

support for Arafat as the recognized leader of the Palestinian people, yet does little to stop Sharon's ongoing military attacks on the Palestinian Authority. The net effect is that the political administrative infrastructure of the Palestinian Authority is being crippled, while Hamas-affiliated imams in the Gaza Strip deliver sermons denouncing Arafat.

The Dagan Plan demonstrates that there is no longer room to try to "convince" Sharon, that the path of negotiations and peace will bring Israel security. The Bush Administration and its European allies must act to convince the Israeli political class, that removing Sharon from power and neutralizing his generals is the only way to prevent the terrible "success" of the Dagan Plan.

EIR Warned About Sharon Step By Step

Ariel Sharon launched the current Palestinian "al-Aqsa Intifada" by marching onto the al-Haram al-Sharif/Temple Mount on Sept. 28, 2000, with intention to spark the current conflict and bury the Oslo Accords.

Aug. 18, 2000: Lyndon LaRouche assessed the breakdown of the Camp David peace negotiations in "Water As A Strategic Flank: Where Clinton Failed," saying that President Bill Clinton had fallen into a dangerous trap when, under election campaign pressure, he sided with Israel Prime Minister Ehud Barak to blame Palestinian President Yasser Arafat for the collapse of the talks. This lie began the process, which

the Israeli press accurately characterizes as Sharon's secret plan: the de-legitimizing of Arafat. Sharon's war drive could then begin.

Oct. 13, 2000: *EIR* cover story, "Why The Fuse To War Was Lit In The Middle East," reported that Sharon's Sept. 28 provocation was hatched during Sharon's visit on Sept. 22 to New York, where he met with his financial backers. That same issue detailed Sharon's control of the "Temple Mount fanatics" apparatus, who planned to blow up the Muslim holy sites on Jerusalem's al-Haram al-Sharif, in order to rebuild Solomon's Temple.

Jan. 12, 2001: *EIR* reported LaRouche's warning that Sharon's election as Prime Minister would be a key component of a plan to launch religious war in the Middle East.

Feb. 16, 2001: *EIR* published LaRouche's call for a "Treaty of Westphalia" approach to the Mideast crisis.

April 20, 2001: *EIR* reported that Sharon was implementing "Operation Bronze," which appears to be very similar to the Dagan Plan. Operation Bronze had the minimum aim of crushing the Palestinian Authority, seizing no less than 60% of the West Bank; and the maximum aim of launching regional war.

May 4, 2001: *EIR* published LaRouche's widely circulated April 20 memo, "Nuclear War Now?" which warned of the threat that a nuclear war would come out of Sharon's aggression against the Palestinians.

July 6, 2001: *EIR* published LaRouche's statement, "Why Israel Would Now Lose A New Middle East War."

July 16, 2001: An *EIR* article, "Sharon's War Plan For Mideast Exposed," stated that Sharon was able to manipulate Hamas as his key tool to detonate the war.

Arafat: Hamas Are Sharon's Children

In interviews with leading Italian publications, Palestinian Authority President Yasser Arafat went into some detail regarding the genesis and operation of Hamas. To *Corriere della Sera* on Dec. 11, he said, "We are doing everything possible to stop the violence. But Hamas is a creature of Israel which, at the time of Prime Minister [Yitzhak] Shamir [the late 1980s, when Hamas arose], gave them money and more than 700 institutions, among them schools, universities and mosques. Even [former Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak] Rabin ended up admitting it, when I charged him with it, in the presence of [Egyptian President Hosni] Mubarak."

In an interview with *L'Espresso* on Dec. 19, Arafat said: "Hamas was constituted with the support of Israel. The aim was to create an organization antagonistic to the

PLO [Palestine Liberation Organization]. They [Hamas] received financing and training from Israel. They have continued to benefit from permits and authorizations, while we have been limited, even [for permits] to build a tomato factory. Rabin himself defined it as a fatal error. Some collaborationists of Israel are involved in these [terrorist] attacks. We have the proof, and we are placing it at the disposal of the Italian government."

When asked what he thought of "these sons of Palestine who blow themselves up and spread death among Israeli civilians," Arafat answered: "Israel does not allow us to live a normal life. Youth who have nothing to eat, who don't see any future in front of them, are easy prey of the Islamist movements, which have large amounts of financing at their disposal. And where the money comes from is known. President Bush froze in one bank in Texas alone, \$61 million. Where does this money come from?" The interviewer asked: "Where?" Arafat: "Ask the U.S. administration, which knows all the details. Ask the Italian government too, and some Arab countries."