

# Saudi-British deal: the end of an era

by Joseph Brewda

The signing of a \$29 billion arms deal between the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the United Kingdom on July 3 signals the end of U.S. military and political presence in the Middle East and North Africa. The arms deal, the largest in world history, was prepared at the recent Moscow summit, which was secretly devoted to redividing the world into new "spheres of influence." It is part of a scheme to supplant U.S. influence throughout the region by the old colonial powers, England, France, and Italy—or so some European oligarchical families believe.

The arms package was signed in Bermuda by British Defense Minister David Younger and Saudi Defense Minister Sultan bin Abdel Aziz. The specifics are staggering. Saudi Arabia, which has been almost exclusively dependent on the United States for arms since World War II, will now shift to Britain as its primary arms supplier. It will purchase an estimated 50 Tornado fighter bombers, 50 Hawk fighter aircraft, 90 helicopters, and 6 Sandown minesweepers over 10 years. The agreement by itself makes Britain the second-largest Western weapons dealer. It also provides for Britain to build two new Saudi airbases, at nearly \$2 billion apiece, and train Saudi Arabia's Air Force pilots. Saudi contracts mean at least \$5 billion for British Aerospace, \$850 million for the British Westland company, and \$800 million for Vosper Thornycroft. Plesey, GEC, and Racal will also make millions.

The Reagan administration has officially characterized the agreement as "damaging to U.S. national security." The package will cost the Pentagate-ravaged aerospace industry an estimated 30,000 industrial jobs over the next 10 years. Some insiders fear that the combination of the Pentagate attacks, and the Saudi fiasco, will provide Wall Street bankers and insurance executives the ability to stage a run on the troubled industry.

In a coordinated action, the Sheikdom of Kuwait announced on July 10 that it had signed an arms agreement with the Soviet Union to buy unspecified equipment, and is considering purchasing 60 Mirage jets from France. The Kuwaiti announcement comes on the heels of the U.S. Senate vote of July 7 to exclude Maverick air-to-ground missiles from a U.S. arms package proposed by the Reagan administration. A recent Saudi effort to purchase McDonnell-Douglas F-15 fighter jets and Maverick missiles was also killed by Congress. Decades of hostile actions by the Congress against

both the U.S. aerospace industry and the Arab states have now drawn blood.

Because Congress's irrational opposition to arms deals with Arab states has been coordinated by the American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC), many assume that Israel and the "Zionist lobby" are the source of the national security problem exhibited by the recent deal. The significance of the fact that such Israeli leaders as Jerusalem Mayor Teddy Kolleck, President Chaim Herzog, or Knesset leader Abba Eban, for example, worked for British intelligence during the war is ignored. That the U.S. Zionist lobby has the same British pedigree is shown by the case of the Canadian-based Bronfmans.

Well-placed U.S. intelligence sources stress that the particular British faction behind the recent Saudi package is intent on building a new British-run military bloc including Pakistan, Iraq, Iran, Syria, Turkey, and a southern state carved out of a divided Afghanistan. The United States would be excluded from this new CENTO. The British hope to standardize the Tornado as the fighter bomber of the Gulf Coordinating Council countries. To ensure economic dominance, the British also hope to drive the U.S. dollar out of the Middle East, substituting for it the European Currency Unit (ECU).

This Middle East gameplan is part of the so-called "Europe 1992" project of subordinating the sovereignty of the Western European states to an oligarchical-family-controlled European Parliament by 1992. Publicized by former West German chancellor Helmut Schmidt and former French President Giscard d'Estaing, the scheme is associated with the cartelization of Western European industry and banking.

One fantasy-ridden representative of a famous European noble family recently confirmed this assessment. The European powers will soon return to their respective areas of influence in the Middle East and Africa, the individual asserted. Already, Qaddafi is being tamed, and Libya is reorienting to Italy, while British resurgence in Mesopotamia and the Arabian peninsula has been significantly accomplished. The U.S. fleet must leave the Gulf. The postwar era of decolonization, and U.S. influence, is over.

Meanwhile, the source raved, Western Europe will begin to reassert its traditional role in Eastern Europe, especially in such states as Romania and Poland. Eastern Europe as a whole will be slowly, but surely, loosened from Moscow's grip, and made economically dependent on the West. The world will be divided into a Russian-Asian zone, a European-African zone, and a weakened Western Hemisphere.

Naturally, this particular oligarch is a fanatical supporter of Mikhail Gorbachov, whom he expects to deliver on such an arrangement. Why the Soviet military would have any interest in handing over Eastern Europe or the Middle East to desperate Western European bankers, he didn't say.

It seems that Washington is not the only capital now dominated by sheer lunacy.