

## Pressure builds on Bush over foreign policy crimes

The “triumph” of George Bush’s presidency, the Persian Gulf war, could prove to be his undoing after all. Pressure is building from at least two directions that could lead to Bush’s impeachment for crimes he and his associates committed in shaping the foreign policy that led to the atrocities still ongoing in Iraq, as well as the crimes previously committed in the invasion of Panama.

In the pages which follow we present *EIR*’s May 11 call for Congress to probe Bush and Kissinger’s roles in the so-called October Surprise scandal; the revelations of former Iranian President Abol Hassan Bani-Sadr; and an interview with attorney Francis Boyle about a tribunal to try Bush for war crimes in Iraq. All of these initiatives lead back to the so-called Iran-Contra scandal, in which the U.S. liberal establishment embodied in Trilateral Commission members Henry Kissinger, Jimmy Carter, and emphatically George Bush, flouted the U.S. Constitution and law, in order to support the Iranian terrorists and the Contra drug-runners in Central America in their murderous sprees. If the scandals produce the political demise of George Bush, that could well mean the best chance for the United States to recover the moral fitness to survive as a nation.

As we go to press, new developments in the trial of Panamanian leader Manuel Noriega are being widely rumored in the media to implicate Bush, as well as to prove that the Panama invasion in 1989, was *also* engineered to further the Iran-Contra policy.

The presidential campaign organization of Lyndon LaRouche, Democrats for Economic Recovery, has announced that it will back the *EIR* investigation call. On May 16, the *Wall Street Journal* reported that Congress will open an official investigation of the October Surprise.

### **EIR calls for probe of October Surprise**

*What follows is the appeal issued by EIR May 11:*

It is high time that the U.S. Congress conduct a full investigation of the “October Surprise” scandal which has again surfaced in recent weeks.

This investigation must not be sidetracked by secondary issues such as whether or not George Bush *personally* participated in meetings designed to delay the release of the hostages until after the November 1980 elections. The central issue is why the Carter administration hostage negotiations broke down in October 1980, and why the release of the American hostages was delayed until moments after the Reagan-Bush inauguration on Jan. 21, 1981. Bush need not have been in Paris to have been involved in the sordid affair.

While recent news coverage—such as the April 15 *New York Times* column by former National Security Council (NSC) official Gary Sick and the April 16 PBS “Frontline” program—has shed some interesting light on the events of the Fall of 1980, the most essential facts are already in the public domain, and are well known. It is not necessary to know whether George Bush was in Paris on Oct. 19, 1980, or to exhume the late William Casey’s body, to get to the bottom of the October Surprise story. The most important participant and witness, Henry A. Kissinger, is still fully available should Congress seek to subpoena him, and, indeed, he could not even claim executive privilege, because he was not a government official at the time.

The active role of Henry Kissinger in the process leading into and accompanying the hostage taking in Teheran, the arms deals with Khomeini, and the eventual hostage release, is of special importance for any competent investigation of

the October Surprise story. Kissinger's role provides a crucial window into the broader forces involved in the American policy debacle in the Middle East over the past two decades.

On May 10, 1982, Kissinger delivered an address before his British Intelligence sponsors at Chatham House (headquarters of the Royal Institute for International Affairs) in which he stated unequivocally that he had been an agent-of-influence of the British Foreign Office while serving two U.S. Presidents between 1969-77. Leading elements of the Kissinger policy of that period bear directly on the Iran hostages and other events shaping U.S. policy towards the region.

The first of these elements is what is known as the Bernard Lewis Plan. This was a British Arab Bureau-designed policy conveyed into the United States during the Kissinger tenure, reflecting British Intelligence's targeting of Iran and the Middle East more broadly for fundamentalist destabilization.

The second crucial policy of the Kissinger tenure which would have direct bearing on the Iran events of the Carter and Reagan-Bush years, centered upon the population issue. Between 1974-77, Henry Kissinger and Gen. Brent Scowcroft authored a series of National Security Council policy memos targeting a number of developing sector countries for population reduction as a matter vital to American "national security." Among the targeted countries named in the Kissinger-Scowcroft NSC documents were Mexico, India, Bangladesh, Pakistan, and Brazil. Iran was indirectly targeted as well. This population reduction policy, taken in tandem with the Bernard Lewis Plan for encouraging the spread of Islamic and other fundamentalist movements, represented an updated version of the Sykes-Picot Treaty of 1916 between Britain and France which targeted the Mideast region as a whole. The flow of arms into the Middle East beginning during the Kissinger era was an integral feature of the overall policy.

Investigators probing details of the October Surprise and related scandals vis-à-vis American policy towards the Mideast should use the Kissinger case and the broader policy design as a critical framework for evaluation. It is essential to understand the fundamentally British policy conduited into Washington via agent-of-influence Kissinger, among others.

### **The investigation per se**

With this background in mind, the essential facts and parameters by which a congressional investigation should be guided, are as follows:

- After the outbreak of the Iran-Iraq War on Sept. 22, 1980, Iran was desperate for spare parts for its U.S.-supplied military equipment. The Carter administration was equally desperate to obtain the release of the hostages in the closing weeks of the 1980 election campaign.
- At the same time, Henry Kissinger was publicly warning that any arms shipments to Iran would be paying "ransom" and George Bush cautioned against any deal involving military supplies, stating that he was opposed to arming terrorist regimes.

*On Dec. 2, 1980, under the headline "Strange Diplomacy in Iran: Henry Kissinger Is Dealing with the Ayatollah Beheshti on behalf of the U.S. Government," EIR reported:*

Former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger, who has spent the two years since the Iranian revolution denouncing Ayatollah Khomeini and presenting himself as the number one defender of the Shah's *ancien régime*, held a series of secret meetings during the week of Nov. 12 in Paris with representatives of Ayatollah Beheshti, leader of the fundamentalist clergy in Iran. . . .

From intelligence sources in Washington, *EIR* has learned that along with Kissinger a number of other individuals have recently been involved in this effort, although, the source stressed, they did not have the approval of Ronald Reagan himself. The persons involved include a pro-Kissinger group drawn from Georgetown University's Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS), including Michael Ledeen, David Abshire, William Hyland and others. In addition, Ledeen and former *Newsweek* chief Arnaud de Borchgrave are reported to have traveled abroad to make contacts with Khomeini's representatives.

From information pieced together from Iranian exile sources and intelligence analysts, it appears that the pattern of cooperation between the Khomeini people and circles nominally in Reagan's camp began approximately six to eight weeks ago, at the height of President Carter's efforts to secure an arms-for-hostages deal with Teheran.

Carter's failure to secure that deal, which a number of observers believe cost him the Nov. 4 election, apparently resulted from an intervention in Teheran by pro-Reagan British intelligence circles and the Kissinger faction. "Remember the walkout of a certain hardline faction of the Iranian clergy?" said one source. "That was no accident. It was orchestrated with the Fedayeen-e Islam by the Reagan people." The walkout postponed the Iranian Majlis's (parliament) acceptance of the Carter offer until it was too late to affect the outcome of the election.

- In late October, the Iranians broke off negotiations with the Carter administration over the hostages. Ayatollah Beheshti, leader of the hard-line fundamentalist faction in the Iranian Majlis (parliament), announced on Oct. 26 that parliamentary debate would be postponed, and that the hostages would not be released until after the U.S. elections.
- On Nov. 5, the day after the elections, Henry Kissinger

announced that there would be no release of the hostages until the inauguration.

- On Nov. 12, 1980, the leading Italian daily *Corriere della Sera* reported that the British secret services had conducted mediation efforts between the Fedayeen-e-Islam (the Muslim Brotherhood) and the Reagan-Bush camp. *EIR* learned that these efforts involved Kissinger and his close associates, including Michael Ledeen, David Abshire, and William Hyland.

- On Jan. 21, 1981, moments after the inauguration of Ronald Reagan and George Bush, Iran released the hostages. Military parts and supplies were already flowing into Iran from Israel, and then also directly from the United States.

These are the essential facts of the "October Surprise" story. It is undeniable, that the fundamentalist mullah faction in Teheran believed that they were better off dealing with the incoming Reagan-Bush administration, than with the Carter administration. The important questions are how and why they came to believe that. Henry Kissinger's widely publicized efforts to insert himself into the middle of the hostage negotiations provide the most obvious clues to the answer.

## **EIR's qualifications**

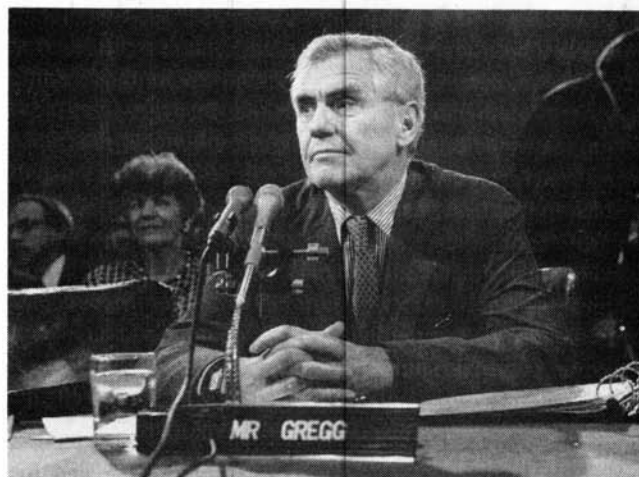
*EIR*, the weekly news magazine founded by Lyndon H. LaRouche, is uniquely qualified to identify the essential parameters and critical leads to this investigation. For over 10 years, *EIR* has investigated and exposed the relationship between British and U.S. intelligence agencies, and the Iranian fundamentalist revolution, and the hostage taking. *EIR* has "scooped" the world's press on reporting both Kissinger's role, and the role of Cyrus Hashemi, the Iranian arms dealer who is now widely reported to have played a key role in these events.

- On Christmas Eve 1979, *EIR* investigators obtained photographic evidence that an Iranian military procurement office, headed by active duty Iranian military officer Capt. Siavash Setudeh, was operating out of a U.S. Naval Intelligence building in the Washington, D.C. area. The U.S. government office housing Captain Setudeh and a staff of Iranian military personnel was adorned with a poster-size portrait of Ayatollah Khomeini. This was weeks after the U.S. hostages had been seized in Teheran.

- In July 1980, *EIR* exposed the FBI and CIA's deal with Khomeini to allow Savama hit squads to operate with impunity on American soil. Specifically, *EIR* documented the failure of federal agencies to prevent the assassination of anti-Khomeini activist Dr. Ali Tabatabai in a Washington, D.C. suburb—after the FBI had been warned in advance about a threat to the exiled leader's life.

- On Dec. 2, 1980, *EIR* reported on Kissinger's secret negotiations with Ayatollah Beheshti and key figures in the Muslim Brotherhood, and how the efforts by Kissinger and British intelligence had cost Carter the presidential election.

- During 1980, *EIR* reported on Cyrus Hashemi's financ-



*Donald Gregg at his nomination hearings as ambassador to South Korea. As national security adviser to then-Vice President George Bush, Gregg has been identified as playing a key role in the October Surprise hostage negotiations with Iran.*

ing of pro-Khomeini terrorism in the U.S. *EIR* continued to investigate and publicize this story after all other U.S. publications, including the *Washington Post*, backed down under pressure of a libel suit. *EIR* fought the libel suit, and won.

- In August 1983, *EIR*'s news service ran an exclusive, detailed account entitled "How Kissinger Delayed the Release of U.S. Hostages in Iran." This article also described how gun-runners Cyrus Hashemi and Sadegh Tabatabai had been taken over by Kissinger and Reagan administration circles. This story was based on leads concerning the October Surprise provided to *EIR* reporters by Jamshid Hashemi, Cyrus Hashemi's brother, and a principal source for the recent round of October Surprise revelations.

- Throughout the 1980s, *EIR* continued to report on the Justice Department's coverup of the Hashemi case and Iranian gun-running and terrorism. *EIR*'s investigation of the Hashemi case was the most thorough of any news agency in the world, and was picked up by many other publications and investigated.

- Using the Freedom of Information Act, *EIR* obtained the first declassified documents showing Hashemi's meetings with Carter State Department officials in January 1980, proving that the State Department had adopted Hashemi's arms-for-hostages program long before the Iran-Contra affair.

- *EIR* is the only publication to have pursued the case of the "missing" FBI wiretaps of discussions between Hashemi and former Justice Department official Stanley Pottinger. These wiretaps, in place from November 1980 to January 1981, could provide critical evidence regarding the October Surprise. Although the existence of these wiretaps has been documented in court proceedings, the FBI has reportedly "lost" them. In calling for a congressional investigation, *EIR* has offered to make its resources and evidence available to any responsible investigator.