## **EIRInternational**

## Terrorist attacks launch Sharon's election campaign

by Joseph Brewda

The simultaneous Dec. 27 suicide commando attacks on Israeli El Al airline ticket counters at Rome's and Vienna's international airports, signals a new phase in the Soviet terror offensive in Europe and the Middle East. According to informed sources, this new terror offensive will go into high gear around the time of the Soviet 27th Communist Party Congress in February, during which a broad array of operations directed at crushing U.S. influence in Europe, the Middle East, and Asia will be launched.

Among these operations is the catapulting of Israeli strongman and Soviet agent Ariel Sharon into power in Israel. Sharon's drive to power has, of course, received convenient aid from the late December terrorist attacks, and the destablization of the Peres government they have triggered.

At 9:00 on the morning of Dec. 27, five or six terrorists, allegedly of the Abu Nidal organization, opened fire with machine guns and hand-grenades on an Israeli El Al airline counter at Rome airport, shooting and killing at random. Three of the terrorists were killed by Italian police and Israeli officals, and two arrested. At precisely 9:03 that same morning, three terrorists lobbed three hand-grenades at the El Al counter in Vienna airport. Austrian police stopped the fleeing terrorists 10 kilometers from the airport, wounding two and killing the third. As a result of the assaults, 15 civilians were killed and 120 wounded.

Immediately following these obviously coordinated attacks, Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres warned that Israel would retaliate, lying that the "PLO is the chief terrorist organization," and Abu Nidal "one of the PLO offspring." Libya, Syria, and Iran have been identified as potential targets of vengance, while Libya's Quaddafi warns of war "tit for tat," if any retaliation occurs.

Despite the huffing and puffing of Peres, Sharon, and

other Israeli clowns, there is a growing recognition in the United States and internationally that the Abu Nidal organization responsible for the attacks is under the effective control of Israeli intelligence—particularly the faction associated with Sharon and his flunky, "Dirty Rafi" Eytan. Reflecting this growing realization, even the Washington Post, normally a KGB and Mossad mouthpiece, stated that a large section of the Abu Nidal organization is under the control of a "rightwing faction of Israeli intelligence."

After all, what can one say of an alleged anti-Israeli terrorist, Abu Nidal, whose West Bank family derives its income from Israeli government concessions, and who maintains at least two Mossad agents on his executive committee? For at least the last several years, Abu Nidal's targets have been primarily PLO moderate leaders hated by Moscow and Jerusalem for converging reasons. The mere existence of these moderate leaders discredits the Israeli lie that the PLO is a terrorist organization.

While it is not even clear that Abu Nidal is still alive, or merely serves as a "Carlos"-style semi-mythical figure around which media terror-tales are spun, it is clear how this network functions. According to Israeli sources, since 1959, Israel has maintained a company-strength unit within the Mossad composed exclusively of Palestinians who are Israeli citizens and agents. This covert unit is deployed either to interface existing Mossad-linked Arab terrorist organizations in carrying out atrocities, or to perform terrorist acts themselves, for attribution to others.

This Israeli-orchestrated terrorism has several purposes, not the least of which are included features of Israeli election campaigns.

The Soviets' Sharon option

There are three primary reasons why Ariel Sharon would

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have been up to his neck in the Rome and Vienna atrocities.

The first and foremost is simply that Ariel Sharon is a Soviet agent, and has been such since at least 1981. According to Israeli intelligence reports, on his return from his trip to Argentina and New York City in December, Sharon made a secret excursion into Eastern Europe for four days, to receive his marching orders. Upon his return to Israel, Sharon reportedly boasted that he had now become the Soviets' favorite candidate for Israeli head of state.

At these meetings, Sharon was reportedly instructed to push for a limited war with Syria-which current terrorist events are intended to facilitate. Soviet strategic planners are presently inclined towards such a controlled confrontation as a means of formalizing a Soviet-negotiated Greater Syria/ Greater Israel division of the Middle East. The Soviet-sponsored peace following this limited war would leave both a radicalized, Sharon-dominated Israel and a weakened Syria, more deeply dependent on Soviet power.

Sharon was also reportedly told by Moscow to put an Israeli-sponsored assassination plot against Egyptian President Mubarak into motion. Mubarak is viewed by the Soviets as a major obstacle to their efforts to seize direction of Middle East and North African affairs.

In the immediate aftermath of the Rome and Vienna atrocities, Sharon reportedly, insistently demanded that Israeli response to the incidents not be guided by those U.S. factions who would have Israel strike Libya or Iran. Rather, he pressed for operations against Syrian installations in the Bekaa valley in Lebanon or against the PLO. Such a move in Lebanon would greatly assist preparations for the Syrian-Israeli limited war option.

The second major reason for Sharon's "Abu Nidal" offensive has been to divert attention from the still potentially explosive Jonathan Jay Pollard spy affair. Pollard has been proven an agent of a Mossad network run by Rafi Eytan, Ariel Sharon's former campaign manager and years-long underling. Eytan, not accidently, is a specialist in terrorism, and has fielded Mossad assassination teams since at least the 1960s—including murders of Arab moderates in Europe.

Since the beginning of Pollard's exposure last month, Soviet and Israeli officals have been worried that a thoroughgoing investigation of the circumstances of Pollard's recruitment and activities would reveal that his ring's activities were directed by the Sharon faction of the Mossad on behalf of the KGB. Increasingly since the implementation of the secret protocols of the 1977 Camp David agreements, the vast Mossad apparatus in the United States, including such organizations as the Anti-Defamation League, have acted on Soviet behalf.

Despite the assistance of the State Department in covering up Sharon's and the Soviets' role in the Pollard case, various factions of U.S. intelligence have acted to cut off Israel from the access to information it previously had.

The Rome/Vienna incidents, however, have again convinced certain fools in the U.S. government that Israeli-U.S. collaboration on counter-terrorism is a U.S. national security priority. These factions still have not understood that the Mossad's allegedly high quality information on Arab terrorism is to the greatest degree derived from the fact that they run much of it.

The third major reason for Sharon's airport operations is simply that Sharon is making a bid for power. According to Soviet estimates, Sharon's only basis for taking power is a climate of anti-Arab hysteria, hysteria of the type triggered by terrorism. A series of atrocities like the El Al shootings will discredit Prime Minister Shimon Peres while whipping up the anti-Arab racism from which Sharon's popular support derives. Although Sharon has increasingly been subject to mounting opposition, not the least because of his exposure in various West bank real-estate scams, a mini-war with Syria represents exactly the situation in which his seizure of power becomes feasible.

Over the past year, Moscow has increasingly emerged as the behind-the-scenes controller of Israeli politics and the manipulator of the petty ambitions of its politicians. The competing factions of Sharon and Peres were each promised they would be first to clinch the long-sought Israeli-Soviet deal whereby Israel would be delivered some 400,000 Jews to populate its expanded territories, in return for doing Moscow's bidding. Although Moscow ultimately prefers Sharon, it appeared that Moscow first, temporarily supported Peres, since the immediate seizure of power by Sharon would still have aroused too much opposition in the United States. However, it seems that Moscow has decided that Peres, typically described by Israelis as a "nebish" and weakling, does not have the capacity to actually deliver the goods. Hence the Sharon card may now be being played.

## The terrorist offensive

Since the Dec. 27 massacres, more than a dozen terrorists have been arrested in Europe for operations related or parallel to those events. Eight Palestinians belonging to Abu Nidal's so-called "Secret Army for the Liberation of Palestine," were arrested in Athens as they planned to attack the PLO offices there. In Brussels, two Palestinians from Athens were arrested on Dec. 28, as they were receiving weapons and explosives from the owner of a video-shop in a suburb of the city. On Dec. 29, a Portuguese and an Egyptian national who had spent a month in Tripoli were arrested in Paris, as they arrived from Madrid. Their aim was to bomb the Rue Copernic synagogue, which had been bombed three years ago. On Dec. 31, three Libyans who had been caught several weeks ago by Spanish authorities planning the murder of a Libyan opposition figure, were expelled from the country.

Meanwhile, more than 300 suicide commandos have been activated for operations in the Middle East and Europe, according to Italian intelligence, in the aftermath of the airport shoot-outs. Some 35 have been chosen for operations akin to those of Rome and Vienna and may be already in Europe, according to reports.

Sharon's Russian-sponsored election campaign is in full swing.