play is more than likely, in this case.