

about Palestinian connections to al-Qaeda. "These documents prove without any doubt that the ones who are behind this alleged al-Qaeda group are the various Israeli intelligence organizations," Shbak added. He told *Al-Hayat Al-Jadidah* daily that the "Americans have not responded yet to the documents . . . as provided by the Palestinian Preventive Security agency."

The 9/11 Cover Story

The question is whether the U.S. government and other governments will take up the evidence given to them. It is well established that several top Cabinet officials in the current Sharon caretaker government, including Sharon himself, have a long, jaded history of staging precisely these kinds of "countergang" operations, using Israeli covert operatives and Arabs tortured and brainwashed in Israeli jails and recruited as false-flag terrorists. Sharon, Mossad chief Moshe Dagan, and Gen. Effie Eitam are proponents of such dirty-war tactics. As *EIR* reported in several extensive articles on the Hamas organization, that terrorist capability was actually created by Ariel Sharon and the Israeli right wing, for the purpose of supplanting Yasser Arafat and the organizations of the Palestine Liberation Organization (see *EIR*, Dec. 6).

Even more to the point, the Osama bin Laden authorship of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks has been a cover story from the first moments the media began reporting it as fact. Interviewed on the morning of Sept. 11 as the attacks were unfolding, LaRouche made clear that the breadth and sophistication of these attacks showed that it was "an inside job," involving U.S. military and intelligence operatives capable of defeating or neutralizing all existing and backup security systems. Bin Laden was named as the culprit, explains LaRouche, because his name provided entry into the policy of a Clash of Civilizations against Islam, which right-wing neo-conservatives in the Bush Administration have as their goal. LaRouche has also pointedly asked when Osama bin Laden stopped being an American agent—a reality that the "Islamic card" networks of Zbigniew Brzezinski and the Iran-Contra financiers of the Afghansi *mujahideen*, want to bury. It must also be asked, when did al-Qaeda stop working for British intelligence? *EIR* has documented that British foreign intelligence, MI6, worked closely with so-called Islamist terrorist groups safe-housed in Britain, to destabilize Arab and Muslim nations, in the geopolitical service of Her Majesty's government, and an Anglo-American imperial faction.

As recently as November, this coverup of British/U.S. covert support for terrorism continued, with the case of David Shayler, a former MI5 agent who was sentenced to six months in jail for disclosing "government secret information." Shayler told London *Guardian* reporter Martin Bright that MI6 hired one of Osama bin Laden's closest collaborators—Anas al-Liby, who remains on the U.S. government's Most Wanted List, with a reward of \$25 million for his capture—to assassinate Libya's Col. Muammar al-Qaddafi in 1996.

Bright, who could not publish the article in the *Guardian*, but did so in the Pakistani daily, *The Dawn*, on Oct. 30, received a gag order from the British Attorney General, threatening him with prison, if he publishes any more information from Shayler.

With this background in mind, the public revelations about the Mossad attempts to set up al-Qaeda cells, could have strategic consequences for the discredited Sharon government—and even more broadly for the Clash of Civilizations zealots covering up the truth about Sept. 11. The Palestinian revelations could become the "straw that broke the camel's back," in this dirty war.

Kenya Terror: Where Will Sharon Retaliate?

by Dean Andromidas

Following the twin attacks targeting Israeli tourists and an Israeli airliner in Mombasa, Kenya on Nov. 28, loud calls for retaliation using "options that up until now have been unacceptable to public opinion," are being made by leading members of the government of Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon. According to well-informed sources in Israel, backed up by a years' long record of covert assassinations, these calls for "vengeance" mean one thing—extra-territorial assassinations, anywhere, anytime, against any nationality, by Israeli secret hit teams.

But a matter that should disturb every citizen of any nation is that, this time, the Likudniks of Sharon's war machine are not just rogue elements, acting as outlaws. They are pointing to their alliance with the United States as the justification under international law for the retaliatory murders they are planning to commit. Recall that on Nov. 5, Paul Wolfowitz, U.S. Deputy Secretary of Defense, and leading Likud party mole in the American government, went on CNN television to announce that the United States had adopted the assassination policy perfected by Sharon's security forces over the last two years, known as "pre-emptive assassinations" of terrorists. Wolfowitz's public confession, in effect, forced through the illegal doctrine against strong opposition within the intelligence community of the United States, and among some in Bush's national security team. As *EIR* warned on Nov. 22 ("Did Wolfowitz Blow CIA Secret to Set Up the President?"), the public revelation—in fact, a boast—gave license for further assassinations. Now, in the wake of the Kenya attacks, the gates of Hell have been opened to such international operations.

Furthermore, information presented to the U.S. government for investigation, over the last days, indicates that, lack-

ing any evidence of al-Qaeda involvement against them, Israeli intelligence is planning on working on inventing its own (see accompanying article).

‘We Will Repay’

On Nov. 28, a car-bomb struck an Israeli-owned hotel in Mombasa, and missiles were fired from the surface at an Israeli airliner departing Mombasa airport. Fifteen people, including three Israelis, were killed, and up to 100 injured in the hotel bombing. The airplane, a Boeing 757 with 261 passengers and crew, was undamaged.

An unknown group calling itself the Army of Palestine, in a faxed message, claimed responsibility, saying it had sent two teams to “make the world hear once again the voice of Palestinian refugees, and cast light on Zionist terrorism in the West Bank and Gaza.” The authenticity of the statement has not been confirmed.

Israeli Defense Minister Shaul Mofaz promised vengeance. “Our hand will reach them,” he said. “If anyone doubted that the citizens of the state of Israel cannot stand up to the killers of children, this will be removed. Vengeance is ours. We will repay.”

Foreign Minister Benjamin Netanyahu told the press, “This shows that terror organizations and the regimes behind them are able to arm themselves with weapons which can cause mass casualties anywhere and everywhere. Today, they’re firing the missiles at Israeli planes, tomorrow they’ll fire missiles at American planes, British planes, and every country’s aircraft. This shows there can be no compromise with terror.”

Prime Minister Ariel Sharon ordered the new chief of the Mossad intelligence service, Meir Dagan, to take charge of the investigation of the attack. The order has been compared to that relayed by the late Israeli Prime Minister Golda Meir, who ordered the hit teams run by operative Rafi Eytan, called “Terror Against Terror,” to hunt down and kill “those responsible” for the massacre of Israeli athletes at the 1972 Munich Olympics. More than one innocent person was killed in this way. As to Dagan, himself, throughout the 1970s and 1980s, he ran “Operation Caesarea,” whereby, in Gaza and Lebanon, his 40-man hit squad of Israeli Defense Forces (IDF) commandos would frequently disguise themselves as Palestinians and assassinate Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) leaders. (Often, the targets of these assassinations were moderate Palestinians, who were more open than most others, to peace talks with Israel.)

Although not successful, the attempt to down the Israeli airliner in Kenya is being seen by Sharon as a “mega-terror” attack. *EIR* has warned that Sharon has been looking for such an attack, as a pretext to launch a new Mideast war. This danger looms larger, now that the Iraq war drive has been slowed in the United Nations. It is not only the war party in Washington that wants this war; so does their ally, Ariel Sharon, and perhaps even more so. This gang’s intentions

were spelled out by his “security team,” in speeches given to the National Security Conference held at the Herzliya Interdisciplinary Center in Israel on Dec. 2-4.

Changing the Rules

Ephraim Halevy, chairman of Israel’s National Security Council and former head of the Mossad, warned that a “mega-terror” attack on Israel will “change the rules” of how Israel will react. The Kenya attempt against the Israeli airliner was “a major escalation that cannot be ignored. . . . The working assumption is that if a mega-terrorist incident succeeds, it will at once change a long series of rules of behavior. The essence of the threat is essentially genocide, the destruction of the state. . . . Against such a threat, Israel has a broad range of capabilities that it is preferable not to reveal prematurely. . . . Presumably, international opinion will understand, accept, and internalize the change in the rules and the levels of action.”

Halevy said a successful attack would “create an international dynamic that would open options that up to now were unacceptable to public opinion.”

An Israeli official who has particularly strong ties to the war party in Washington, Halevy said that with Iranian and Iraqi weapons of mass destruction aimed at Israel, the country has to support the United States in an Iraq war: “If the United States succeeds, as many of us hope, there will be far-reaching changes in the Middle East.” The end result will be “undoubtedly favorable for Israel.”

Regarding Israel’s relations with the United States, he said, “Never have the interests and goals of the two countries been so close; therefore, Israel has never needed to examine its international policies with so much consideration of the needs and interests of the United States.” He said that every country has to make its views known regarding the war on terrorism. “Those who are neutral are not neutral.”

A military source who heard Halevy’s presentation emphasized, “This is not simply a ‘professional’ opinion. This is the opinion of Sharon. You have to understand that Halevy is Sharon’s messenger. He is sent on secret missions, and when he speaks, he is expressing the opinions of his boss.” The message is that “now the world must take this global terror threat seriously or Israel will have to act unilaterally.”

Halevy did not detail the “options that up until now have been unacceptable to public opinion.” But *EIR* has detailed several options which Sharon has so far been prevented from carrying out. These include the assassination of Palestinian Authority President Yasser Arafat, military strikes against Syria and Lebanon, and a regional war where Sharon can finally implement his “Jordan is Palestine” policy, by driving the Palestinian population across the Jordan River.

The most convenient point to strike is close to home: Arafat’s West Bank headquarters in Ramallah.

On Dec. 5, Sharon told a group of Israeli editors that al-Qaeda was active in the Palestinian territories. “We have

information for some time now that al-Qaeda people have entered” the territories. “The information says that a small number entered the Gaza Strip. We know they are in Lebanon, in close cooperation with Hezbollah. We know they are in the region. There’s no doubt that Israel is a target for attack.”

Denouncing Sharon’s comments, Palestinian Preventive Security Chief in the Gaza Strip Rashid Abu Shbak charged, “This is the sort of justification the Israeli leadership is trying to market for the Americans, to launch a strike against the Gaza Strip.” The Palestinian Authority then released information exposing an attempt by Sharon’s security forces to plant one of their own false-flag al-Qaeda cells among the Palestinians, as *EIR* details in this section.

Possible Expansion of the Conflict

Speaking at the same conference, Sharon’s new Defense Minister, Shaul Mofaz declared that what was intended by the terrorists in Kenya was “a mega-attack, which was prevented by a miracle.” In the same breath, he spoke of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, declaring, “Sooner or later, we will have to ask ourselves . . . whether we should switch to a process of political-military decision.” A source close to him told the *Jerusalem Post* on Dec. 5, that these words were code for “making Arafat disappear from history.” The source asserted that Sharon is in agreement with Mofaz, but is only concerned with “timing,” not wanting to interfere, for the time being, with any U.S. action against Iraq.

Mofaz’s statement was backed by Chief of Staff Moshe Ya’alon, who warned that the continuing conflict with the Palestinians could pose a threat to Israel’s peace treaties with Egypt and Jordan.

The Israeli security establishment has linked the perpetrators of the Kenya attacks to alleged al-Qaeda networks in Lebanon, which they are accused of being protected by the Hezbollah group. The latter’s backers, Syria and Iran, can now be put into Israel’s sights.

This was reflected by commentator Ze’ev Schiff, who wrote in the daily *Ha’aretz* on Nov. 29, that now “the Mossad and the Shin Bet [domestic intelligence] will have to reorganize outside the country’s borders—and not only in the defensive posture.” He noted that the unknown “Army of Palestine” claimed responsibility for the Kenya attacks via al-Manara, the TV station of Hezbollah in Lebanon. Schiff took this to mean, that Hezbollah most likely knows the members of this group, and he went on to claim that Hezbollah works with an al-Qaeda-linked group in Lebanon. “That group must be regarded as a loaded gun that will eventually fire—at Israel. Investments will have to be made in defensive measures so as to not expose that front.”

Steps of Escalation

The implication is that a “pre-emptive” assassination by Israeli security forces, may be launched in Lebanon. Such an attack would, predictably, provoke retaliation by Hezbollah and lead to a rapid escalation—an escalation which Sharon

wants to use, in order to launch direct attacks on Syrian positions, both in Lebanon, and also in Syria.

On Dec. 7, only a few days after Schiff’s article, two Lebanese drug dealers were killed in southern Lebanon. The two, Ramzi Nahra and his nephew Ellie Issa, were killed when a roadside bomb destroyed the car they were in. Nahra served many masters, including the Israelis through his drug-trafficking activities, and Hezbollah. Israel was immediately suspected, because the bomb had been made to look like a rock, a technique the Israelis used in 1997 against two Hezbollah activists travelling on the road in the Al Kafor district. Within 24 hours of the Dec. 7 attack, a roadside bomb within Israel, near its border with Lebanon, wounded two Israeli soldiers. A previously unknown Lebanese group took responsibility, claiming the attack was to avenge the Nahra and Issa assassinations.

Then, on Dec. 8, the London *Sunday Telegraph*, which is often used to launder Mossad disinformation, ran a totally unsubstantiated report, linking the Hezbollah to the attacks in Kenya, and claiming the techniques used by al-Qaeda were similar to Hezbollah’s. The *Telegraph* quoted an unnamed “Western source” (who was most likely a member in the battalion-size contingent that Israel sent to Kenya to “help” in the investigation), saying that “A clear pattern is emerging that suggests Hezbollah is actively cooperating with al-Qaeda. Hezbollah is very active in this part of Africa and shares similar objectives to Al-Qaeda.”

Hezbollah not only denied responsibility, but their spokesman charged that Israel was creating the atmosphere for an attack on Lebanon. The same spokesman charged that talk of a Hezbollah link was nonsense.

Possible Israeli Nuclear Strike

The last of the Israeli “options that up to now have been unacceptable to public opinion,” is the deployment of nuclear weapons. Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr. has warned that Israel could threaten the deployment of its nuclear capabilities as a provocation if the United States does *not* launch a war against Iraq. In this context, the *Jerusalem Post* reported on Dec. 5, that Mossad head Meir Dagan had told Sharon’s Cabinet the day before, that the world was on the brink of the most intensive proliferation of nuclear weapons and ballistic missiles, and that therefore Israel had to prepare “new responses,” in the event of an attack.

WEEKLY INTERNET
AUDIO TALK SHOW
The LaRouche Show
EVERY SATURDAY
3:00-4:00 p.m. Eastern Time
<http://www.larouchepub.com/radio>