

Terrorism: Britain's geopolitical tool

by Mary Jane Freeman
and Dean Andromidas

The deadliest bombing attack in three decades in Northern Ireland occurred on Aug. 15, just eight days after the Aug. 7 bombings in Nairobi, Kenya and Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, and three weeks before President Bill Clinton is to arrive there. At least 28 people were killed and hundreds were wounded, many suffering the loss of limbs, when a car bomb went off in Omagh, County Tyrone at 3:10 p.m. amidst a carnival celebration. Condemnations of this atrocity came from every side of the political divide. On Aug. 18, a dissident group calling itself the "Real IRA," comprised of disgruntled IRA members who oppose the peace process, claimed responsibility for the attack.

EIR has systematically documented, especially since 1995, that the British oligarchy is the "mother" of terrorism. Was the Omagh bomb made in London? Not physically. But, geopolitically speaking, it most definitely was. With the world financial system careening out of control, the financial oligarchical elite is desperate to prevent President Clinton from wielding the power of the U.S. Presidency to put the world monetary system through bankruptcy reorganization. Were he to do this, these family *fondi* and their speculators would be crushed. Thus, the continuity of purpose, politically, of the Africa and Northern Ireland bombings, as well as the British-orchestrated scandal targeted against President Clinton and the office of the U.S. Presidency in the Monica Lewinsky matter, is designed to maximize the destabilization of key Clinton foreign policy initiatives, distracting the President with multiple crises all at once.

In the case of the Omagh bombing, this point has been made explicit. First, the efforts to implement certain aspects of the peace process in Northern Ireland have been seriously set back. For example, policing reform issues and political prisoner releases were immediately halted. Instead, "draconian" measures, as Irish Prime Minister Bertie Ahern called them, to apprehend not just members of, but persons "associated" with proscribed groups, e.g., the Real IRA, have been adopted. (Clearly, terrorists must be found and tried, but such measures do not touch the command and control apparatus at the top.) So, when President Clinton arrives in Northern Ireland on Sept. 3, his mission of peace and economic prosperity will be welcomed, but it will also be met with fear and uncertainty.

The Anglo-Israeli nexus

The second element of this British-directed destabilization of the Clinton foreign policy agenda manifests itself in the form of media speculation that Libya's Muammar Qaddafi is behind the Real IRA. While this "made-in-London" rumor was initially published in the Hollinger Corp.'s London *Sunday Times* on Aug. 16, elements of the story developed by other journalists appear to have some credibility. Even more curious, however, is one account crediting the Israeli Mossad as the source of the Libya-connection line.

The gist of the story goes like this: Leaders of the Real IRA went to Libya last March, on the eve of the signing of the Good Friday peace agreement, in an attempt to win support from Qaddafi for an armed resistance to the peace accord. Reportedly, he was non-committal. A second meeting occurred in July, but with no firm results. Then, in August, came the revelations of former MI6 agent David Shayler, who is currently in a Paris jail awaiting possible extradition to Great Britain on charges that he violated Britain's Official Secrets Act. Shayler's revelations included that MI6 financed an Islamic fundamentalist group to assassinate Qaddafi in a car-bomb attack in 1996. The attempt failed, but a number of Libyans were killed and Qaddafi was hospitalized. This news, reportedly, galvanized Qaddafi into support for the Real IRA.

Elements of this story-line appeared in Ireland's *Irish Independent* and the German daily *Die Welt*. According to Kevin Dowling, an Irish journalist based in England, who also filed a story on this, the alleged meetings between the Real IRA and Qaddafi were "flushed to London from Tel Aviv on the authority of Efraim Halevy, the . . . British-born director of . . . the Mossad, late on Saturday." Israeli involvement in Northern Ireland terrorism surfaced in May when Britain's Channel 4 TV documentary, "The Spying Machine," detailed former Mossad director Raphael Eytan's collaboration with Britain's Special Air Services and the Thatcher government.

As Dowling writes: "If a Libyan connection to the [Omagh] bombing is proven . . . Tony Blair and U.S. President Bill Clinton will come under intense pressure to make renewed bombing raids on Libya." Such an action, he writes, "would suit the Israelis very well—but it would play havoc with the delicate geopolitical balance in Africa and the Middle East, already thrown into shambles by the even more horrific events in Nairobi."

Indeed, the Clinton administration's efforts for peace and development in the Middle East, Africa, Bosnia, and now Northern Ireland have been seriously compromised due to the Anglo-Dutch-centered financial oligarchy's land grabs, looting schemes, and "little" ethnic wars. As Dowling summed up his article, "The latest bombings in Africa and Ireland could not have come at a worse time. They threaten to destabilize international relations . . . while White House attention is focussed on . . . Lewinsky's dirty dress."