

Mobilization against British terror intensifies

by Joseph Brewda

Pressure is continuing to build against Britain, following the Dec. 22 Gulf Coordination Council summit in Kuwait, which brought together the leaders of Saudi Arabia and the Persian Gulf emirates, who condemned the British for harboring terrorist gangs. That gathering followed that of the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC), which held an unprecedentedly high-level summit in Teheran, Iran on Dec. 9-11, where leaders from 56 Islamic nations issued a statement condemning British safehousing of terrorists.

This new phase in the Islamic nations' anti-British campaign began after the massacre of 62 people in Luxor, Egypt, on Nov. 17, 1997, by the Islamic Group, an Egyptian terrorist organization headquartered in London. Since that time, Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak has been leading an international effort to expose and condemn the British role, through statements by himself and his cabinet, and the Egyptian government press. The campaign itself dates back to the early 1990s, when Saudi Arabia, Egypt, and Turkey began to publicly criticize Britain for providing safe haven to "Islamic" and "ethnic separatist" gangs.

As *EIR* has documented, "Islamic" terrorism has nothing to do with Islam, and has always been run out of London. Virtually every terrorist group operating in the Muslim world today, is run by the hardened veterans of the Reagan-Bush/Thatcher Afghan mujahideen, who were assembled to wage war against Soviet forces, and who continue to operate on behalf of British geopolitical aims, under Islamic cover. Britain's targets are not only "moderate" countries like Egypt, Algeria, and Turkey, which have been plagued with increasing terrorist violence; its targets are also the so-called "rogue" states of Iraq, Iran, and Sudan, which the British have falsely accused of protecting the very terrorist groups that Britain, itself, harbors.

LaRouche applauds Islamic initiative

In a radio interview with the "EIR Talks" on Dec. 23, *EIR* Contributing Editor Lyndon applauded the role President Mubarak has played in identifying Britain as the world headquarters of terrorism. He emphasized that Mubarak is acting as a spokesman for a group of Islamic states, representing 1 billion people, who are angry enough to tell the truth about Britain.

LaRouche put it this way: "What you're seeing, is that a group of Islamic people, leaders of government and related institutions, who would normally be considered as Islamic moderates, . . . are joined in the same policy, which Mubarak is expressing. So, Mubarak is not speaking as a lone voice: He is speaking for a whole part of the world population, totalling up, in influence, to about 1 billion people; so, it's not to be overlooked."

LaRouche situated this development in the context of increasing resistance to the International Monetary Fund looting, and the disintegration of the world financial system. "This is a general revolt, against the IMF and the British policy. You see this reflected in patriotic sentiments, coming out of East Asia and Southeast Asia, and the resistance to the IMF, which is getting tougher by the day, saying, 'This is a bunch of bloodsuckers that should go away, and not bother us any more.' And it's this conflict, which brings all these forces together, saying, 'We've got to get some clout,' working together. These are forces which, to a large degree, have important relations with China, either directly or indirectly. These forces are coalescing, and they're using the theme of Islam, and, essentially, politically moderate Islam—that is, they're not leftist utopians. But they're using Islam as a fulcrum, to bring themselves together, to be a united force, on issues.

"And when they feel strong, they tell the truth. And when they feel strong, and tell the truth, they say: The British are

behind international terrorism, including the Luxor incident. And the British Crown is directly, wittingly responsible for these terrorist acts. And they say, they must be brought to heel.”

A crescendo of condemnations

Underscoring LaRouche’s point, is the sequence of condemnations of British terrorist safehousing by summits representing the leaders of the Islamic world.

- On Dec. 11, the Organization of the Islamic Conference, meeting in Teheran, in its final declaration, included a section denouncing Britain for granting political asylum to terrorists. The section was motivated by Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir bin Mohamad, acting in coordination with both the Egyptian government, and the Iranian government hosting the event. (At the summit, Mahathir also denounced financier George Soros, who has acted as a front man for the British-steered speculative looting of Southeast and East Asia.) The section reads:

“The summit condemns terrorism in all forms and methods and, at the same time, declares that the killing of innocent people is forbidden in Islam, and that everyone should be free to determine their own fate. Based on OIC criteria, the participants stress, once again, that the campaign against international terrorism should continue, and stress that all serious and necessary measures should be taken to reach an agreement in this respect. Moreover, the attention of the international community is drawn to the fact that granting of asylum to terrorists should be stopped.”

- On Dec. 19, Egyptian Foreign Minister Amr Musa took the campaign to the Organization on Security and Cooperation in Europe, meeting in Copenhagen, where European and Mediterranean cooperation in security matters was discussed. Musa made very clear that the use of such forums to build up Islam the “enemy image,” would not be tolerated, and that Europe, and Britain in particular, had to clean up their act.

“I seize this opportunity to call from this podium,” he said, “for the serious reconsideration of the practice of granting asylum and providing a safe haven to individuals and fugitives implicated in violent activities in their home countries. These terrorists have exploited the banner of human rights, as well as their host countries, to plan and finance deadly terrorist operations around the world.

“During the OIC Conference, there was a wide perception by member countries, that the acts of some terrorist groups have cast aspersions on the image of Islam in the West, and that the Muslim countries have an important responsibility in remedying this situation. However, the Islamic world can not bear the responsibility of correcting this misperception alone. The onus should be equally shared by the West, whose countries, or some of them, are playing host to the leaders of several fanatic or terrorist organizations and groups.”

Four days earlier, Amr Musa had called in British Ambassador David Blatherwick, to hand him a protest note condemning British protection of the Luxor murderers, amidst

indications in the Egyptian press that Britain would be taken to the World Court.

- Similarly, the Gulf Cooperation Council summit in Kuwait, denounced Britain for providing terrorist safe haven, in a Dec. 22 statement, which reads:

“The council expressed regret at the fact that some countries harbor extremist, terrorist elements under the slogan of protection of human rights, and it urges these countries to distinguish between these rights, and the destructive acts of terrorism committed by these elements, which threaten the security and safety of countries, and constitute a serious danger to the citizens and residents of the latter. The council urged the countries concerned, to prevent these elements, and the extremist and terrorist groups, from using their territories and laws to secure provisions and weapons, and from engaging in any other activities that would endanger the security and safety of countries.”

In an interview with Saudi MBC TV on Dec. 22, the summit host, Kuwaiti ruler Sheikh Sabah al Ahmad al Jabir al Sabah, stated that Britain, and British-allied circles in the United States, were the target of the GCC resolution. “Some people took refuge in European countries, and the United States, as well as the United Kingdom,” he said. “Those people exploit their presence abroad to create mayhem in their own countries. We mentioned those countries and contacted their embassies. We hope that they will respond to what we demand.”

This is not the first time that the Gulf sheikhdoms, which have previously served as cash-cows for British-run operations such as the Afghan War, have condemned Britain. The member states of the GCC, which have an estimated \$1 trillion of investment in the non-Arab world, have increasingly been targeted for savage looting by international banking interests, threatening the very existence of their states. Terrorism has been one means the British have used, to force the emirates’ compliance.

The imperial overlord

On Sept. 23, the Bahraini newspaper *Al Ayyam*, in an editorial citing government sources, denounced Britain for “receiving and caring for terrorist elements, facilitating their movements on British territory, and granting them private passports in order to create bloody tragedies in several Arab areas.” The reason for this terrorism, the paper said, is that Britain is trying to reemerge as the imperial overlord of the region. The paper added that the Gulf states would unite to stop this.

On Nov. 25, United Arab Emirates President Sheik Abu Zayed al Nahayan condemned British harboring of the Luxor terrorists, in a Cairo press conference. “The British are human beings and all human beings want to preserve their own interests,” he said. But “we Arabs nations should in one voice tell the states that harbor terrorists, to stop cooperating with them. The terrorists are acting against our nations’ interests, and they don’t believe in Allah or the Koran. They believe only in the money they get, and achieving the goals of those who financed and directed them to kill and shed blood.”