

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 “sell-out” because of his dealings with Israel. After all, 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 Museveni’s top military adviser.

Speculation is rife throughout Uganda that the plane was going to the Congo for a pick-up of gold in areas currently under the occupation of Ugandan troops.

### **UDPF a 'thieving gang'**

Corroboration of this idea soon came from an unexpected source: an article appearing in the Oct. 12 issue of *New Times*, the semi-official newspaper of the Rwandan government, a military satellite of Museveni's Uganda. The paper reported a "growing rift" between the Rwandan and Ugandan forces now occupying eastern portions of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, blaming the tensions on a "clique" in the UPDF centered on Kazini and Salim Saleh. Titled "Saleh Reducing the UPDF to a Thieving Gang," the article said, "When the war against [Congo President Laurent] Kabila broke out in the Congo, this clique saw it as a windfall—literally as a goldmine. . . . The clique now wreaking havoc in the Congo includes Maj. Gen. Salim Saleh, Brigadier Kazini, Colonel Kerim, Major Ikondere, and the late Lt. Col. Jet Mwebaze. The list reads like a who's who of the UPDF's top convicts."

The article charged, "A brave and personable officer, Colonel Mwebaze died on a gold mission in the company of elements of a murky international gold- and money-laundering syndicate, heading for the part of the Congo under the control of his own brother, Brigadier Kazini, in the service of General Salim Saleh, the overall warlord." The article was written by a Rwandan veteran of both the Rwandan Patriotic Army and Museveni's National Resistance Army.

The article further excoriated Salim Saleh for his involvement in privatization in Uganda, saying that he took a \$1.5-million commission on a recent purchase of defective army helicopters.

The paper prompted a visit to Kigali, Rwanda from Salim Saleh, and a trip to Kampala, Uganda to meet Museveni by Rwandan Defense Minister Paul Kagame.

Salim Saleh admitted to the press that he was retrieving business operations lost with Kabila: "I used to have business with Kabila, but that is now lost," Salim told *New Vision*. He also said that the Israeli businessman on Jet's plane was in the gold business for him. He also attacked the Rwandans for "washing the dirty linen in public," but said that the rift had been healed. "We have now established a new code of conduct for smooth running of our operations."

Salim Saleh has also come under scrutiny from the Ugandan Parliament for allegations that he is the hidden buyer of the Ugandan Commercial Bank, which is being privatized by the government.

### **SPLA complains too**

Before taking charge of the invasion of the Congo, Brigadier Kazini was commander of the fourth division of the UPDF, and in charge of operations in the north against the rebel Lord's Resistance Army and in support of the Sudanese

People's Liberation Army of Garang.

As the mystery surrounding Mwebaze's death was still swirling around, an article appeared in the Ugandan opposition newspaper, which quoted an unnamed official of the SPLA complaining that Jet had also been in charge of a company that was fleecing southern Sudan of its resources of gold and timber. "Jet was the managing director of the New Sudan Trading Corporation (NSTC), which was the company formed by the SPLA to help in facilitating trade in areas under its control," the SPLA official said. He charged that the company was in fact dominated by Ugandan army officers, government ministers, and businessmen. The SPLA official said that in return for their share in the company, the Ugandan government permitted the SPLA to have free rein in northern Uganda to recruit guerrillas and to conduct private businesses, especially trade in cattle.

The looting of southern Sudan and eastern Congo by the Ugandan military clique led by Museveni proceeds despite the fact that Uganda is being aided by outside sources as well. In hearings on July 29, U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Susan Rice, an enthusiastic supporter of Museveni, reported that the United States provided Uganda with \$3.85 million in military equipment last year, and will likely do so again in 1998, in addition to an International Military Education and Training Program. Under questioning, she admitted that the Ugandan military had "a lot of problems" of corruption and lack of discipline, which the government is not dealing with successfully.

The privatized looting is also evidently required despite a 26% increase in the Ugandan military budget announced for the 1998-99 budget by Minister of Finance, Planning, and Economic Development Gerald Sendaula—an increase which has caused protest among parliamentarians who represent Uganda's service-starved people. But Museveni was defended in this action by no less than the World Bank representative in Kampala, Randolph Harris, who proclaimed that the "security threats" to Uganda cannot be ignored.

Money to feed the war effort continues to roll in. The International Monetary Fund announced on Nov. 11 that it will hand over a \$46 million loan to support Uganda's 1998-99 "economic program."

It is the conjecture of Ugandans that most of this money, including a recent grant from the British government of £67 million, will be siphoned off to pay for Museveni's military operations in the region, wars which the Ugandan people do not support.

An additional question is: How much of a slice do Museveni and his relatives, including Salim Saleh, Kazini, and others who now dominate the Ugandan Armed Forces, get from the booty-grabbing and other money flows? No matter what the size of the slice, however, the British Commonwealth extraction companies that follow in the wake of the military triumphs of Museveni's mercenary army, will take the biggest share of all.