

career suffered a setback under Rabin, but since Netanyahu's election, his career is once again advancing. "Dagan's advantage is that he supports daring proposals of the kind Netanyahu likes," the paper explained. "Here, Mr. Terror Netanyahu has met the officer who considers terror his favorite arena."

Another "Islamic terrorist" kingpin is Alistair Crooke, the British MI6 official that Britain and Israel jointly imposed on the Palestinian Authority as its European Union Adviser on Counter-Terrorism. Crooke is well-qualified for this post.

In the 1980s, Crooke oversaw arming of the Afghan mujahideen, while serving as British deputy counsel in Peshawar, Pakistan. The mujahideen now run many of the "Islamic terrorist" organizations operating in the Mideast today. Simultaneously, his brother, Col. Ian Crooke, the head of the British Special Air Services Special Warfare Department, helped oversee Afghan mujahideen training. Colonel Crooke was later hired by the British intelligence liaison to Israeli intelligence, Sir Jimmy Goldsmith, to oversee "Third Force" massacres in South Africa, in which warring Zulu followers of Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi and the African National Congress were regularly killed by British operatives disguised as their opponents, to further inflame the Zulu/ANC conflict. Netanyahu and Sharon are using the same techniques in Israel today.

## London's warlords annex eastern Congo

by Linda de Hoyos

The new U.S. Ambassador to the Democratic Republic of Congo, William Swing, arriving in Kinshasa on Oct. 17, emerged from a meeting with Justice Minister Mwenze Kongolo to announce support from the United States for the Congo government: "It is President Clinton who accredited me to President [Laurent] Kabila and his government. This should represent for you a signal and evidence of where we stand in our relations with your country. I am here to support your government." The ambassador called the war now ongoing in Congo "aggression to which the country and the courageous Congolese people are being subjected." Two days later, after meeting with Congo President Kabila, Swing said that the United States had "clearly stated that foreign troops, which were not invited, and which continue to cause damage in this country, must withdraw"—a reference to the invasion of eastern Congo by the military forces of Rwanda and Uganda.

The ambassador's statements differ from the stance in practice taken by the current practitioners of U.S. policy toward eastern Africa, centered around Susan Rice, Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs; John Prendergast, director for African Affairs at the U.S. National Security Council; and Roger Winter, executive director of the U.S. Committee on Refugees. This grouping, which entrenched itself in position since last October, has promoted a policy of war in the region, centered around backing for British-sponsored warlord Yoweri Museveni, dictator of Uganda: war against the government of Sudan waged by Museveni's Uganda, Eritrea, and the renegade Sudanese People's Liberation Army; war against the people of Burundi by the Tutsi Burundian military; and war against the Democratic Republic of Congo, carried out by the Tutsi Rwandan Patriotic Army and Uganda. As *EIR* has documented in detail, what stands behind this war policy are the mining and other extraction interests of primarily the British Commonwealth, who seek the annihilation of any national institution that might act as an obstacle to the wholesale looting of this mineral-rich region.

Reflecting this latter policy, at the end of September, Prendergast informed a delegation of Africans concerned with peace in the Great Lakes region that the war against Kabila's Congo was necessary, giving as a prime reason that "the Congo must be ruled differently; it must be decentralized."

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The statement is contrary to all official policy statements on Congo-Zaire since October 1996, that the United States is committed to the territorial integrity of the Congo. But it is British policy. For decades, the forces orbiting around the British Privy Council have sought to hive off the western Congo—where the mineral wealth is—and attach it administratively and financially to its “pearl,” Uganda. This is the geopolitics behind Kagame’s stated desire to create a “security zone” along the Rwandan-Congo border.

### The decimation of Kivu

One thing is for certain: The people of eastern Congo, particularly those in the provinces of North Kivu, South Kivu, and Haute-Zaire, have not been consulted. The war has brought renewed suffering upon them, after only a short breathing space since the 1996-97 invasion.

The Congolese population has reacted in general to the Rwandan-Ugandan occupation by fleeing. According to the correspondent for the *Kampala Monitor* of Oct. 6, the crucial city of Kisangani, which was taken by the “rebel” forces in September, is now a ghost town, as half the population of the city of 3 million fled. “Those who are returned loiter around the city, almost like zombies—many are so hungry, malnourished, and emaciated. There is just not enough to eat, and the little there is, is too expensive. A bottle of mineral water costs five U.S. dollars, just like a cup of tea and a morsel of bread.”

The economic base of Kisangani, the correspondent Kevin Oliro reported, was its function as a depot for the Congo River trade between eastern Congo and Kinshasa to the west. “The river is now cut into two—one-half is held by Kabila and the other side is under the rebels, meaning life on the River Congo is simply ‘dead’—except for the miserable canoes that ply the opposite banks.”

The Belgian daily *Le Soir* has also reported that people in the Kivu provinces are extremely resistant to the occupation. “Parents are refusing to send their children to school, fearing that they will be conscripted as soldiers. They are refusing to accept 10-, 20-, and 50-franc bills reinjected into the money supply after having been illegally taken from the banks by the rebels, . . . are refusing to pay taxes levied by authorities considered to be illegitimate, and . . . in the villages, populations are fleeing contact with the rebel forces and seeking refuge in the forest, without humanitarian assistance.” The town of Kalima, taken over by the rebels as the prelude to their seizure in mid-October of the central city of Kindu, is now emptied, according to British press reports. “Everybody fled into the forest,” a resident was quoted as saying. “They’re afraid to come back because they think the rebels will kill them.”

The Ugandan-Rwandan invaders have disrupted all relief operations in the region, where already government services had long ago ceased to exist. On Oct. 20, Unicef child relief manager Ibrahim Jabr reported that since the invasion began on Aug. 2, the Rwandan-Ugandan troops had seized \$800,000

worth of Unicef equipment in the area. “Military commanders take what they want and are selling it on the market. They have even taken doors and taps from buildings. . . . We have practically no vaccines left.”

The crippling of relief operations has caused a drastic rise in disease. Cholera is now raging in the Shabunda region of eastern Congo, with medical centers registering up to 30 deaths a day for people directly under their care. The people are dying of diseases, relief workers said, because the invasion had disrupted all delivery of medical supplies that would otherwise permit them to treat cholera. Sleeping sickness is also reportedly on the rise in the area.

Looting of the region by the Ugandans and Rwandans is taking place at unprecedented levels. According to the *Ugandan Monitor*, “People have hidden their cars for fear they could be looted and shipped off to Rwanda.” A human rights activist who fled the Congo in October told French radio that in the border city of Bukavu, electricity is shut off from midnight until six in the morning, and under the cover of this total darkness, there is a major removal of property into Rwanda. Under the same shroud, more troops are moved into the region from across the border.

Jean-Charles Magabe, a governor of South Kivu province, fled the Congo on Oct. 18, in protest against the occupation of his region. At the time he left Bukavu, he told French radio on Oct. 20, “life had virtually come to a standstill, despite the fact that some essential activities were still going on. The social sector had been paralyzed, schools were not operating, hospitals no longer have medical supplies, patients were fleeing because of insecurity. . . . The people have been abandoned.”

Under the guise of the Congolese rebel group, the Congolese Rally for Democracy, the Rwandans and Ugandans are attempting to impose an occupation administration, weeding out any officials who oppose them. “We have had to make new appointments,” Ernest Wamba dia Wamba, head of the Rally, has stated. The Rally has also announced the creation of military courts empowered to hand out the death penalty to civilians and soldiers alike in what it calls “the liberated regions.”

To be sure, death is taking place in an occupation of the region that is reminiscent of the Nazi occupation of Europe during World War II. Local sources report that in the first weeks of October, massacres of civilians were carried out by the Rwandan-Ugandan forces in the areas around the border city of Uvira: 20 civilians in Kitundu near Uvira on Oct. 5; 50 civilians in Lubarika on Oct. 6. Mass graves of Congolese civilians have also been found on the Rusima River near Uvira, with 350 bodies; in an area near Buerera, with 600 bodies; and in Luvudi, with 150 bodies. Assassinations have also been carried out against local intellectuals and officials. Unicef’s Ibrahim Jabr further reported, “People in the east are being taken to neighboring countries and nothing is being heard of them.”