

Deputy Secretary of State [sic], Mr. Richard Perle, in a widely distributed article last week. . . .

Of course, it will be represented that a policy based on what I have suggested . . . risks the break-up of Iraq. That is something that may have to be faced. . . .

The noble Lord, Lord Owen, . . . referred to the possibility of the establishment of Kurdistan as a separate state. . . . The noble Lord referred to a conference in Cairo in 1921 when the question of the future of the Kurds was decided. On that occasion the idea of backing the establishment of an independent Kurdistan was proposed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies. . . . I need hardly remind your Lordships that the colonial Secretary of State who made that proposal and who would have backed it further was Winston Churchill.

Neo-cons' 'X Committee' leads attack on Clinton

by Scott Thompson

According to Howard Kurtz, writing in the Jan. 22 *Washington Post*, the first person who made public mention of an alleged affair between President Bill Clinton and Monica Lewinsky, was William Kristol. Wrote Kurtz: "Kristol says he knew of the imbroglio, from a source who had heard the tapes, a day before an ABC staffer handed him the [Matt] Drudge item" off the Internet, concerning the Lewinsky scandal. When questioned by this author, Kristol, who is publisher and editor of the *Weekly Standard*, refused to answer questions about how he came to be among the first to know about Lewinsky's charges.

The role of Kristol as the initial public source on the "Lewinsky Affair" spotlights another British-Israeli apparatus, one that has been deeply involved in the "Get Clinton" effort from the outset. Kristol and his associates are collectively referred to as "neo-conservatives," a rather stunning euphemism, considering that the first generation of neo-cons were all former Stalinists, Bukharinites, and Trotskyites—who later found a "comfort zone" working as assets of British and Israeli intelligence against American national interests. The neo-cons associated with Kristol were high on the list of suspects, as the Pentagon attempted to identify the high-level controllers of Israeli spy Jonathan Jay Pollard inside the U.S. intelligence community, following Pollard's arrest for espionage in November 1985. The overlap between the suspected members of the Pollard spy ring—which was, at the time, dubbed the "X Committee"—and the crew of neo-cons currently out to destroy the Clinton Presidency,

through the "Lewinsky Affair" and the drive to force the President into a self-destructive war with Saddam Hussein, is well worth studying.

State of the Union

At the peak of the media feeding-frenzy over the Lewinsky scandal, Kristol, as chairman of the board of directors of a newly created Project for the New American Century, issued a public letter to President Clinton on Jan. 26, demanding military action to overthrow Saddam Hussein. The letter stated, in part:

"We are writing you because we are convinced that current American policy toward Iraq is not succeeding, and that we may soon face a threat in the Middle East more serious than any we have known since the end of the Cold War. In your upcoming State of the Union Address, you have an opportunity to chart a clear and determined course for meeting this threat. . . . That strategy should aim, above all, at the removal of Saddam Hussein's regime from power. . . . Even if full inspections were eventually to resume, which now seems unlikely, experience has shown that it is difficult if not impossible to monitor Iraq's chemical and biological weapons production. . . . It hardly needs to be added that if Saddam does acquire the capability to deliver weapons of mass destruction, as he is almost certain to do if we continue along the present course, the safety of American troops in the region, of our friends and allies like Israel and the moderate Arab states, and a significant portion of the world's supply of oil will be put at risk. . . . The only acceptable strategy is one that eliminates the possibility that Iraq will be able to use or threaten to use weapons of mass destruction. In the near term, this means a willingness to undertake military action as diplomacy is failing. In the long term, it means removing Saddam Hussein and his regime from power."

The signators of this open letter included:

- Richard N. Perle: Assistant Secretary of Defense in the Reagan and Bush administrations, Perle is today a highly paid consultant for the Israeli arms industry. He is known to have had a connection to the Israeli Mossad since 1970, when he was working for Sen. Henry Jackson (D-Wash.). At that time, a National Security Council-ordered wiretap on Perle's phone revealed that he was passing classified U.S. information to the Israeli Embassy in Washington. Although he was caught red-handed, Mossad allies assured that he retained his security clearance and position as Senator Jackson's aide.

In 1976, Perle and his longtime associate Stephen Bryen formed the Jewish Institute for National Security Affairs (JINSA), which served as a cover for Israeli intelligence operations in Washington—particularly aimed at recruiting assets from within the U.S. military.

One of Perle's first employees was the self-described "universal fascist" Michael Ledeen, who was a central figure in the Iran-Contra fiasco. Ledeen's wife, Barbara, headed the

women's organization that received free legal services from independent counsel Kenneth Starr, in preparing a "friend of the court" brief backing Paula Jones in her lawsuit against President Clinton (see article, p. 66). Barbara Ledeen is also a leading proponent of the plot to blow up the Muslim holy site at the Temple Mount in Jerusalem.

Another JINSA employee, Yossef Bodansky, was the Israeli Defense Force intelligence "spotter" for Pollard (see accompanying article).

In 1978, Bryen was caught, in a discussion with Zvi Rafiah, then the Mossad station chief in Washington, passing on classified information and discussing how to influence U.S. policy. Despite the revelations, Bryen kept his government security clearance, and later became Perle's aide in the Reagan-Bush Defense Department.

- Elliott Abrams: Assistant Secretary of State for Inter-American Affairs in the Reagan-Bush administrations, Abrams was convicted for his illegal involvement in the Iran-Contra operation. Abrams got his political entrée into the Reagan-Bush circles via his mother-in-law, leading neo-con Midge Decter.

Midge Decter and Norman Podhoretz are the parents of John Podhoretz, who is editorial page editor at the *New York Post*, which is owned by Lord Beaverbrook's protégé, Rupert Murdoch. Podhoretz also co-founded the *Weekly Standard* with family friend William Kristol.

- William Bennett: Bennett was Secretary of Education during the Reagan administration, and drug policy adviser during the Bush administration. It was Bennett who gave William Kristol his start in Republican politics, by making him his chief of staff when Bennett became Education Secretary in the first Reagan administration.

William Kristol cut his teeth working with his father, Irving Kristol, for *Commentary* magazine, run by Norman Podhoretz. William and Irving then founded, with assistance from Abe Rosenthal of Basic Books, the second major journal of "neo-conservatism," *The Public Interest*.

During the Reagan-Bush administrations, William Kristol served as chief of staff to Education Secretary Bennett, and later became chief of staff to Vice President Dan Quayle.

Enter Rupert Murdoch

William Kristol started the *Weekly Standard* after receiving a guarantee of \$10 million of initial financing from Rupert Murdoch, the British Empire media tycoon. Murdoch's *London Times*, Fox-TV, and *New York Post* have been in the forefront of spreading disinformation to destroy President Clinton.

According to a piece by *Newsweek's* John Meacham on May 15, 1995, entitled "The Strategist Turns Scribbler," the deal came together when William Kristol, Fred Barnes, and Podhoretz met with Murdoch at his Beverly Hills, California estate in April 1995.

The executive editor of the *Weekly Standard* is Barnes,

who had been a senior editor of the *New Republic*, founded by Michael Straight, the only American known to have been recruited, via the Cambridge Apostles, to become a British "triple agent" spy against the Soviet Union. Others in the "triple agent" operation included the Britons Sir Anthony Blunt, Guy Burgess, and H.A.R. "Kim" Philby.

What William Kristol and Podhoretz have in common with Murdoch, apart from hatred of President Clinton, is that all three support the hard-line Likud policies identified with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. Murdoch's *New York Post*, for example, publishes the writing of Uri Dan, the number-one publicist for Likud leader Gen. Ariel Sharon, "the Butcher of Lebanon."

Tracking the 'X Committee'

One of the first public signals of the existence of the "X Committee" came in a Feb. 19, 1988 article in the *Washington Post* by Bob Woodward, which reported that the Justice Department was in a mad scramble to unearth the identity of one more "Pollard" believed to be in a very senior position in either the Pentagon or the CIA. According to Woodward's Justice Department sources, Pollard, during months of extensive debriefings and polygraph tests, had revealed that his Lekem case officer had shown him classified government indices listing various secret materials. The listing is believed to have been turned over to Lekem by a high-ranking "Mr. X," whom the U.S. government was seeking to uncover. In short, there existed, operating at a level higher than Pollard, a source, or sources, who had access to index numbers of documents that Pollard himself would have had no knowledge of.

At the time that Woodward revealed the hunt for "Mr. X," *EIR* was in possession of a list of a dozen high-ranking Pentagon officials and consultants, who were all suspected of being part of the Pollard spy ring. Among the suspects were Fred Iklé, then Deputy Secretary of Defense; Albert Wohlstetter, a founder of the RAND Corp., a longtime Pentagon consultant, and the first mentor of Perle; and, Andy Marshall, who headed the Pentagon's Office of Net Assessments, an important, albeit little-known, intelligence unit, during 1975-97. Other suspects identified by *EIR* investigators included Uri Ra'an, an Oxford University-trained "Arabist" who had been caught running Israeli intelligence's interface with the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith during the 1960s, and who later surfaced as Pollard's graduate school professor and initial recruitment officer; and Roy Godson, the son of a shared British and American intelligence asset, Joe Godson. In the late 1960s, Roy Godson had been an intimate collaborator of Jewish Defense League founder Meir Kahane. The Godson family's links to Rafi Eytan, the Lekem chief who ran the Pollard spy ring, date back to London in the 1960s, when Eytan was Mossad station chief and Joe Godson was operating a joint Anglo-American intelligence front group.