

International Intelligence

Muslim Brotherhood behind Antwerp bombing

The July 27 bombing of the Antwerp, Belgium branch of the Orthodox Jewish Agudat Israel religious association—an unprecedented attack—was probably the work of “a group born in the wake of the Islamic movement in the Middle East,” the Paris daily *Le Figaro* reported July 29. Citing Western European police sources, *Figaro* described the responsible group as a splinter faction of “young Arab terrorists depending on none of the large Palestinian organizations.”

Another Paris newspaper, *Le Matin*, described the presumed attackers as “Palestinian mercenaries” without any PLO allegiance.

Nevertheless, Israeli foreign minister Yitzak Shamir told the Knesset July 31 that the Antwerp bombing was “a murderous PLO attack” countenanced by the same Europeans who had refused to support Israel’s settlements policy in the United Nations. Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin has sought to use the incident as proof that Israel can never negotiate with the PLO.

European observers have speculated that the Antwerp bombing may have been a “Reichstag fire” incident concocted by Israel’s Mossad intelligence agency to discredit the PLO. The Mossad is known to control certain elements of the Muslim Brotherhood.

EIR analysis cited by Shah’s wife

Empress Farah Diba Pahlavi of Iran, in a recent interview with the West German women’s magazine *Bunte*, declared that the truth about Iran and her husband, the late Shah of Iran, could be found only in articles written for *Executive Intelligence Review* by Middle East editor Robert Dreyfuss. The interview was given on May 31, 1980 in Cairo to José-Luis de Villalonga. An excerpt:

“She draws out of a green file a series

of hectogram papers marked in red pencil. ‘To understand what has gone on in Iran, one must read what Robert Dreyfuss wrote Nov. 13, 1979, in *Executive Intelligence Review*. He reveals that the whole chaos in Iran was unleashed in order to provoke a shortage of oil on the world market. . . . The oil companies have profited from the revolution in Iran as never before. And the U.S.A. has planned a common market with England, Canada, Mexico, and Venezuela against France, Germany, and Japan.

“My skepticism does not irritate her. She says: ‘They planned a revolution that drove out the Shah; the U.S.A. wanted to confront the European bloc. . . .’”

Japan approves new nuclear power plants

Last month Japan’s Nuclear Safety Commission gave the go-ahead for construction of four new nuclear power plants with a total capacity of 3.6 million kilowatts per year. These are the first plants approved since 1979. The new government of Premier Zenko Suzuki is “manifesting an extremely positive stand on construction of nuclear power plants,” according to the Aug. 5 issue of Japan’s business daily, *Nihon Keizai Shimbun*. The administration of Suzuki’s predecessor, Masayoshi Ohira, had ordered a moratorium on nuclear plant construction following the Three Mile Island incident.

The Power Reactor and Nuclear Fuel Development Corp., a government body, announced that a pilot plant for enriching uranium should be complete by the autumn of 1981. By 1985 Japan industry plans to have a 30 million KW enriching capacity. At present, Japan is entirely dependent for enriched uranium upon the U.S. Department of Energy and France’s Eurodif. At various points in the last few years, the Carter administration has threatened cutoff of enriched uranium supply to Japan for going ahead with certain nuclear ventures such as the reprocessing plant at Tokai-mura.

Reagan’s CFR policy for Latin America

Five of Ronald Reagan’s advisers have prepared “A New Inter-American Policy for the 80s,” premised on the idea that the United States must fight the decisive battles of World War III against the U.S.S.R. in Latin America. The report is edited by New York Council on Foreign Relations member Lewis Tambs.

The report begins by stating: “War, not peace, is the norm in international affairs. . . . Containment of the Soviet Union is not enough. . . . The Soviet Union . . . is strangling the Western industrialized nations by interdicting their oil and ore supplies and is encircling the People’s Republic of China.”

In the name of a “Fortress America” concept, the Reagan advisers, who call themselves the Committee of Santa Fe, foresee war not only against the U.S.S.R. but against Western Europe, which they assert will soon be under Soviet control. As a component of military buildup they call for “a strategy of technology transfer similar to that which is currently in effect with Israel.” The report does not elaborate whether this entails providing Latin American governments with the atomic bomb technology Israel obtained through American channels.

Schmidt and Honecker to extend economic ties

Indications are emerging of economic deals in the works for the historic first state meeting between West Germany’s Helmut Schmidt and East Germany’s Erich Honecker this month. The London *Financial Times* reports that the visit may set off a new boom of economic exchange.

Relations between the two have already improved considerably. In the first half of 1980, West German exports to East Germany rose 22 percent, and imports 39 percent. This included delivery

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of a million tons of crude oil and hard coal from the Federal Republic to East Germany, which in turn delivers 2 million tons of petrochemicals to West Berlin.

On the agenda now are deals for a lignite-fueled power station in East Germany to supply West Berlin with electricity, plus electrification of East German railroads. Including politically supersensitive West Berlin in past and future deals is significant. The West German steel giant Krupp is opting for construction of a 1.6 billion deutschemark steel mill, and the Hoechst firm is negotiating a multi-million deutschemark contract to build petrochemical complexes in the DDR.

Iraqi president welcomed in Riyadh

Iraq's President Saddam Hussein caught the Middle East diplomatic corps by surprise this week by making the first state visit by an Iraqi head of state to Saudi Arabia since 1958. Arriving in Riyadh Aug. 5, Hussein began discussions with the Saudi leadership on subjects including the upcoming United Nations General Assembly fall session in New York; Arab states' response to the Israeli parliament's vote to annex Jerusalem; and an Arab summit in Amman, Jordan, that will occur later this year.

The two countries will also discuss what French press reports described Aug. 6 as their "common goal" of containing the threat posed by Iran's Ayatollah Khomeini, whose representatives have persistently called for Hussein's overthrow and for the "radicalization" of the oil-producing Gulf region.

The Hussein-Saudi meetings will also presumably provide a forum for working out the nuts and bolts of Iraqi-motivated plans for the economic development of the Middle East. Iraq was a motivating force behind the recent Arab League policy papers outlining ambitious industrialization and modernization plans for the Arab world through the year 2000.

Bush sets new mission to Peking

The Reagan-Bush Campaign Committee announced this week that Republican vice-presidential candidate George Bush will travel to China later this month for talks with Chinese leaders. The announcement confirmed that, despite campaign commitments to restore ties with Taiwan, the Reagan campaign intends to maintain the strategic ties with Communist China opened up by Henry Kissinger and expanded by the Carter administration. Bush will be accompanied on his trip by Reagan's chief foreign policy advisor, former Kissinger aide Richard Allen.

Reagan spokesmen have been hard-pressed to explain the purpose and goals of the Bush trip. One foreign policy expert close to the Reagan campaign commented: "I can understand them picking Bush to make this trip, since he used to be ambassador to Peking. But why the campaign felt it necessary for anyone to visit China at this time is beyond me. Why not visit Europe, or Taiwan, for that matter?"

London Times: 'relief would be cruel'

In its lead editorial Aug. 7, the *Times* of London left little doubt that the current African famine is the result of deliberate policy. "So bad has been the drought, so great the destruction of cattle and grazing areas, and so violent the social upheaval, that experts think much of the Sahel region and East Africa has become permanently 'desertified' and so no longer capable of sustaining human life. In these stark terms the frightful loss of life is understandable. The terrible question arises whether relief does more than prolong the agony. . . . For millions there is no future, nowhere to be transplanted." The editors are aware, on the other hand, that technology exists to reverse desertification.

● **JIMMY CARTER** refused to comment during his Aug. 4 televised press conference when syndicated Washington columnist Sarah McClendon confronted him with charges that his administration is collaborating with Iran to give pro-Khomeini terrorists free rein in the United States. McClendon referenced "a New York intelligence service" as the source of the charge, and named Bahram Nahidian as Carter's Iranian liaison. The exchange was deleted from the *New York Times's* full-page transcript of excerpts from the press conference.

● **MUAMMAR QADDAFI** may soon be deposed in a Soviet-backed coup, *Le Matin de Paris* reported Aug. 4. The Soviets find Qaddafi too "erratic" for their tastes, *Le Matin* notes. Speculations about the Soviet move come in the context of mounting anti-Qaddafi opposition internally and among Libyan exiles abroad, to which Qaddafi has responded by increasing repression, including the arrest of the brother-in-law of Libyan Premier Jalloud.

● **KUWAIT'S GOVERNMENT** has purged 28 leading security officers for failing to stem a developing pattern of unrest in that country. The purge followed the bombing of the office of the Kuwaiti newspaper Al-Rai al-Amn, the appearance of incendiary leaflets inciting foreign workers to take protest actions against the government, and the discovery of sizable arms caches in the homes of anti-government dissidents.

● **MEXICAN PRESIDENT** José López Portillo told the press Aug. 3 before his departure from Havana that "nuclear energy is the only energy source that can massively replace the power now provided by oil," given "the great quantity of energy we need."