

# The METO strategy: turn from Geneva

What looms behind Camp David's thin veneer of political respectability is a geopolitical military fantasy known as the Middle East Treaty Organization (METO).

Uniting Israel, Egypt, and the U.S., METO is slated to extend the role of NATO throughout NATO's so-called southern tier, thereby acting as a buffer against the Soviet Union.

The author of this cold-war military pact is Zionist lobby spokesman Edgar Bronfman, the chairman of Seagrams, Inc., the U.S. end of the international drug-and dirty-money linked Seagram's liquor empire. Working with National Security Council head Zbigniew Brzezinski and Henry Kissinger, Bronfman has orchestrated the entire Camp David "peace" project with the express purpose of forcing the economic, political and military policies of London and Washington financial interests upon the Arab world.

## The background

The Zionist lobby's main task in the autumn of 1977 was to stop at all costs the momentum building within certain U.S., European, and Arab circles to relaunch a Geneva conference. In October 1977, U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance and Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko issued a joint statement calling for a Geneva conference and for meeting the "legitimate rights of the Palestinians."

It was at this time that Edgar Bronfman and other Zionist lobby forces surfaced. In 1978, Bronfman and Burton Josephs, then head of the Anti-Defamation League, traveled to Washington to launch the METO operation. In conversations with the White House staff in January 1978, Bronfman and Josephs called for the creation of an anti-Soviet "Grand Alliance" in the area consisting of Israel, Egypt and the United States.

Soon after this operation was launched, Senate Foreign Relations Committee chairman Frank Church similarly called for the creation of a "Grand Alliance" of the aforementioned countries to defend U.S. interests and to thwart Soviet incursions in the area.

With the Zionist lobby mobilized in Congress, Bronfman called for a formal METO alliance for the Mideast in a July 1978 New York Times op-ed.

Aiding him in this operation were Eugene Rostow, Rita Hauser, and Arthur Goldberg. Rostow, who was a key pro-Israel State Department official during the 1967 Arab-Israeli war, and New York City lawyer Rita Hauser are currently members of the confrontationist lobbying group, the Committee on the Present Danger. In addition to being a top Zionist lobby strategist,

Goldberg helped author UN Resolution 242 while serving as U.S. ambassador to the United Nations.

## Enter Egypt

While the U.S. side of the Zionist lobby was softening up the Carter Administration for Camp David, Israeli networks, in coordination with certain circles inside Egypt, Morocco, and Saudi Arabia, were laying the groundwork for the eventual Egypt-Israel-U.S. deal.

In Morocco in 1978, a series of very important meetings took place which brought together Egyptian counselor Hassan Tuhami, then Saudi Intelligence head Kamal Adham, and Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan.

A recent feature in the Paris daily *Le Monde* indicates that Tuhami was one of the chief stringpullers from the Arab side. According to reporter Eric Rouleau, Tuhami's career was temporarily brought to an abrupt end by Gamel Abdel Nasser because of his strong ties with the fundamentalist Muslim Brotherhood. Forced to withdraw from active political life, Tuhami developed a strong dislike for Nasser's progressive and pro-Soviet policies. Resurrected through Sadat's ascension to power in 1971, Tuhami has been active in divesting Egypt of any last vestiges of Nasserism.

In addition to his role in Camp David, Tuhami is also responsible for the 1978 border war between Egypt and Libya. Tuhami's presence is clearly evident today as Sadat once again threatens an invasion of Libya.

## Strike forces and gendarmes

In actuality, the Egyptian move into Libya was the first action of the developing METO alliance. Not surprisingly, U.S. Zionist lobby Senator Jacob Javits was in Egypt at the time of invasion. Since that time, Javits' colleague in the Senate, Henry "Scoop" Jackson, has found inspiration in Egypt's actions for the issuance of a March 1979 proposal for Egypt and Israel to form "joint strike forces" to "protect the oilfields" in the area, irrespective of whether the oil-producing states request such "protection." Jackson's proposal was issued on the eve of the recent visit by President Carter to Egypt and Israel to firm up the tripartite Egypt-Israel-U.S. alliance, and Carter himself has commented favorably on the use of Egypt's armed divisions for "regional stability" operations.

According to the Jackson-Javits-Bronfman designs, once states like Saudi Arabia are blackmailed and destabilized to the point of accepting the tripartite arrangement, they will come humbly under the U.S.-NATO blanket and begin to put METO in place. With British client regimes like that of Oman joining in, the stage is to be set for the establishment of the METO arrangement officially.

— Mary Jane Coates