

Arabs rally against British terrorism

by Joseph Brewda

The government of Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak pushed ahead in its campaign against British harboring of international terrorism, by hosting an emergency meeting of the Arab Inter-Parliamentary Union in Luxor, Egypt, on Jan. 14. In his opening address to the gathering (made up of the parliamentary leaders from the 20 Arab League member-states), President Mubarak said its purpose was “to rally together against the most important and serious causes of terrorism, by persuading some countries to refrain from sheltering terrorists, or providing haven and support.” The meeting follows that of the Arab League Interior Ministers Council in Tunis, on Jan. 5-6, which was called to adopt an Egyptian resolution “to press foreign countries to hand over terrorists under their protection.”

The choice of Luxor as the site for the parliamentary leaders summit was deliberately symbolic. It was there, that members of the London-headquartered Islamic Group slaughtered 62 people on Nov. 17, in the worst terrorist attack in years. Speaking in Aswan on Nov. 23, in his first address following the attack, President Mubarak directly accused the British government of “laxity, if not collusion,” in the massacre, and demanded that the Labor government of Tony Blair end the British policy of making London the world headquarters of “Islamic” terrorism.

Since that time, the Organization of the Islamic Conference summit in Teheran, on Dec. 9-11, and the Gulf Coordination Council meeting in Kuwait, on Dec. 22, have issued statements condemning foreign safehousing of “Islamic” terrorists, in reference to Britain.

Need for Arab unity

In his address to the parliamentarians, President Mubarak emphasized that the war against terrorists will not be successful unless such foreign safehousing be shut down. The recent massacre in Luxor, he said, has shown the Arab nations’ limited ability to act against terrorism by themselves, “particularly as some countries are backing the terrorists with funds and weapons, or are providing them with shelter under the cover of the right to political asylum.”

What is therefore required, he concluded, is that “Arab countries rally their efforts,” to force foreign countries “to stand firmly against terrorism, to prevent the use of their lands

for terrorist purposes, to exert the utmost efforts to locate the sources of funding for these groups, and to cooperate in stopping the flow of these funds.”

Similarly, the speaker of the Kuwait National Assembly, Ahmad Abd-al-Aziz al-Sadun, called for “collective Arab representation to the states which shelter leaders of terrorism, grant them asylum and freedom of movement,” and “supply them with weapons.” In his press conference following the Gulf Coordination Council summit in Kuwait in December, Kuwaiti ruler Sheikh Jabir al Sabah specified Britain by name, as that country which Kuwait accuses of harboring “Islamic” terrorists.

In a related effort, Bahrain’s Foreign Minister, Sheikh Mohammed Bin Mubarak Al Khalifa, denounced Britain in a statement on Jan. 9, for providing Bahraini terrorists safe haven there, and demanded they be extradited to Bahrain to face trial.

‘Al Ahram’ covers LaRouche’s charges

In a further indication of the war in process, on Jan. 16, the Egyptian government official daily *Al Ahram* published a signed article by *EIR*’s Hussein Al-Nadeem, entitled “Britain and the Background of Harboring Terrorism.” There, Al-Nadeem calls for Muslim nations to stand together as a united force against the British, and highlights *EIR* Founding Editor Lyndon LaRouche’s analysis of the developing conflict between the Islamic world and Britain, over its sponsorship of “Islamic” terrorists used to destabilize it.

“What you are seeing is that a group of Islamic people, who would normally be considered as Islamic moderates, are joined in the same policy, which Mubarak is expressing,” the article quotes LaRouche saying on Dec. 23. “Mubarak is not speaking as a lone voice: He is speaking for a whole part of the world population, totalling, in influence, to about 1 billion people. This is a general revolt against the British policy.”

Also reflecting this broadening campaign, the United Arab Emirates paper *Al-Ittihad* called for an Arab boycott against the British on Jan. 19, in protest against its role as a “haven and a permanent station for terrorists.”

Instructions are coming from terrorists in Britain “to carry out mass killings of people without discrimination,” it complained, “while conferences and seminars are being held on British territory to encourage terrorism. Arabs and Muslims, who have been hurt most by terrorism, realize that Britain is maintaining silence toward the terrorists, and their dens, on its territory. This country, which accuses some Arab states of terrorism, appears to be encouraging, indirectly and secretly, the killing of Arabs and destruction of their resources under the pretext of the respect of human rights.”

Consequently, the paper says, “Arabs are called upon to use their capabilities if Britain fails to redress its position toward terrorism on its land. The measures could include an economic boycott of Britain or any other country.”