

Leading Saudi Daily Covers EIR vs. Kissinger

On Dec. 3, the leading Saudi and international Arabic-language daily *Asharq Al-Awsat*, published an article by *EIR* authors Michele Steinberg and Hussein Al-Nadeem under the title: “Who Is Behind The Attack On Saudi Arabia And Egypt . . . And Why?” The subtitle answered the question: “An American Coup d’État, Aiming To Impose The ‘Clash Of Civilization’ Policies, And Creating A New Roman Empire.” The article is largely an Arabic translation of Steinberg’s article in the Nov. 30 *EIR*. The editors of *Asharq Al-Awsat* reported on what they characterized as “American politician and economist Lyndon LaRouche’s analysis of the Sept. 11 events and what followed, as a coup d’État.”

The same issue contained the Arabic translation of a recent op-ed by former U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger, under the title “How The Sept. 11 Attacks Will Shape The World Order In The 21st Century.” Kissinger’s article confirms many of the suspicions raised by *EIR* about the intentions of the “transatlantic” power elite for forming a New World Order modelled on the Roman Empire, and for fomenting a “clash of civilizations” with Islam.

Also published in the same issue of *Asharq Al-Awsat* were several articles by prominent Saudi businessmen—such as Dr. Abdurrahman Azzamil—and Saudi lawyers, who were replying frankly to the slander campaign being waged against Saudi Arabia and Egypt by major Anglo-American mass media organs.

Asharq Al-Awsat, both in print and on the Internet, is the leading Saudi business daily, with the largest international readership among Arabic newspapers, a daily circulation of 236,500. It is published by the London-based Saudi Research and Marketing Ltd., and distributed in most Arab Gulf countries, North Africa, and all major cities in Europe and the United States.

Sharon claimed he got a “green light” from Bush to give Arafat and the Palestinian Authority “the Taliban treatment.” But Israeli sources expose this as a lie. On Dec. 5, *Ha’aretz* correspondent Zev Schiff wrote that, in their meeting, Bush laid out a series of “red lines”—not “green lights”—to Sharon, warning him not to harm Arafat, nor topple the PA, which is the U.S.-recognized partner in the peace negotiations. Sharon is ignoring Bush and counting on Mega’s political clout.

To further the Sharon/Mega aims, a resolution sponsored by Henry Hyde (R-Ill.) and Tom Lantos (D-Calif.), two of Sharon’s biggest backers, was rammed through the House of Representatives by a vote of 384-11, to pressure Bush to crush Arafat in the name of a “war on terrorism.” At the same time, ten members of Congress, including Senators John McCain (R-Ariz.), Joe Lieberman (D-Conn.), Jesse Helms (R-N.C.), and Trent Lott (R-Miss.) sent a letter to Bush, demanding Iraq be made the next war target in the “war on terrorism.”

Despite the broad margin, however, there is some clear-minded opposition, reflected in the warning by Rep. John Dingell (D-Mich.), that this resolution pushes a policy for Israel and the United States that leads to world war.

Lebanon Legacy: Sharon Is Out To Murder Arafat

by Dean Andromidas

The bloody escalation of events in the Mideast of late November-early December has been orchestrated by Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon, and his Israeli Defense Force (IDF) generals, in collusion with their supporters in the United States among the “Mega” group of billionaires and the “Wolfowitz cabal,” named after Deputy Secretary of Defense Paul Wolfowitz, who are attempting to foment an all-out religious war. Sharon’s aims are clear: sabotage the peace mission of Gen. Anthony Zinni (ret.), U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell’s special envoy; overthrow the Palestinian Authority; and eliminate Palestinian Authority President Yasser Arafat from the scene forever.

Sharon’s bloody provocation would not be possible unless he got a “green light” from his friends in Washington. This does not refer to President George Bush or Secretary of State Powell, but to the circle of war-mongers who have decided to unleash their breakaway ally, Sharon, because the Bush Administration, despite the ravings of Wolfowitz and his cronies, refuses to launch war against Iraq, Syria, and Iran. Allowing Sharon to eliminate Arafat and overthrow the Palestinian Authority, would throw the region into a conflagration within which Sharon’s generals could unilaterally launch attacks on Iraq, Syria, or other Arab countries. This in turn, would drag the United States into a war with the Arab world and the “clash of civilizations,” which has been the intent of those behind the ongoing military coup initiated by the attacks on the United States on Sept. 11.

On Nov. 19, Powell gave his speech committing the Bush Administration to implementation of the Mitchell Commission plan—a report on steps necessary for Mideast peace by

a commission headed by former U.S. Sen. George Mitchell—and the cease-fire developed by CIA head George Tenet. His initiative, backed by the President, crippled two ongoing policy plans that would amount to a coup d'état against Bush's policies. In Israel, Sharon and his generals were about to make the decision to assassinate Arafat and topple the Palestinian Authority; in Washington, the Wolfowitz cabal continued to spearhead an international campaign for war on Iraq, as "Phase II" of the international war on terror.

In response, Sharon and his "friends" in the Anglo-American "clash of civilizations" cabal acted to implement the "breakaway ally."

The Plot Against Arafat

By the time Powell announced General Zinni's mission, the plot against Arafat was far advanced. On Nov. 14, in the Israeli daily *Ha'aretz*, senior military correspondent Ze'ev Schiff blew the lid off the plan to kill Arafat, saying, "Israel should exercise the utmost caution—and this is also the position of military intelligence—to avoid becoming a factor that removes the Palestinian Authority Chairman from the political arena by force."

Schiff reminded readers that almost two decades earlier, during the Lebanon war, "Menachem Begin rejected the proposal that Arafat be assassinated . . . [as] Defense Minister, Sharon wanted Arafat liquidated." Schiff revealed, "In one instance [in 1982], which has not been recounted to this day, after the siege of Beirut, Arafat escaped death because someone hesitated to pull the trigger." He added that, if it were up to Sharon, "he would order Arafat's removal from the political arena. . . . Sharon would no doubt prefer to remove Arafat from the territories." Schiff says Arafat now uses Jordanian military helicopters to ensure his safety when he travels.

Others also warned about Sharon. On Nov. 13, in the *Jerusalem Post*, Gen. Shlomo Gazit, former head of Israeli military intelligence, appealed to Bush to intervene, because war could break out "in the next weeks or months."

One has to understand the fanaticism of Sharon, who is replaying his own orchestration of the 1982 Lebanon War, in which, as Defense Minister, he drafted "Operation Pines," claiming falsely that it was to be a limited security operation to eliminate "terrorism" along the Lebanese border. In fact, Sharon launched a full-scale invasion of Lebanon to establish a so-called "Christian" Phalangist state, with its capital in



"In his meetings with foreign leaders, Sharon often talks at length about his open account with Arafat going back to the . . . seige of Beirut." Here, Beirut destroyed in 1982. "Sharon," says another commentator, "is now trying to complete [what] he didn't manage militarily 20 years ago."

Beirut, ethnically cleansed of all Palestinian refugees. In that criminal war, despite a U.S. intervention, Sharon massacred thousands of defenseless Palestinian refugees in the Sabra and Chatila camps in Lebanon, for which he now stands accused in a Belgian court.

Another parallel to 1982 is the fact that the Reagan Administration, prior to the Israeli invasion of Lebanon, had opened a secret channel with Arafat and the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO). The Reagan initiative included putting pressure on Israel to implement the "annexes" to the Camp David Treaty between Egypt and Israel, which called for setting up a Palestinian National Authority. The intention was that the PNA would eventually become the basis of a Palestinian state.

Powell Initiative Is Target Now

This was why Sharon was determined to kill Arafat in 1982, and why he is moving swiftly now to kill the Powell initiative. All the more so, because General Zinni had a copy of Peace Now's latest report on the illegal expansion of Jewish settlements in the West Bank and Gaza Strip in his briefcase, on his arrival in Israel. The ending of the settlements is one of the agreed points of the Mitchell Commission plan.

Within hours of Powell's Nov. 19 speech, Sharon initiated

massive bloodshed in the Palestinian territories. On Nov. 20, IDF tanks dug in in the West Bank “Area A” that is supposed to be under Palestinian administration, provoking more riots and deaths. On Nov. 22, five Palestinian boys were killed by an Israeli booby-trap bomb, which had been placed in an area agreed to be off-limits for such weapons. Then, while the funerals for the children were going on, on Nov. 24, the IDF assassinated Hamas leader Mahmoud Abud Hanoud, killing him in a fiery blast when five missiles fired from a helicopter hit his car.

At the same time, Sharon implemented psychological warfare, by designating a “negotiating team” to meet Zinni, made up of the architects of the policy of “targetted hits.” To lead it, he named Deputy Chief of Staff Gen. Moshe Ya’alon, one of the hard-liners on the General Staff and the man who had just ordered the “targetted hit” against Hanoud on the eve of Zinni’s arrival.

The negotiating team also included Sharon’s terrorism adviser, Maj. Gen. Meir Dagan (ret.), said to be “to the right of Dracula.” Dagan served as terrorism adviser to former Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. Dagan is said to have ordered the botched 1997 assassination attempt on the Jordanian-based Hamas leader Khaled Mashal. If this attempt had been successful, it could have triggered the overthrow of King

Hussein. A killer in the same mold as Sharon, Dagan organized the “Rimon” assassination squads in the 1970s that liquidated PLO militants in the Gaza refugee camps.

Sharon also put on the team, Dore Gold, Sharon’s foreign policy adviser. The American-born Gold is a well-known hard-liner close to Netanyahu and to the right wing of the American Israeli lobby. He has also just been named by Sharon to become Ambassador to Washington.

Sharon Goes To ‘Mega’

On Nov. 29, despite the fact that Hamas formally announced that it would launch a bloody revenge attack for the Hanoud killing, Sharon left on his trip to Washington via New York, a trip that he had cancelled before because of *far less serious* security concerns. The trip was obviously timed so that he would be in the United States when the Hamas revenge attack took place, allowing him to maximize the propaganda power of “Mega,” the billionaires’ club that is backing the “clash of civilizations” policy against President Bush.

The reader may ask the question: Is it possible that Sharon is such a fanatic that he would orchestrate the massacre of Israelis? Well, some people in Israel think so.

The Hamas revenge attacks were so predictable that *Ha’aretz* commentator Akiva Elder wrote, “Washington and Brussels both expected the Hamas to react quickly to the assassination of Abu Hanoud. . . . Is it possible that Sharon didn’t expect what the EU’s [European Union] Javier Solana expected?” Eldar added, “Here’s some food for thought: In his meetings with foreign leaders, Sharon often talks at length about his open account with Arafat going back to the days of the siege of Beirut.”

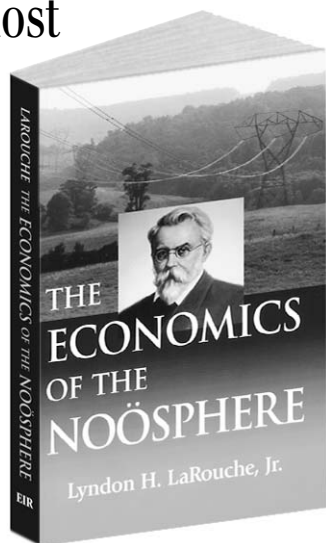
Sharon Pressures Bush

After the second suicide bombing, the Haifa bus attack, Sharon moved swiftly to catch Bush by surprise, announcing that he had to return to Israel, and wanted an immediate meeting on Sunday, Dec. 2.

But instead of a “green light” to finish off the Palestinian Authority, by giving them, and Arafat, “the Taliban treatment,” the Bush meeting did not go to Sharon’s liking. He did not get the “private audience” he wanted; instead, he had to face Powell, who had just denounced Israel’s policy of “occupation” of Palestinian territories. According to *Ha’aretz* correspondent Ze’ev Schiff, Sharon got “red lines,” not a green light. The order from President Bush was explicit: Do not harm Arafat.

While promising Bush that he would not kill Arafat, Sharon proceeded, upon his return to Israel, to launch operations that have only one purpose: targeting Arafat. First, the IDF attacked Gaza Airport, destroying Arafat’s personal helicopter fleet and the runways of the airport. The IDF then attacked offices with which Arafat is associated personally throughout the West Bank. The IDF even entered Ramallah,

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deploying tanks a few dozen meters from Arafat's main office, while he was in it. In a speech on Dec. 3, Sharon announced "war" against Arafat and the Palestinian Authority, and later rammed a resolution through the Knesset (parliament) declaring the Palestinian Authority to be a "terrorist-sponsoring" entity, a legalistic term to justify the "Taliban treatment."

When asked if Israel planned to oust him, Arafat told the press, "Not only me — me and the Palestinian Authority."

A senior Israeli military source, in comments to *EIR*, put it just as strongly. "Sharon has decided that Arafat is not relevant for the process, that Arafat is no partner. Sharon is systematically attacking all of Arafat's symbols," the source said. "Sharon did not even give him two days to round up terrorists." Asked if Sharon will kill Arafat, he replied, "He doesn't have to, since he is embarrassing him, making it impossible for him to move and refusing to deal with him."

The source warned that Sharon and his generals are making all the decisions and not telling even the senior ministers of their plans. Even Foreign Minister Shimon Peres is being kept in the dark. Although this is "normal" in the Israeli system, this source has never seen operational modes as extreme as they are now. He warned that such behavior is presenting a great danger.

A similar view was expressed by General Gazit in the Dec. 4 *Jerusalem Post*. "The main message of Sharon's short speech was a declaration of war on Arafat and the Palestinian Authority. While he refrained from openly declaring Arafat to be an enemy . . . his message was clear: Arafat is responsible for all that has happened and is happening," Gazit wrote. After the attacks on Gaza Airport, Gazit said, "there is no chance that Arafat will work against the terrorists, arrest their members and leaders, or work seriously toward a cease-fire. The recent actions by the IDF were meant to hurt Arafat symbolically, to damage his standing in the eyes of his people. One thing is clear: Only a Palestinian collaborator would work to suppress terror after the insulting blows that Arafat and the PA have incurred."

Pointing to the parallel between the current situation and Sharon's role in launching the 1982 Lebanon War, Israeli commentator Gideon Samet wrote in *Ha'aretz* on Dec. 5, that the decision to declare the Palestinian Authority a terrorist entity, "which the U.S. has refused to do, . . . looks like the start of a new [Operation] Pines plan, albeit a different version than the one Sharon concocted for Lebanon in 1982. But it's not unfamiliar. Sharon is pushing for the de-legitimization of Arafat and his demise. Just as back then — but now as prime minister . . . Sharon is surging ahead." Samet warned that "Sharon is now trying to complete the political work that he didn't manage militarily 20 years ago."

There is great concern in Israel and the United States, that another Sharon-inspired atrocity, along the lines of the massacre of Palestinian refugees in the Sabra and Chatila

camps in Lebanon, will again bury any chance for peace.

The additional danger now, is that there is even less opposition to Sharon's insane plans than in 1982. A senior leader of the Israeli peace movement warned, "Sharon has always thought he made two mistakes in 1982. The first was that in 1982 he did not have enough popular support for launching the war. The second was that the government coalition of Menachem Begin was too narrow. Now he thinks he has overcome both those mistakes."

Despite the international diplomatic mobilization, the situation remains grave. Egyptian Foreign Minister Ahmed Maher El Sayed was dispatched to Israel on Dec. 6, to deliver a warning from Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak not to harm Arafat. But on his return to Egypt, Foreign Minister Maher said that his mission had failed.

A moment of truth has arrived. U.S. 2004 Presidential pre-candidate Lyndon LaRouche warned in a statement published on June 23, that "Israel would now lose a new Middle East war." No one inside Israel is capable of coming forward to stop Sharon. Only the United States, in concert with Europe, Russia in particular, can stop him. Will they act?

The Other Crimes Of Ariel Sharon

by Dean Andromidas

Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon stands accused of being one of the worst war criminals of the last half-century for his role as Defense Minister in the massacre of thousands of Palestinian refugees during the 1982 Lebanese War. But even if the Belgian court — where 23 Palestinians have filed charges of war crimes against Sharon — were to convict him tomorrow, he would still be Prime Minister of Israel and free to drag the Middle East into another war. Yet, there are still other crimes for which Sharon stands accused in Israel — corruption, bribery, and electoral fraud — which, although not as bloody as those before the Belgian court, if pursued with vigor, are enough to put him in jail.

This possibility was raised on Dec. 2 in the Israeli daily *Ha'aretz*, which reported that a secret tape is believed to exist of a 1997 meeting between then-Infrastructure Minister Sharon, and Rem Viakirev, the chief executive of the giant Russian gas company Gazprom. If such tapes were to become public, they would revive an earlier investigation into bribery charges against Sharon. That investigation was completed by the Israeli police in 1999; their report recommended that Sharon be indicted for bribing a witness. At the time, the accusation ended Sharon's bid for leadership of the Likud