

Israel at the Gates of Moscow

by Jeffrey Steinberg

On the weekend of June 17-18, 2006, Vice President Dick Cheney huddled with former Israeli Prime Minister and Likud Party head Benjamin Netanyahu, and former Israeli Cabinet minister Natan Sharansky, at a conference in Beaver Creek, Colorado, hosted by the American Enterprise Institute. While the precise contents of the discussions were never made public, Netanyahu loudly advertised that he would immediately fly back to Israel to meet with Prime Minister Ehud Olmert and his “ex-prime ministers” kitchen Cabinet group—which also includes Deputy Prime Minister Shimon Peres and former Labor Party Prime Minister Ehud Barak—to deliver the marching orders from Cheney.

Sharansky, for his part, traveled from Colorado to Washington, D.C. and Philadelphia, where he delivered a series of rants, at the Heritage Foundation and the Middle East Forum, sharply denouncing the Bush Administration for abandoning its commitment to “democracy” in the Middle East, a neo-con key-and-code phrase for violent preemptive “regime change” in Syria, Iran, Saudi Arabia, and Egypt, on the model of their 1996 blueprint for a Washington-Tel Aviv military domination of the region, “A Clean Break” (see *Documentation*, p. 46), Sharansky’s actions were immediately followed by a string of op-eds by such neo-con zealots as Richard Perle, Lawrence Kudlow, and Michael Rubin, all tearing into President Bush and Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, for even paying lip service to a “diplomatic” solution to the so-called Iran crisis.

The Beaver Creek gathering was but one channel of communication from Washington to Tel Aviv, signaling that the time had arrived to blow up the entire Southwest Asia region, through a series of long-planned provocations. And, while Dick Cheney was the all-too-willing messenger for the call to arms, the decision to launch the present Israeli onslaught against Lebanon came from private financier circles, with much higher rank within the Synarchist Interna-

tional than the hooligan Vice President.

As Lyndon LaRouche put it: “This is Felix Rohatyn’s war,” referring to the former Lazard banker, who has played a pivotal role in the systematic dismantling of the United States high-technology industrial base for the past 30 years, and who counts Bush-Cheney Administration “godfather” George Shultz among his most intimate Synarchist collaborators.

A senior European financier seconded LaRouche’s assessment that the unfolding catastrophe in Southwest Asia is part of a global Synarchist insurgency, aimed at provoking a succession of no-win wars to cumulatively engulf the entire planet in a new Thirty Years’ War. “The Israeli invasion of Lebanon,” the source told *EIR*, “occurs at the same time that Afghanistan is collapsing into chaos, and Iraq is not far behind. Add to this the fact that the world financial system is tottering on the edge of collapse, and you have a situation that is unprecedented in modern times.” Factor in the recent series of bombings in Mumbai (Bombay), India; new destabilizations in Russia’s “Near Abroad,” extended into Central Europe; and eruptions of chaos in Brazil’s major cities, and the global pattern of provocations is crystal clear.

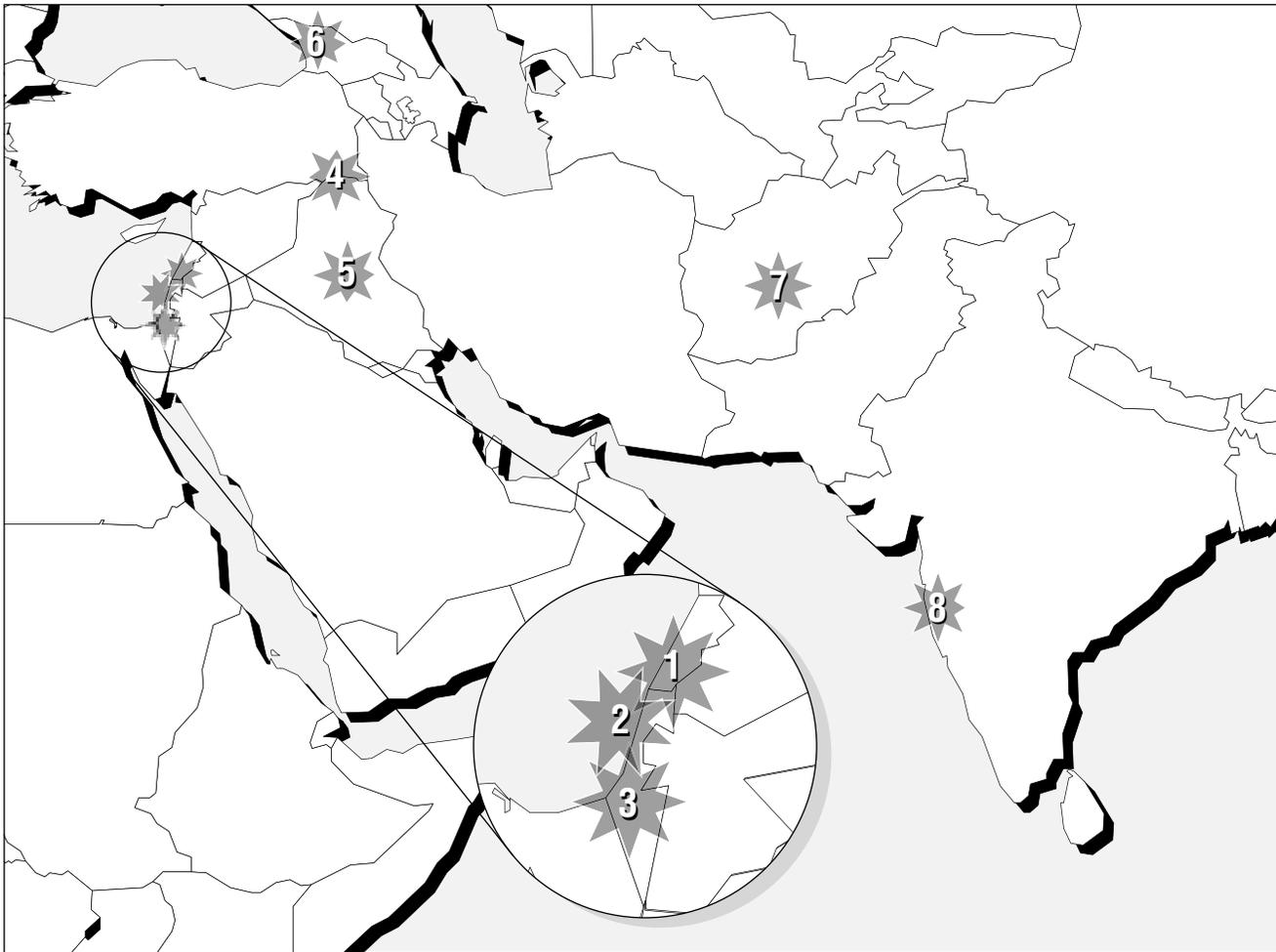
An Israeli Suicide Mission

As LaRouche emphasized, the Israeli actions, ordered from Washington, do not serve the interests of any nation-state on the planet. They certainly do not serve the national interests of Israel, which has been unleashed like a marcher-lord state on a path of self-destruction.

One senior retired U.S. ambassador equated the Israeli incursion into Lebanon with the disastrous defeats that Napoleon and Hitler both suffered at the gates of Moscow. “Strategic overextension is suicidal,” the source commented, “and Israel is caught in just such an overextension.”

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The Synarchists' Arenas of Perpetual War



1. Beirut, Lebanon: Israeli bombings have virtually destroyed the basic transport and power infrastructure of the city, in addition to levelling certain neighborhoods.

2. Lebanese-Israeli border: Fierce fighting and rocket attacks are devastating the population of southern Lebanon, and keeping the population of northern Israel in bomb shelters. Hezbollah rockets have gone as far south as Haifa.

3. Gaza, Palestine: The population of over 1 million Palestinians in Gaza has been under constant Israeli military assault, essentially under siege, for months now. Deaths are soaring due to lack of medical care and food, as well as Israeli bombings and assassinations.

4. Iraq-Turkish border: PKK raids into Turkey, staged from northern Iraq, have led to Turkish threats of invasion.

5. Baghdad, Iraq: Sectarian violence has now

led to the killing of at least 100 persons a day, over the last two months, much of it in the U.S.-occupied capital.

6. Abkhazia/South Ossetia: Provocations by the Georgian Parliament, which has called for Russian troop withdrawal for this heavily Russian-populated region, and by unidentified armed gangs carrying out assassinations, have brought this area to the brink of armed conflict.

7. Helmand Province, Afghanistan: This province is the center of a Taliban resurgence which seized two towns on July 17, and is making the region ungovernable.

8. Mumbai, India: The highly sophisticated and coordinated rail bombings in this major city have shocked the nation, and led Prime Minister Singh to point to international terrorist networks, and specifically the British role in backing the relevant radical groups.

of experience in Southwest Asia, added that the Bush-Cheney Administration is trapped in its own delusions about Hezbollah. "They cannot allow themselves to accept the idea that Hezbollah is a genuine political movement, with a mass base of support." The source continued, "Now look for the chaos to spread, from Lebanon all across the Middle East. This is going to soon hit the Americas. This is akin to the Thirty Years' War."

On July 20, Col. Patrick Lang (USA-ret.), the former Defense Intelligence Officer for the Near East, told CNN's Wolf Blitzer that Israel's attack on Lebanon "doesn't make any sense to me. As you know, I've worked in all of these countries, and with the IDF, a lot, and studied it forever. And this just doesn't make any sense to me, what they're doing, because as this Israeli Air Force major said, it's impossible to go around in a kind of hunt for all of these rocket launchers everywhere. Hezbollah," he continued, "is a numerous, well organized, disciplined guerrilla army. They have reserves in depth of people among the Shia people of Lebanon. They've been organizing this ground for five or six years. There are all kinds of tank traps and ambush positions. All kinds of things like this.

"It's a murderous place to fight," he continued. "And the idea that you can root people like that out who are Islamic zealots, and cause them to quit and run away, with air power and artillery, and some small-scale operations, it's just—it's just not on." Lang told CNN that Israel can only stop Hezbollah's shelling of targets in Israel by "moving their gun line back. The only way to do that, in my opinion, is with ground troops. Now, I know the IDF does not want to occupy part of Lebanon again, but they've somehow gotten themselves in a position in which there may be no other choice. . . . The other part of this, which is to cause the Lebanese government to be something that it is not, a unified government that has an army that's a real army, instead of a symbol of national unity, who will act against Hezbollah, that's just not on. The Lebanese don't have that in them to do it."

Synarchist Bankers' Desperation

From the standpoint of the private financier circles of London, Paris, and New York, who comprise the hard core of the international Synarchy, a global Thirty Years' War, such as is now being triggered by Israel's insane incursion into Lebanon, is just what the doctor ordered. For months, in anticipation of a collapse of their world financial system, major international financial institutions have been dumping soon-to-be-worthless financial paper and shifting their funds into hard commodities, triggering a hyperinflationary spiral in the prices of petroleum, gold, copper, and other crucial strategic raw materials, and bringing the entire post-Bretton Woods global financial system to the very brink of collapse.

At the same time—as the Nissan-Renault move on General Motors signals—these same financial circles, typified by Rohatyn and Lazard, are moving to consolidate control over

the major remaining industrial corporations of the West. They are out to create the same kinds of international industrial cartels now, that promoted Nazism and Fascism in the period from 1922-45. Furthermore, as Lyndon LaRouche emphasized in a June 20, these financiers intend to destroy the very foundations of the nation-state system. By creating international corporations, outside the legal jurisdictions of sovereign nations, and establishing their own vise-grip control over global industrial capacity and strategic commodities, they intend to impose, via globalization, a "final solution" to the hated nation-state system, especially the United States of the 1789 Constitution.

On July 14, one of the leading British Synarchist publications, the *Daily Telegraph*, published an extraordinarily candid piece by Economics Editor Edmund Conway, under the headline, "U.S. 'Could Be Going Bankrupt.'" Conway detailed a recent study commissioned by the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis and prepared by Prof. Laurence Kotlikoff, who wrote, "To paraphrase the Oxford English Dictionary [definition of "bankrupt"], is the United States at the end of its resources, exhausted, stripped bare, destitute, bereft, wanting in property, or wrecked in consequence of failure to pay its creditors?" His answer was "yes." Dr. Kotlikoff projected a U.S. Federal government fiscal gap of an unprecedented \$69.5 trillion, based on existing obligations to current and immediate future generations.

Under these circumstances, the hard-core Synarchist financiers see an historic opportunity to destroy the very foundations of the nation-state system, by triggering no-win wars across much of the planet.

It is in this context that a number of retired senior diplomats and intelligence officials interviewed by *EIR* concluded that the suicidal Israeli attack on Lebanon is a prelude to a much larger regional war, to be triggered by a long-awaited U.S. military attack on Iran, an attack promoted by Dick Cheney and one that formed the very heart of the neo-cons' decade-old "Clean Break" plan.

In what may go down as one of the biggest media gaffes in memory, in late June, *Time* magazine ran a cover story, proclaiming "The End of Cowboy Diplomacy." One former top intelligence official dismissed the idea that the Bush Administration had abandoned its Iran war plans as "wishful folly." "Cheney is biding his time—waiting for Condi Rice's diplomatic efforts to fail. Then he will have his war." Another retired U.S. ambassador, who served in the Persian Gulf for many years, was even more dismissive. "The so-called offer to Iran was tantamount to a demand for unconditional surrender, and it was never intended to secure a diplomatic solution." Commenting on Lyndon LaRouche's appraisal that the looming catastrophes could be the only thing that forces a fundamental change in policy axioms, the former ambassador noted that "LaRouche is right, but I hate to think that it comes down to a new global Great Depression and World War IV, before world leaders wise up."