Terrorist funder Moskowitz threatens Middle East peace

by Harley Schlanger

As the Clinton administration struggles to keep the peace process alive in the Middle East, one of the problems that President Bill Clinton is running into, and that must be rooted out, is a network that has made deep inroads into the United States.

In April 1994, the LaRouche Exploratory Committee, the official committee for Lyndon LaRouche's 1996 Presidential campaign, released a White Paper, "Assault on the Presidency!" The report, issued in response to the escalation of attacks against President Bill Clinton, documented that the vicious assault against Clinton originated from the highest levels of the British oligarchy. In particular, the report detailed the role of the Hollinger Corp., which includes on its various boards the likes of longtime British asset Sir Henry Kissinger, and Baroness Margaret Thatcher, and among its newspapers the London *Daily Telegraph* and the *Jerusalem Post*.

Coinciding with this escalation against Clinton was a coordinated effort to destroy the prospects for peace between Israel and the Palestinians. These prospects, the result of a partnership forged between Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, his Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, and Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat, centered around the Oslo Accords, and were cemented by a handshake in September 1993 in Washington, D.C. President Clinton, who presided over that gathering, had played a key role in bringing them together. Among the principal opponents of the peace process were the same board members of the Hollinger Corp. who were running the slander campaign against Clinton.

The peace process was shaken when, on Feb. 25, 1994, Baruch Goldstein, a Jewish terrorist from the fascist networks of Rabbi Meir Kahane, opened fire on Muslim worshippers at the Cave of the Patriarchs mosque in Hebron, killing more than 30 people. The White Paper described, in detail, how peace in the Middle East was contrary to the interests of the British Empire, and threatened its long-term operations in the region. It provided a dossier which demonstrated that the very same interests and individuals involved in the campaign against Clinton were engaged actively against the peace agreement in the Middle East. They were funding terrorists from Kahane-linked organizations, while building a climate of hate against Rabin and pro-peace Israelis through the *Jerusalem Post* and other outlets. This climate nurtured the environment from which Rabin's assassin emerged.

One of the individuals deployed on their behalf was Dr. Irving I. Moskowitz of Miami, Florida.

Who is Irving Moskowitz?

Described in his official bio as a retired doctor and "philanthropist," Irving Moskowitz is a major funder of terrorists committed to creating a "Greater Israel" over the dead bodies of Arabs and Jews. Working closely with Israel's Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, Moskowitz's so-called charitable contributions repeatedly have provoked the most deadly rioting since the Oslo Accords were signed.

Moskowitz, like Kahane and Netanyahu, is a follower of Vladimir Jabotinsky, the founder of the "Revisionist Movement" in Zionism. Jabotinsky—whose operation was run from the start by British intelligence—spawned in Israel the terrorist movements Irgun and the Stern gang. His admiration for the methods of Mussolini's squadristi and Hitler's SS, which were employed by these terrorist gangs, earned him the name "Vladimir Hitler" from Israel's Founding Father, David Ben Gurion.

Since the early 1980s, Moskowitz has been a bagman for the movements in Israel associated with the Jabotinskyite terrorists and allied religious extremists. The most prominent of these is the Ateret Cohanim Yeshiva, founded in 1978 by disciples of Rabbi Zvi Yehuda Kook. The primary, stated purpose of Ateret Cohanim is to train rabbis to preside over the new, third Temple of Solomon. The not-so-private agenda of the operatives of Ateret Cohanim is to destroy the Al Aqsa mosque and the Dome of the Rock mosque at the Haram Al-Sharif—both of which are holy sites to Muslims—to make room for this third temple, to be constructed on the ruins of the mosques.

Between 1980 and 1984, Israeli security officials foiled several attempts by Ateret Cohanim faithful and members of Kahane's Jewish Defense League to blow up the Al Aqsa mosque. The preemptive actions by security officials prevented acts which would have triggered violent reactions by Muslims.

Coordinated with these direct terrorist efforts was the founding of the Jerusalem Reclamation Project by one of Kook's protégés. Its purpose is to purchase land in the Arab quarter of Jerusalem, as part of an "ethnic cleansing" operation similar to that of another British operative, the indicted

56 National EIR September 5, 1997

Serbian war criminal Radovan Karadzic, who conducted a campaign of genocide against the people of Bosnia on behalf of British interests.

In 1984, Moskowitz founded the American Friends of Ateret Cohanim, to increase the funds available for both the terrorist operations and the ethnic cleansing.

Moskowitz targets Jerusalem

The cash flow available to Moskowitz dramatically increased in 1988 following the decision of the town of Hawaiian Gardens, California, which is incorporated in Los Angeles County, to turn over the local Bingo Club to the Irving I. Moskowitz Foundation. By 1991, the club was generating \$33 million a year in proceeds. Of that sum, Moskowitz returned a mere \$360,000 to the city. After deducting operating expenses and prize money, the reported profit was \$1.5 million, which was disbursed by Moskowitz to "charities" of his choice. The profit rose to \$4.3 million by 1994, and to more than \$6 million by 1995.

(Law enforcement officials consulted for this story told *EIR* that they believe the cash flow is as much as three times greater than what Moskowitz reports. They add that there are ongoing investigations by local and Federal agencies into charges of money laundering, and an Internal Revenue Service investigation is under way, looking into various tax scams run by the Club.)

This increased cash flow allowed Moskowitz to be much more aggressive in land purchases in Jerusalem. With funds from Moskowitz, Ateret Cohanim, working through several fronts, has been purchasing land and homes from Arabs in East Jerusalem. Journalist Peter Hirschberg described how this process works in the Oct. 31, 1996 issue of the Israeli magazine *The Jerusalem Report*. He writes, "There's nothing amateurish in the way Ateret Cohanim goes about settling Jews in East Jerusalem, home to about 150,000 Arabs. With the aid of state funds and donations from religious American Jews, Ateret Cohanim and similar groups use secretive, sometimes legally questionable means to scoop up Arab homes."

Hirschberg describes how Ateret Cohanim and sister organizations, such as the Elad settlement organization, which is also funded by Moskowitz, escalated after the election of Netanyahu. In several cases, the land seizures were done with muscle from private security groups, enforcing dubious legal papers. "Each property acquisition establishes a new Jewish beachhead in the Muslim quarter—requiring a security presence, further buttressing the Jewish hold."

And each such action is a further provocation to the Palestinians, violating in effect the agreement to postpone decisions on Jerusalem until the final phase of the Oslo Accords.

Moskowitz has been at the center of two of the most recent, serious provocations. On Sept. 24, 1996, the opening of the Hasmonean tunnel near Temple Mount triggered violent rioting, which left at least 75 Israelis and Palestinians dead.

The night before, Moskowitz was one of a small group of VIPs given a private tour of the tunnel, and his name appears prominently on the donor's plaque at the entrance. The *Orange County Register* suggested the opening was a "political payoff" by Netanyahu to Moskowitz and the other wealthy Americans who financed his campaign.

The "charitable" funder of terrorism Moskowitz was again in the news in July 1997, when the City of Jerusalem granted him a permit to construct apartment buildings in the midst of the all-Arab neighborhood of Ras al-Amud. The housing was to be built for members of Ateret Cohanim. Though Netanyahu, already under significant pressure from the Clinton administration for his decision to push through construction at the disputed site of Har Homa, announced he opposed this project, and the Interior Ministry suspended the permit on July 28, Moskowitz has appealed the decision. In a raving commentary in the Los Angeles Times on July 30 defending his actions, Moskowitz went so far as to claim that any effort by the government to halt his ethnic cleansing "is to countenance racism at its worst." He concludes this piece by exposing his real intentions, writing that "even the price of peace must have its limits, and Jerusalem's [peace] cannot be purchased at the cost of its physical integrity," i.e., he has the right to drive Arabs out of Jerusalem.

Executive Order 12947

Following a suicide bombing in Jerusalem on Jan. 22, 1995, President Clinton issued Executive Order 12947, designed to prevent funds raised in the United States from being used for terrorism in the Middle East. The President said, "I have authorized these measures in response to recurrent threats of international terrorism that threaten to disrupt the Middle East peace process." At that time, the order was invoked to freeze the funds of 12 groups, both Arab and Jewish, which were engaging in terrorism with funds raised in the United States. Among the Palestinian groups cited were the Abu Nidal organization and Hezbollah; the Jewish groups included Kach and Kahane Chai, terrorist groups associated with Rabbi Meir Kahane.

With the threat to peace posed by the repeated provocations of Moskowitz, the time has come to apply Executive Order 12947 to his operation. Michel Shehadeh, the regional director in Los Angeles of the Arab-American Anti-Discrimination Committee, issued the following statement: "There has often been a double standard applied to the Middle East. The President's order regarding funding of terrorism should be applied to Moskowitz. His actions threaten to sabotage the peace process, and that is what the Executive Order was issued to address."

There is ample evidence for the Department of Justice to move against Moskowitz under the Executive Order. He has functioned openly, with the arrogance of one who assumes he will be protected. If he is not stopped, he and his messianic friends are prepared to launch a new Arab-Israeli war.