

## The anti-LaRouche campaign escalates

The anti-LaRouche operations escalated, after two associates of LaRouche won state-wide primary elections in Illinois in March 1986. Between March and May 1986, over 3,000 defamatory attacks appeared in the U.S. news media, all stemming from the salon of John Train. Of note, was the false accusation that LaRouche was behind the February 1986 assassination of Swedish Prime Minister Olof Palme, the which was promulgated jointly by East German Stasi Division X (disinformation), the ADL, NBC-TV, and Weld's Assistant U.S. Attorney, John Markham.

In October 1986, an operation was attempted to assassinate LaRouche, as part of a 400-person armed raid on the offices of companies which published newspapers and magazines associated with LaRouche. Foreshadowing the Waco tragedy, the stated intentions of the planners of the raid were to create a pretext to kill LaRouche, finally eliminating him from the political scene.

Having failed to eliminate LaRouche by assassination, a fraudulent prosecution was set into motion, leading ultimately to the false conviction, presided over by Alexandria, Virginia Federal Judge Albert V. Bryant, whose family ties to pro-British interests have been documented by *EIR*.

## 10. The World Trade Center bombing

Within hours of the Feb. 26, 1993 bombing of the World Trade Center in New York City, CNN's Wolf Blitzer set the pace for an international media cover-up, by claiming it was the work of "Muslims." An open letter by Serbian fascist leader Radovan Karadzic, praising the incident and saying that it proved the "immediate danger of direct involvement" by the United States in former Yugoslavia, was disregarded. Within days, the Federal Bureau of Investigation announced that the bombing had been carried out by a group of "Islamic extremist" followers of Egyptian Sheikh Omar Abdul Rahman of New Jersey. Rahman and three of his followers were subsequently indicted for the crime and, on March 4, 1994, found guilty on all counts, before a federal court in New York.

Together with four other followers, Rahman was also accused, and later found guilty, of plotting to blow up the UN building in New York, and of launching an Islamic holy war in the United States. As a further piece of disinformation, the U.S. media, this time led by ABC, accused the Sudanese UN mission in New York of sponsoring the planned holy war. This, despite the fact that Sheikh Rahman followers in the Islamic Jihad group had been implicated in the attempt to assassinate Sudan's religious leader, Hasan al-Turabi, while he was in Ottawa, Canada in 1992!

During the five-month World Trade Center bombing trial, the U.S. Justice Department produced more than 200 witnesses and more than 1,000 exhibits. But, at no point did a single witness testify that he or she saw any defendant at the scene of a crime. The chief government witness, Emad Salam, a former Egyptian military officer who worked undercover in Rahman's circle, did report, however, that he personally built the bomb used in the incident. He also testified that he gave precise warnings to the FBI that the bombing of the site was planned.

### Rahman and his circle worked for Bush

Whether or not Rahman was involved in the crime, it is known that he and his Islamic Jihad circle worked for Vice President, and then President George Bush from 1981 through at least the early 1990s, on behalf of the Anglo-American secret war in Afghanistan. Rahman's involvement in the war began in the early 1980s, when he teamed up with Afghan mujahideen recruitment officer Mustafa Shalabi of New York, to funnel Egyptian religious youth into Afghanistan. Financing for the operation was provided by Saudi intelligence head Prince Turki, a long-standing Bush crony.

At least two of the four defendants convicted of the World Trade Center bombing, had been Egyptian veterans of the Afghan mujahideen, who had been sent there through the Rahman channel. Similarly, at least four of the five defendants convicted of planning an Islamic holy war in the United States were also Afghan mujahideen veterans. Rahman himself moved to Pakistan for a time to assist in the project.

Reflecting this status, Rahman was given seven entry visas by the U.S. government between 1986 and 1990—despite the fact that he had been formally banned from the United States, because of his alleged involvement in the 1981 assassination of Egyptian President Anwar Sadat. In 1990, Rahman entered the United States legally, and received a green card, in order to continue the project of supplying Islamic youth for covert operations in Afghanistan. Although the Soviets withdrew from Afghanistan in 1988, Bush and his British patrons continued the war. To this end, training camps were provided in upstate New York, where Rahman's Islamic Jihad group received arms and explosives training from the U.S. Army's Sgt. Mohammad Ali of Fort Bragg, North Carolina. Sudanese religious leader Hasan al-Turabi's would-be assassin, Hashim Badrasan, had long been involved with the Fort Bragg-trained group.

According to the testimony of State Department Inspector General Sherman Funk, Sheikh Rahman obtained his seven entry visas and his green card mistakenly, "because of inadequate systems of control." But, according to Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, Rahman had been working for U.S. intelligence "since his days in Afghanistan. The visa he got was not issued by mistake. It is because of the services he did."