

# BAC 'moles' steer Congress' foreign policy

by Suzanne Rose

The BAC faction's control over Congress got a high-profile boost with the victory of the "Thatcherite" Conservative Revolution in the 1994 elections. Leading representatives of the Mont Pelerin Society and its offshoots, such as the Heritage Foundation, took political power with the Gingrich takeover in the House. The Contract for America was a prescription for radical free trade, privatizations, and an end of the welfare state. On foreign policy, the BAC has relied on the ideologies of anti-communism and pro-democracy, human rights activism to bolster its geopolitical strategies for control in the post-Cold War era. Two committee chairmen, of the Senate Foreign Relations and House International Relations committees, Sen. Jesse Helms (R-N.C.) and Rep. Benjamin Gilman (R-N.Y.), respectively, are key to BAC operations.

The BAC exercises influence on members of Congress through think-tanks which circulate policy papers on every issue (often defining issues in advance), and through a group of "permanent bureaucrats" of professionals which staff the committees. Most congressmen do a balancing act among the views of their constituents, the media and polls, their major contributors (including BAC-controlled political action committees), powerful interests in their district, and, most importantly, the party leadership. What a congressman does on a particular issue depends on whose pressure is strongest. Helms and Gilman, however, have, with remarkable consistency, represented BAC geopolitical interests. In this respect, they could be called agents of a foreign interest in Congress.

## Jesse Helms

Elected Senator from North Carolina in 1972, the 78-year-old Helms became the ranking minority member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee in 1986, and its chairman since 1994. Helms is the hard cop against communist bogeymen and BAC-identified "rogue states," to the GOP's liberal internationalist soft cops, who cajole countries into line. Helms focusses on the economic choke points around which the BAC manipulates foreign policy: He is adverse to technology transfer, the life-line for developing nations, particularly from Germany and Russia to the Middle East and Asia. He has worked to amend the Export Administration Act to stop Germany from assisting Iraq, Iran, or Syria with technology, on the pretext that it might help them develop chemical, biological, or nuclear weapons, or ballistic missiles. He tried to cut off aid to Russia for selling power plants to Iran.

Helms's special targets are President Clinton, Germany,

Russia, and China. He and former Sen. Lauch Faircloth (R-N.C.) lunched with Judge Richard Sentelle, shortly before the three-judge panel which Sentelle heads appointed the partisan Kenneth Starr as special prosecutor to investigate President Clinton. Helms and Faircloth are believed to have been responsible for the choice of Starr. Although he hates President Clinton with a passion, Helms is supportive of the Anglophile Secretary of State, Madeleine Albright, whose nomination he facilitated through the committee.

Known in his home state as being unenthusiastic for civil rights, and a slumlord to boot, Helms postures as a human rights activist when it comes to BAC enemies such as China. He demanded that a special envoy be appointed to oversee the rights of Tibetans, courted Martin Lee, the Hong Kong democracy activist, and denounced as "ludicrous" claims that Hong Kong's problems were caused by the British. He has demanded that President Clinton permit Taiwan President Lee Teng-hui to visit the United States—a provocation to the mainland government. He authored many bills provoking China, including demands for democracy (the BAC version of democracy which is linked to open financial markets and free trade), and a bill that requires that China's imports be certified as not made with slave labor.

Helms's approach to Asia follows the BAC geopolitical prescription of containing, if not destroying, China. In a March 26, 1996 speech to the Heritage Foundation, he laid out a "Five-Point Program for U.S. Policy Toward Asia," including for a strategic balance between China, Japan, Korea, and Southeast Asia. He has been a saboteur of President Clinton's policy of peaceful relations with North Korea, by attempting to disrupt the Clinton-negotiated nuclear accord. On Dec. 3, 1991, as the formerly communist nations were enjoying freedom, Helms warned in Senate hearings of the "explosive effects of the growth of nationalism in Europe," and said that the United States could not continue to support institutions such as the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, which would potentially be "impossible to control" (i.e., might be used to further economic development in eastern Europe and Russia).

Helms's associates helped to establish the U.S. connection to the drug-running Contras. His staff assistant Deborah DeMoss was a liaison to the Contra leaders from the outset. He obsessively attacked Panamanian Defense Forces Gen. Manuel Noriega, who had become the enemy of the Bush Contra policy. On the other hand, like pit bulls, Helms and Gilman protect Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, the linchpin of BAC geopolitical machinations in the Middle East. In 1996, they sent a letter to Netanyahu, praising him for his aggressive actions in expanding Jewish settlements (and thereby sabotaging the peace process).

Helms's strong ties to the British-linked evangelical movement of Jerry Falwell and Pat Robertson, and his fundraising (he runs one of the biggest money machines in Congress), reinforce his close BAC ties. Reynolds Tobacco and BAT (formerly British American Tobacco, BAT is listed as

a “major corporate sponsor” of London’s preeminent think-tank, the Royal Institute for International Affairs) are reportedly among his more generous sponsors.

There are indications that Helms was picked up by the right-wing Anglo-Israeli apparatus in 1984, when he faced his toughest re-election challenge from the popular Democratic Governor of North Carolina, Jim Hunt. Helms was offered a large amount of cash for his campaign from right-wing Zionist circles, provided that he would champion the Israeli Likud party in Congress. Shortly thereafter, Helms hosted Israeli “New Right” Knesset (Parliament) member David Kleiner on the Senate floor. Several years later, Helms carried out a wholesale purge of his Senate staff, a move that coincided with his induction into the upper levels of the Charleston, S.C.-based Southern Jurisdiction of Freemasonry.

### **Benjamin Gilman**

Gilman’s and Helms’s careers and policies run in parallel. Gilman was elected to Congress from New York in 1972, and became chairman of the House International Relations Committee when the Republicans won the majority in 1994. He spreads fear of Chinese “superpower status,” and, like Helms, plays hard cop to the “internationalist” wing of his party. His rabid anti-communism is the cover for his attacks on Russia and China. A member of the “Committee of 100” for the liberation of Tibet from Chinese rule, he co-sponsored several of the anti-China bills produced by the House Republican Policy Committee, which has become the policy arm for the BAC inside the GOP’s congressional bodies.

When the Republican leadership renewed its onslaught against China in the wake of the failed impeachment attempt, and began fomenting a new Cold War and war drive on behalf of the BAC, Gilman helped to escalate tensions around Iraq and North Korea. He sponsored the Iraq Liberation Act, which forced the administration to adopt an incompetent and dangerous policy of funding an Iraqi “Contra” movement to topple Saddam Hussein. On North Korea, he and his staffers channelled into his committee hearings intelligence of suspicious origin designed to disrupt Clinton’s negotiated accord with North Korea and to foment confrontation. His staff told journalists that the committee intended to press for provocative inspections of alleged nuclear sites in North Korea, while Gilman charged that North Korea was preparing missiles to hit the U.S. West Coast.

In 1996, Gilman convened hearings where it was charged that the Bosnian leadership, which was fighting to protect its multi-ethnic nation, was an agent of Iran. Gilman’s campaign, and propaganda produced by the House Republican Policy Committee, helped force through the ethnic partitioning of Bosnia, a prescription for further war.

An opponent of the Middle East peace process, Gilman appeared in May 1996 at a Central Park rally with Israeli right-winger Yitzhak Ginsberg. Only six months earlier, in the wake of the murder of Yitzhak Rabin, Israeli law enforce-

ment agents had picked up Ginsberg for having incited violence against Rabin.

Gilman constantly targets Russia for sanctions, charging that it sells nuclear and ballistic missile technology to Iran, and advanced weaponry and technology to China. He authored the Iran Missile Proliferation Sanctions Act, which would impose sanctions on Russia for technological assistance to Iran.

BAC control over Gilman includes feeding his appetite for money. It is said that his policies are for sale to the highest bidder. This may explain his reported relationship to the Russian-Israeli mobster Shabtai Kalmanowitch, who was jailed in Israel in the 1980s as a KGB spy, but who now commutes between Moscow and Tel Aviv as a “businessman.”

## **House Policy Committee: another BAC ‘mole hill’**

One hub of British control over the U.S. Congress is the House Policy Committee, the policymaking arm of the House Republicans, dedicated to “bringing back the Reagan-Thatcher years,” as the HPC web site states. Comprised of the Speaker of the House and the GOP committee chairmen, it is led by a clique around Reps. Henry Hyde (Ill.), Benjamin Gilman (N.Y.), and Chris Cox (Calif.). Last March, Cox launched the Congressional Policy Advisory Board as a private sector adjunct to the HPC, to bring in the BAC think-tank apparatus as a permanent pool of advisers and “expert witnesses” to help with the new Cold War drive.

### **Thatcher’s minions**

Interviews with aides to Cox and Gilman reveal that this group is being advised by Lady Margaret Thatcher, Lord Chalfont, and many other members of the British House of Lords. They mean to create a “new Cold War” between the United States, on the one hand, and Russia and China, on the other, in which the United States cannot, as Bill Clinton envisions, act as a Pacific power cooperating with China in the Eurasian Land-Bridge project.

Representative Cox, who is chairman of the House Policy Committee, travelled to London to speak on Feb. 18, 1999 at the headquarters of the European Atlantic Group (EAG), a U.S.-U.K. “parliamentary think-tank” run by Lord Chalfont and Lady Thatcher. Cox called for a new Cold War and pronounced not only Iraq and North Korea, but also Russia and China, to be nuclear threats to the United States. “A substantial threat continues to be posed by the existing ballistic missile arsenals of Russia and China,” he intoned. “The risk of unauthorized or accidental missile launch from the former Soviet Union is unarguably far greater today than it was at the height of the Cold War. In 1996, PLA Lt. Gen. Xiong