

# The International 'Christian Embassy' in Jerusalem and Its Terrorist Connections

by Michele Steinberg

On Oct. 11, President George W. Bush delivered a videotaped address to a Washington, D.C. meeting of the Christian Coalition, the organization founded by televangelist billionaire "Diamond Pat" Robertson. The Coalition conference gathered thousands of Christian Zionists for a "Unity With Israel" rally, whose major theme was, that there will never be a Palestinian state on the Biblical land of Israel, which, for them, includes the West Bank of the Jordan River and all of the Palestinian territories occupied by Israel during the 1967 war. The United Nations Security Council, with U.S. support, has passed numerous resolutions demanding that Israel leave. That the President of the United States would address such a gathering is a scandal, and the White House is keeping the President's remarks under wraps.

As *EIR* warned on Oct. 25, in "Separation of Church and Mental State Needed," President Bush's leading speechwriter, Michael J. Gerson, is a Christian fundamentalist, who is seeding Bush's speeches with Biblical references designed to appeal to a Christian Zionist "Armageddon Army," which is calling for war with Iraq, and wants to capture the White House and bring the United States into a global war against Islam. The following report goes much further into mapping the penetration of these Christian Zionist networks into the White House, Defense Department, and Congress.

## 'Project Jerry Falwell'

When televangelist Jerry Falwell blasphemously labelled the Prophet Mohammed a "terrorist," on the Oct. 6 edition of CBS News' "60 Minutes," it was a calculated move to shift U.S. policy to an overt war against Islam, but it goes much further than politics following the Sept. 11, 2001 irregular warfare attack. Falwell's attack was more than 20 years in the making. Falwell's role, as the semi-fallen leader of the once-mighty Moral Majority, is to mouth the most outrageous, indefensible remarks, on behalf of the entire Christian fundie/Christian Zionist network, for which he then can "apologize," while his colleagues, such as Pat Robertson, Gary Bauer, Tim LaHaye, and Rev. Ed McAteer, sit back in smug silence. If Falwell gets away with it, the others will soon follow suit. In CIA parlance, it might be called "plausible deniability." Falwell's insult to Muslims is designed to show the world how much clout the right-wing Christian fundies in the United States, particularly the *Christian Zionists*, have.

For Falwell, the war on terrorism is the "Clash of Civilizations," the plan for global anti-Muslim war authored by British intelligence operative Prof. Bernard Lewis. The outline was filled in by Harvard's Samuel Huntington in a 1993 *Foreign Affairs* article, and in a 1996 book, *Clash of Civilizations and the Remaking of World Order*. And despite contrary statements ritually delivered by George W. Bush and other members of the Administration, that U.S. policy is *not* a Clash of Civilizations—Reverend Falwell answers to a "higher authority" about what the policy of the United States is, and should be. Don't be fooled into thinking that that higher authority for Falwell is God—it's actually some combination of Reverend Moon, Israel's Benjamin Netanyahu, and an Anglo-American imperial network that is hell-bent on starting World War III in the Middle East.

In 1980, Falwell was honored as a Christian savior for the State of Israel by the Likud Party's first Prime Minister, Menachem Begin, who came into office in 1977. Begin was himself a former Irgun terrorist and follower of Vladimir Jabotinsky, an admirer of Benito Mussolini whom Israeli founding father David Ben-Gurion heaped scorn upon as "Vladimir Hitler." Begin arranged for Falwell to receive an award in honor of Jabotinsky. Begin also arranged for Falwell to be presented with a gift of a Lear Jet, in appreciation for his "service to Israel," reports former U.S. Rep. Paul Findley in his book, *They Dare to Speak Out*. (This is also reported in the September/October 2002 issue of *Mother Jones* magazine.)

The anointing of Falwell was pursuant to a study by Israel's Ministry of Religious Affairs in 1977-78, profiling Christian fundamentalists in Europe and, especially, the United States. Begin's group then cultivated these "fundies" to become the allies of the Likud, in order to implement the territorial, expansionist grab known as "Eretz Israel," which has always been the program of the Likud.

The 1982 Israeli invasion of Lebanon, and the plan to permanently take over the West Bank, Gaza Strip, Syrian Golan Heights, and Egypt's Sinai Peninsula, have always been part of that Likud program—kept secret because of U.S. opposition, with the memory still fresh of President Dwight D. Eisenhower's threatened sanctions against Israel's seizure of the Suez Canal in 1956. In order to eliminate the danger of U.S. opposition—which would mean sudden death economically for the State of Israel—a project of several decades was



*Jerry Falwell (at podium) has emerged as the loud-mouthed spokesman for the Christian fundamentalist/Christian Zionist alliance in support of Israel's Ariel Sharon (inset). Here, in November 1994, Falwell meets with Anti-Defamation League National Director Abe Foxman (seated left), Rabbi James Rubin of the American Jewish Congress (seated right); and Rabbi Yechiel Eckstein, president of the International Fellowship of Christians and Jews (standing left).*

begun, to expand Israel's already formidable political clout in America by forging the Christian Zionist/Jabotinskyite alliance.

In 1978, a Ministry of Religious Affairs grant led to the publication of *American Fundamentalism and Israel: The Relation of Fundamentalist Churches to Zionism and the State of Israel*, by Yona Malachy. Also funding the book-length study, which appeared in English, were the Jacob Blaustein Fund for American Studies, and the Institute of Contemporary Jewry of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. The book features a detailed profile of Protestant denominations in the United States.

*EIR*'s Scott Thompson reports that the Malachy book, though couched in academic terms, appears to be the first-approximation field map of Christian fundamentalism, drawn up for the purpose of launching cultural warfare and political intelligence operations, by the Ministry of Religious Affairs (MRA), and other members of Begin's government and its intelligence organs. "The Ministry is an institution that has been notorious for overpoliticization," noted the Jewish Telegraphic Agency in January 2000, when the MRA was shut down at the initiative of then-Justice Minister Yossi Beilin of the Labor Party. In the last months of Ehud Barak's Labor-led government, in which Beilin served, the MRA was reopened, but, it was kept under watch, because of the record of abuse of its powers by right-wing religious parties. Today, in Ariel Sharon's Likud-led government, the reopened MRA's role as a right-wing tool continues under Asher Ohana of the Shas Party, who is in touch with Christian Zionist Pat Robertson, regarding the creation of a "New Jerusalem Foundation."

As the Malachy book implies, Darbyist "dispensational millennialism" was the most immediately favorable ideology for the Likud agenda, just as Darbyism had proved enor-

mously useful to British imperial schemes since aristocrat John Nelson Darby began preaching in 1830s England. Darby was the first to construct the "dispensation" notion, which says that God dealt with mankind by granting "dispensations" at different times, and that the world is approaching the last of these, the "End Times." The central feature of the "End Times" is the return of the Jews to Zion and the rebuilding of the Temple in Jerusalem, as Darby recounted in *The Hopes of the Church of God in Connexion with the Destiny of the Jews and the Nations as Revealed in Prophecy*. Darby taught that the apocalyptic battle will be fought "on the plains of Megiddo" in Israel/Palestine, at which time Christ will come with His army to end this battle. There will be a "Tribulation," but the "true Christians" will be "raptured"—physically carried into Heaven, thus missing the Tribulation. Fundamentalist Christians therefore joyfully welcome the prospect of Armageddon—including nuclear confrontation—originating in the Middle East.

What do the American Christian fundies' Zionist interlocutors make of this doctrine? When confronted with the fact that the only place for Jews in the Darbyite belief structure, is to be converted, or be killed *en masse* and eternally damned, Zionists of America leader Morton Klein said sarcastically, "I am willing to make this deal: If they continue to support Israel's prosperity, security and survival, then if Jesus comes back in the future, I will join their parade. . . . Hey, if I was wrong, no problem" (*Mother Jones*, September/October 2002). Abe Foxman, head of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai Brith (ADL), is more slick, saying that the "End Times" predictions are "speculative," and therefore are no immediate threat to Judaism.

Religious figures in Israel *do not* see it that way. In the daily *Ha'aretz* on Oct. 16, reporter Yair Sheleg wrote and



Rev. Sun Myung Moon is in the thick of the Christian Zionist networks. Here he embraces Jerry Falwell, whom he bailed out of bankruptcy.

article, entitled “Christian Generosity Becomes a Rabbinical Nightmare,” reporting that U.S.-ordained Rabbi Yechiel Eckstein and his Chicago-based “International Fellowship of Christians and Jews,” along with Ralph Reed, the former head of the Christian Coalition, are under the gun from top Israeli rabbis. A four-member committee has been appointed by the Chief Rabbinical Council in Israel to investigate Eckstein’s Jerusalem Friendship Fund, which gathered \$15 million in the past year to resettle Jews from the former Soviet Union and Argentina, to Israel. The funds, all provided by U.S. Christian fundies, are also used to set up soup kitchens and other charities among the poorest Jewish communities, including one that “removes bodies and body parts after terror attacks.”

The issue of Eckstein (about whom there is more below,) was raised by Israeli Rabbi Simcha Hacohen Kook, the chief rabbi of Rehovot, who said, “I am ashamed that this kind of money [from the evangelicals] is currently being accepted by Torah-observant Jews.” Rabbi Kook is concerned, in the words of *Ha’aretz*, that “accepting evangelical money is wrong because it comes from people who believe, according to their Messianic vision, that Israel will ultimately disappear with one-third of world Jews converting to Christianity and the other two-thirds being destroyed.” Eckstein tried to counter this by producing a “poll” with Ralph Reed (who is also chairman of the Georgia State Republican Party), allegedly showing that *only 10%* of evangelicals support Israel because of “their vision of end days.” The other 90% allegedly support Israel’s “democratic values” and “war against terrorism.”

### ‘The International Christian Embassy of Jerusalem’

There is no question that “Project Jerry Falwell” came out of the MRA’s Malachy study, but Falwell is just a small (if corpulent) piece of the picture. The *global* operation, mostly centered in the Israeli Embassy in Washington, and aimed at

the White House, is the International Christian Embassy of Jerusalem. The ICEJ is currently the central coordination point for Christian Zionism, and has its tentacles into George W. Bush. It is the ICEJ networks, in the coming months, that will run the American side of political cover for the most dangerous Israeli hard-line policies—from the expulsion and/or assassination of Palestinian President Yasser Arafat, to genocide against the Palestinians, to the possibility of an Israeli nuclear strike against Iraq—either in tandem with Bush’s war, or in a “breakaway ally” scenario.

ICEJ founder Jan Willem van der Hoeven shares a common agenda with Likud wildman Moshe Feiglin (see below), and with the U.S.-based National Unity Coalition for Israel (a Jabotinskyite/Christian Zionist operation of which the ICEJ is a part): Since Ariel Sharon has been ineffective and weak, the time is now for cruel war against the Palestinians. How they are doing this, and how they intersect the insane war crowd controlling George Bush’s teleprompter, is the next subject of this report.

The “Christian Embassy” was founded by Dutch evangelical Jan Willem van der Hoeven and five colleagues, in 1980, in an action that was a slap in the face of international law, which recognized Tel Aviv as the capital of Israel. After 13 embassies moved their offices out of West Jerusalem to Tel Aviv, to protest Menachem Begin’s annexation of Arab East Jerusalem, van der Hoeven—with Begin’s blessing—moved directly into the vacated building of the Chilean Embassy. The “Christian Embassy” was symbolic, and became a rallying point for the drive to overturn the United Nations resolutions saying that Israel and its neighbors should reach peace agreements, after which Israel should return to the borders that existed prior to the 1967 Arab-Israeli war. Falwell was involved with the Christian Embassy from the outset (the same year that he received his Jabotinsky award) and became one of the lobbyists for the United States to move its embassy to Jerusalem.

Van der Hoeven writes about himself that he is “the founder of different ministries in Israel and Holland . . . born in the Netherlands where his father was private secretary to Queen Juliana. He studied in London where he obtained his Bachelor of Divinity Degree from the London University.

“Jan Willem has lived in the Middle East for more than 35 years, and currently resides in Jerusalem. . . . Both his children have served in the Israeli Army.”

But there is a murkier story here—of Nazis, faith healers, and European oligarchs. According to an article, “De heilige Juliana” (“The Sainly Juliana”) by Rene Zwaap in the Dutch newspaper, *De Groene Amsterdammer* of June 3, 1998, Queen Juliana was advised by a female faith-healer, Greet Hofmans, the power behind the throne (1948-56), who apparently even counselled Juliana to divorce Prince Bernhard, a former Nazi. The Prince staged a coup: “All the sympathizers of Greet Hofmans and her ‘pacifist clique’ [were purged] . . . including the personal secretary of the Queen, . . . Baron W.J. Heeckeren van Molecaten, his wife and his mother, three



*The late Israeli terrorist Vladimir Jabotinsky. Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin arranged for the Jabotinsky Award to be awarded to Jerry Falwell in 1980, for his "service to Israel."*

intimates of the Queen. To take the place of the Baron, there came J. van der Hoeven, a man with an NSB [Dutch Nazi Party] past."

So the former Nazi Bernhard, fresh from starting the Bilderberger Group and about to co-found the World Wildlife Fund with Britain's Prince Philip, put the ex-Nazi van der Hoeven in as the Queen's private secretary.

The younger van der Hoeven left the ICEJ in 1999, but remained head of one of its projects, the International Christian Zionist Center.

The operational profile of the ICEJ includes the following:  
**The Manfred R. Lehmann Foundation.** Based in New York City, this charitable foundation's head, the late Manfred Lehmann, was a German Jew, who had been active in the United States procuring weapons for the Jewish Underground in Palestine in 1948. Before his death in the late 1990s, Lehmann used his foundation to promote and support the murders of Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, and of innocent Palestinians. A 1996 communiqué on the Lehmann Foundation's website says, "Dr. Baruch Goldstein's Memory should be rehabilitated. . . . Dr. Goldstein's act [machine-gunning more than 200 Palestinians during Friday worship in Hebron, killing at least 29, in February 1994] was not an unprovoked act of violence, but a pre-emptive strike against a looming Arab pogrom of the Jewish population of Hebron."

Another communiqué from M.R. Lehmann praises van der Hoeven: "Rev. Jan Willem van der Ho[e]ven, head of the International Christian Embassy in Jerusalem, recently completed a two-week, grassroots tour, with successful addresses to pro-Israel Christian audiences in Tennessee, Massachusetts, Washington, D.C., California, and Texas. He has also undertaken to help Moshe Feiglin, the courageous Israeli civil rights activist, who, as head of the non-partisan civil rights group, Zo Artzeinu, is now being indicted by the leftist

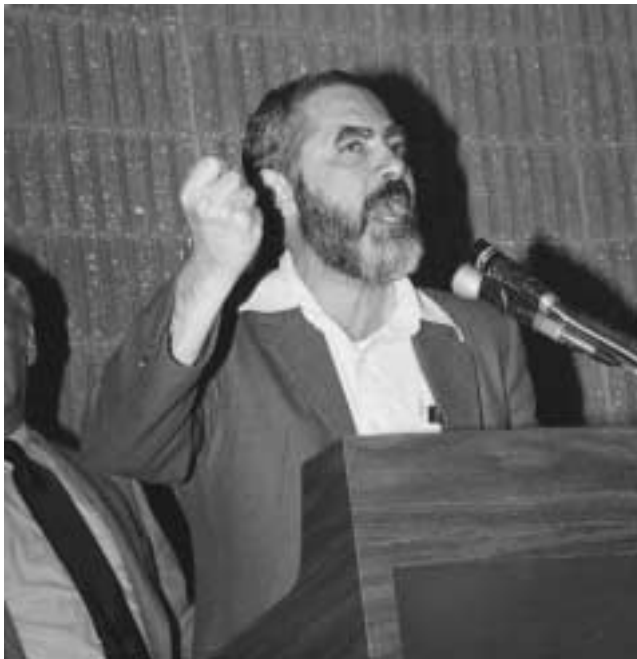
Israeli government—with the threat of a long jail term—under the accusation of 'sedition.' "

**Moshe Feiglin.** A 42-year-old Australian emigré, Feiglin is the self-anointed head of a Likud Party splinter, linked to the banned terrorist group Kahane Chai (founded by Jewish Defense League terrorist Meir Kahane). In 1995, Feiglin was in the middle of propaganda operations that set up the assassination of Yitzhak Rabin, telling *Haaretz*, "Hitler also rose to power in democratic elections. . . . Rabin is the [Judenrat] putting us on the trains." Feiglin founded Zo Artzeinu (This Is Our Country) with **Rabbi Benny Alon**, of the Moledet party. Alon is no stranger to radicalism and American money: He headed the Beit Orot Yeshiva, located in a Palestinian neighborhood in Jerusalem, which had been bought up with money from Miami-based billionaire Dr. Irving Moskowitz, a Likud supporter. The Feiglin/Alon group organized massive civil disobedience in Israel, traffic blockades, and violent sieges of the offices of Palestinians. Feiglin even directed these activities from a rented helicopter. Alon and Moledet refer to Palestinians as a "disease," which must be surgically removed from Israel.

Alon is now a Member of the Knesset (parliament), and was in the Washington on Oct. 11-12 to attend the Christian Coalition's meeting, and pick up some more fundamentalist money from the groups allied to the Christian Embassy. In televangelist style, Alon aroused the crowd with chants against the Palestinian state, while Christian Zionists organized, from the podium, the ritual blowing of the *shofar* (ram's horn).

**Rev. Ed McAteer** is the founder of the U.S. Religious Roundtable, and public relations man for the **National Unity Coalition for Israel** (NUCI). Working directly for the Office of Interreligious Affairs, at the Israeli Embassy, McAteer organizes evangelicals from all over the United States to come to the Embassy—at their own expense—and hear him speak. The contact man for the last several years has been Moshe Fox, the Embassy's Minister of Public Affairs. That "old-time religion" is provided by the Christian Elmer Ganttrys, but Fox quotes from the Old Testament, telling the assembled Christian fundamentalists, that "God promises the Jews a land flowing with milk and honey," in the words of *Mother Jones* magazine, before he tells them to "help turn this divine promise into reality."

The job that McAteer and NUCI took up in early 2001, was to threaten the White House, and begin a drumbeat against Secretary of State Colin Powell with the message: "*Lay off Ariel Sharon.*" On July 30, 2001, McAteer and Jewish groups, including the Zionists of America and American Friends of Likud, had a White House meeting with Administration officials to deliver the message, that the Christian Right had mobilized millions of voters for Bush, who *could* lose this vote, if the White House tries to rein in Sharon by calling for a cease-fire or sending an international observer force with U.S. backing. This assessment of the meeting came from Herb Zweibon, president of Americans for a Safe Israel,



*Rabbi Meir Kahane, the American terrorist who was assassinated in 1990. Rabbi Mordecai Eliyahu gave the eulogy for Kahane—and has been named as one of seven Israeli right-wing rabbis who later issued a decree calling for the death of Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin.*

who was a participant. The entire meeting was directly organized by the Christian Embassy Washington office.

For the 15 months since that meeting, the groups behind the ICEF have continued to put pressure on Bush, to end all assistance to *any kind* of Palestinian administration in the Occupied Territories, and to abandon all support for a state of Palestine. The ICEJ/NUCI gaggle also wants Bush to expel the Palestinian Authority from the United States, and declare the P.A. and Arafat to be terrorists. They have demanded that the United States back an Israeli plan to flatten every structure and asset in the Palestinian territories, the same way that U.S. airpower flattened Afghanistan.

So far, the Christian Zionists have not succeeded, but with a new Republican Party majority in the House and Senate, they plan to “collect” their payment, and expect to be able to push Bush over the edge. However, the Oct. 30 collapse of the Sharon government, may have robbed them of that opportunity. For, while Sharon has filled his interim Cabinet with right-wing fanatics, factions in the Labor Party and other pro-peace Israeli elements have renewed a campaign to return to the Rabin peace plan, and are shaking up the Democratic Party, and the Jewish pro-peace camp in the United States, to get the job done.

### **The Strange Rabbi Eckstein**

One of the key weapons the Christian fundamentalists intend to use to force Bush into line behind their insane agenda, is the strange Rabbi Yechiel Eckstein, the Chicago-based

rabbi with no congregation, whom Sen. Joseph Lieberman (D-Conn.) calls “the best-kept secret in the United States.”

Until 1983, Eckstein was the co-director of interreligious affairs for the Anti-Defamation League, the organized-crime-linked spy organization in the United States (see *EIR*’s book, *The Ugly Truth About the ADL*, 1992). He left the ADL to create the International Fellowship of Christians and Jews (IFCJ), where he claims to have become the world’s leading Jewish expert on Christian evangelicals, and boasts of breaking “new ground with [Christian fundie] groups that formerly had no contacts with Jews.”

Like Falwell and the Christian Embassy, Eckstein has a “Moonie connection,” through Philadelphia-based Rabbi David Ben-Ami. Ben-Ami is director of one of Eckstein’s 1998 spin-offs, the Institute for Religious Values, which ran an operation with Eckstein’s board member, Gary Bauer, to organize hundreds of American rabbis to influence Jewish Senators, to ensure that President Clinton’s veto of a bill banning so-called late-term abortions would be overridden. Ben-Ami is well known to both the Moonies, and to Israeli fanatics. When Moon was jailed in the United States for tax fraud, Ben-Ami rushed to defend the sex pervert. In Israel, Ben-Ami’s links to terrorists go back to the early 1980s, when he was laundering money for the so-called American Forum for Jewish-Christian Understanding to the operatives who were planning to blow up the al-Haram al-Sharif holy places in Jerusalem (known in English as the Temple Mount), so that the Third Temple of Solomon could be built, and fulfill Darbyite prophecy. In that scheme, Ben-Ami worked closely with Meir Kahane’s chief contact in the Washington area, Rabbi Herzl Kranz, of Silver Spring, Maryland.

Here, another detail from Eckstein’s ongoing row in Israel with the Chief Rabbinate should raise alarms about his connections to Israelis who protect these Jewish fascist terrorists and assassins. In defense of his alliance with the Christian fundies, Eckstein cites a letter from the late Rabbi Mordecai Eliyahu, a former Chief Rabbi of Israel, who happened to be the mentor of terrorist Meir Kahane. When Kahane was assassinated in 1990, Eliyahu gave the eulogy. More horrifying is the fact that Eliyahu is named as one of the seven right-wing rabbis who reportedly issued the religious ruling of *din rodef*, opening the door to the murder of Yitzhak Rabin, on the grounds that he had exposed Jews to life-threatening harm and loss, by negotiating the Oslo peace accord. While the charges against Eliyahu were not investigated at the time, the Rabin case is still open, with the prosecution of an informant for the Shin Bet domestic intelligence service going on in Israel at the present time.

Meanwhile, part of the \$65 million that Eckstein gets from the U.S.-based fundies, has gone to Eliyahu’s son.

Though he moved to Israel two years ago in the religious/political act of return, or *aliyah*, Eckstein is more active in the United States than ever, with connections that not only go into the Senate, but to the White House itself.

On Oct. 19, Eckstein and his co-director Ralph Reed pulled together the "Stand for Israel" prayer meeting, which was reportedly a flop compared to projected participation, but which pulled together the leading names of Darbyism in the United States. While it is easy to drown in the "alphabet soup," of like-sounding Christian Zionist efforts, the Eckstein/Reed combo gathered the "generals" of this crackpot crusade to hijack U.S. policy. The endorsers were: Pat Robertson, now head of the Christian Broadcasting Network; Rev. Jerry Falwell; Rev. John Hagee of the Cornerstone Church in San Antonio, Texas (where Benjamin Netanyahu preaches about the divine right of Israel to control Palestine); Chuck Colson of the Prison Ministries; Tim LaHaye, author of the "End Times" best-selling novels; and Richard Land of the Southern Baptist Convention, which has recently been embroiled in a scandal over anti-Muslim statements. And not to be left out, Gary Bauer, former Republican Presidential candidate in 2000, is on the Board of Eckstein and Reed's International Fellowship of Christians and Jews.

This was the second pro-Israel mass rally held by the fundies this Fall. On Oct. 12, the Christian Coalition, held the "Unity for Israel" rally in Washington. Rabid speeches given by Gary Bauer, House Majority Whip Rep. Tom DeLay (R-Tex.), Benny Alon from the Moledet Party, and Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert, all said the same thing: There will be no peace agreement between Israel and Palestine; the Bible says God gave the land to Israel only; peace will come only when Palestinians are transferred out of the Occupied Territories.

The Christian Zionists and their neo-conservative allies are now "crunching the numbers" to prove that Bush and the GOP had better pay close attention to this bloc, because the 2004 Presidential election is "just around the corner."

But, for the moment, more insidious are the cronies that the Eckstein/Reed/ICEJ network have *in place* in the White House and the Defense Department. Among the "Chicken-hawks" that *EIR* has identified as gunning for war against Iraq, otherwise known as the "Wolfowitz cabal," one is of particular importance: Assistant Secretary of Defense for Policy Doug Feith. *Mother Jones* magazine reported in October, that Feith had been the honorary policy chairman of the National Unity Coalition for Israel, which, as identified above, is a project of the "Christian Embassy." *Mother Jones* also noted that Feith "has said the Israelis should reoccupy all lands ceded to the Palestinian Authority, even though 'the price in blood would be high.' " Feith, a second-generation Jabotinskyite, not only expresses these divided loyalties, at odds with Bush's stated policy on Israel, but, he also runs a Pentagon-based "parallel" intelligence agency, plotting a war on Iraq, in league with Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld, Deputy Defense Secretary Paul Wolfowitz, and Richard Perle, head of the Defense Policy Board.


The other agent in place is even closer to Bush—chief White House speechwriter Michael Gerson, an evangelical who has a degree in theology from Wheaton College in Illi-

nois, a center of Darbyism. Gerson's ties to Eckstein are multiple: His former boss, Sen. Dan Coats (R-Ind.), was the co-chairman, with Joe Lieberman, of Eckstein's front group for Congress, called the Center for Jewish and Christian Values. Coats, who gave Gerson his Washington credentials, ran Eckstein's Oct. 7, 1997 "Christians in Solidarity with Israel" conference on Capitol Hill, which featured the Israeli Ambassador to the UN, Dore Gold, a pro-Sharon lunatic. Eckstein's event was designed to undermine President Clinton's efforts to put pressure on then-Prime Minister Netanyahu, to continue negotiations on the Oslo Accords. Another of Gerson's former employers is Chuck Colson, who is also a co-sponsor of Eckstein's operations.

Much has been written in the U.S. press about Gerson, who controls Bush's teleprompter, but few note how important Wheaton College is for his connection to Bush. Dan Coats, who is now Bush's Ambassador to Germany, is a Wheaton graduate, as is evangelist Billy Graham, the man who is credited in many media accounts with bringing George W. Bush into the "Born Again" fold. Gerson and Eckstein have also drawn from the same stable for their operatives. While William Kristol, the neo-conservative editor of the *Weekly Standard*, who favors a unilateral American "empire," serves on Eckstein's board, Gerson has frequently employed Kristol's protégés as White House speechwriters for Bush.

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