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## THE ARAB WORLD

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# London's operatives plotting new coups

by Thierry Lalevée

When President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt arrived in the West German capital of Bonn, Feb. 11, he was greeted by a demonstration of 6,000 angry Muslims, denouncing his policies of "repression" against the Egyptian Muslim Brotherhood.

These demonstrators had two distinguishing features: first, according to eyewitness reports, most of them belonged to the huge Turkish Muslim community living in West Germany and had been brought to Bonn in a well-organized system of buses from the Rhine city of Koblenz, some 60 kilometers away. A second feature is that, according to the well-established Islamic Centers in Germany, the demonstrators' organization did not exist. Before appearing at the demonstration, the Turks had distributed leaflets in the name of an "Islamic Union of Germany," a name which surfaced only a few days before the demonstration, according to spokesmen for the Muslim Brotherhood in Germany. The West German Muslim community has been split for several years into the Munich-based South German Islamic Community, which is the strongest such organization in Germany. Various local Islamic centers exist in Aachen, Cologne, Dortmund, and Hamburg. "There is no such thing as a general 'Islamic Union' of Germany," an angry Stuttgart member told a reporter.

Behind the shadowy phenomenon of these 6,000 Turkish demonstrators is a very secretive re-organization of the international Muslim Brotherhood apparatus. The Bonn demonstration showed that this reorganization is aimed at establishing a close coordination between the various national operations of the Brotherhood. The Turkish workers demonstrating in support of their Egyptian brothers was a successful trial balloon for how "pan-Islamic solidarity" can be organized.

This reorganization occurred in the last month of 1981, and its full effects are not yet evident. It was necessitated by the developments in Egypt after the Sadat assassination, which were disastrous for the Muslim Brotherhood there. The assassination did not lead to a national upheaval and an Egyptian Islamic republic on the Iran model, as the fanatics of Takfir Wal Higma and

their controllers believed; it led to a national reaction against fundamentalism, with power consolidated in the very popular regime of Mubarak. When Mubarak succeeded in obtaining a full denunciation of Sadat's murderers from Omar Telmesanni, the official head of the Brotherhood in Egypt, as the price Telmesanni had to pay to get out of prison, in a few minutes years of organizing work by the Brotherhood in Egypt were destroyed.

### 'Mubarak is like Sadat'

For these reasons alone, Mubarak has become the number-one target of the Brotherhood, and the Bonn demonstration was only the most public feature of what is being plotted.

Mubarak's assassination was the subject of planning sessions held over the past months, especially a secret conference held in London in mid-December under the leadership of the aging Dr. Said Ramadan, son-in-law of Muslim Brotherhood founder Hassan al-Banna. Ramadan, the acknowledged leader of the Egyptian Brotherhood in exile, has been plotting ever since he left Egypt at the end of the 1950s, for his triumphal return to head an Islamic republic in Egypt. His base for more than 20 years has been the Islamic International Center in Geneva. Ramadan has been traveling to London since last autumn in what he described as an "advising mission," to initially bring together for the first time in London the Muslim Brotherhood for the entire Islamic world, including official government representatives from Libya and Iran as "observers."

The results of the discussions were leaked a few weeks later by Dr. Marcel Boisard, the Secretary-General of the Club of Rome-created "Islam and the West" Association based in Geneva, which has maintained close links with Ramadan's associates. In a discussion with a journalist, Boisard boasted that the Brotherhood was getting stronger in Egypt by taking advantage of Mubarak's liberalization. Recognizing that the Brotherhood has no broad-based public support, he warned that if the new president did not change his policies, "strong and violent actions are to be expected."

Around Dr. Ramadan, a hard core of Islamic representatives and leaders is now functioning as the international leadership. They include Salem Azzam, the Saudi Arabian who heads the London-based Islamic Council of Europe, and is directly involved in subversive activities inside Egypt under the code name "Hajj abu Mohammed." In this capacity he chairs, with the exiled Egyptian opposition figure who claims responsibility for Sadat's murder, General Shazli, the Tripoli-based National Front. This group also includes Ziauddin Sardar, an environmentalist and a member of the Jamaati Islami who operates as an official researcher on behalf of Boisard's Islam and the West, and the presi-

dent of the Islamic Council of Europe-sponsored Islamic Commission for Human Rights, former Algerian President Ahmed Ben Bella.

This international apparatus, based in Paris and London with branches in West Germany and Switzerland, has defined the new targets of the Brotherhood: the Gulf region, Egypt, and Morocco, which are operations to be carried out in coordination with the new Shiite International created by Ayatollah Khomeini.

With Egypt as the key project of Azzam and Ramadan, Africa has been made the responsibility of Ahmed Ben Bella in Paris, who has received considerable support from the regime of Socialist President François Mitterrand.

According to reports, Ben Bella is expected to lead a massive Brotherhood offensive in the North African country of Morocco, which has also been targeted by Iranian terrorist circles for its collaboration with Iraq. While Morocco is being put under military pressure by the Libyan-sponsored "Polisario" synthetic liberation movement—which was granted recognition by the OAU in the beginning of March—sources report that the Brotherhood has intensified its campaign inside the country after having seized numerous mosques, from which they have delivered anti-King Hassan tirades. The West German-based Moroccan community is being put under pressures by Ben Bella and Libyan-connected Muslims. Moroccan sources report that in Dortmund, a national conference of the Brotherhood was held in early March which discussed the case of Morocco as a priority.

A newcomer in the deployment of the Brotherhood, Ben Bella was quick to make it to the top of the hierarchy after his release from an Algerian jail some 18 months ago. He is trying to become for the Sunnite Islamic world what Khomeini is to the Shiite world. Ben Bella has been supported by the very same circles which created Khomeini. Upon his release from prison, his first trip abroad was to London to meet with the leaders of Amnesty International and the Bertrand Russell Peace Foundation.

Ben Bella is now championing the rights of the developing countries, although as he told *Le Monde* last year, he acknowledges that his earlier commitment to socialism was "wrong" and that Islam alone can provide the answers to the developing countries' problems. At present, he just wants to be called an "anti-imperialist" and it was in that capacity that he was elected president of the Islamic Human Rights Commission in September 1981, which was established in the Paris offices of UNESCO under the auspices of Salem Azzam. The commission was specially created to give Ben Bella an official job, rather than out of concern for human rights, which are continually violated by Azzam's associates in Pakistan.

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## A U.S. CONNECTION

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# Islamic Centennial 14 and fundamentalism

by Nancy Coker

In the summer of 1978, when the phenomenon of "Islamic fundamentalism" was still a novelty and the full implications of the "Islamic revival" had not yet become apparent, a group of approximately 20 people were meeting regularly in Washington to plan how the United States could best play the Islamic card. This group was the preparatory committee for what was later to be called the National Committee to Honor the Fourteenth Centennial of Islam, or Islam Centennial Fourteen (ICF), headquartered in Washington.

Officially, the ICF was set up as a nonpolitical organization committed to fostering an understanding of Islamic civilization and culture in the American population. In point of fact, ICF works to deliberately obfuscate Islam, by creating a smokescreen in the name of religious ecumenicism and cultural relativism for such extremist pseudo-Islamic cults as the Muslim Brotherhood. Like the Aspen Institute, which was instrumental in the overthrow of the Shah of Iran, ICF and its executive director William Crawford, retired ambassador to North Yemen and Cyprus, disseminate the view that Islam and modernization are inherently in conflict with one another. This conflict, they maintain, is what undid the Shah, and if there is to be economic development in the Islamic world, it must be reconciled with local prejudices and beliefs.

Last year ICF raised more than \$2 million in tax-deductible contributions from corporations across the country, including most of the major oil companies and construction firms. Although several of these firms are complicit in the true nature of ICF's activities, most corporate representatives interviewed by *EIR* were uninformed that the ICF is advocating an approach to the region that, expressed in economic practice, would severely limit corporate activity in the Islamic world.

### The role of Joe Malone

According to ICF insiders, Islam Centennial Fourteen is the creation of Joseph Malone, a long-time asset of British intelligence who operates out of his Middle East Research Associates in Washington. Malone—like ICF director Crawford's family—is a product of the American University in Beirut, a bastion of British