

New setbacks for royals' cover-up of Diana murder

by Jeffrey Steinberg

The British monarchy, the British and French governments, and everyone else involved in the effort to cover up the vehicular attack in Paris that claimed the lives of Princess Diana, Dodi Fayed, and driver Henri Paul on Aug. 31, 1997, have suffered a string of recent setbacks, that improve the prospects of the truth eventually coming out.

The first setback came on July 20, in London, when after a detailed police inquiry, precipitated by bogus claims of theft against Mohamed Al Fayed, the father of Dodi Fayed, brought by British intelligence dirty-trickster Tiny Rowland, the Crown Prosecution Service announced that there would be no prosecution recommended. The Crown Prosecution Service stated that there was no evidence, whatsoever, that afforded any likelihood of a conviction; in short, the complaint was a hoax.

It is no secret in London that Rowland, the former head of the Lonrho Anglo-African raw materials cartel, had been a sworn enemy of Mohamed Al Fayed ever since the Egyptian-born businessman took over Harrods department store in 1985, at the behest of Harrods' shareholders who were battling to prevent a hostile takeover by Rowland.

Following the car crash in Paris that claimed the lives of Dodi Fayed, Princess Diana, and Henri Paul, the British monarchy and allied factions of the British establishment declared open season on Al Fayed, vowing to drive him out of Britain and France. The "blood sport" against Al Fayed was, from the outset, an integral part of the Crown's effort to bury evidence proving that the crash in Paris was anything but a traffic accident caused by high-speed drunk driving. Ten months after the crash, the monarchy is still desperately trying to cover up royal "murder by decree" that could bring down the House of Windsor.

From the outset, Rowland was a key player in the Windsor-commissioned dirty tricks campaign against Al Fayed.

Upon being informed of the Crown Prosecution Service decision, Al Fayed issued a press statement which began, "Tiny Rowland's allegations of theft from his deposit box at Harrods always were a total fabrication. There never were any diamonds, emeralds, rare silver coins or any other valuables. . . . Mr. Rowland was unable to produce any credible evidence that he had ever kept such items in his safe deposit box or that he had ever acquired or owned such valuables."

Al Fayed added, "Sadly, Tiny Rowland's vendetta against me and my family continues. Today's announcement by the police is the only outcome we had ever expected. . . . I await repetition on oath by Mr. Rowland and those supporting him of the same false allegations in the civil proceedings. I have every confidence that they will similarly fail and Mr. Rowland's true motives and behavior will be exposed."

And finally, he said, "The collapse of criminal proceedings against us is a triumph for the truth."

Death of a scoundrel

On July 27, it was announced that Tiny Rowland had died. According to an obituary published that day in the *Washington Post*, the 80-year-old Rowland, who had cancer, took ill while cruising in the Mediterranean on his yacht, and he was flown by air ambulance to London, where he died. Curiously, the exact date of his death and further details of the circumstances of his demise, were kept secret. One source close to the Rowland family hinted that he was devastated by the decision by the Crown Prosecution Service to drop his complaint against Al Fayed, and that he "lost the will to live."

On learning of Rowland's death, Mohamed Al Fayed sent a generous message to Rowland's widow, which stated that he "takes no joy or delight whatsoever in Tiny Rowland's death. He leaves a wife and children, and condolences are extended."

The British press, as well as the *Washington Post*, were nowhere near as dignified as Mohamed Al Fayed in their reaction to Rowland's demise. The media delighted at the opportunity to kick Rowland after he had departed. The *Washington Post* obituary began with a quote from former Tory Prime Minister Edward Heath, who once called Rowland "the unacceptable face of capitalism." And, while acknowledging that most of black Africa's rulers were on intimate terms with the Lonrho boss, including South African President Nelson Mandela ("He was a tremendous friend to the whole country" who made "an enormous contribution, not only to South Africa, but the whole of Africa," Mandela had once said), the *Post* and most of the British press portrayed Rowland as a scoundrel, who was constantly embroiled in controversy.

In fact, Rowland's entire career as Britain's imperial buccaneer, looting the African continent and fomenting genocidal civil wars, often in collusion with Soviet bloc intelligence services, was sponsored and protected by British MI6 and the royal family.

After *EIR* published an exposé of Rowland's intelligence and criminal pedigree in our Dec. 19, 1997 issue, his wife, Josie, wrote to *EIR*'s Associate Editor Susan Welsh, expressing her distress at the article, which, in her words, characterized Rowland as a "homosexual Nazi who was at the same time violently pro-Soviet and perpetually employed by 'the British crown' to do their evil will, whatever that is." Her own words, indeed, provided an apt epitaph for Tiny Rowland.

Reaching across the Atlantic

Just 24 hours after the Crown Prosecutors exonerated Mohamed Al Fayed on all of the Rowland-foisted bogus charges, the Harrods owner scored another major public relations coup, when the NBC-TV "Dateline" program aired an exclusive interview with him, by Katie Couric. The interview afforded Al Fayed the opportunity to present his views on the British royal family and the British establishment, to an American audience already predisposed to despise the Crown and suspect foul play in the deaths of Princess Diana and Al Fayed's son, Dodi.

Al Fayed made it clear that he is convinced that the Paris car crash was not a "garden variety" traffic accident. However, he said, given the fact that there are crucial ongoing investigations into the details of what happened, he was not at liberty to comment further.

Indeed, Magistrate Hervé Stephan, the French official in charge of the investigation, has made it clear that there are still many unanswered questions about the Paris crash, and he does not expect to complete his probe until October, at the earliest. The final forensic report on the Mercedes 280-S that carried Diana, Dodi, and Paul to their deaths, is to be finished sometime during August.

In early June, Magistrate Stephan convened an extraordinary group interrogation of the nine paparazzi who potentially face charges of manslaughter in the case. A dozen witnesses,

as well as the civil parties to the case were present in the courtroom, including Al Fayed.

Earlier, Stephan had ordered a complete *de novo* probe of the emergency medical response to the crash. It took rescue workers one hour and 43 minutes to get Princess Diana, who was still alive, to a hospital, less than four miles from the Place de l'Alma tunnel. She bled to death moments before she was brought into the operating room. The so-called rescue effort was overseen by Philippe Massoni, the Police Chief of Paris, and Interior Minister Jean-Pierre Chevènement.

Stephan has also stated, in a rare public comment on the investigation, that the case cannot be considered closed until the missing Fiat Uno, that collided with the Mercedes at the tunnel entrance, causing the crash, is found, and the driver questioned. Both car and driver have been missing since minutes after the crash.

Another bombshell

In the closing moments of the "Dateline" broadcast, interviewer Couric dropped another bombshell, one that promises to send shocks through Buckingham Palace. She reported that Washington attorneys for Mohamed Al Fayed have submitted a request to the U.S. House of Representatives Intelligence Oversight Committee to initiate an investigation into possible CIA knowledge about the events in Paris.

The request was apparently triggered, in part, by the April 20, 1998 arrest of Oswald Le Winter in Vienna, Austria. Le Winter tried to extort \$15 million from Al Fayed, in return for "classified CIA documents" proving that British MI6 had enlisted the assistance of the CIA and the Israeli Mossad in carrying out the vehicular assassination of Princess Diana and Dodi Fayed. The Le Winter documents were shown to have been forgeries, and Le Winter is now awaiting trial in Austria for the fraud. He has also been indicted in Germany on charges of tax evasion and art forgery.

Despite the fact that the Le Winter documents were part of a scam, believed to have been initiated by Tiny Rowland (see *EIR*, July 24, p. 44), there are other, credible reports that U.S. intelligence agents operating in the Middle East had detected signs that British intelligence was targetting Dodi Fayed. According to one well-placed Washington source, CIA officers in the Middle East had alerted several friendly Arab governments about possible British operations against Fayed and Princess Diana.

To the extent that a U.S. Congressional committee takes up the issue of the Paris crash, this could have major ramifications for the cover-up that the British and French establishment are aggressively attempting to impose. Princess Diana had a close relationship with President and Mrs. Clinton; and she saw Washington, D.C. as one of the few world capitals where she could take refuge from the constant harassment by the paparazzi, harassment that took on an ever-increasingly ugly character, following her divorce from Prince Charles.