

Kissinger Watch by M. T. Upharsin

CBS kicks over Fat Henry's trough

On March 29, using material often first appearing in print in *Executive Intelligence Review*, CBS News's "60 Minutes" program slammed Henry Kissinger and his global influence peddling, from which he earns millions each year. The two main conflicts explored were Kissinger's call for no tough sanctions against China, after his friend, Deng Xiaoping, ordered the Tiananmen Square massacre, and the role of Kissinger Associates, Inc.'s chief economist, Alan Stoga, in advising Saddam Hussein on how to restructure his debt so he could receive new credits from Anglo-American banks.

One important error by CBS was in judging the nature of Kissinger's conflict with Iraq by confusing the outcome of Iraq's request for consultation with Alan Stoga. From a balance-of-power standpoint, Kissinger saw nothing other than a profitable, temporary way of balancing a tilt toward Iran, which he believed had gone too far. The record of the U.S.-Iraqi Business Forum, under whose auspices Stoga visited Baghdad, shows, as *EIR* has previously documented, that Stoga said the way Iraq could obtain major new credit was to "privatize" its raw materials, including its oil reserves and bauxite. This, the Iraqis rejected as an attack on their sovereignty. Thus, Stoga was part of the economic warfare begun at the end of the Iran-Iraq war that led to the Iraqi miscalculation that it could benefit from invading Kuwait. But apart from this error, the CBS broadcast was right on target.

A 'seamless web'

Time magazine senior editor Walter Isaacson, who is writing an unauthorized biography of Kissinger, spoke on the CBS program of how Henry sold

"extraordinary access" to a gold-plate list of clients, including American Express, Coca Cola, Anheuser Busch, H.J. Heinz, Volvo, Arco, Hunt Oil, Chase Manhattan, the American International Group (AIG), and Freeport McMoRan, an international mining company. Said Isaacson:

"There's only one consultant in New York or Washington who can travel with you to China, and you can have lunch in the Great Hall of the People with Deng Xiaoping, and that's Henry Kissinger. . . . Kissinger has a nice web of people around the world [that] . . . he's formed connections with. That's how he makes his money. He has a nice seamless web of interests and influence."

Mike Wallace of "60 Minutes" also mentioned Kissinger's revolving door, where porkers once at Henry's trough are now in government, helping fill the trough for Henry and those left behind. As Wallace put it:

"And Kissinger Associates has been a revolving door for people like Brent Scowcroft and Lawrence Eagleburger, who worked for Kissinger in the Nixon and Ford administrations. Scowcroft and Eagleburger left government to work for Kissinger Associates, and then they left Kissinger Associates to return to government. . . . Both men are still close to Henry Kissinger."

Rep. Henry Gonzalez (D-Tex.) was shown exposing Kissinger's ongoing ties with the Banca Nazionale del Lavoro after it had been caught in a 347-count indictment against former BNL employees because of \$4 billion secret loans to Iraq, which Representative Gonzalez called "the biggest banking scandal in United States history."

Ironically, Martin Peretz, the friend of Emma Rothschild who had published a piece by Joe Conason in *The New Republic* exposing Kissinger's ties to Iraq, wrote "60 Minutes" a

letter retracting the story. He then had his attorneys phone the show to retract his letter.

Firing flak at journalists

The show repeatedly exposed Kissinger's efforts to muzzle the press. Al Hunt, Washington Bureau chief of the *Wall Street Journal*, told how Kissinger had gone after the *Journal* after John Fialka published his story about Kissinger's China conflict. This story, which led to Kissinger's ties with ABC being severed because of his conflicts on China, caused Kissinger to "go ballistic," as Hunt put it, not because the story was not true, but, said Hunt: "What he [Kissinger] basically said was that we didn't have the right to address the issue."

None of the journalists who spoke to "60 Minutes" pointed out that as a member of the President's Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board (PFI-AB), Kissinger may have violated federal law by failing to recuse himself from giving advice to President Bush on limiting sanctions against China. Only *EIR* has printed this story.

Mike Wallace revealed that Kissinger, a CBS board member, tried to gain editorial control of the "60 Minutes" story, and refused to participate when he failed. Not surprisingly, Kissinger had his attorney Lloyd Cutler write to deny that Kissinger had had any conflicts on China and Iraq, adding: "I would think it outrageous to suggest that his published writings are designed to line his pockets rather than to advocate policies he believes will best serve the public interest." But the law on conflict of interest speaks of not giving the appearance of impropriety, which Kissinger certainly does by profiting from the evil policies he peddles.