

Kissinger Watch by M.T. Upharsin

A fascination with 'Henry's wrinkles'

One question being asked in Europe is: Which will last longer, the American troop presence there, or Henry Kissinger? Certainly, as long as Kissinger is the predominant influence in the Bush administration, American troops are not long for the European continent.

From May 11-20, Kissinger made his first grand tour of Europe since his Jan. 28 meeting in Washington with President Bush, when he recommended that the United States reach a "Second Yalta" deal with Moscow over (and over the heads of) Europe. The whole complex of American-European relations has had the smell of death hanging over it, ever since that day.

So, it is not surprising, that when Kissinger arrived in Italy on May 13, to speak before the convention of the Italian Republican Party, a journalist for Italy's *La Repubblica* newspaper, Paolo Galimberti, pointed to Kissinger's visibly deteriorated state. His article (in the May 14-15 edition) was accompanied by a picture of Kissinger looking horribly decrepit, as if Dr. K had been transformed into Dr. Death. It was a powerful psychological message, perhaps encouraged by certain interests in Italy who harbor a deep dislike for Kissinger, for reasons of their own.

"Also the gods get old," wrote Galimberti. "The wrinkles of age, in particular when they are more political than physical, are visible nonetheless. The ideas of Kissinger are full of

wrinkles, despite his colorful way of speaking and *maquillage*, his studied way of speaking with the tricks of the maestro, to capture the sympathy of the public. . . . The wrinkledness (*rugosità*) of the former secretary of state should concern us greatly. He is indeed a private citizen, but his influence on the White House is very strong, not only through Scowcroft and Eagleburger, but also through the power of the ideas Henry Kissinger gives directly to President Bush, without mediation."

Obviously, similar matters had been on the minds of Kissinger's audience at the Norwegian School of Business, in Oslo, on May 11, at the beginning of the grand tour. The question of Kissinger's influence in the Bush administration was brought up. At first, somewhat defensively, Kissinger blurted out that he "couldn't help it," if he had "two or three friends" in the administration with whom he had worked for the past 20 years. Then he recovered his usual arrogance, and declared, "But I never go through friends" if I want to talk to Bush. In fact, "I never go to Bush. Bush calls me."

The merchant of death

For the May 11-20 period, Kissinger's schedule included: Oslo, May 11; La Toja, Pontevedra, Spain for the May 11-14 elites' annual Bilderberg conference; Portugal, about May 13, for a short stop (he blew in there and out on the private plane of Italy's Gianni Agnelli); Rimini, Italy May 13, for a speech at the Italian Republican Party conference; West Germany and France during the first part of the week of May 15; Malmö, Sweden May 18; and a two-day stopover in London thereafter.

If the smell of death hung over Dr. K, careful observers following him

through the continent might also have discovered deceit and duplicity. Whereas in Oslo, for example, he was advising businessmen to stay out of deals with the Soviets and Eastern Europe and to invest in Mexico instead, one week later in Malmö, he was portraying the People's Republic of China as a good alternative to the crisis-racked U.S.S.R. Some observers couldn't escape the conclusion that he was simply trying to deflect Scandinavian businessmen's attention away from deals that might interfere with deals being made by Kissinger Associates' own clients!

At least in Oslo, he made one honest observation, admitting that he knew nothing about economics. That, of course, doesn't stop him causing the economic strangulation of nations he wants destroyed.

Take the matter of Bilderberg and the Panama crisis, for example.

One Bilderberg insider reported that Spain's Prime Minister Felipe González, who feted Kissinger and the other Bilderbergers, has spent a good deal of time since the May 7 Panama elections, receiving urgent phone calls from George Bush, begging González to be an intermediary for the U.S. with Panama, in efforts against General Noriega.

Interestingly, it was his Kissinger Associates William Dill Rogers of the Arnold and Porter law firm, who devised the legal mechanisms to implement the Reagan-Bush administration's original economic warfare design against Panama. Kissinger's arrival in Britain about May 18-19 coincided with the arrival in the U.K. of Rogers, for a conference at Ditchley Park on the theme, "Latin America: Problems and Prospects," at which the crushing of national sovereignty through economic warfare was expected to be one of the private items on the agenda.

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