

Editorial

Who Benefits From Chaos?

In recent weeks, major neighbor countries of Iraq—Saudi Arabia, Iran, and Turkey—have been targetted by destabilization. The same is true for Pakistan and Afghanistan. The terrorist attacks inside the Saudi kingdom have been widely reported, and automatically attributed to the “Al-Qaeda” terror network. But strategic experts in Europe, consulted by *EIR*, have hypothesized that the neo-conservative apparatus in Washington and London, run by the synarchist banking network, may be deliberately orchestrating a “chaos scenario” for the Southwest Asia region. Such instability would be a serious deterrent to the creation of a cooperative agreement among the nations around Iraq, which is required for solving the crisis in that country. *Preventing* a peace based on sovereign nation state cooperation would be enough reason for these financial networks to unleash this dirty work.

According to one British Southwest Asia expert, certain tribal and other elements in Saudi Arabia, antagonistic to the Saudi regime, have recently received financial support and other forms of “encouragement” from Anglo-American networks. While there is, definitely, strong opposition to the “chaos scenario” in American and British establishment circles, the fact that the Bush Administration withdrew all but its essential diplomatic staff, was seen as a signal of declining political support for the Saudi regime. This fuels the opposition, particularly fanatical Wahabite elements which are linked to the terror attacks. No single Saudi opposition force has “the power to seize control of the country,” according to the British source, “but it is just ‘chaos theory’.” While the radical anti-Saudi position of neo-cons like Richard Perle is well known, John Kerry’s recent anti-Saudi outbursts—“I’ll take the gloves off” on the Saudi rulers—also should be taken into account.

The situation in Iran has been shaken up by the “Chalabi affair”—the scandal that broke around the dealings vis-à-vis Iran of Ahmed Chalabi, the former darling of the neo-cons and member of the now-defunct Iraqi Governing Council. Whatever Chalabi’s crimes, it is the surviving Iran-Contra network in Iran, not the

Iranian government of President Mohammad Seyyed Khatami, which were dealing with Chalabi. In fact, the Khatami government, represented abroad by Foreign Minister Kamal Kharrazi, has been engaged indefatigably in the effort to stabilize Iraq. Iran has intervened directly, through Kharrazi’s diplomatic efforts throughout Europe, Russia, and the Southwest Asia region, as well as indirectly in Iraq, through the Shi’ite religious leadership, to prevent the situation from exploding.

In Turkey, the security situation has become highly tense. Prime Minister Erdogan has most vocally denounced the “state-terrorist” policies of the Sharon government against the Palestinian people. In preparation for the NATO summit to be held in Istanbul later in June, massive security measures are being mounted, with tens of thousands of troops and police deployed. An important international conference scheduled for June 19-20 in Istanbul, which was to discuss U.S. policy for Southwest Asia, and the Iraq war, had to be cancelled because the authorities could not guarantee the security required.

At the same time, on June 1, the terrorist Kurdistan Workers Party (PKK) announced from northern Iraq that it was ending its unilateral ceasefire in the war against the Turkish government. The announcement was made in the Quandil mountains in Northern Iraq. A revival of the war could be devastating for the entire region. Northern Iraqi Kurds fear that the Turkish army would use the fighting in southeastern Turkey as a pretext to legitimate a new intervention in northern Iraq.

Needless to say, the continued Israeli mayhem against the Palestinians is also keeping the level of rage in the region at a fever pitch.

This regional pattern of upheaval is in sharp contrast to the calm—however uneasy—which leading Shi’ite forces in Iraq have maintained. But it is virtually impossible that such calm can be maintained, toward a political solution, without a *very rapid* shift in policy from the United States toward stabilizing the area—including pulling the plug on those who wish to maintain their control through a strategy of chaos.