Therefore, they shouldn't be attacking us. How long are they going to protect terrorists? If you don't want your children killed, why do you protect terrorists, and give money to the murderers, who violate human rights; and they will continue to do so, as long as you give them safe haven."

President Mubarak stepped up his campaign later that day in an interview with the French daily *Libération,* in which he accused the British government of "laxity, if not collusion with Islamists who are refugees on British soil." Mubarak specifically denounced the former Conservative government of John Major, and British intelligence, for their failure to act against the London group. "We contacted [British Prime Minister] John Major and his security services. They found all sorts of excuses. We got nowhere. We are now asking the government of [Prime Minister] Tony Blair to return these men to us. If they have a problem with the law, the law can be changed, to protect people."

In an interview with the German weekly *Der Spiegel* on Dec. 8, President Mubarak charged: "I do not understand, why people on whose hands there is blood, are granted asylum in England. Why they are being granted the freedom to call, in interviews and newspaper articles, for the assassination of people who think differently. Why is the convicted assassin of a girl, Yasser al Sirri, being allowed to move and act freely? London asked us for documents on his criminal record. Well, we sent those documents, but nothing has moved, so far."

Egyptian press exposes London's 'Lords of Terror'

The Egyptian government papers *Al Ahram* and *Al Akhbar,* among other Egyptian press, have repeatedly documented British protection for the Islamic Group, and other terrorist organizations safehoused in Britain. The following is a sampling of coverage since the Luxor attack.

Al Akhbar, **Nov. 23, 1997:** Editorial by chief editor Galal Dwedar, entitled "Nest of Terror in London, and Murder of Englishmen in Luxor." "Britain harbors the heads of terrorism such as Yasser al Sirri. The British government, through giving haven to these fugitive leaders of terrorism in London, gives protection to the activities of these elements. This protection means an open invitation to commit more terrorist crimes, not only against Egyptians, but against its own citizens, as happened in the massacre in Luxor, where four English citizens were killed."

Al Ahram, **Dec. 7, 1997:** Article by Mohammed Tuaima, entitled "How Can We Surround and Extradite London's Lords of Terror?" "London's share of terrorist groups alone, according to security sources, is 1,400," the article reports, "which include 4,000 members who are active. Security

sources describe these people as 'the lords of terrorism of England.' They live a life of luxury, preying on the money donated by the millionaires and terrorist organizations, both in Britain and abroad, for their terrorist operations.

"London's 'permanent interests' have always converged with the lords of terrorism who live in Britain, who never underestimate what their existence represents for British interests. Therefore, they behave with Britain in reciprocal manner, realizing the important political and social environment it provides for them."

Al Ahram, **Dec. 11, 1997:** Egyptian government adviser Yahia Ahamad Al Banna writes, "From reviewing the facts of the Luxor incident, it becomes obvious that the planning was done by the leaders who are living abroad . . . then, after the attack, they—from Britain, where they live—announced their support of the cowardly attack on the innocent tourists. That announcement by itself was enough a reason to demand their extradition [from Britain to Egypt].

"It is amazing that, while the British Home Minister Jack Straw revealed that the leaders of the terrorist organizations have made of London a center for their groups, the British government decided to grant political asylum to four terrorist leaders who were convicted in Egypt. This means that England has dropped its international commitments toward fighting terrorism, especially as the legions of terrorists threaten the security and stability of the Middle East; thus violating the resolutions of international agreements and the international agreements on banning and punishing terrorism, such as the 1937 agreement, the European agreement on terrorism 1976, the New York Agreement 1973, and the Montreal agreement on avoiding attacks against safety of aviation.

"Britain has become the center of the leadership of Egyptian terrorists; Switzerland has become a center for the Algerian terrorists. This has no explanation. It would not help them to claim 'defending democracy in other countries,' an excuse no longer valid for protecting terrorists.

"What is the U.S. going to do about this? When it had to do with Sudan's harboring of terrorists, President Clinton issued a ban on Sudanese diplomats travelling to the U.S. While in the Luxor attack, the U.S. administration merely declared that southern Egypt is a terrorist-infested area without mentioning the European states that are harboring the terrorists.

"There is no doubt that the direction of the threads of the case reveal eventually that there are common interests [between Britain and its terrorists], despite the difference in objectives. Through targetting tourism, leaders of terrorism are aiming at pressing the government to hold dialogue, in preparation to overthrowing it. Meanwhile, the states that are helping these terrorists are aiming at keeping the countries of the region in a continuous state of anxiety due to the activities of the Islamic groups, to defame Islam, and to give these states the right to fight them as a whole [Muslim states and individuals], as a new enemy following the fall of communism."