

# British Empire's 'Young Turks' Are Gunning for Turkey

by Dean Andromidas

Turkey avoided a major political destabilization when its Constitutional Court ruled on July 30 against an indictment alleging that the ruling Justice and Development Party (AKP) had violated the secularity of the Turkish Constitution. If the court had convicted the AKP, the party would have been closed down, and Turkish Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan, along with more than 50 AKP deputies, would have been suspended from holding office for five years. A conviction in the case would have thrown the country into chaos; thus, the vast majority of Turkey's people, as well as many world leaders, applauded the court's decision.

The U.S. State Department welcomed the development, but there was consternation among the Washington outposts of the British Empire, located in the American Enterprise Institute (AEI), the Center for Security Policy, and the Hudson Institute. Zeyno Baran, one of the high priestesses at the Hudson Institute, penned her lament in the *Wall Street Journal* Aug. 2, under the title "Turkey's Islamists Inspire a New Climate of Fear," expressing disappointment at the failure of the court to ban the AKP.

Baran's attack on the AKP joins those of notorious Islamophobe Michael Rubin of AEI, and others of the neoconservative apparatus who have put Prime Minister Erdogan on their list of "evil ones"—a list that includes Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin, Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmedinajad, and Syrian President Bashar Assad. These attacks go beyond mere Islamophobia. There is growing evidence of direct links between the neocon apparatus and Turkey's Ergenekon crime gang, which was recently indicted for planning a coup against the Turkish government.

## Ergenekon and Cheney?

Ergenekon has been referred to as Turkey's equivalent of Italy's notorious Gladio "stay-behind" net-

work—a part of NATO, and linked to international terrorism. Turkish authorities arrested nearly 100 suspects in the case, and handed down a 2,500-page indictment July 14, which accused Ergenekon of plotting a strategy of tension that was to culminate in a military coup against the Erdogan government.

*EIR* has pointed to the historic and genetic links of Ergenekon to the British-created Committee for Union and Progress, also known as the Young Turks. This network was created by the European imperialist powers, led by Great Britain, to destroy the Ottoman Empire prior to World War I, and then to implement the notorious Sykes-Picot Treaty that carved up the Ottoman Empire between Britain and France. (See "British Unleash Ergenekon To Destroy Turkey and Its Peace Role," *EIR*, Aug. 1, 2008.) Today, the British have outsourced their destabilization schemes to one of their best-placed British agents in the U.S., Vice President Dick Cheney.

*EIR* researchers have found no less than four direct references to Cheney in the Ergenekon indictment. The most relevant is a report alleging that three of Cheney's top advisors met with the Washington representative of the Turkish ultra-nationalist daily *Cumhuriyet*, whose publisher, Ilhan Selcuk, has been indicted in the Ergenekon case, and whose chief editor, Ibrahim Yildiz, was interrogated by Turkish authorities who are probing his links to Ergenekon. The *Cumhuriyet* Foundation, which owns the daily, has, on its board of directors, Gen. Sener Eruygur (ret.), who is currently under arrest. He is suspected of being one of the top leaders of Ergenekon.

On page 95 of the indictment papers, there is a report about a wiretapped discussion, in which Yildiz tells Selcuk of a meeting that took place on Feb. 20, 2008. Yildiz is quoted as saying: "Now, brother, I've talked to Elcin (Poyrazlar). Elcin's meeting was with

three people, ... that is two of Cheney's advisers, number one, and number two advisers, and someone from the political affairs commission.... The content of the meeting, was a little bit of a mutual exchange of views, and thereafter that they should continue the contact in the future. But they were most curious about if there were an opposition to the AKP or not, the non-radical Islam issue, and the El Kaida [al-Qaeda] issue. They said we should keep talking to each other, but not publicize these meetings...."

Although Cheney is not an official suspect, the Turkish police appear to have the healthy suspicion that those Turks who met with Cheney's aides might harbor treasonous intentions. A few weeks after this alleged meeting, the Turkish prosecutor brought his case to close down the AKP before the Constitutional Court. This was followed, on March 24, by Cheney's own official visit to Turkey. It was widely reported that Cheney was pressuring the Turkish government to send additional troops to Afghanistan, a request that the government refused. Many commentators suggested that Cheney's tour was aimed at drumming up support for an attack on Iran, which the Erdogan government and the Turkish military also refused.

### **The 'Prince of Darkness' and Ergenekon**

The most substantial link between the neocons and Ergenekon is that the groups share the same ideology and its mother, British Intelligence. The neocons who hold the Turkish file include Cheney's top allies, among them former Assistant Secretary of Defense Richard Perle, Frank Gaffney of the Center for Security Policy, AEI's Rubin, and Meyrav Wurmser of the Hudson Institute. These neocons are loyal followers of the Zionist revisionist and fascist Vladimir Jabotinsky, who, in 1908 was editor of the *Young Turk*, the newspaper of the Committee for Union and Progress. Jabotinsky is also the ideological godfather of the right-wing Likud Party in Israel, now led by Benjamin Netanyahu, whose father was a personal associate of Jabotinsky (see box).

In particular, any links between Ergenekon and the notorious "Prince of Darkness," Richard Perle, should be officially investigated. Perle is the leader of the neocon "Young Turks" in Washington and a top Likudnik.

Perle's relationship with Turkey began shortly after the Turkish military coup of 1980, when he

became Assistant Secretary of Defense in the Reagan Administration. He quickly took over the Turkey file, founding the "Turkish American Defense Council" to coordinate U.S. Turkish defense policy. His deputy was Frank Gaffney. After he left government in 1989, Perle cashed in on the contacts he made in Turkey by helping Doug Feith—another neocon who would become notorious as Under Secretary of Defense in the George W. Bush Administration—form International Advisors, Inc., where they both gained hundreds of thousands of dollars in fees for lobbying for Turkish interests and American arms manufacturers.

Perle has not been implementing U.S. policy, but the policy of Bernard Lewis, the British agent and Orientalist expert at Princeton University. Lewis's policy is a throwback to that of the Young Turks. In 1960, the same year as the first military coup in Turkey, Lewis wrote "The Emergence of Modern Turkey," for Her Majesty's Royal Institute for International Affairs. The study trashed the modernizing nation-building legacy of Turkey's Mustafa Kemal Ataturk and called for the revival of an Ottoman Empire, the same empire that the Young Turks took over in 1908, as agents of the British imperialists. This new empire was to be used as a British geopolitical battering ram against the Soviet Union.

These schemes saw their implementation by the end of the 1970s, with the launching of the infamous Bernard Lewis Plan, implemented as the "Arc of Crisis" by Zbigniew Brzezinski, National Security Advisor to President Jimmy Carter. The plan by British geopolitician Bernard Lewis aimed at destabilizing the Soviet Union by provoking Muslim Brotherhood fundamentalist insurrections along the entire southern lateral of the Soviet Union. The bitter fruits of this policy are the Iranian Revolution, the Iran-Iraq War, the Russian invasion of Afghanistan, and the Turkish coup of 1980.<sup>1</sup>

In 1996, Perle led a team of neocons that drafted the anti-peace policy, "A Clean Break: A New Strategy for Securing the Realm," for then-incoming Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. Written as a geopolitical plan to ditch ongoing peace efforts and secure Israeli dominance in the region, within a few

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1. For more on Lewis, see "Profile: Bernard Lewis, British Svengali Behind Clash of Civilizations, *EIR*, Nov. 30, 2001.

## London's 'Young Turks': Jabotinsky and Parvus

In supporting London's "Young Turk" plot against Turkey today, our modern Jabotinskyites are acting totally lawfully. For Vladimir Jabotinsky's career included joining with his fellow British agent, Alexander Helphand (aka Parvus), in the Young Turk movement at the beginning of the 20th Century.

Jabotinsky (1880-1940) and Parvus (1867-1924) came from Odessa families based in the grain trade. While Helphand/Parvus began his political career in the Okhrana-spawned Russian socialist scene, where he played the role of a radical provocateur, he escaped the subsequent police crackdown and ended up in Turkey in 1908. At this point Parvus's ties to the leading European "Venetian Party" factions would be publicly shown.

Parvus went to work as a journalist for the Committee for Union and Progress, otherwise known as the Young Turks, who had carried out a military coup, overthrowing the Sultan and seizing power over the Ottoman Empire. By their own accounts,

the Young Turks based their revolution on a version of Pan-Turkism that had been devised by an advisor to the Sultan in the 1860s who was, in fact, an agent of Britain's Lord Palmerston.

Parvus's Young Turk interlude earned him a large fortune. He had partnered with Young Turk financier and Macedonia Risorta Lodge founder Emmanuel Carasso, and had been given the contract to supply grain to the Turks during the Balkan wars of 1912-13. According to some accounts, Parvus also got into the tightly controlled arms business, probably under the patronage of Sir Basil Zaharoff of the Vickers Arms cartel, a prominent Anglo-Venetian enterprise.

The Young Turks, in power, made no secret of their London ties. In 1909 the Ottoman Navy was put under the command of a British admiral; the British Royal Family's own banker, Ernst Cassel, established and managed the National Bank of Turkey; and British officials advised the Ministry of Finance, the Interior Ministry, and the Ministry of Justice.

After the Young Turks were defeated by Turkish nationalist leader Kemal Atatürk, seasoned British agents Jabotinsky and Parvus were available to deploy elsewhere: Both became outright fascists.

years, it became the blueprint for Vice President Dick Cheney and his cabal of neocon advisors in the George W. Bush Administration.

The 1996 document called for Israel to cultivate closer ties with Turkey as part of a new strategic axis in the region. Soon after the report was released, there occurred what the Turkish media have referred to as the "post-modern" coup of 1997, when the military forced then-Prime Minister Necmettin Erbakan and his Islamic-oriented Welfare Party out of power.

The "Prince of Darkness" is still at it, more than ten years later. On July 27, the *Wall Street Journal* reported that Perle was cashing in on a war that he helped start, when it revealed that he is seeking oil concessions in northern Iraq, near the Kurdish city of Arbil. His partners are the same as those he has been working with on the Turkish file for more than two decades. His key partner is the Turkish company AK

Group International, which is headed by Aydan Kodaloglu. Kodaloglu was a leading light in the Turkish American Council, which was established with Perle's help as the new U.S.-Turkish lobby group. She is part of Perle's Young Turk apparatus and a leading advocate of Turkish-Israeli relations. She also has written for the Jerusalem Center for Public Affairs, which is headed by Dore Gold, the advisor to Bibi Netanyahu.

The AK Group International's representative in the United States is Phyllis Kaminsky, who serves with Gaffney's Center for Security Policy, and is associated with the right-wing Jewish Institute for National Security Affairs. The AK Group's representative in Israel is Avi Kalstein, a member of the extreme right wing of the Likud, who in 1999 was the press spokesman for Defense Minister Moshe Arens. The latter virtually created Netanyahu in the 1980s, when he took him out

of the Philadelphia furniture store where he worked as a salesman, and made him Israel's press spokesman at the United Nations.

Another key element in Perle's apparatus is the neocon Hudson Institute. The above-mentioned article by the Institute's Zeyno Baran, laments the Turkish court's final decision not to ban the AKP, expresses disappointment at the fact that the U.S. government and the European Union hailed the decision of the Constitutional Court, and then describes the Ergenekon investigation as nothing more than AKP state-sponsored harassment of the opposition.

Baran also expresses outrage at the citation of Cheney in the indictment, and defends the "leading opposition paper *Cumhuriyet*" and its editors. Her defense of *Cumhuriyet* is significant, because it is a leading mouthpiece of what the Turkish media have dubbed the "neo-nationalist" movement. Although it was founded in 1923 as the press organ of Ataturk's Republican movement, the paper has dropped its Kemalist ideology and embraced that of Tallet Pashe, one of the principal Young Turks who overthrew Sultán Abdul Hamid II in 1908.

Baran, a Turkish American, is the wife of Matthew J. Bryza, who has been Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for European and Eurasian Affairs since June 2005. A career diplomat, Bryza has been busy in a region stretching from Turkey and the Caucasus into Central Asia, including the hot spots of South Ossetia and Abkhazia. He has also been involved in the gas pipeline geopolitics that have destabilized the area since the collapse of the Soviet Union. Bryza is a frequent speaker at the Hudson Institute.

Also of note, is the fact that Gen. Suka Tanyeri, director of the General Staff's Strategic Research and Study Center in Turkey, has been forced into retirement at this year's annual promotions conference. The Turkish press has reported that one reason for his retirement might be his attendance at the closed-door session at the Hudson Institute in June 2007, where wild scenarios were put forward on how Turkey could be destabilized. This event caused an uproar in Turkey, because it took place during the election campaign that year.

One of the scenarios discussed at the Hudson Institute meeting was that two terrorist bomb attacks would occur, one of them in Istanbul, which would kill 50 people. The bombings were to be attributed to the ter-

rorist Kurdish Workers Party (PKK), which would then become the trigger for a Turkish invasion of Iraq. Note that last month, two bombs did go off, in the middle of the Ergenekon indictment controversy and the deliberation by the Constitutional Court on whether to declare the AKP illegal. One bombing occurred in Istanbul, followed the next day by a bombing in Kirkuk, in northern Iraq, where there is an ethnic Turkman population. The bombings fueled speculation that they were connected with the aim of creating a Turkish-Kurdish conflict in Iraq, at a time when Turkey and Iraq have improved both economic and political relations.

### **Don't Forget the Queen**

It should not be forgotten that Ergenekon and the neocons are not working for Turkish, Israeli, or even American interests, but for the London-centered Anglo-Dutch financial oligarchy. A direct British hand in Turkish affairs was reflected in the state visit by Queen Elizabeth to Turkey last May. There were many nice statements of mutual support, with Britain promising to promote Turkey's entry into the European Union.

In her speech during the state banquet, the Queen referred to her last official visit, 37 years before, in 1971. Of course, she did not mention that that was the year of Turkey's second military coup. The Queen could have also mentioned her first visit to Turkey, in early 1961, a few months after the military coup of 1960. The Queen was, in fact, the first head of state visit to Turkey after the coup, signalling full approval of the military junta that took power at that time.

The leader of that coup was not Gen. Cemal Güsel, who would later become President, but Col. Alparslan Türkeş, who in 1944, was suspended from the military for his Young Turk-inspired rabid Pan-Turkism. Türkeş would eventually be forced into retirement and later form the notorious Grey Wolves. Many sources claim that Türkeş was the founder of the Turkish Gladio network.

No one should be fooled by these British overtures. It is clear that Turkey's policy of putting itself forward as a peace mediator throughout the region—especially between Israel and Syria, between Iran and the Western powers on the nuclear issue, and in Iraq—is in sharp conflict with British policy.