

KGB behind attacks on Bush supporters?

by Ralph de Toledano

Were the KGB and the “dirty-tricks” division of the Dukakis campaign behind the attacks on Fred Malek and others working for Vice President Bush as “anti-Semites” and “fascists”? Was John Sasso, who was fired from the Dukakis team for dirty work at the crossroads and reinstated when the Massachusetts governor’s political fortunes began to decline?

There is no doubt that John Sasso fed a scurrilous “document” to *Washington Jewish Week* and to others in the media. There is no doubt that the *Washington Post* picked up the *WJW*’s story and ran with it. Fred Malek and others who worked with Ukrainian and other ethnic groups were forced to resign—and the leaders of those groups felt that they had been betrayed by the Bush campaign.

It is taken for granted that the attack on Malek was aimed at hurting Vice President Bush with Jewish voters and irritating ethnic leaders. But a careful study of the facts proves that the attack was begun by the KGB in Moscow, picked up by the Dukakis campaign, and has as its target of smear the entire Republican and conservative movement in the U.S.

The attack is based on a “document” prepared by one Russ Bellant with the aid and encouragement of Chip Berlet, a pro-drug-use propagandist who is concerned that the Reagan administration will take cocaine away from his buddies. It attacks as “fascists” and “anti-Semitic” everyone in the Reagan administration on whom it focuses, from the President down. Tarrred and feathered in this report are the Republican National Committee and its ethnic councils, Republican senators and congressmen who defeated Democrats, almost every conservative and anti-Communist organization in the country, groups whose sin is that they are fighting for a strong U.S. defense and a stronger U.S. foreign policy, and individuals whose only sin is that they have fought communism or criticized liberalism and the labor movement.

It is all done with mirrors and with guilt by amalgam. If you were ever seen saying hello to those labeled “anti-Semitic” in this study, you are stone-cold dead. The title of the document in which the preliminary attacks were made is, “Old Nazis, the New Right, and the Reagan Administration: The Role of Domestic Fascist Networks in the Republican Party and Their Effect on U.S. Cold War Politics.” That, of course, is the key. The crime of all the organizations and of all our Ukrainian-Americans, Polish-Americans, and others

of Eastern European affiliation is that they are opposed to the Soviet conquest and rape of their countries. Reading the “document,” one comes to the conclusion that anyone of Eastern European origin is a potential murderer out to destroy the U.S.

What are the basic sources of the material in this “document”? 1) The KGB’s disinformation apparatus, 2) the Anti-Defamation League which for years followed the communist line and suppressed all evidence of Soviet official anti-Semitism, and 3) Group Research, a clip-and-smear outfit preparing dossiers against anyone not appreciated by the its left-wing labor masters. Interestingly, the first shot in this anti-Bush campaign was fired in KGB headquarters in Moscow.

The methodology of the attack is the same employed by the *In Fact* newsletter—edited by George Seldes in the late 1930s and 1940s—and by the *Daily Worker* and the *New Masses*—innuendo, out-of-context quotes, flat statements based on no evidence, and the amalgam. In addition, to support a candidate who takes pro-defense and anti-Communist positions is not only reprehensible but, according to the Berlet-Bellant document, signs of blatant anti-Semitism. Catholics, Jews like the respected University of Chicago economist Milton Friedman, and other sinners are tarred by the same brush. *National Review*, *Human Events*, the Reverend Moon and his followers, respected public servants, publishers of distinguished books—these are tarred with the “fascist” and “anti-Semitic” brush. If you ever said a word against the Democrats or defended constitutional freedoms, watch out!

Interestingly, not a word is said about those anti-Semitic individuals and instrumentalities in the Democratic Party—the Rev. Jesse Jackson and the reign of terror his friends and associates have launched against Jews in Chicago. Or the “little Holocaust” mounted by the Sandinistas in Nicaragua. To the Berlet-Bellant-Sasso axis—and the KGB—these don’t really count.

Well, if I were in charge of the Bush campaign, I would put a copy of the Berlet-Bellant-Sasso document in the hands of every ethnic leader so that he would realize what the Dukakis people think of him and his followers. If this document were so circulated, with an account of who is behind it, Michael Dukakis and the Democrats would not get a single vote from Ukrainian-Americans, Polish-Americans, and other Eastern and Central Europeans in this country. They suffered under the Nazis as well as the Soviets, so they would not take kindly to be being described as murderous fascists.

I would also circulate it among those who believe that patriotism is not something to be ashamed of—one of the disguised themes in the document. And I would also put the writings of Chip Berlet on drugs into the hands of those who see the devastation that it is causing the country.

But that is a job for the media—and since most of the national press and TV is committed to the Democrats, I doubt whether the public’s “right to know” will get any exercise.