The Daily Telegraph confirms that Blair was pressing the hardest for President Clinton to go ahead with bombing, despite Saddam's agreement to unconditionally allow UNS-COM weapons inspections to resume, unfettered. The Telegraph's Hugo Gurdon writes from Washington: "It has emerged that Mr. Blair was more hawkish than anyone when Mr. Clinton consulted allies last weekend after calling off the first bombing and missile raids with 15 minutes to spare. The Prime Minister insisted that Saddam's second letter to Kofi Annan, the UN Secretary General, was unacceptable and that the Iraqi leader could get off the hook only with a third letter explicitly renouncing his August and October pronouncements banning spot checks and then all searches by the inspectors. After Saddam responded to Mr. Blair's demand Mr. Clinton decided he could not go to war and kill thousands." The article predicts that there will still be a military confrontation with Saddam within days or weeks, because Iraq will not fully comply, and "it will leave the Anglo-American alliance with a choice described by one official here as a 'no brainer' between military confrontation and the demolition of Western credibility."

In short, although the immediate threat of military action against Iraq has abated, as the result of President Clinton's unilateral decision, London has not given up on forcing the United States into a militarily futile action.

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More Netanyahu games in the Middle East

by Joseph Brewda

The Israeli government of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu on Nov. 20 began the first phase of what is now planned as a 12-week redeployment process, for the withdrawal of Israeli occupation troops from the Jenin area of the West Bank. The pullout follows an Israeli cabinet vote on Nov. 19 accepting the Wye Plantation agreement which President Bill Clinton brokered between Israel and the Palestinian Authority in October, in yet another effort to revive the moribund 1993 Oslo peace accords.

According to the agreement, Israel would pull out of 2% of the territory now under full Israeli control in the West Bank. An additional 7.1% of the West Bank currently under Palestinian civil administration, but Israeli security control, would also come under Palestinian security control as well. If the three phases of the pullout go as planned, about 40% of the West Bank will be under full or partial Palestinian control by mid-February. This is the first time in two years that Israel has relinquished Arab lands.

But no one should think peace is at hand. For one thing, the disposition of a few acres of arid real estate has nothing to do with peace. Nor can it be said that the Clinton administration, in devoting vast resources to supervise real estate haggling between the Israelis and Palestinians, is, by so doing, playing the role of a peacemaker.

The unfortunate reality is that Netanyahu and his backers are as fully committed to provoking war in the region, as they were in 1995 when they assassinated the architect of the Oslo Accords, Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin. Unlike Netanyahu, Rabin wanted peace. No sworn agreement on Israel's part, as long as it is ruled by Netanyahu, changes that fact. Moreover, showing the actual nature of his regime, Netanyahu has already lobbed several timebombs since Wye, each of which could blow up the Wye agreement, and provoke a new Arab-Israeli war.

The Har Homa provocation

For one, the Israeli government on Nov. 12 issued a tender offer for the construction of more than 1,000 Jewish housing units in Har Homa in occupied Arab East Jerusalem. The project, which is part of a larger, multi-hundred-million-dollar plan to build a city with 6,500 residential units, is designed to provoke Palestinian violence, because it shows Israel has no intention of making Jerusalem's status an item of negotia-

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tion, as mandated by the Oslo Accords.

This is vintage Netanyahu. When the Clinton administration finally forced Israel to pull out of Hebron in March 1997, as also demanded by the Oslo Accords, Netanyahu similarly chose that moment to hold a ground-breaking ceremony for Har Homa, provoking riots, as he intended to do.

The intent is to also build a hostile climate among Palestinians against Palestine Liberation Organization leader Yasser Arafat, who has increasingly been condemned as a "sellout" because of his dealings with Israel. Afterall, under Wye, Arafat agreed to receiving only 40% of the West Bank, rather than the 90% promised at Oslo—and this, too, in several isolated enclaves, which Arafat's critics have ridiculed as "bantustans."

In a related provocation, the Israeli government also announced on Nov. 12 that it would pave 13 by-pass roads as part of its "West Bank settlement protection plan," requiring further confiscation of land occupied by Palestinian farmers, forcing their expulsion. This project is meant to ensure that the illegal settlements are forever part of "Greater Israel."

Similarly, Israel announced that it has complied with the first phase of a Wye provision on the release of Palestinian prisoners, by agreeing to release 250 prisoners of the 750 total agreed to at Wye. The problem is that, rather than releasing PLO political prisoners, Israel wants to release common criminals instead.

'Jordan Is Palestine'

Worse, while Netanyahu is attempting to overturn the Wye agreement through such antics, he is continuing to attempt to sucker Clinton into bombing Iraq, to give him the needed maneuvering room to destroy Wye. In addition to further discrediting the United States through such a senseless war, a U.S. attack would go a long way toward breaking up neighboring Jordan, where King Hussein lies gravely ill with cancer. The idea is that in the chaos surrounding a strike against Iraq and a succession fight in Jordan, Israel and Britain can resurrect their old "Jordan is Palestine" scheme.

Under this scheme, the Israelis would simply declare the Palestinian problem "solved," by insisting that Jordan, with its large Palestinian refugee population, is the real Palestinian state. To bring this about, the Israeli Army would be deployed to massacre Palestinians on the West Bank, stampeding as many Palestinians as possible across the Jordan River into Jordan.

The British and Israelis also want to use a U.S. attack on Iraq to begin the breakup of that starving country. Their intent is also to use Iraq's breakup to destabilize neighboring Turkey and Iran, as well as Saudi Arabia, as Turkish Deputy Prime Minister Bulent Ecevit has charged. Provoking a Turkish-Iranian conflict over the oil-rich Kurdish region in northern Iraq, is among several scenarios they are considering. This is part of the Israeli war plan for redrawing the map of the Middle East.

Museveni in Congo and Sudan: Booty pays for the war

by Linda de Hoyos

The Chief of Staff of the Ugandan Popular Defense Forces (UPDF), Brig. Gen. James Kazini, a nephew of Ugandan dictator Yoweri Museveni, is at the center of charges against the Ugandan army of wholesale looting in Uganda and southern Sudan. As *EIR* reported in its last issue (see pp. 58-65), Kazini was also caught in a covert caper to smuggle arms to the Sudanese People's Liberation Army of John Garang, operating in cahoots with Roger Winter of the U.S. Committee on Refugees, Daniel Eiffe of Norwegian Peoples Aid, and notorious gun-smugglers Michael Harari, formerly Israeli Mossad station chief for South America, and Alberto P. Herreros, formerly a prime contract for the illegal George Bush-Oliver North Contra supply operation of the 1980s.

The question now being raised is whether the covert supply of arms is being paid for by booty gathered by the Ugandan Armed Forces, which invaded the Democratic Republic of Congo on Aug. 2, and followed that with an invasion of Sudan in September. According to some sources, the money garnered from the sale of the gold, timber, and diamonds, being looted out of Congo and southern Sudan, is put into offshore bank accounts, and then used to buy the arms and other supplies to keep the wars going.

According to a South African intelligence source, Kazini was in command of the invasion of the Congo, the source having accompanied him during the campaign in western Congo, which failed. Kazini's presence in Congo is not just military, but is also for business—a fact that came to light when Kazini's brother, Col. Jet Mwebaze, was killed in a crash on Sept. 26 of a private plane, apparently on its way to the Congo. Soon after the rescue of some of the survivors of the crash, news began to leak out that pointed to far more than a technical failure or weather problems:

- The pilot of the plane was found with a bullet in his head.
- Colonel Mwebaze was reportedly also shot before or after the plane crashed.
 - More than \$1 million in cash was found on the plane.
- Other passengers on the plane included Asian businessman Arif Mulfi and Israeli businessman Zeev Shif, a partner in the Eforte Corp., a company of Salim Saleh, half-brother to President Museveni and Musevenvi's top military adviser.

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