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Opposition to 'Osama Did It': Impact of LaRouche's Thesis

by Paul Gallagher

With what Lyndon LaRouche called "the policies of Sept. 11" now the subject of increasing American debate over what to do next, a growing number of leading observers around the world are publicly challenging the "Osama did it" story underlying those policies so far.

There is only one problem with the Osama explanation: No matter how uniformly media and governments repeat it, swear to it, and add more and more tertiary details to it, it nonetheless couldn't have happened that way. The security, intelligence, and military-air command services of the United States could not have slept innocently while an assortment of Islamic militants—of the type monitored intensively in the United States by security services for a decade—carried out a *much-warned of* precision airborne attack on critical American sites, which the Soviet special services, in their heyday, could not have attempted.

Using the official media fairy-story of Sept. 11 as their touchstone, the powerful faction typified by Zbigniew Brzezinski is pushing for the imperial elimination of national sovereignty all over the world, and the Sharon government in Israel is pushing for general religious war in the Mideast. So, the growing opposition to the "Osama bin Laden did it" line is important. The rallying-point for this opposition has been the international activities, statements, and analyses of Lyndon LaRouche since September, including his authoritative "Zbigniew Brzezinski and September 11," published on Jan. 11 by *EIR*.

From Africa to Europe

Former South African resistance leader and President, Nelson Mandela, announced a high-profile and deeply considered "about-face on bin Laden," reported first on South Africa's News24 television on New Year's Day. Mandela repudiated and apologized for his former, controversial statement holding Osama bin Laden and al-Qaeda responsible for the attacks, as "one-sided and over-stated." He said he would be arranging meetings with Muslim leaders in South Africa to personally convey this message—called by News24 a "highly unusual" reversal of view by the most widely respected of African leaders. "We are also writing to President Bush," Mandela announced, "to appropriately qualify the view we previously expressed to him in person and in correspondence."

Former South African President Nelson Mandela was among the leading voices which, during the first weeks of the new year, rejected the "Osama bin Laden did it" cover-story for the Sept. 11 irregular-war attacks in the United States.

In another African power, Egypt, the rejection of the official Sept. 11 story by President Hosni Mubarak (an experienced military pilot) is a view shared by much of Egypt's population. On Jan. 5, the University of Cairo's Center for Asian Studies held a seminar on "Who Committed the Sept. 11 Attacks, and Why?" The Center's director, Prof. Mohammed Selim, introduced Muriel Mirak-Weissbach of *EIR*'s Wiesbaden bureau as the featured speaker. She presented Lyndon LaRouche's analysis that the attacks constituted an

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attempted coup d'état against the U.S. government, involving rogue elements of the American military and security apparatus who share the view of Brzezinski's circles. Mrs. Mirak-Weissbach stressed the desperate need to get "imperial control" over an uncontrollable global *economic* breakdown, as the motivation of the coup's powerful backers.

At the same Cairo conference, an important analysis was put forward by Brig. Gen. Dr. Mahmoud Khalaf of Egypt's Higher Military Academy; he is also a fellow of the British Royal Institute for Home Defense and member of the Scientific Association of the U.S. Army.

General Khalaf said that in the Sept. 11 attacks, "we are confronted with a technical operation of extremely great dimensions. We estimate that the planning organ for this operation must have consisted of at least 100 specialized technicians, who needed one year for planning. Each stage of this operation has many details, and every single technical detail needs measures, which are called 'deception,' and camouflaging, against around ten specialized organs in the United States which are called the 'Intelligence Community.' We will not say the CIA, but we will say the DIA, which is the Defense Intelligence Agency. The DIA has highly qualified technical capability. . . . I will not exaggerate and say it can monitor every single square meter of the planet audio-visually at any moment—[and] the agency called the National Security Agency. . . . Yes, there was a penetration of the security system and the U.S. Armed Forces."

General Khalaf presented to the conference a detailed, virtually minute-by-minute military expert's analysis of the attacks; he emphasized the contradiction between the great confusion and inaction of the U.S. military and security services for hours, that fact that President Bush could not return to Washington, and that the Executive could not clearly characterize *what* was happening; and the fact that *who* had presumably done it—Osama bin Laden—was nevertheless being announced everywhere within less than two hours.

Other Egyptian experts concurred, and a former Foreign Minister reported meeting, in Canada, with senior European bankers in September, who told him they believed "Americans" had done the attacks "because of the economic crisis prior to Sept. 11."

But an even more forceful rejection of the official "Osama" story came from a senior figure in Germany's establishment, Andreas von Bülow.

Intelligence Professional: 'Brzezinski, the Mad Dog'

Von Bülow's statements were highlighted in an interview, entitled "What Did The Insider Know?" in the German daily *Tagesspiegel* on Jan. 13. The newspaper, while argumentatively disagreeing with him, made clear that von Bülow was "already in the 1970s State Secretary in the [German] Defense Ministry; in 1993 you were the Social Democratic Party speaker in the Schalck-Golodkowski investigation committee"—the German version of the Iran-Contra investigation, and far more serious and sensitive than that conducted by the U.S. Senate. This investigation required von Búlow to know about the operations of intelligence services of the United States, as well as Western and Eastern Europe.

Said von Bülow of Sept. 11: "With the help of the horrifying attacks, the Western mass democracies were subjected to brainwashing. The enemy image of anti-communism doesn't work anymore; it is to be replaced by peoples of Islamic belief. They are accused of having given birth to suicidal terrorism." Challenged on his use of the term "brainwashing," he added: "The idea of the enemy image doesn't come from me. It comes from Zbigniew Brzezinski and Samuel Huntington, two policymakers of American intelligence and foreign policy. Already in the middle of the 1990s, Huntington believed, people in Europe and the United States needed someone they could hate—this would strengthen their identification with their own society. And Brzezinski, the mad dog, as adviser to President Jimmy Carter, campaigned for the exclusive right of the U.S. to seize all the raw materials of the world, especially oil and gas."

The events of Sept. 11, von Bülow told *Tagesspiegel*, "fit perfectly in the concept of the armaments industry, the intelligence agencies, the whole military-industrial-academic complex. This is in fact conspicuous. The huge raw materials reserves of the former Soviet Union are now at their disposal, also the pipeline routes. . . .

"I can state," he said of the planned irregular warfare attacks on the World Trade Center, Pentagon, and perhaps the White House, "the planning of the attacks was technically and organizationally a master achievement. To hijack four huge airplanes within a few minutes, and within one hour, to drive them into their targets, with complicated flight maneuvers! This is unthinkable, without years-long support from secret apparatuses of the state and industry."

Von Bülow concluded on this point by insisting, "I know a lot of people, including very influential ones, who agree with me, but only in whispers, never publicly." This includes not only the Social Democratic Party circles of former federal Chancellor Helmut Schmidt, who share von Bülow's assessment of what Brzezinski represents.

'Search for the Truth'

Such circles' assessment of the "policies of Sept. 11" is worth quoting from the same interview with von Bülow:

Tagesspiegel: How did you get the idea that there could be a link between the attacks and the American intelligence agencies?
Von Bülow: Do you remember the first attack on the World Trade Center in 1993?

Tagesspiegel: Six people were killed, and over a thousand wounded, by a bomb explosion.
Von Bülow: In the middle was the bomb-maker, a former Egyptian officer. He had pulled together some Muslims for

Former German State Secretary of Defense Andreas von Bülow described Zbigniew Brzezinski as "that mad dog," in a Jan. 13 interview rejecting the official versions and policies of Sept. 11.

the attack. They were snuck into the country by the CIA, despite a State Department ban on their entry. At the same time, the leader of the band was an FBI informant. And he made a deal with the authorities: At the last minute, the dangerous explosive material would be replaced by a harmless powder. The FBI did not stick to the deal. The bomb exploded, so to speak with the knowledge of the FBI. The official story of the crime was quickly found: The criminals were evil Muslims.

Tagesspiegel: At the time Soviet soldiers marched into Afghanistan, you were in the Cabinet of Helmut Schmidt. What was it like?
Von Bülow: The Americans pushed for trade sanctions, they demanded the boycott of the Olympic games in Moscow. . . . And today we know: It was the strategy of the American security adviser, Zbigniew Brzezinski, to destabilize the Soviet Union from neighboring Muslim countries: They lured the Russians into Afghanistan, and then prepared for them a hell on earth, their Vietnam. With decisive support of the U.S. intelligence agencies, at least 30,000 Muslim fighters were trained in Afghanistan and Pakistan, a bunch of good-for-nothings and fanatics who were, and still are today, ready for anything. And one of them is Osama bin Laden. I wrote years ago: "It was out of this brood, that the Taliban grew up in Afghanistan, who had been brought up in the Koran schools financed by American and Saudi funds, the Taliban who are now terrorizing the country and destroying it. . . .

Tagesspiegel: What do you think of the bin Laden films?
Von Bülow: When one is dealing with intelligence services, one can imagine manipulations of the highest quality. Hollywood could provide these techniques. I consider the videos inappropriate as evidence.

This senior German intelligence professional concluded the interview pungently: "My task is concluded by saying, it could not have been that way [according to the official story]. Search for the truth!"

War Cabal Shifts Its Sights To Iran

by Dean Andromidas

On Jan. 4, the U.S. State Department announced the suspension of funding for the Iraqi National Congress (INC), the organization which hoped to become the "Iraqi Contras" if Saddam Hussein were to become the next target in the "global war against terrorism." The move was a clear signal by the Bush Administration that an attack on Iraq, at least for the moment, has been put on the back burner.

The decision has not deterred the "clash of civilizations" advocates in and around the Bush Administration led by Deputy Secretary of Defense Paul Wolfowitz and his sidekick Richard Perle, the chairman of the Defense Policy Board. They have simply shifted their focus from Iraq to an attack on Iran as the "center of global terrorism." This crew has deployed their ally, Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon, who is now linking his war on the Palestinian Authority with a new war on Iran. Israel is a nuclear power, which has stated publicly and loudly that it sees alleged attempts by Iran to acquire nuclear weapons as a "strategic threat," adding the extremely dangerous nuclear dimension to Sharon's move. It is very possible that Sharon, in a "breakaway ally" mode, would launch a strike against Iran, independently of the United States. Such a strike could target Iran's half-built nuclear power plants, as Israel had done in 1981 against Iraq, or something far worse.

The major opponent in the Bush Administration to this insanity has been Secretary of State Colin Powell. This targetting of Iran comes as the Bush Administration has opened a quiet back-channel with Iran. Nonetheless, the first fruit of Wolfowitz and Perle's campaign was a statement by President George Bush, during a recent press conference. When asked to comment on the absurd story that members of Osama bin Laden's al-Qaeda organization received a welcome in Iran after fleeing Afghanistan, Bush warned Tehran, "Either you are with us or against us."

INC spokesman Sharif Ali bin al-Hussein confirmed that Iraq has been pushed lower down on the list of priority targets, when he said that the suspension of INC funding was "engineered by officials in the Bush Administration who don't want aggressive action against Iraq." He charged that these officials "want to appease Saddam . . . and don't want to take Saddam on as the head of a terrorist state."

The INC is headed by Ahmed Chalabi, an Iraqi "banker" who is wanted in Jordan for his role in a banking scandal in which he was accused of absconding with millions of dollars. The decision to suspend the nearly million dollars a month in