

Kissinger, Other Taliban Apologists Now Lead Drive For War Against Islam

by Jeffrey Steinberg and Michele Steinberg

Former Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger's self-promotion as a leader in the war against terrorism is a case of a *very big fraud*. Speaking Oct. 31 before London's Mont Pelerin Society think-tank, the Centre for Policy Studies, self-professed British agent of influence Kissinger declared that only the complete destruction of the Taliban regime and Osama bin Laden's al-Qaeda terrorist network could safeguard "world order."

Heaping praise on the British government of Prime Minister Tony Blair for its unwavering support for the Anglo-American "special relationship," Kissinger said, "The war in Afghanistan must be seen as an attack on the most flagrant harbinger of terrorists, [and] against the most symbolic representative of terrorism in the person of bin Laden." Kissinger stressed that "there cannot be an ambiguous outcome: that the Taliban government has to be eliminated; that the bin Laden network has to be unambiguously destroyed. . . . Because if the Taliban are still standing at some point in time they will become a symbol of the ability to resist the strongest nation and its allies. . . . It will have a very dangerous impact on everybody."

Kissinger darkly warned those nations doing "as little as they want" against Afghanistan, such as Syria and Iran, that a point will come that "will oblige countries . . . to choose between whether they wish to remain in the coalition or to engage in actions that support terrorism."

Kissinger is also placing op-eds in newspapers throughout the United States, on the necessity to "shatter" the Taliban.

The Dark Side Of The Moon

EIR is assembling the evidence that individuals, including Kissinger and Arnaud de Borchgrave, editor-at-large of the Rev. Sun Myung Moon-owned *Washington Times* and United Press International (UPI)—and another war enthusiast for the obliteration of bin Laden and the Taliban—were, only recently, leading apologists and supporters of the same Taliban. Evidence shows that connections from inside leading U.S. circles to bin Laden did not end with the Soviet Union's pullout from Afghanistan in 1989, and that promotion of the Taliban continued through the Summer of 2001! Other individuals involved will be identified in future issues of *EIR*.

In Kissinger's case, he has been linked to an effort to keep Afghanistan and the Taliban rulers *off* the list of countries which are "state sponsors" of terrorism. According to a front-page story in the Nov. 5 *Washington Post* by Mary Pat Flaherty, David Ottaway, and James Grimaldi, "How Afghanistan Went Unlisted As Terrorist Sponsor," the former Secretary of State was a consultant to the American oil company, Unocal, to lobby the State Department against any sanctions against Afghanistan, in order to protect his client's plans to build a pipeline across the country to access Central Asian oil. The *Post* reported, "To secure critical financing from agencies such as the World Bank, [Unocal] needed the State Department to formally recognize the Taliban as Afghanistan's government. Unocal hired former State Department insiders: former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger, former special U.S. Ambassador John J. Maresca, and Robert Oakley, a former U.S. Ambassador to Pakistan."

Unocal's interest was unequivocally stated before the U.S. Congress on Feb. 12, 1998, when Maresca, then Unocal's vice president for international relations, testified before the House International Relations Committee, Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific, pushing Unocal's Afghan pipeline scheme, which aimed to cut Russia and Iran out of the lucrative Central Asian oil and natural gas market. Maresca noted that since an Iranian pipeline was out of the question because of "U.S. sanctions legislation," therefore "the only possible route option is across Afghanistan. . . . A route through Afghanistan appears to be the best option with the fewest technical obstacles." While he claimed that Unocal "does not favor any group" among the fighting Afghan factions, the company's lobbying efforts centered on getting U.S. government endorsement for the Taliban as the recognized government. Just a few months before Maresca's Congressional testimony, Unocal had brought a delegation of Taliban leaders to Washington, for meetings with members of Congress and the Clinton Administration.

Maresca told Congress that "the construction of our proposed pipeline cannot occur until a recognized government is in place," implying that the United States had better hurry up and recognize the Taliban.

The case of de Borchgrave is even more graphic. In June

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Unocal has received inquiries about a previously proposed pipeline that, if built, would have crossed a part of Afghanistan. We withdrew from that



Unocal Corp. now scurries to dissociate itself from the pipeline project for which it aggressively supported and promoted the Taliban government in Afghanistan. Henry Kissinger, now calling for obliteration of Afghanistan, also promoted the Taliban very, very recently.

Kissinger added that if “victory in Afghanistan is the only purpose . . . we will find that terrorism will come back.” Instead, the issue of a country’s stand on terrorism will be the way to “recast the international system.” He also said that the current Bush Administration policy essentially allows Palestinian groups to “have a free pass.”

Kissinger is today a member of the Pentagon’s Defense Policy Board, appointed at the invitation of its chairman, Richard Perle. Perle is one of the notorious members of Washington’s “Wolfowitz cabal” which is

leading the pack for turning the “war against terrorism” into World War III. It is no secret that Kissinger and Perle are at the center of conspiracy against the policies of President George Bush and Secretary of State Colin Powell to fight the war against terrorism through a “coalition.” Instead, Kissinger and “Wolfowitz cabal” want a war plan that targets several Islamic countries in succession, leading with Iraq (see *EIR*, Nov. 2, 2001, “The Wolfowitz Cabal Is An Enemy Within”). Both Perle and Kissinger are leading officials of the Hollinger Corp. intelligence network of London, owned by Canadian Conrad Black, which publishes the London *Daily Telegraph* and the *Jerusalem Post*. The *Telegraph* network, like the de Borchgrave network of Moon-owned publications, constitutes the media-brainwashing and war-propaganda side of the operation.

De Borchgrave shares Kissinger’s chameleon-like ability to change colors as expediency demands. On Sept. 23, he filed a UPI story denouncing the Pakistani Islamic clergy, and Pakistan’s Inter-Service Intelligence (ISI) agency, for their promotion of the “global terror network” centered out of Afghanistan and protected by the Taliban.

This is a case of world-class fraud. Kissinger and de Borchgrave parade today as the biggest war enthusiasts, but were recently covering up for the Taliban—which, among other things, is responsible for 80% of the heroin reaching the European and Asian markets, according to U.S. and Russian authorities.

Of course, Kissinger and de Borchgrave are not alone in this perfidy. This news service has confirmed that there are allies of Zbigniew Brzezinski inside the National Security Council and elsewhere inside the Bush Administration, who are equally complicit in the pre-Sept. 11 boosting of the Taliban.

2001, de Borchgrave was in Kandahar, Afghanistan, interviewing Mullah Mohammad Omar Akhund, the head of the Taliban. The interview, released by UPI on June 14, was full of praise for the Taliban leader, characterizing him as a war hero injured five times in the fight to drive the Soviet Red Army out of the country. De Borchgrave portrayed Omar as reigning in bin Laden, and quoted Omar, uncritically, accusing the United States of withholding evidence from the “trial” that was held against bin Laden by a Taliban “court.”

Since Sept. 11, both Kissinger and de Borchgrave, along with a number of other “former” Taliban patrons and apologists, have been among the loudest cheerleaders for the bombing against Afghanistan. As 2004 Democratic Presidential pre-candidate Lyndon LaRouche observed, it is reminiscent of those who were selling iron to Japan on the eve of Pearl Harbor.

A New ‘New World Order’

When Kissinger appeared in London before an audience of 800 on Oct. 31, he did so as a member of a rogue network, allied with Britain, to bring the policy of the United States into a “clash of civilizations.” “I do not speak for the [Bush] Administration,” he said, as he declared peace to be impossible with Islam. There is a “fundamental difference” with Islam, which perhaps only “Britain and America” yet understand. He said that Sept. 11 woke up the American people from the slumber of complacency, emotionally even more happened after Pearl Harbor. “Until then the American public would have been astonished to hear that there were fundamental differences between the United States and Islam . . . that there was such as thing as a concept of a war of civilizations.”

Admitting that he is “impatient” with the pace of the war,