

London is a different case. As *EIR* has documented, it is in London, that the GIA enjoys refuge and protection. The GIA's satanic publication, known as *Al Ansar*, is printed in London, and distributed weekly in front of mosques, without any interference from the British authorities. *Le Figaro*, on Jan. 27 and 28, 1997, reported on how GIA supporters, like Qamareddine Kherbane, roamed freely in London, distributing leaflets, or video cassettes, issued by the GIA, showing scenes of murders. Members of the GIA have been interrogated by them in the past, but have not been arrested, or prevented from continuing their activities. Therefore, any commission of inquiry into the phenomenon, must start by investigating this fact. Foreign Secretary Robin Cook, who has expressed his "deep concern" at the "appalling violence," and offered to head up a delegation of the EU troika, would like nothing better, than to control such an inquiry, lest the role of British Intelligence be identified. All the more reason, why London should be put under the magnifying glass.

Furthermore, if there is to be peace in Algeria, it must proceed from a political solution, in which all forces of the democratic, non-violent opposition can participate in talks aimed at ending the violence, and charting a path toward normalization of political life. In 1995, an ambitious and realistic initiative was launched by the Community of Saint Egidius, a lay organization in Rome, which succeeded in bringing together all the opposition parties, who forged a common platform for the restoration of peace, and democracy in Algeria. At the time, the Algerian government rejected the initiative, as "interference into its internal affairs."

In summer 1997, some contacts were developed, between FIS circles and those of President Zeroual, which led to the release of jailed FIS leader Madani, and to a ceasefire between one part of the army, under Gen. Smail Lamari, and the FIS's military organization. The ceasefire, which became operational in October, has functioned, albeit on a limited scale; several other groups joined it, two of them officially, others, de facto. Some sectors of the army therefore know that a ceasefire could work, and, if it were to be declared the official basis for talks between the President and the FIS, a political solution could be found. It is to prevent this development, that other sectors of the military, belonging to the "eradicator" tendency, have mobilized their assets, to escalate the conflict.

What is unfolding in Algeria is a tragedy comparable only to Shakespeare's *Macbeth*. Driven by the ambition for power, military leaders, once valiant in battle, have corrupted themselves and embraced sheer terror to enhance their aims. The more crimes they have committed, directly or through proxies, the more obsessively they are driven to commit more, to "eradicate" all perceived enemies and threats, including women and children, until there is no one left. In Shakespeare's great work, the solution *had* to come from the outside.

## Islamic states fight British terrorism

by Joseph Brewda

The Egyptian government of President Hosni Mubarak scored a major victory in its ongoing campaign against British sponsorship of "Islamic" terrorism, when the Arab League's Interior Ministers Council, meeting in Tunis on Jan. 5-6, unanimously adopted an Egyptian resolution "to press foreign countries to hand over terrorists under their protection." The meeting also endorsed an anti-terrorism draft treaty, binding the 20 member-states to common action. An emergency summit of the Arab League member heads of state, now set for April 22 in Cairo, will put the treaty into effect.

The gathering follows that of the Islamic Organization Conference, which brought together 56 Islamic nations, in an unprecedentedly high-level summit in Teheran, Iran, on Dec. 9-11, and a Gulf Coordination Council meeting in Kuwait, on Dec. 22, both of which issued statements condemning foreign safehousing of "Islamic" terrorists, in direct reference to Britain.

Egypt's current war against British terrorism began after the Nov. 17, Luxor massacre of 62 people, by the London-headquartered Islamic Group, which President Mubarak has repeatedly specified could not have occurred without British protection. President Mubarak is not acting alone, however, but as a leader of a large group of "moderate" Islamic states, which have also joined forces with Iran, and which operate with the implicit backing of China. The basis for their new alliance is that all are under British attack, whether through terrorism, as with Egypt; threatened military action, as in the case of Iran; or devastating financial warfare, as shown by ongoing developments in Southeast and East Asia. One figure who has publicly made this connection, is Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir bin Mohamad, who, in motivating Egypt's resolution against British-run terrorism at the Teheran summit, also denounced the use of "economic fire" to destroy Islamic states' economies.

Egypt's actions come in the context of its realization that reports it had received blaming Sudan for terrorist attacks against Egypt, including the 1995 attempted murder of President Mubarak, are false, as are similar accusations against Iran. Moreover, Egypt is concerned that the continuing British and Israeli-run rebellion in southern Sudan, could put Israel in control of the headwaters of the Nile, precisely at a time when the Israeli regime of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu is gunning for a new Arab-Israeli war.

British and Israeli efforts to divert Egypt from its recent attacks on Britain, and to instead attack Sudan or Iran, have not been successful. Pointedly asked if the terrorists responsible for the Luxor massacre were based in Sudan, President Mubarak told a Nov. 23 Aswan press conference, "No, no, no, they exist in Europe and Afghanistan." And on Dec. 25, Foreign Minister Amr Musa ridiculed as "not credible," a report that appeared in the Dec. 24 edition of the British-owned *Jerusalem Post*, which said that Iran was behind it.

### **Arab League mobilizes**

In opening the Arab Interior Ministers Council summit, Saudi Interior Minister Prince Naif Bin Abdul Aziz, who is also the chairman of the group, said that one of its main purposes was to "discuss the concerns expressed by President Hosni Mubarak, regarding the necessity of eliminating the activities of the terrorist groups abroad, especially after the massacre in Luxor last November." Prince Naif added that "President Mubarak's appeal to the European states, to stop supporting terrorist groups, has echoed throughout the world."

In his own address to the gathering, Egyptian Interior Minister Maj. Gen. Habib Adli, emphasized that "Arab efforts to fight terrorism will be useless, if terrorism finds a hole through which it can go into some countries," and in a further reference to Britain, added, "the heads of terrorism are abroad, where they enjoy clear protection from the states who harbor them, and give them refuge, and freedom of movement to plan, to finance" their actions.

The text of the draft anti-terrorism treaty agreed to at the summit, has not been released, but a statement by the ministers said that it "aims at reinforcing controls to prevent infiltration of terrorist elements through borders and entry points to the Arab states, and facilitate procedures for the handing over of those accused or tried for the crimes of terrorism," such as, for example, the London-based leadership of the Islamic Group, who have been convicted of crimes in Egypt.

Egypt has also been breaking new ground in the non-Muslim world. On Dec. 23, Egyptian Foreign Ministry official Mustafa El Diwan, met with Peru's Foreign Minister, Interior Minister, and other officials in Lima, Peru, to propose that both nations work together against terrorism, including by organizing an international treaty-convention against countries that provide terrorists with safe haven. In an interview with the Peruvian daily *El Comercio*, published Dec. 24, El Diwan specified that "those who give refuge to terrorism" are "England, France, Austria, Italy, and even Switzerland." The paper adds that many leaders of Peru's terrorist Shining Path and MRTA live "unhindered in England, France, and Sweden."

### **The Sudan front**

Meanwhile, President Mubarak has opened up a new flank in his anti-British campaign, by challenging British sponsor-

ship of rebels in neighboring Sudan, a country with which it has had tense relations. Speaking on state television on Dec. 30, after a flurry of Egyptian diplomatic meetings with all sides of the war, President Mubarak emphasized that Egypt is adamant that the decades-long foreign efforts to break up Sudan must fail. "Our main concern is that Sudan remains intact," he told his audience, "because, if Sudan is ever partitioned, endless battles would ensue between the north and the south" of the country.

On Nov. 24, a week after the Luxor massacre, Egypt called in southern Sudanese rebel leader John Garang, for surprise meetings with Egyptian officials in Cairo. There, Foreign Minister Amr Musa lectured him on the need to preserve Sudanese unity, whatever his differences with the current government, a message also delivered to other northern Sudanese rebel leaders, in other meetings.

Garang's trip to Cairo, was immediately preceded by that of Sudanese Vice President Zubair Saleh, whose highly publicized talks with President Mubarak signalled dramatically improved relations between the two states, which had reached a nadir with the accusations that Sudan organized a hit attempt on Mubarak at the June 1995 at the Organization of African Unity summit in Ethiopia. Ambassadors between Egypt and Sudan have again been exchanged, and talks are under way to revive their shared Nile River transportation system.

Indicative of these improved relations, a Dec. 16 column in the Egyptian government newspaper *Al Ahram*, written by Salameh Ahmed Salameh, emphasized the necessity for peace, while also condemning recent remarks made by U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright visiting in Uganda, who, putting out the British line, publicly endorsed Garang's rebellion. "Realizing the dangers that might result from the partitioning of Sudan on ethnic and religious grounds," Salameh explained, "Egypt intervened as a direct party in the efforts to achieve peace in Sudan. The U.S. interests in Sudan, which Albright claims to be threatened, could not possibly be greater or more important than Egyptian interests."

And, in a related move to stop another British manipulated war in the region, Cairo sponsored a November conference of the leaders of the warring militias in Somalia (like Sudan, a member of the Arab League). As a result, the militia leaders signed a Dec. 22 commitment to establish a new coalition government, and end a catastrophic civil war, begun in 1990.

The pact was promptly denounced by the British puppet state of Ethiopian Prime Minister Meles Zenawi, as a "threat to peace," as it undermined Ethiopia's efforts to justify its publicly planned occupation of Somalia by "peace-keepers," set for this spring. Training for the occupation has been provided by Israeli military officers, who are also militarily supplying Ethiopian and Eritrean strikes into Sudan, in support of the rebellion.