

Uganda's Museveni finds choppy waters in U.S.

by Linda de Hoyos

President Yoweri Museveni, known as the “blue-eyed darling of the British in East Africa,” ran into some unexpected trouble during his Feb. 2-6 trip to Washington, D.C. On orders from his closest mentor, Baroness Lynda Chalker, British Minister of Overseas Development, Museveni has deployed his 100,000-man National Resistance Army in aggressive wars against Sudan and Zaire.

According to U.S. State Department spokesman Nicholas Burns's press briefing of Feb. 5, Secretary of State Madeleine Albright met with Museveni and told him that Ugandan troops must immediately withdraw from eastern Zaire. Albright, reported Burns, also met with Belgian Foreign Minister Derycke, and they also had a long conversation about the situation in eastern Zaire. Burns noted: “Belgium, of course, has a particular interest in Zaire. And there was a confluence of views on the need for outside countries to stay out of eastern Zaire, neighboring countries to stay out of eastern Zaire. That was a message that Secretary Albright transmitted to President Museveni yesterday afternoon.”

Burns further informed the press: “The United States appeals again today to the neighbors of Zaire to stay out of Zaire, to not involve themselves in the fighting. Two hundred thousand Rwandan Hutu refugees are trapped inside eastern Zaire because of the fighting, because of the insurgency.”

Burns then proceeded for the first time to name the countries so warned: “I can tell you that we have underscored this message to Uganda and Rwanda and Burundi.”

In reiterating the United States's commitment to the territorial integrity of Zaire, Burns pointedly added: “And I am pleased—we were very pleased to see that we have a common position on this with the French government and with the

Belgian government, both of which are very important governments with a lot of influence in Central Africa.”

As *EIR* has thoroughly documented, the invasion of Zaire from Rwanda, Uganda, and Burundi beginning Oct. 21, is designed to seize the eastern strip of Zaire, including Shaba province. This area is the seat of Zaire's extensive mineral wealth, and has been the victim of repeated military incursions taken by British Commonwealth countries to Zaire's east, in an effort to seize this wealth for the British strategic mineral cartels of Anglo American Corp., Rio Tinto Zinc, and their myriad front corporations. As *EIR* also documented, one of the major companies involved in the land grab is the Canadian firm of Barrick Gold, whose international advisory board includes Sir George Bush. Barrick has claimed title to 83,000 square kilometers of gold-laced territory in northeastern Zaire, and reportedly has moved its headquarters to Kampala, Uganda—signaling its geopolitical proclivities.

If Ugandan, Rwandan, and Burundian troops were to withdraw from Zaire, the onslaught of Laurent Kabila and his so-called Zairean Alliance of Democratic Forces would quickly collapse.

Burns's declaration that the United States and France are in agreement on the defense of Zaire's unity, also stands in stark contrast to his nearly hysterical defense of Great Britain the week before. Confronted with evidence—as reported in the *Times* of London on Jan. 17 by Sam Kiley—that London was backing a conspiracy of war against Zaire and Sudan, Burns did not attempt to refute London's role, but then declared: “We do not engage in any kind of criticism, at least from my side, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.”

When the *EIR* correspondent suggested that U.S. calls for the parties in the Horn of Africa conflict to negotiate, were better directed to London, Burns bristled: "There is no reason for the United States to question in any way, shape, or form the actions or the policy of the United Kingdom pertaining to the conflict in eastern Sudan. The United Kingdom is an ally of the United States, and we're not aware of any action that would trouble us by that country in eastern Sudan."

In the case of Sudan, despite Sudan's charges and independent press accounts that Ethiopian soldiers were the major force invading Sudan Jan. 11, the United States has continued to reject the claim.

For Zaire, Museveni's trip to Washington was preceded by a week-long visit to the United States by Zairean Foreign Minister Gerard Kamanda wa Kamanda, who told France Radio International that the Zairean Armed Forces "took some prisoners of war of Ugandan, Rwandan, and other nationalities. They were exhibited to national and international media." He presented this material to the UN Security Council, and also reported he had pressed the United States to take action to solve the crisis in the Great Lakes region.

Kamanda's charges have been confirmed for *EIR* by Ugandan sources as well, who report that Laurent Kabila visited Kampala at the end of January, after an initial counteroffensive by the Zairean Army had succeeded in taking back the strategic town of Walikali. According to these sources, three columns of Ugandan troops entered Zaire to the west from Uganda. In addition, Kabila led an assault with troops of the Burundi Tutsi military, crossing into Zaire from the east, directly into Shaba province. Since Feb. 1, the Ugandan-Rwandan-Burundi force, armed with anti-aircraft missiles, has taken the town of Shabunda, directly north of Shaba, and the towns of Kalemie and Moba in Shaba itself. In the north, Ugandan troops are converging on the town of Lubutu, and threatening Tingi-Tingi, which holds up to 200,000 Rwandan and Hutu refugees, who are reportedly in very poor condition.

Reporting on the rebuff to Museveni in Washington, the Feb. 6 *New York Times* cited an "administration official" as saying that "troops—mostly from Uganda and Rwanda—appeared to have been sent in a show of support for the Tutsi rebels following Zaire's counteroffensive last month. 'It's becoming a much more deadly mix with all these different players involved,' the official said."

London's 'deadly mix'

With Uganda as the logistical and political center for London's operations in East Africa, the wars unleashed by Museveni and his allies has embroiled all countries of East Africa, and threatens to widen into West Africa, and the Gulf—the quagmire LaRouche warned the Clinton administration of in his *EIR* editorial last week.

The targets of the British wars are *Zaire* and *Sudan*. The presence of Ethiopian and Eritrean officers in Rwanda to train



Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni, a British Empire puppet in its drive to recolonize the African continent, is shown here in Washington, D.C., at the Georgetown Center for Strategic and International Studies on Feb. 3.

Kabila's forces, demonstrates that both wars are part of one theater for British intelligence, both strategically and in implementation.

Sudan is being invaded by *Ethiopia* and *Eritrea* on the east, and by *Uganda* on the south. Zaire is being invaded by *Uganda*, *Burundi*, and *Rwanda*. Meanwhile, Uganda's military is reportedly receiving backup inside Uganda, where Museveni faces serious insurgencies in the north and south, by troops deployed from the British Commonwealth countries of *Mozambique* and *Tanzania*, and from SWAPO troops from *Namibia*.

Zaire is reported to be receiving supplies and arms from *Libya*, which has stated its position in defense of Zaire's territorial integrity. In addition, on Feb. 2, Zairean President Mobutu Sese Seko arrived in Morocco to meet with his close friend King Hassan, and is reported to be attempting to win troop contingents from *Morocco*, *Togo*, and *Chad* to bolster the Zairean Army.

Troops from *South Africa* are reportedly guarding Zaire's mines in Shaba and the electrical lines from the Kinshasha area going into Shaba. On the other side, South African mercenaries are believed to be guarding the Karamoja gold mines in which Museveni's half-brother Salim Saleh reportedly has holdings, and South African mercenaries have been sighted fighting alongside Kabila.

Under intense pressure to back up Uganda, is Kenya, whose President Daniel Arap Moi has condemned the aggres-

sions of Rwanda, Uganda, and Burundi against Zaire. This week, Baroness Chalker arrived in Nairobi in an obvious effort to whip the Kenyan President into line.

The war against Sudan

The war against Sudan is already spreading diplomatically into the Arab world and the Mideast. Egypt and Sudan have both accused *Israel* of being directly involved in logistically supplying and directing the war effort from Eritrea and Ethiopia, including construction of Israeli bases. The war against Sudan poses a direct threat to Egypt's national security, as Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak has stated point-blank. While publicly supporting the Sudanese political opposition organized around Baroness Caroline Cox's National Democratic Alliance, on Jan. 26, the Egyptian government daily *Al Ahram* warned the NDA to sever its links to John Garang and the Sudanese People's Liberation Army and the attacks on Sudan from Ethiopia and Eritrea.

Diplomatically, *Iran* has come out in support of Sudan, while NDA chief Sadig al-Mahdi has won support from *Kuwait*. The Arab League has issued a statement in support of Sudan against foreign aggression, and *Saudi Arabia* is likely to follow suit.

Further on the horizon, the French-speaking *Central African Republic*, wedged between Zaire and Sudan, has been under intense destabilization. *Niger* and *Congo* are also under threat of internal instability. *Zambia*, whose government is resisting turning over its immense copper fields to London's Anglo American, is being treated to credit cut-offs.

In sum, there are a total of ten African countries known to be directly involved in the fighting in East Africa, another six reported to be involved or supplying arms, and another four African countries under destabilization as a result of the British onslaught. The onslaughts against Sudan and Zaire thus threaten to unleash a tidal wave of bloodletting in Africa, which will continue to widen—unless the United States breaks with British policy and acts to end London's genocidal wars.

The unsavory Museveni

For the first time, Museveni also ran into protests against his presence in the United States. His supporters received a shock when two Schiller Institute spokesmen challenged the Ugandan President during a seminar at the Center for Strategic and International Studies in Washington. At this location, former Marxist Museveni lectured on the glories of the free enterprise system, which, he omitted to mention, has plunged the life expectancy of his country to the lowest levels since British rule. As the *Washington Post* reported on Feb. 5, this time, Museveni "did not move when two women accused him . . . of 'mass murder,' saying his troops were crossing Central African borders to keep refugees out. Museveni, who has been accused of sending Ugandan troops into neighboring Zaire and Sudan and assisting Rwanda,

acknowledged that there are problems in those countries and 'they have to be addressed.' "

Outside the seminar, a rally, complete with a replica of Queen Elizabeth II, leafletted attendees with LaRouche's warning to the Clinton administration, and a chronology of Museveni's wars of invasion in Africa.

Museveni was again greeted with a rally against him, painting him as a mass murderer for the British as he arrived at the National Prayer Breakfast meeting on Feb. 6, which was addressed by President Bill Clinton. Rally signs read: "Museveni Responsible for 1.6 Million Dead," "Museveni Get Out of Sudan, Zaire, Rwanda, Burundi, and the U.S.A.," "LaRouche Says No British American Special Relationship," and "Museveni's Idea of Black Napoleon Is a Pipe Dream."

This is the first time Museveni has been appropriately greeted in the United States. The leaflet handed out outside the CSIS seminar against Museveni reprinted Museveni's quote from the September 1994 issue of *Atlantic Monthly*, "I have never blamed the whites for colonizing Africa; I have blamed these whites for taking slaves. If you are stupid, you should be taken a slave." Museveni admitted to this statement, when confronted during the seminar. Such sentiments explain why the British oligarchy has found him so handy a partner in Africa. But such sentiments must also categorically deny him a welcome in the United States.

SSIM blasts Garang as 'bloody dictator'

The following statement was issued by the Secretary for External Affairs of the South Sudan Independence Movement (SSIM), Costello Garang Ring Lual, on Jan. 25, in Germany, and presented the same day to the Washington, D.C., forum on Africa sponsored by the FDR-PAC. It is entitled, "The Position of SSIM and the Other Southern Charter Signatories Concerning the Ongoing Events in Southern Blue Nile and Eastern Sudan."

By signing the Political Charter with the GOS (Government of Sudan) on the 10th of April 1996, the SSIM and its other Southern allies made their position crystal clear on how to solve the South-North conflict. A high-ranking SSIM delegation, headed by Secretary for External Affairs Costello Garang Ring Lual, toured the U.S.A. from the 20th of June to the 20th of August, followed by the European countries listed below, to explain the position of the Southern Charter's signatories.

The delegation visited Norway, France, Belgium, Hol-