

The Soviets' British and Nazi assets

by Allen Douglas

On Oct. 23, a kamikaze terrorist drove a truck loaded with one ton of TNT into U.S. Marine headquarters in Beirut, demolishing it and killing over 200 soldiers. The driver was most likely an Iranian Shi'ite fanatic. Arab intelligence sources and French journalist Eric Rouleau both pointed to a recent consolidation of terrorists into a new, "very secret, well-organized" grouping led by top Lebanese Communist Party figures, as also instrumental in the attack.

Soviet assets in the Middle East today are religious fanatics and left and right radicals, often operating jointly. A June 1983 Soviet-sponsored conference in Damascus, for the "liberation" of Lebanon, pulled together precisely the elements now loudly praising the Oct. 23 attack, from the Lebanese Communist Party of George Hawi to the avowedly fascist Lebanese branch of the Great Syria party (SSNP) under Inaam Raad, with Shi'ites and Druze to boot. Like most Soviet Middle East deployments, the conference touted Soviet support for their anti-imperialist Muslim brothers of the Middle East against U.S.-backed Christian and Zionist repressors. There were Nazis (the SSNP's insignia at its founding was the swastika), Communists, and assorted Islamic "national liberation" fighters bred at the former British intelligence center in Shemlan outside Beirut—all huddled together under one "Islamic anti-imperialist" umbrella.

On one level, the purpose of Soviet sponsorship of "Islamic" terrorism is clear: It is aimed against the United States.

The deeper aim was indicated at an April 1983 conference at the British intelligence-affiliated Georgetown University's Center for Contemporary Arab Studies. The official conference document not only lauded the rise of Islamic fundamentalism, but stressed that "Islam has become so dominant a force in the eyes of the West that other ideologies and forces of solidarity in the Islamic World, e.g., nationalism, are thought to have receded into the background." And on that theme hangs the deep philosophical agreement among British intelligence, Swiss-based Nazis, and the Soviet leadership. Despite their mutual hostility on other issues of ideology and power politics, they concur that the institution of the nation state in the Middle East must be destroyed, along with the power whose own republican heritage can do the most to foster sovereign nations, the United States.

To appreciate Soviet capabilities in the Middle East, one must push aside the fog of academia and lying press accounts

about how impossibly complex the area is, to notice two simple points: 1) The British ran that area of the world (with some friction from the French) for over two centuries. The modern map of the Middle East was drawn by Winston Churchill at the Cairo conference of 1921, with a few alterations (also British authored) after World War II, and British troops did not leave the area until the late 1960s; 2) From the 1930s on, the Nazis built substantial capabilities in the area. After the war, senior Nazis such as Hitler's Economics Minister Hjalmar Schacht, Otto Skorzeny, and SS Gen. Karl Wolff went to the Middle East. These networks survived and prospered, with their financial command center in Switzerland.

Except for networks directly associated with the British and the Nazis, and the pre-existing modest Soviet capabilities, no other power anywhere in the world had substantial assets in the region in the two categories that count: control of financial institutions, and ideological control over key segments of the population.

The careers of two operatives, one British, and one Swiss Nazi, efficiently demonstrate why it is virtually impossible to tell where the Nazis stop and the Marxists begin in the Middle East, since the swastikas, hammers and sickles, and tweed suits are all covered by burnouses, and all make (anti-imperialist) bows to Mecca five times a day.

François Genoud—who owns the exclusive translation rights to Hitler's and Martin Bormann's works—and his closest associates are largely responsible for the shape of "Islamic banking" today. Genoud and his Swiss banking friends run countless businesses in the Arab world, used to finance the entire corps of Mideast terrorists, including those at the disposal of Soviet agencies, from the "left-wing" Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) to the Muslim Brotherhood "right-wingers." Genoud built up these capabilities while based in Tangiers and Cairo from 1946 to 1956, surrounded by Nazis like Schacht, Wolff, Skorzeny, Luftwaffe Gen. Hans Rudel, General Ramcke and Dr. Alfred Ziegler, aka Muhammed Saleh. Genoud himself had worked for German military intelligence, the Abwehr, during the war, and helped transfer hundreds of millions of dollars from Germany into Swiss banks for the use of escaping Nazi officials.

Among other financial and political fronts, Genoud created the International Association of Friends of the Arab World in 1959. He controlled men like Algerian Front for National Liberation (FLN) leader Ahmed Ben Bella (now a Muslim fundamentalist convert), Youssef Abderrahman of Polisario, and Boudgemline Mohammed, a top Muslim Brotherhood figure. His operations ran from arranging for Al-Fatah training by Karl van de Put, formerly of the Afrika Corps, to legal work for the terrorist PFLP.

When the Soviets decided to pull the rug out from under moderate PLO leader Yasser Arafat, the Genoud-financed PFLP and related insurgent Palestinian factions enjoying logistical support from the Lausanne-based Swiss Arab Asso-

ciation helped them do the job.

H. A. R. "Kim" Philby, son of top British Arabist St. John Philby, is currently a KGB General. After his first contact with Soviet intelligence at Cambridge University in the 1930s, Philby dropped his left profile and joined the circles of the pro-Hitler Cliveden Set around Edward VIII and Lord and Lady Astor. This coincided with the period of the Hitler-Stalin Pact, and was part of the same process.

After a period at the British Embassy in Washington in the 1940s, during which he was giving U.S. atomic secrets to the Soviets, Philby returned to the Middle East under journalist's cover. Ostensibly "retired" from the British Secret Intelligence Services (SIS) because of his increasingly notorious KGB role, Philby was in fact assigned to the Shemlan British intelligence center outside Beirut. In the 1950s, he traveled throughout the Arab world, meeting and taking over his aging father's networks. In 1963, "Kim" Philby moved from Beirut to Moscow, but continued his lifelong work for the joint Anglo-Soviet attempt to destroy the United States.

The Soviet adoption of British and Nazi assets in the Middle East was patently clear at the September United Nations-sponsored International Conference on Palestine in Geneva. Top Soviet Islamic experts Vladimir Vinogradov of the Foreign Ministry and Orientology Institute head Yevgenii Primakov rubbed shoulders with Salem Azzam of the London-based SIS front, the Islamic Council of Europe; representatives of the Swiss Nazi front; the Geneva-based "Islam and the West"; and the Nazi-financed Palestinian radicals of the PFLP. While the conference ostensibly had a radical "left" tinge, more than one speech lavished praise on Hitler's

collaborator, the Grand Mufti of Jerusalem, as "the first freedom fighter of Palestine."

As the Soviets push for strategic confrontation, their assets are becoming increasingly violent. On Aug. 20 in Teheran, the Khomeini regime set up the "Assembly of United Islamic Movements" for worldwide radical terrorist activities against the American "Great Satan" and his allies. A chief figure in this new "Islamintern" is East German intelligence-trained Ayatollah Khoini, notorious as the leader of the "students" who took over the U.S. Embassy in Iran. These Shi'ite fanatics have been identified as responsible in both the April bombing of the U.S. Embassy in Beirut and the Oct. 23 attack on the Marine compound.

One of these fanatics, Ahmed Huber, is a close friend of Genoud since the latter's Cairo days. A self-proclaimed National Socialist convert to Islam, Huber is a member of the Swiss Socialist Party, of the "Party of the Islamic Liberation" established as a British intelligence front in Teheran in the 1950s, and a frequent visitor to the Islamic Department of the University of Leipzig, an East German intelligence center for Mideast operations. Speaking from his home in Berne, Switzerland, barely 24 hours after the Beirut bombing, Huber told a journalist, "That's marvelous what happened. I am really proud of my Iranian friends and of the Shi'ites in Lebanon. They did their job! The Americans and the French are finished. . . . All the real Muslims are opposed to that regime. . . . There will be new coups, new explosions like in Beirut, but this time it won't be in Beirut, it will be in New York and in Washington! There also, there are groups of young Muslims who are ready to be killed, to sacrifice themselves!"

THE U.S.S.R. AND ISLAM by Allen and Rachel Douglas

The Soviet Union's Muslim Hierarchy

Before Zbigniew Brzezinski ever heard about Soviet Muslims, **Alexandre Bennigsen** was the authority on them. He shaped the field of Soviet Central Asia studies in the post-war period, training dozens of specialists at the Sorbonne and the University of Chicago. Bennigsen spread his gospel on the potential for Soviet Muslim revolt far beyond academia; a person who has followed his career for many years observes, "Bennigsen has had an absolutely horrendous effect on American strategic estimates [in that area of the world]. I can't tell you how many times he has traveled to Washington to testify before Senate committees and meet with people."

There is no question that the subject matter is important. The U.S.S.R.'s Muslim population of 44 million, living in

Azerbaijan on the Western shore of the Caspian Sea and in **Kazakhstan** and the four **Central Asian republics** to its East, makes it the fifth largest Islamic country in the world, ahead of, for instance, Egypt. By the year 2000, it is estimated that one of every two births in the Soviet Union will be in the Muslim regions; this population is already reproducing itself at a much faster rate than that in the Slavic republics.

Contrary to Bennigsen's myths, the interesting question is not whether at some point in 40 or 50 years those Muslims will threaten Russian rule. Empires have disintegrated on ethnic lines before. But an overriding strategic question will be answered, in this decade, long before Muslim demography transforms the Soviet Union: Will Moscow destroy U.S. power worldwide and preside over a last Russian empire, while the entire Western heritage of the Renaissance self-destructs or is incinerated in nuclear war? As for Soviet Muslims, will they or won't they serve Soviet imperial aims