New Revelations Are Warning Bush: Go Back!

by Muriel Mirak-Weissbach

On Sept. 11 at 9:15 a.m. EDT, hours before the U.S. media began shouting "bin Laden" and "Afghanistan," Lyndon LaRouche in a radio interview warned against precisely this cover story; LaRouche pointed to a dangerous move by "the other side," those circles who wanted to drive the United States into religious warfare against the Islamic world. LaRouche immediately characterized the deadly attacks as beginning a "covert strategic operation" against the United States. As he warned, the destabilized Bush Administration was then pushed into a war campaign against Afghanistan which is failing; and is now being urged toward "flight forward" attacks on Iraq, Syria, Iran, etc. with an out-of-control Israeli "breakaway ally."

In late October, in an attempt to push the White House back from the brink, worried European circles have now caused major revelations, challenging this "cover story," to appear in the press there. They came after LaRouche's warnings had become known and discussed worldwide, and when LaRouche himself was publicly telling the President to quit Afghanistan and rebuild the "home front"—fix the economy, order a public health mobilization, resolve the Israeli-Palestinian war.

The succession of "bombshell" articles in Europe have pointed toward fundamental contradictions in the cover story of Sept. 11:

- That the deadly war actions of Sept. 11, not to mention the following anthrax attacks, exceeded the capabilities of the terrorist networks that have been charged with them;
- That the names and activities of the terrorists seem clearly to have been known to the FBI and other intelligence agencies long before the attacks;
- That United States intelligence and security agencies not only knew the al-Qaeda networks, but were—and still are—providing them cover and support for their operations in the Balkans, inside the Kosovo Liberation Army and other "ethnic Albanian guerrilla formations";
- Most shockingly, in the report that U.S. intelligence agencies remained in contact with the notorious Osama bin Laden himself, only weeks prior to Sept. 11.

The importance of these explosive, now widely publicized leaks, is more than the ostensible "new facts" themselves. They express the fear among the United States' Euro-

pean allies: that the connections between U.S., British, and Israeli security agencies and the al-Qaeda and other "Afghansi" terrorists, point to Sept. 11 itself as the opening action of a coup d'état by rogue forces within the United States, in the midst of a spreading worldwide economic collapse.

As the failing war in Afghanistan entered its fourth week, it was clear to leading European, including Russian, elites, that the operation was heading toward catastrophe, militarily and politically. It was at this point that leading European circles arranged to leak crucial material into the establishment press, throwing a monkey wrench into the operation.

Bin Laden And The CIA

On Oct. 31, the French Radio France Internationale, and the leading daily, Le Figaro, reported that bin Laden himself had been contacted by an agent of the CIA in July, while undergoing treatment for a kidney ailment, in the American Hospital in Dubai. The report by Le Figaro, under the banner headline, "July 2001: Bin Laden Meets The CIA In Dubai," said that the man who had become "public enemy number one" had arrived in Dubai from Quetta, Pakistan on July 4, and been taken directly to the hospital. He was "accompanied by his personal physician and loyal lieutenant, who would have been the Egyptian Ayman al-Zawahari, four bodyguards, as well as an Algerian nurse." While there, he reportedly received visits from family members, and, the "local CIA agent," whom Radio France Internationale the following day identified as one Larry Mitchell. Mitchell visited him on July 12, boasted about the encounter to friends, and then was recalled to Washington on July 15, one day after bin Laden's departure from Dubai.

Le Figaro went on: "Fifteen days later, the U.A.E. [United Arab Emirates] customs officials arrested a Franco-Algerian Islamist activist, at the Dubai airport, named Djamel Beghal. The French and American authorities were alerted. Interrogated in Abu Dhabi, Beghal said that he had been summoned to Afghanistan at the end of 2000, by Abu Zoubeida—a military official of the bin Laden organization, al-Qaeda. Beghal's mission: to blow up the American Embassy in Paris." Citing "Arab diplomatic sources, and French intelligence services," Le Figaro said, "Very precise information was communicated to the CIA, regarding terrorist attacks against American interests in the world and in the States. A report from the DST [French intelligence agency] of Sept. 7, collected this information, specifying that the order to act would come from Afghanistan."

In an accompanying piece, *Le Figaro* summarized the history of contacts between bin Laden and the CIA, from 1979. Most significant was detailed information, that the FBI, "investigating the August 1998 attacks against the U.S. Embassies in Nairobi [Kenya] and Dar es Salaam [Tanzania]," had "discovered that the traces left by the explosions came from a military explosive of the U.S. Army, and that this

52 International EIR November 9, 2001

explosive had been delivered three years earlier to Arab Afghansis, the famous international volunteer brigades, engaged with Osama bin Laden during the Afghan war against the Soviet army." *Le Figaro* noted, "Following their investigations, the FBI discovered 'structures' that the CIA had developed with its 'Islamist friends' for years. The meeting in Dubai, therefore, is nothing but the logical followup of a 'certain American policy.'"

This news reverberated Oct. 31 throughout the European media, despite a ritual denial by the CIA ("utter nonsense") and by the American Hospital in Dubai. A Trilateral Commission source told *EIR* the revelations were not just a French, but a continental European message to the Anglo-Americans, about the anger and frustration over the ongoing war in Afghanistan; and, more broadly, over the entire pattern of Anglo-American actions before and after Sept. 11. The *Le Figaro* articles, which were causing "a big sensation in France," he said, were "not an isolated event." He referred to the European Union foreign ministers' meeting "where questions were raised, about how this campaign is being led," about the entire cover story about bin Laden, and about what really occurred on Sept. 11.

One Leak Leads To Another

Le Figaro's intervention was the high point, thus far, of a subtle campaign orchestrated through the press, to pull the cover story apart, piece by piece. On Oct. 23, the Danish paper Ekstra Bladet ran an article by Kenan Seeberg, reporting that it had accidentally obtained a confidential list of 370 persons whom the FBI suspects of complicity in the Sept. 11 attacks. These names and the included information—pseudonyms, addresses, phone numbers, and e-mail addresses - the paper showed to former U.S. National Security Agency (NSA) agent Wayne Madsen. Madsen judged that some of the individuals had to have been under long-term surveillance by security agencies, which knew a significant amount about their activities. He noted that there were indeed clues and leads, but these leads were not followed up; most probably, they were suppressed. Ekstra Bladet also interviewed Fred Stock, from the former Canadian Communications Security Establishment (CSE), the Canadian counterpart to the National Security Agency. Stock said that a photo of alleged hijack leader Mohammad Atta, seen on CNN, had been "hanging on the wall of CSE headquarters all the way back in 1993."

At the same time, Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, who had gone on record several times, questioning the credibility of the report that the alleged hijackers had piloted the planes themselves, intervened again in the week of Oct. 25-31, in an interview with the *Al Ahram* weekly. The pilots allegedly performed feats worthy of being recorded in flight history books, but had little training or qualifications. "I find it hard to believe," said Mubarak (an experienced pilot himself), "that people who were learning to fly in Florida

could, within a year and a half, fly large commercial airliners and accurately hit the towers of the World Trade Center which would appear, to the pilot from the air, the size of a pencil. Only a professional pilot could carry out this mission, not someone who learned to fly over 18 months in Florida. For your information, a license to fly commercial planes has many conditions, in terms of study and training. Many hours of flying are needed to qualify as a co-pilot, let alone a pilot, of such planes."

Mubarak also lashed out at countries harboring terrorists, singling out Britain. "I told Western leaders: If you protect terrorists who escape from their own countries, the day will come when they will turn against you. The West had thought that the problem of terrorism was limited to Egypt and Algeria. I called repeatedly for an international conference to combat terrorism, but those calls fell on deaf ears. Some Western capitals continued to grant asylum to terrorists under the pretext of upholding human rights." Mubarak confirmed to the interviewer that he referred to London above all

The question of U.S. and U.K. complicity with the bin Laden networks, was featured in an Oct. 25 article in the Swiss financial daily, Neue Zürcher Zeitung. The newspaper reported on the many activities of al-Qaeda activists, in, among other places, the United Kingdom and NATO-occupied Kosovo. After reviewing the early history of the Egyptian "Jihad" branch of al-Qaeda, which organized the Oct. 6, 1981 murder of Egypt's President Anwar Sadat, and the "career" of a brother of bin Laden's lieutenant, Ayman al-Zawahiri, Neue Zürcher Zeitung wrote: "According to Egyptian and French secret services, bin Laden, who has been a guest of the Taliban, along with many other wanted Islamists, brought, in the late 1990s, 500 Arab mujahideen to [Albania's capital] Tirana. They are reported to have fought side by side with the KLA in Kosovo, and to have been involved in the most brutal acts of revenge against Serbian civilians." The implication is, that al-Qaeda and NATO fought side by side in Kosovo. Many other articles throughout Europe since Oct. 20, report that this is now true in neighboring Macedonia as well. (Further details on the "Kosovo track" appear in an article in this section.)

Of Islamic terrorists' operating in London, *Neue Zürcher Zeitung* wrote: "Several Egyptian Islamists found refuge in Great Britain. Al-Zawahiri reportedly lived for a while in bin Laden's villa in the north of London, in the 1990s. Some Islamists did not merely stay for a short time, but also asked for asylum. Between 1993 and 1999, seven of the most wanted members of Jihad and the Jamaa were granted asylum in Great Britain; . . . Yasir as-Sirri, who was sentenced to death twice in Egypt, directed, without interference, the Islamic Media Monitor Center."

The unprecedented series of press leaks, has created a situation in which certain fundamental contradictions in the official "bin Laden" line, cannot be ignored.

EIR November 9, 2001 International 53