
III. U.S., UN Protect London

British press admits, London is a safe haven

In response to the escalating Egyptian attack on British harboring of international terrorists, the British press has come out into the open, trying to explain away this protection, or implying that it is merely the policy of the current Labour government, and not the policy of the Crown. What follows, typifies the response.

Daily Telegraph, Nov. 19. In a lead editorial entitled "Islam's Fifth Column," the paper writes, "The United Kingdom has, in recent years, become a safe haven for an impressively diverse array of extremist groups, often to the despair of those allied governments imperilled by their activities. These include front organizations for such Islamist terrorists as the Egyptian al-Jamaa al-Islamiyya [Islamic Group] and Jihad groups, the two likeliest perpetrators of the massacre by the Nile; the Palestinian rejectionists of Hamas; and the Algerian GIA. Their quarrels often spill over with lethal effect onto our soil, as exemplified by the assassinations of dissident elements here in London. How has this free society made itself so vulnerable? Part of the answer is to be found in our highly liberal asylum laws."

Daily Telegraph, Nov. 20. "Groups supporting Egypt's Islamic extremists operate openly in London," states an article entitled "Law Allows Dissidents to Plot from British Bases." "Britain is now an international center for Islamic militancy on a huge scale. Islamic groups use London, to support terrorist movements in their homelands. Security chiefs in Israel and France say some terror operations are actually controlled from London. The Algerian and French governments say British-based groups were behind bombs in Paris. The Israelis say Hamas supporters in Britain are helping to orchestrate terrorist attacks, something disputed by British security sources."

Times of London, Nov. 24. "In the past two years Britain has been increasingly embarrassed by the large number of Islamic extremists coming here," writes Michael Binyon, in an article entitled "London Is Not Terror Haven, Say Ministers." He adds: "Many governments, including those of Egypt, Algeria, Tunisia, Turkey, Bahrain, and Saudi Arabia, have denounced their presence in Britain and called for tighter laws. Unlike almost all other European countries, Britain does not forbid foreign exiles from engaging in politics, provided they do not break British law. At present, moreover, the law does not specifically outlaw masterminding terrorist activities overseas."

Observer, Nov. 24. "Millions from Britain for Luxor Killers," is the headline about British responsibility for the Luxor massacre.

State Dept. covers up for British terrorism

The U.S. State Department has consistently covered up for London's role in harboring and deploying international terrorists such as Hamas, the Kurdish Workers Party (PKK), and Islamic Group, in response to questions from *EIR* over the last two years. It has routinely attempted to shift the blame to third parties, such as Iraq, Iran, and Sudan. This State Department behavior is not a result of ignorance. All of the information in this dossier is a matter of public record, largely admitted to by the British government. The following exchanges between *EIR* and State Department officials reflect the Anglophilia in the department:

March 25, 1996, State Department regular press briefing with spokesman Nick Burns.

EIR: Nick, with regard to Hamas, the Israeli government has expressed concern to the British that there has been a considerable amount of financing; to a large extent Hamas has found a safe haven in Great Britain. This is not the first indication of that. The PKK also is operating quite freely because of the nature of British legislation. And the Israelis want them to crack down on this. Has this been also of concern to the United States, and has it been a subject of discussions in the bilateral meetings with Prime Minister Major and the President at Sharm el-Sheikh?

Burns: I would not single out the United Kingdom in determining how we can foreclose terrorist options for Hamas in the future. I wouldn't single out the United Kingdom. I would single out Iran. Iran directly supports Hamas and directly funds Hamas. We know that. And that's undeniable. I'd single out other states in the region which can do more—which can do much more to choke off support for Hamas. I wouldn't single out the United Kingdom for this treatment.

EIR: The Israeli government has.

Burns: All of us—I think the message from Sharm el-Sheikh is that all of us need to combine efforts to fight the suicide terrorism of Hamas and the other terrorist groups in the Middle East.

EIR: Has there been any concern—has this been a subject of discussion with regard to the British on—in terms of specifically . . . ?

Burns: I simply—I simply don't know if this particular subject has been raised diplomatically by the United States with the United Kingdom. But, again, I would argue very strongly that singling out the United Kingdom would be most curious right now. I think we ought to single out Iran and