

A British-U.S. intelligence clash, and deployment of Moscow gold

by Criton Zoakos, Editor-in-Chief

Not without reason has the U.S. Secretary of Defense, Mr. Caspar Weinberger, characterized the crisis in relations between the British and American Intelligence services as "serious," respecting the so-called Geoffrey Prime scandal.

According to American intelligence officials, the "Prime Affair" proves no more and no less than that every piece of information regarding the top Soviet leadership which Britain supplied to the United States throughout the 1968 to 1977 period, i.e., the entire "Kissinger era," was fraudulent. All that the public has been allowed to know is that, through the agent Geoffrey Arthur Prime, placed at Great Britain's center for global electronics and communications espionage at Cheltenham, a 10-year-long program for monitoring the communications of Soviet leaders had been compromised. As a result, according to American claims, British-Soviet collusion is occurring at the expense of United States interests.

Redrawing the map

This matter is not irrelevant to the negotiations between the United States and the Greek government of the British-influenced socialist Mr. Andreas Papandreou regarding the future fate of American military bases in Greece. Those negotiations opened on Oct. 26, and the Greek government is presenting the following novel argument: American military bases in Greece were constructed and made available in the 1950s, during a period in which the then-existing military technologies made such bases necessary to U.S. defenses against the potential threats represented by the U.S.S.R. Now, in the 1980s, according to the Papandreou government, the technologies involved in any potential military conflict between the U.S. and the U.S.S.R. are so advanced that they make the geographical contribution of Greece irrelevant. The military/geographic relevance of Greece, the argument goes, is only with respect to the military equation in the Middle East, where the Papandreou government wishes to have its military posture (and that of the U.S. bases in Greece) harmonized with Arab interests, at the expense of Israel.

Such Arab interests, however, since the spring of 1982,

have increasingly fallen under the influence of British policy as outlined by Lord Carrington and pursued by Francis Pym. In point of fact, since approximately May-June, Great Britain has virtually supplanted American influence throughout the Middle East by reviving its old intelligence networks among Arabs and "blinding" the remnants of U.S. diplomatic and intelligence capabilities.

The military arrangements of the Gulf Cooperation Council are under London's control. Iraq's defenses are increasingly dependent on London. Israeli Defense Minister Ariel Sharon's activities during the latest invasion of Lebanon were designed to maximize the dependence of Arabs on British diplomatic initiatives.

Britain, in short, under the Carrington Plan, is in the middle of attempting to remake the world political map in a way that has not been attempted since the 1815 Congress of Vienna. The centerpiece of this effort is the eventual emergence of Europe as a "Third Force," strategically equivalent to and equidistant from both the United States and the U.S.S.R. It is in this broader policy context that various cooperation arrangements between Soviet intelligence and British and allied intelligence services have been made.

The publishing arena

One such area of cooperation involves the flow of propaganda funds going out of the Soviet Union into various Western European publishing ventures. Extensive funding has been reported to be flowing into the West German environmentalist and peace movement from various Soviet KGB sources over the last two years, for example. There are similar reports of Soviet funding of magazines and newspapers in West Germany, Sweden, Italy, and Greece, among other locations. The General Secretary of the Italian Communist Party (PCI), Enrico Berlinguer, has charged that the new ownership of the newspaper *Paese Sera* is under the financial influence of certain Soviet political interests attempting to influence PCI policies.

The case of two Greek publications allegedly financed by

certain Soviet interests is more politically instructive. The Communist Party daily *Rizospastis* received a multimillion dollar gift in the form of a loan from a dummy Luxembourg corporation owned and operated by the financial director of the East German Communist Party. When the story was made public in the beginning of October by the Athens correspondence of the *New York Times*, it was discovered that the incorporation papers of both the Luxembourg company and its two holding companies in Switzerland and Sweden had disappeared from the public record. Investigators were told that "major Western intelligence services" interested in the case had retrieved these documents, presumably for the purpose of protecting the Soviet-connected money conduiting channels.

A similar mysterious protection of Soviet money conduits appears to be at work with the funding of another Greek daily, *Ethnos*, whose publisher is a businessman with diversified dealings with the Soviet Union, including the handling of the Greek-language translation and distribution of the Great Soviet Encyclopaedia.

The first accounts of *Ethnos'* being funded by Soviet interests appeared in the London *Economist's Foreign Report* and the *Daily Telegraph*, both conduits for British intelligence. The British sources, however, have declined to either document or identify the source of their information, pending certain trial proceedings on this matter in Greek courts.

Sharon and the KGB

Their reluctance to divulge should be viewed against the following background: toward the end of August, Ariel Sharon held a very compromising meeting, under British sponsorship, on the island of Cyprus with certain high-ranking Soviet intelligence officials. The purpose of the meeting was to coordinate clandestine activities throughout Western Europe of Mossad and Soviet networks. One aspect of this arrangement was that the funding would be Soviet and that it would be conduited through three specific British banks from London.

There is no inconsistency in British intelligence's simultaneously exposing and protecting these covert Soviet funding activities.

Part of Britain's long-term perspective for establishing a Third Force in Europe involves maneuvering to have such a redefined Europe be ruled by a series of restored monarchies.

Therefore, as far as Whitehall is concerned, the Papandreu government of Greece, no matter how obediently pro-British, is viewed as a temporary arrangement while the decoupling from U.S. interests is being conducted. Once that is completed, a series of maneuvers is projected whose eventual outcome is expected to be the restoration of King Constantine to the Greek throne. Mr. Papandreu, who knows about these matters, should not trust his Foreign Minister, John Charalambopoulos, any more than he trusts parliamentarians Bouloukos and Chondrokoukis. They are all pulled by the same long string which goes from Athens to London.

How Great Britain is the Americans in the

by Judith Wyrer

Since the tour of British Prime Minister Francis Pym to Syria and Egypt in October, London has redoubled its objective of recovering its colonial domination of the Mideast at the expense of the United States. British sources say that London is quietly strengthening its influence in Oman, Iraq, Bahrain, and Egypt as part of its intentions "to get the Americans out of the region."

Oman has delivered a humiliation to the United States by suddenly declaring its unwillingness to participate in the third annual Rapid Deployment Force (RDF) Bright Star maneuvers. Oman, a territory administered de facto by Britain's Foreign Office and Special Air Services, has been touted as the closest Arab collaborator of the RDF. Oman's Masirah Island, into which the United States has already put millions of dollars for building base facilities, was to be the staging ground for maneuvers.

In an interview with Kuwait's *As Syassah*, Oman's ambassador to that country, Saud Salem al-Ansi, stated that his country had called off the exercises because of opposition from the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), an alliance of six Arabian peninsular states.

London's ally George Shultz, according to Arab sources, quietly gave a "blessing" to Oman to call off the exercises. Shultz and Henry Kissinger are U.S. ringleaders of the "Third Force" policy for the world as a whole, in which the United States and its potential for an economic development push are subordinated to a "multi-polar" order in which the British neo-colonialists are assigned control over the Mideast.

A high-level U.K. military officer boasted last month that the GCC, which came about in response to the British-run Islamic revolution in Iran, is itself a British creation: "The GCC intends to be independent of America, especially in the context of the anti-American mood in the region. In this arrangement, the British play a key advisory role, a role that is not advertised. The idea is to push the Arabs to the forefront and make it appear that it is all their doing."

Oman reinforced its humiliation of the United States when *Al Ansi* revealed that the erstwhile anti-Soviet Oman is now considering relations with the Soviet Union. Days later the Foreign Ministers of Oman and its long time rival neighbor, the Marxist People's Democratic Republic of Yemen (PDRY),