

5. Zionist-Falange Lobby Takes Shape In U. S.

One of the ugliest scandals in American politics

One of the most monstrous American political scandals of the postwar era is now taking place, and is being virtually blacked out by the American press.

Since Aug. 13, the former Secretary of State for the Sovereign Order of St. John of Jerusalem, Charles Habib Malik, has been traveling between Washington and New York to fashion a tight political alliance between the U.S. Zionist lobby and the pro-fascist Falangist Party of Lebanon and its U.S. political supporters. The purpose of Malik's visit has been, simply, to create a U.S. domestic strike force to back the Carter Administration into support for an Israel-Falange war against Syria.

In discussions with journalists this week, Malik, whose former official positions included Lebanese Foreign Minister and Lebanese Ambassador to the U.S., has curtly denied his connection to the Sovereign Order and has insisted that the entire issue be kept away from the public eye. Yet the *official history* of the Order, entitled "The Sovereign Order of St. John of Jerusalem: Knights of Malta," lists Malik as having served as Order Secretary of State until *at least as late as 1970*.

This fact raises two critical issues for full exposure to the U.S. public: first, the actual nature of the Falangists, and second, the extent and content of the latest escalation in Zionist lobby strategy for the coming period.

In the face of the Israeli-motivated ballyhoo about the threatened Syrian "extermination of the Christian population," the Malik case highlights the true nature of the Falange as an extension into Lebanon of the blackest networks of the international Black Guelph anti-Vatican networks headed by French Archbishop Lefebvre.

The Sovereign Order for which Malik served as Secretary of State is itself one of the ugliest of the several St. John groups in existence. It developed during the 1908-17 period out of Russian and eastern European emigré circles who all entertained strongly rightist views. Since that time it has interfaced with the World Anti-Communist League. Among its key "pories," or regions, are "Pan-Korea" and *Lebanon*.

Although the membership of other Falangist and Chamounist leaders in the Sovereign Order is not at this point confirmed, investigations to this date have uncovered the following:

Camille Chamoun, warlord head of the "Chamounist" or "Tiger" militias, "receives his orders from the Order of Malta," according to well-placed Arab diplomatic sources.

The ultra-fanatic **Guardians of the Cedar** group,

which holds a mystical, and often bloodthirsty, belief in the necessity of creating an "independent Maronite state" in Lebanon, is a "subordinate Order to the Knights of St. John," according to a highly placed Washington source.

The known history of both the Gemayel family-led Falangists and the Chamoun militias conforms to the international deployments of the Order of St. John, working through the Nazi and linked fascist movements during the 1930s.

After a trip to Berlin in the 1930s, Pierre Gemayel returned to Lebanon to create the Falangist Party on a basis modeled after Mussolini's and Franco's fascist forces. The Falange played a role in undermining French influence in Lebanon up to the decade of the 1950s. During the latter 1950s, the Falangists were systematically built up by Black Guelph gun-running and mercenary networks into a national militia which launched the series of destabilizations leading to the 1958 U.S. Marines invasion. A second go-around for the Falangists occurred in 1975, as Henry Kissinger fashioned his Sinai Pact and helped build up the Falange as an effective force to set Lebanon aflame.

To this day, leading Falangists such as militia coordinator Bashir Gemayel, son of Pierre, are ardent worshippers of Adolf Hitler.

The Chamoun family, similarly, was built up by Great Britain during the 1930s as an anti-French force. The British role of Camille Chamoun was underscored by the early 1950s period, when Chamoun became the most ardent advocate of any prominent Arab leader of the proposed British Baghdad Pact to contain and encircle the Soviet Union. As President in 1958, it was Chamoun who called in the Marines as part of a British gameplan to embroil the U.S. in a confrontation in the Mideast and to help preserve such British bastions as Iraq, then under internal attack from nationalist forces.

Most recently, Chamoun held an unprecedented Aug. 22 meeting in Jerusalem with the Israeli cabinet to coordinate war plans against Syria.

Malik in the U.S.

Chamoun's Jerusalem deployment was paralleled by Malik's meetings in the U.S.

In the U.S., officially at the invitation of Zionist lobby spokesman Senator Richard Stone, Malik testified before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee during the week of Aug. 13 to argue that "the Christians of Lebanon are faced with genocide" at the hands of Syria.

Since that date, Malik has reportedly met with 47 senators, including a private strategy session during

the Aug. 26-27 weekend with rabid Cold Warrior Senator and Zionist lobby ideologue Patrick Moynihan of New York.

The Malik meetings fit into a wider pattern of growing coordination between the Zionist and Falangist lobbies. This has been epitomized by regular meetings during August between the heads of the American-Israeli Public Affairs Committee, the official Israel Lobby group in Washington, and the American Lebanese League, a group set up earlier this year by Bashir Gemayel and Dany Chamoun (Camille's son) during visits to the U.S.

So regular and increasingly efficient has this coordination become that a top Zionist Lobby aide on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee gloated this week that "the State Department officers on the desk level see plots being concocted by an AIPAC-ALL alliance to ruin U.S. foreign policy in the Middle East."

One of the victories of this axis was the early August cutback in U.S. aid to Syria in retaliation for "Syria's role in Lebanon."

A second Zionist-Falangist operation has been to try to split the key lobbying group for the Arab political position in Washington, the National Association of Arab-Americans (NAAA), which has become a more effective political force in the U.S. in recent months. A front-page *Jerusalem Post* article Aug. 25 headlined, "U.S. Arabs Split Over Terrorism," reported an attack being mounted on the NAAA's newly elected President Hisham Sharabi by Washington lawyer Lawrence Lataif, an NAAA board member, for being a "terrorist supporter." *Jerusalem Post* writer Wolf Blitzer portrayed the Lataif attack as part of a wider pattern of growing animosity among factions within the American Arab community.

—Mark Burdman

Falange — Christians Who Are Not Christians

The specious Israeli claim that it has to consider intervening in Lebanon to "prevent the Christians of Lebanon from extermination" has come under persistent Lebanese and other Arab press attack for its obvious flaw: the Falangists and Chamounists represent at most only 10-20 percent of Lebanon's Christian community, which in turn is less than half Lebanon's total population.

Further, most Lebanese Christians regard the Falangists as a noxious poison assaulting the body politic of Lebanon and know that the Falange were built up originally as an adjunct of the British and Nazi deployments into the Middle East during the 1930-1940 period.

An Aug. 31 *Los Angeles Times* dispatch from Beirut pointed out the reality of the Israel-"Christian" relationship:

The tragic irony of the explosive situation is that at its heart the fight is not a general one between Lebanon's Christians and the various leftist and nationalist Moslem groups who support the Syrians. Authoritative Christian sources in East Beirut said that fewer than 10 percent of Lebanon's Maronite Christian community actively support the Phalange and the Chamounists. They reported numerous incidents of intimidation, blackmail and "protection racket" shakedowns in East Beirut and the port city of Junieh just to the north by Phalangists and Chamounists seeking to bolster lagging financial and public support.

In addition, there is a growing Maronite community in the north of Lebanon led by former president Suleiman Franjeh, whose son Tony was killed by Phalangists in June, that actively supports Syrian peacekeeping efforts and bitterly opposes Gemayel and Chamoun. Thus Israeli claims to be "protecting" the Christians of Lebanon by their support of armed Christian units in southern Lebanon and of the Phalangists and Chamounists in and near Beirut are selective to a high degree, covering only that minority of Christians who have sought Israeli aid.

To emphasize the point, a Beirut newspaper complained editorially Wednesday that journalistic "shorthand" of identifying Gemayel's and Chamoun's militias as "Christian" had probably misled the world into believing Lebanon has become a Christian-Moslem battleground.

More properly, said the English language newspaper "Ike," the Christian identification of the militias should be qualified as "part of Lebanon's Maronite community, which itself is part of Lebanon's Christian community, many of whose religious and temporal leaders consider the militias one of the greatest threats ever posed to the Christians of Lebanon and the Arab worlds."

Commenting on reports of the Falangists' intention to establish an "independent Maronite state" in Lebanon, Jordan's *Ad-Destour* wrote Aug. 26, in an article headlined "To Avoid a New Catastrophe," that "the reason for establishing this lackey state of the militias has nothing to do with harboring or protecting the Christians in Lebanon. Since its independence, Lebanon has harbored Christians and Moslems alike. Religious affiliations have never been a cause of crisis in Lebanon, even at the peak of the tragedy the Lebanese encountered."

On Aug. 26 and 27, the Damascus Domestic Service carried statements from the Greek Orthodox Patriarch Ilyas IV from Beirut; from the Greek Orthodox Patriarchate in Antioch; and from the Greek Orthodox Patriarchate in eastern North America denouncing Israel's plans to partition Lebanon with an "independent Christian state." "Sedition is alien to Lebanon and to Lebanese citizens," Ilyas IV charged. "Israel has fostered the idea of sedition to exacerbate differences and transform them into a struggle between Moslems and Christians. This has not and will not take place."