

The Major Omissions in Hitchens's Indictment of Henry Kissinger

by Scott Thompson and Michael Billington

The February and March issues of *Harper's* magazine carry features by British author Christopher Hitchens, entitled "The Case Against Henry Kissinger: The Making of a War Criminal." While Hitchens claims that his criterion was to choose only those instances which would qualify as courtroom evidence, there are numerous, major cases that he must have known about, yet overlooked. And, most importantly, Hitchens argues that since the chance of a U.S. court indicting Kissinger for war crimes is "a fantastically remote one," he endorses the flip side of the Thornburgh Doctrine (the British model for an international court of law to override U.S. national sovereignty), by calling for Kissinger to be tried for his crimes before an international court.

It was during the first Bush Administration that Attorney General Richard Thornburgh asserted the extra-territorial reach of American criminal law, to justify the invasion of Panama and the "arrest" of Gen. Manuel Noriega, on phony drug-trafficking charges. Thousands died in that American military action, which set the "Thornburgh Doctrine," a vicious assault on the principle of national sovereignty, in stone. Today, a similar assault is being carried out under the banner of Transparency International and other international "human rights" groups, which have pressed for the permanent institutionalization of the Thornburgh Doctrine—but this time, under the rubric of a Bertrand Russell-inspired, world government-run World Criminal Court. At a recent "tribunal" in Washington, D.C., Hitchens advanced the Kissinger case, and the pending case against Chile's former military dictator, Gen. Augusto Pinochet Ugarte, as precedents for instituting the World Court scheme, gutting national sovereignty for all states—including, most emphatically, the United States.

There is no question that Kissinger, like his genocidalist mentor Russell, committed heinous crimes against humanity. Most of those crimes were committed on behalf of a drive to establish a British-dominated world empire/world government. It would therefore be the height of insanity to take Kissinger's criminality, and use it as a weapon in service of the permanent destruction of the nation-state. It is on this crucial point that *EIR* parts company with Hitchens and those who would use Kissinger's crimes to further Kissinger's own agenda.

The importance of putting Kissinger's crimes against hu-

manity before the world, is not to be undermined in any way. In fact, far from being an historical "artifact," Kissinger, his genocidal policies, and his network of agents-in-place in American policymaking institutions, are alive and well, and working at the edges of the new Bush Administration. Ironically, as the Kissinger "tribunal" was taking place in Washington last month, Kissinger was making a personal appearance at the Wehrkunde annual military strategy conference in Munich, Germany, where he sought to exacerbate the already serious diplomatic tensions between Washington and Moscow, by asserting that the U.S. National Missile Defense program is directed against Russia and China.

British Agent

Hitchens blames Kissinger's crimes entirely on the United States, despite the fact that, during a speech on May 10, 1982, on the 200th anniversary of the British Foreign Office (which, Kissinger notes, had been formed immediately after Britain's loss of the American colonies) at the Royal Institute for International Affairs ("Chatham House"), Kissinger himself admitted that he had been a *British agent against* the United States throughout his tenure in office. Kissinger said: "After Roosevelt died . . . the British were so matter-of-factly helpful that they became a participant in internal American deliberations, to a degree probably never before practiced between sovereign nations. . . . In my White House incarnation then, I kept the British Foreign Office better informed and more closely engaged than I did the American State Department."

After stating that he used British government documents as the blueprint for U.S. foreign policy, Kissinger sided with Sir Winston Churchill on the "significant differences in philosophy" between the Prime Minister and President Franklin Delano Roosevelt. The British, Kissinger noted, "drew upon two centuries of experience with the European balance of power, America on two centuries of rejecting it." Further, Kissinger said that FDR "toyed with the idea of nonalignment between a balance-of-power-oriented colonialist Britain and an ideologically obstreperous Soviet Union." He said that FDR had been mistaken when he swore to roll back all European colonialism after World War II.

In September 1995, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, with

British author Christopher Hitchens omits evidence in his indictment of Henry Kissinger (right) as a war criminal, including Kissinger's role in the government attacks on Lyndon LaRouche, and the murders of Pakistani Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto (left) and Italian Prime Minister Aldo Moro.



the full support of the royal consort, His Royal Highness Prince Philip, awarded Kissinger an “Honorary” Knight Commander of St. Michael and St. George, an award reserved normally for only the most important people in the British Foreign Office. As the British Honor’s Committee informed *EIR*, “Sir” Henry had achieved this award for “a lifetime of service on behalf of the British Empire.”

So much for Hitchens’s “American guilt.”

The ‘Get LaRouche’ Task Force

Hitchens also omits Kissinger’s abuse of power in his persecution of Presidential pre-candidate Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr. This attack on LaRouche had two phases. The first, for which *EIR* has received Freedom of Information Act documents, started in the early-1970s while Kissinger was both National Security Adviser and Secretary of State. During this phase, he encouraged foreign governments to raid offices associated with *EIR* and to arrest *EIR* staff on bogus charges, and encouraged the dissemination of a wild fabrication to foreign governments through U.S. Embassies that LaRouche and his associates were very dangerous.

Also, for example, in Spring 1975, after LaRouche issued his International Development Bank proposal for a new, gold reserve-backed monetary system, Kissinger flew to Paris to scotch LaRouche’s ongoing talks with prominent Middle East government officials, both Arab and Israeli. One Arab state

was threatened with immediate cut-off of American food aid unless it dropped plans to host LaRouche at a diplomatic reception.

The second phase, which consisted of a seven-year campaign against LaRouche and top assistants, began after LaRouche had begun working with President Ronald Reagan’s National Security Council staff in back-channel negotiations between the Soviet Union and the United States, discussing plans to end Kissinger’s policy of Mutually Assured Destruction (MAD), and replace it with LaRouche’s proposal for mutual development of relativistic beam weapon systems, which President Reagan later called, in his March 23, 1983 speech, the Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI).

Beginning in August 1982—within days of LaRouche’s return from Mexico City, where he had met with President José López Portillo to discuss his solution to the Third World debt crisis—Kissinger launched a crusade to force the Justice Department and the FBI to frame up LaRouche.

On Aug. 19, 1982, Kissinger wrote his now infamous “Dear Bill” letter to then-FBI Director William Webster: “Because these people have been getting increasingly obnoxious, I have taken the liberty of asking my lawyer, Bill Rogers, to get in touch with you to ask your advice, especially with respect to security. . . . It was good seeing you at the [Bohemian] Grove, and I look forward to the chance to visit again when I am next in Washington. Warm regards.”

Just days before the Kissinger letter, on Aug. 14, the European Labor Party (POE) Italian associates of LaRouche had also submitted an investigative dossier to the Italian Attorney General, presenting evidence of Kissinger's involvement in the 1978 kidnapping and assassination of Italy's President Aldo Moro (see below).

When the FBI informed Kissinger that it did not yet have a case against LaRouche, Kissinger wrote a more formal letter to "Dear Judge Webster," on Nov. 25, 1982. Kissinger wrote that LaRouche "accusations that I am responsible for the murder of leading political figures around the world coupled with other charges (for example the purchase by me of Arab land on the West Bank)—[are] likely to appeal to groups with a high potential for violence, thus risking my personal safety. . . . We may be witnessing here not normal radical political action but a systematic disinformation campaign supported by some foreign intelligence service."

That theme was picked up by Kissinger's friends at a rump meeting of the President's Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board, which included former Center for Strategic and International Studies president David Abshire and the late Democratic Party powerbroker and attorney Edward Bennett Williams. In a Jan. 12, 1983 memorandum from Webster to FBI number-two official Oliver "Buck" Revell, Webster stated: "At the PFIAB meeting today David Abshire raised the subject of the activities of the U.S. Labor Party [defunct after LaRouche ran for the Democratic Party Presidential nomination in 1980] and Lyndon LaRoche [sic]. . . . A number of the members present, including Edward Bennett Williams, raised the question of sources of funding for these U.S. Labor Party activities. In view of the large amounts obviously being expended worldwide, the question was raised whether the U.S. Labor Party might be funded by hostile intelligence agencies."

Thus began a seven-year "investigation" by the Justice Department and FBI, that eventually led to the railroad conviction of LaRouche and close political associates on trumped-up conspiracy charges by a rigged Federal jury in Alexandria, Virginia. On Jan. 27, 1989, LaRouche was sentenced to an unprecedented 15 years in jail, and was immediately taken off to prison without bail pending appeal—a practice not even imposed on many convicted murderers.

A Policy of Genocide

Hitchens, in his argument that Kissinger is a "war criminal," correctly cites "body counts" from the war against Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia. But he omits something even more striking: That on Dec. 10, 1974, Kissinger had the National Security Council staff draft a policy document "National Security Study Memorandum 200: Implications of Worldwide Population Growth for U.S. Security Overseas Interests" (NSSM 200), *which would make genocide the official national security policy of the U.S. government.*

Later declassified, NSSM 200 calls for holding world

population at 8 billion, rather than the 22 billion then projected for 2075. Arguing that population growth of this dimension would cause "wars and revolutions," NSSM 200 calls for the use of "food control" to stop rapid population growth—i.e., food as a weapon to create famine—and argues that modern, intensive agricultural methods, that might feed the growth of populations otherwise, would require "too much capital expenditure." NSSM 200 argues that should the populations of the less-developed countries grow, as, absent intervention, had been projected, then they would consume fuel and raw materials needed by the advanced sector.

NSSM 200 selected 13 countries which, it said, accounted for 47% of the population growth outside China, for special treatment: India, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Nigeria, Mexico, Indonesia, Brazil, the Philippines, Thailand, Egypt, Turkey, Ethiopia, and Colombia.

Implementation of these genocidal policies was placed under the control of the National Security Council, when Kissinger's former deputy, Gen. "Sir" Brent Scowcroft, wrote a follow-on Presidential Decision Directive, that was signed by President Ford.

Two Murders

Then, there are two murders that Hitchens omits.

As part of the dossier that the POE supplied to the Italian Attorney General, there were statements from Italian Prime Minister Moro's wife, his daughter Agnese, and son Giovanni, that in 1975 Kissinger had threatened the Moro's for his effort, as chairman of the Christian Democrats, to create a stable, national unity government with the Italian Communist Party.

Throughout the period leading up to Moro's kidnapping (ostensibly by the "Red Brigades") and subsequent murder (his body was found on May 9, 1978), NATO had been running a "Strategy of Tension" against Italy and Moro, using both "red" and "black" terrorism, as well as abortive coup attempts.

Celso Elio Ciolini, who was a chief lieutenant of Freemasonic leader Licio Gelli of the Propaganda 2 (P-2) Lodge, a Freemasonic group that was involved in "black terrorism," such as the 1969 Bologna train station bombing in which 82 people were killed, testified in 1982 in a Bologna courtroom investigating the matter, that Kissinger and his deputy, Gen. Alexander Haig, had conducted "crocodile funds" to P-2 for several aborted coup attempts.

When Kissinger later revisited Italy, he had the U.S. Embassy secretly convey him out of the country, because Italian magistrates investigating the Moro assassination and related matters had a subpoena for him to testify.

Then there is the case of Pakistan Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, who had been overthrown by a coup d'état on July 5, 1977, imprisoned, and then hanged on April 4, 1979. Shortly before his death, Bhutto wrote a response to a concocted government White Paper justifying his overthrow,

which *EIR* published in January 1979 under the title “The Pakistan Papers.” Bhutto charged that he had been overthrown because of his conflict with Kissinger, who had signed “a death sentence against his person.” The reason for Kissinger’s threats, according to Bhutto, was that he had refused to accede to Kissinger’s insistence that he stop the development of “uranium-processing plants to satisfy Pakistan’s energy needs.” Pakistan is one of the 13 nations specifically cited in NSSM 200 as a target for Kissinger’s policy of genocide.

The Real Story of Cambodia

Over the past two years, there has been an international clamor for the right of “extra-territoriality” in the case of Cambodia’s plan to put on trial the leaders of the genocidal Khmer Rouge regime, which slaughtered a huge portion of the nation’s population during its 1975-79 reign of terror.

The United Nations bureaucracy, self-appointed “human rights” non-governmental organizations, and international financial institutions have demanded the right to hold an *international* trial, with foreign judges and prosecutors, and for foreigners to determine who is, and who is not, indicted—despite the fact that the Khmer Rouge were Cambodians, their victims were Cambodians, and their crimes were carried out within the sovereign territory of Cambodia.

The question is: Why are certain political interests so frantic to ensure that any trial of the Khmer Rouge *not* be held within Cambodia, or under the auspices of the Cambodians themselves? Would not the people of Cambodia, who suffered the worst genocide of the last half of the 20th Century, and the political party (the current government party) which fought the Khmer Rouge for 20 years and brought about their demise, be the best situated to judge the crimes committed against them?

EIR addressed this question in “Cambodia Genocide: Kissinger and Brzezinski in the Dock” (*EIR*, Dec. 24, 1999). Under any just criteria of prosecution, Kissinger and his “twin,” Zbigniew Brzezinski, would be indicted as responsible for the Cambodian genocide. Not only was Kissinger responsible for the secret, illegal bombing of Cambodia which, as Hitchens reported, killed several hundred thousand Cambodian peasants, but it was the bombing itself which drove the peasantry into the arms of the Khmer Rouge, leading to the death of millions more. Even more damning is the fact that this was the *intended result*, in a London-designed geopolitical game which used Cambodia as a pawn to prolong the Cold War.

The fact is, the demand for an *international tribunal* rather than a sovereign, national trial, was an attempt to *prevent the most important of the guilty parties from ever being indicted*. Kissinger could, and should, be tried for his crimes in any of those nations that have a *bona fide* extradition treaty with the United States, but the attempt to create an international tribunal can only serve to obfuscate the truth, by moving the trial outside the reach of sovereign, elected governments.

GOP Plans Worse Than ‘Contract on America’

by Carl Osgood

The Bush Administration, aided and abetted by Congressional Republicans, has launched an all-out assault on the general welfare with a combination of initiatives, including the fiscal year 2002 budget plan, George W. Bush’s \$1.6 trillion tax cut, bankruptcy reform, and Medicare and Social Security reform. This assault comes in the context of the onrushing collapse of the global financial system, evidenced in the U.S. economy by the wave of layoffs in manufacturing and the energy price crisis. The Bush Administration, along with the Congressional GOP leadership, is responding by gutting those safety-net programs and other protections, that are absolutely essential to defending the health and welfare of the general public.

The Bush Administration budget plan, submitted the day after Bush’s speech to a joint session of Congress on Feb. 27, is based on the assumption, provided by the Congressional Budget Office, that, absent any change in policy, there will be a budget surplus of \$5.6 trillion between 2002 and 2011. This projection is offered despite a chorus of warnings, including even from the usually incomprehensible Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan, that the economy is slowing down. In addition to the tax cut, the budget calls for paying down \$1 trillion of the national debt over the next four years; a \$1.4 trillion reserve fund over ten years, to be available for “additional needs such as defense spending, debt service, unforeseen disasters, and other contingencies”; \$153 billion for Medicare reform; \$310 billion in defense spending, about the same as recommended by President Clinton just before he left office; and an 11.5% boost in education funding.

The budget plan also includes policy recommendations, including partial privatization of Social Security, to allow workers to put some of their payroll tax into “personal retirement accounts” which would be invested in the private equity markets. The increase in defense spending would be put toward a military pay raise, housing, and health-care needs, with national missile defense being the only weapons system to receive a funding boost. The plan also calls for an increase in funding for the National Institutes of Health, but cuts programs for the Departments of Agriculture, Justice, and Transportation. Significantly, Bush has asked for no emergency funds for agriculture, even though Congress