

The Muslim Brotherhood threatens to assassinate President Mubarak

by Nancy Coker

As Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak wound up his tour of the United States and Europe and returned home to open Egypt's Feb. 12-14 summit meeting on national economic policy, the Muslim Brotherhood—the semi-secret fundamentalist sect which the British Foreign Office deploys for terrorist operations, including the assassination of Anwar Sadat—prepared for their next undertaking: the murder of President Mubarak.

“Mubarak did all the wrong things in Washington,” said an Israeli intelligence-linked source with ties to the drug- and gun-running Muslim Brotherhood networks that Mubarak is trying to suppress. “I would not be surprised to see him disappear, like Sadat.”

“The conspiracy in the Egyptian army that killed Sadat will probably get rid of Mubarak before April 25,” said another source. April 25 is the date of the final Israeli withdrawal from the Sinai peninsula.

These are not inconsequential threats. Three weeks before the murder of Sadat, the same intelligence circles had revealed that Israeli Defense Minister Ariel Sharon wanted to eliminate the Egyptian president.

Investigations by *EIR* have identified the on-the-ground coordinators of the operation to assassinate Mubarak. They include the Geneva- and London-based Muslim Brotherhood leaders Said Ramadan and Salem Azzam; Libya- and Syria-based renegade Egyptian general Saad el-Shazli; Syria-backed Palestinian terrorist Abu Nidal and the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine; intelligence services of Israel, Syria, and Britain; and associates of Secretary of State Alexander Haig.

Mubarak's focus: economic development

The haste to do away with Mubarak is because of his commitment to restore the international prestige Egypt had under President Nasser.

During his visit to the United States, Mubarak challenged the Reagan administration to support a program for the industrialization of his country. Economic development possibilities were the chief agenda topic in his meetings with President Reagan.

Mubarak reportedly made two points in his discussions with the American President. First, he is not interested in a continuation of the “open-door” policy

as it was carried out by Sadat under the direction of Henry Kissinger and his bankroller David Rockefeller. In the past month, Mubarak has launched a crackdown on the narcotics trade that operated under the protection of “free zones.”

Second, Mubarak has made it clear that he wants to break the stranglehold of the State Department's Agency for International Development (AID) over U.S. economic assistance to Egypt. The \$900 million AID program in Egypt has deliberately diverted funds from industrial projects to labor-intensive cottage-industry programs and birth control.

The Reagan administration—itself under the domination of Federal Reserve Chairman Paul Volcker's high interest-rate depression—was not receptive to Mubarak's suggestions. And, in asserting Egypt's independence, Mubarak earned the wrath of Henry Kissinger's circles in the State Department and of those Zionist circles in the United States linked with Israel's intelligence service, the Mossad.

While State Department sources note that a slight loosening in the deployment of AID funds was agreed upon, and though the U.S. government in conjunction with Tenneco agreed to a U.S.-Egypt-Sudan food program, no major concrete industrial deals were announced between Washington and Cairo. Nor did Reagan address Egypt's economic concerns.

In imitation of Henry Kissinger, Haig has been working to force Egypt's adherence to the Camp David pact in opposition to the Saudis' Fahd plan, which is based on negotiations for a comprehensive peace settlement based on Arab recognition of the state of Israel in exchange for the creation of a Palestinian state.

Like President Sadat during his last visit to Washington in August 1981, Mubarak called upon Reagan to open a dialogue with the Palestine Liberation Organization and called for the eventual establishment of a “national entity” or “Palestine state.” Israel lost no time in issuing an official statement calling Mubarak's request “a violation of Camp David.”

Mubarak's foreign policy entails a reaffirmation of Egyptian sovereignty. “If the United States is operating on the belief that Egypt is a client state of Washington,

or that we have turned against the Arab world, they are sadly mistaken," said one Egyptian. "We have signaled this to President Reagan. One of the main purposes of President Mubarak's trip here is to undo the sabotage by Mr. Haig of American policy in the Middle East."

According to Arab sources, the Mubarak economic team presented a list of projects that needed U.S. government aid and private funding. "The list included nuclear energy plants, industrial and agricultural projects, irrigation works, infrastructure, and so forth. But they didn't get anything," said one source. "The administration only wanted to talk about military assistance."

Thus, in four days, the Reagan administration soured relations with an important U.S. ally.

Mubarak turns to Europe

In contrast to Reagan, West German Chancellor Schmidt pledged support in his meetings with Mubarak to break the stalemate in Middle East peace talks around the Palestinian issue. Schmidt stated that he supported "Palestinian self-determination" as the aim of the ongoing Palestinian autonomy talks, a position identical to Mubarak's.

West German President Karl Carstens declared, following meetings with Mubarak, that the new Egyptian President's policies are "an essential contribution to the stability of an agitated region so close to us. We are prepared to support you in this policy to the best of our ability." Carstens pledged an increase in German cooperation with Egypt, which, he stated, "is one of the foremost places in the context of our economic cooperation with other lands."

Arab sources report that following his disappointing trip to Washington, Mubarak is looking for a closer working relationship with Europe. "I think the Europeans have a very strong role to play by adding their weight to the solution of problems in the Middle East."

Mubarak's independent posture, combined with his ruthless crackdown on corruption in Egypt, has not endeared him to those who would like to see Egypt transformed totally into a Muslim fundamentalist-dominated drug-trafficking free zone. In the few months since he assumed power, Mubarak has found himself re-assigned to the top of the international terrorist hit list, along with Helmut Schmidt, the Pope, and others.

An examination of the figures involved in the plot against Mubarak reveals the scope of the operation.

At the center is Egyptian Muslim Brotherhood leader Said Ramadan, a Geneva-based terrorist coordinator who operates terrorist safehouses in Switzerland and Austria, and maintains connections to organized crime through gun- and drug-smuggling. Under Ramadan's leadership, Brotherhood leaders from all over the Islamic world gathered together last December in London to plan coordinated action against Mubarak

and other Arab leaders who have rejected the "Khomeini model" for their respective countries. At the beginning of February, Ramadan was singled out by the Egyptian press as a prime enemy of the Mubarak government.

The Brotherhood activated 6,000 fundamentalist demonstrators, mostly Turkish workers, who took to the streets Feb. 6 in Bonn to protest Mubarak's "repression" against "our Muslim brothers."

Working with Ramadan is another long-time Brotherhood leader, Salem Azzam, the Secretary-General of the Islamic Council of Europe, an umbrella organization of Muslim Brotherhood front groups. "Mubarak is just like Sadat," Azzam recently stated.

Azzam has revealed that the newly created Islamic Commission for Human Rights, chaired by former Algerian President Ahmed Ben Bella, in tandem with Amnesty International, plans to increase its campaign against Mubarak. Ben Bella, from his office in Paris, is agitating for Mubarak's release of Muslim Brotherhood leaders in Egypt.

In the weeks following the December meeting of the Muslim Brotherhood in London, the "left-wing" terrorist adjuncts of the Brotherhood were set into motion. The Palestinian terrorist Abu Nidal is reported to be deployed by the Mossad and the Khomeini-allied government of Syria to help overthrow Saddam Hussein of Iraq. At the end of January, Austrian authorities warned that Abu Nidal was also working with terrorist networks in Austria in preparation for a hit against Mubarak. *EIR* has determined that Abu Nidal and the Baader-Meinhof terrorists in Germany together were responsible for the assassination of Heinz Nittel, an associate of Helmut Schmidt, last year in Austria. The arms used in the hit were from a Geneva-based gun-smuggling connection suspected to be Said Ramadan's.

Syria and Shazli

Also involved in the operation against Mubarak is the Israeli intelligence-controlled Syria-based terrorist Saika wing of the PLO, and the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, whose leader George Habbash met on Feb. 1 with Syrian President Assad. Also meeting with Assad on that date was Saad el-Shazli, the Egyptian general based in Libya and Syria who took responsibility for the Sadat assassination. In Italy the press reports that officials investigating the P-2 Freemason scandal have cited Shazli as involved in international drug-trafficking and related terrorist activities.

Egyptian authorities are alert to the operation against Mubarak. Yet, the danger of assassination remains high. Mubarak, however, gives no sign of deviating from the course he has chosen. On Feb. 12, he will address Egypt's national economic summit to renew Egypt's commitment to economic development.