

that the Japanese “are a little bit concerned about another small-state governor coming in [like Jimmy Carter before], not that well versed in foreign policy and trying again to do something like pull the troops out of South Korea.”

A columnist for the Bangkok, Thailand daily *The Nation* noted July 21, “It is feared in Thailand that, if elected, Michael Dukakis would impose further protectionism against the Asian countries and downgrade regional defense as a priority.” Similar concerns have been expressed at the highest levels in South Korea.

As for another region in Asia, one British source expressed fears that a Dukakis administration would unilaterally end aid to the Afghan resistance, irrespective of whether the Soviets actually withdraw from Afghanistan. This comment was made on Aug. 16, within hours of the death of Pakistan’s Zia ul-Haq.

One particular added concern from Britain, is that Dukakis is a backer of, or is supported by, those political forces in the United States, particularly in his home state of Massachusetts, who financially back the Irish Republican Army. One Dukakis-team intimate, Rep. Robert Kennedy, Jr. (D-Mass.), recently toured Belfast, Northern Ireland, and endorsed the IRA cause. The “Kennedy machine” behind Dukakis is critical to international support for the IRA.

This issue is particularly sensitive, since the IRA has gone on a major terrorist offensive since late July, begun more or less immediately after Mrs. Thatcher began attacking the “Europe 1992” project. IRA atrocities have been committed in North London, Northern Ireland, West Germany, and Belgium, and a complex IRA-support apparatus has been traced to Holland.

In what could be viewed as a coded message to Dukakis and the Kennedy machine, Mrs. Thatcher unveiled a plan to “hit IRA finances.” A letter issued by the prime minister stated the British government’s “intention to broaden and strengthen the existing offenses in the Prevention of Terrorism (Temporary Provisions) Act. The scope of the prohibited conduct will be expanded so that it will more clearly cover the sort of activities and transactions carried on by banks and other financial institutions, and accountants and other financial advisers. Facilitation of the retention or control of terrorist funds will be an offense.”

Moscow’s ‘New Jerusalem’

Among rational political and military circles in Israel, there is mounting fear that a Dukakis electoral victory in November, coupled with an anticipated Likud victory in the autumn Israeli Knesset elections, would virtually guarantee an Israeli annexation of the occupied territories and a mass expulsion of Palestinian residents of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. Emboldened by Michael and Kitty Dukakis’s unabashed endorsement of a move of the Israeli capital to Jerusalem from Tel Aviv, the Likud, according to these Israeli sources, would move recklessly in the anticipation of unflagging White House support for any Israeli action. Iron-

Three suspects held in assault on EIR’s Benton

Three suspects have been arrested by the New Orleans Police Department in connection with the assault on *EIR*’s Washington correspondent, Nicholas F. Benton, during the Republican Convention in New Orleans. Benton was attacked and brutally beaten on the evening of Aug. 13, and required stitches and eye surgery as a result of the assault.

According to a spokesman for New Orleans Parish District Attorney Harry Connick, the three suspects were booked on charges of armed robbery and aggravated battery. They are Wayne Jones, Darryl Geise, and Gary Gennaro. Bond was set for the three in the amounts of \$250,000 for Jones, and \$200,000 each for Geise and Gennaro. None had made bond as of Aug. 25, and were still in jail.

Benton attained international prominence after his Aug. 3 question to President Reagan in a White House press conference concerning the refusal of Democratic candidate Michael Dukakis to release his medical records. Benton was subject to some subtle and some not-so-subtle threats as the flap over Dukakis’s mental health grew.

Investigators are continuing to probe to determine what other individuals or groups may have been behind the assault on Benton.

ically, these sources added, a Dukakis victory would accelerate Israel’s collaboration with the Soviets. This fear of a Dukakis-Shamir combination was underscored by the Reagan-Bush State Department’s recent unprecedented harsh diplomatic protest against Israel’s mid-August expulsion of 25 Palestinians from the occupied territories.

According to the Milan Catholic daily *Avvenire*, Reagan administration arms control negotiator Max Kampelman secretly conferred with Governor Dukakis concerning Kampelman’s back-channel efforts to secure a U.S.-Soviet-Israeli deal to have the two superpowers simultaneously recognize Jerusalem as the legitimate capital of Israel. Such a deal (which would be a virtual certainty under a Dukakis presidency), said the newspaper of the Italian Catholic bishops, would represent a major advance towards the Russian Orthodox Church’s centuries old quest to replace Rome as the center of world christianity. Both Israeli and Vatican sources fear that a Dukakis victory would doom the Middle East to a decade of religious wars and chaos—and might even trigger a global war by miscalculation.