

International Intelligence

Bernard Lewis wants to revive Ottoman Empire

The author of Britain's "Bernard Lewis Plan" of the 1970s—a scheme to redraw the map of western Asia to pit ethnic groups against each other—was in Turkey early in January at the invitation of the Yapi Kredi Bank, to hold a conference on the Near East. According to *Turkiye* of Jan. 7, the professor was received like a famous film star. His conference was attended by several experts from the Turkish Foreign Ministry and by several social scientists. Lewis claimed that the 200-year-old rivalry between Britain and France, over who would be the "overlord" in the region, had come to an end, and that the region was awaiting a new "ruler," or "sovereign." He called on Turkey to take it upon itself, to become this new "ruling power."

Such advice is designed to push the Turks into a "flight forward" geopolitical role. About one week after Lewis's visit, Turkish involvement in the Caucasus turmoil, with the hijacking of the *Avrasaya* ferry-boat, went into high gear.

Bernard Lewis next popped up in Israel, where he told a *Frankfurter Rundschau* correspondent on Feb. 9 that conflicts will arise between Syria and Iran, because the Syrians will try to dry out the Iranian-linked Hezbollah nests in Lebanon, in the context of Syria's peace talks with Israel.

Would-be Mubarak killers recruited from Pakistan

In its letter to the U.N. Security Council to bring charges against Sudan for allegedly harboring the would-be assassins of Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak last summer, Ethiopia admitted that the terrorists who participated in the attempted hit were all from Pakistan! "All the three terrorists in our custody confirm that . . . Pakistan is the country where they resided and were recruited," the Press Trust of India quoted the letter in a Jan. 19 wire from the United Nations.

If true, then the report shows that the would-be assassins were part of the Afghani network owned and operated from Britain, as *EIR* exposed in its South Asia Terror Report last October. It is also known that the terrorists were Egyptian. The British have been trying to isolate Sudan by blaming its government for the crime.

Ramos gets a dose of the Marcos treatment

Philippines President Fidel Ramos was forced to back down on a controversial anti-terrorism bill before the Filipino Congress. His Justice Secretary Teofisto Guingona announced significant revisions in the bill.

When the bill was announced late in 1995 as a move to combat the wave of crime in Metro Manila and the explosion of incidents linked to international, especially Afghani, terror groups, press and politicians charged Ramos with using the bill to reestablish martial law, as his predecessor Ferdinand Marcos had done in 1972. Ramos, now in the fourth year of a six-year term, was accused of toying with martial law to skirt the Presidential election law, which prohibits a second, consecutive six-year term.

Pasqua, Séguin form new alliance in France

Former French Interior Minister Charles Pasqua's political comeback got a shot in the arm on Feb. 12 at the "launch" meeting of a new political lobby group, entitled Tomorrow France, to be headed by Pasqua and French National Assembly chairman Philippe Séguin. The two men are profiling themselves as the leading opposition to the Maastricht treaty in France. Pasqua has been out of power since he backed Eduard Balladur's failed campaign for President in 1995.

Séguin has his own ruling program prepared, which includes lower interest rates, tax cuts, and less social welfare spending. The German daily *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung* reported on Feb. 10 that Séguin

thinks that Prime Minister Alain Juppé's "economic stimulation" program will fail by the second half of 1996.

Le Figaro, the Paris daily, on Feb. 8, saw the maneuvers in the context of efforts to form a post-Juppé government, in which Pasqua could well become a minister.

Hawala scandal shakes Indian political scene

Since mid-January, at least eight politicians of national stature in India have been accused by investigators of receiving some \$18.3 million in laundered money or illegal foreign exchange. The case is based on diaries seized in March 1991 from the residence of two brothers, S.K. Jain and J.K. Jain, who were involved in money laundering. On Jan. 17, three cabinet ministers in the government of Prime Minister Narasimha Rao, were forced to resign—Agriculture Minister Balram Jakhar, Human Resource Minister Madhav Scindia, and Parliamentary Affairs Minister V.C. Shukla. All are top leaders of the Congress Party.

But the scandal goes across all party lines. Lal Krishna Advani, head of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), who is tied to the Anti-Defamation League in the United States, has also been named. Advani has resigned from parliament. The top man in the BJP ticket, Advani said he will not run for re-election unless his name is cleared.

The Jain brothers were involved with "hawala" traders—professional money launderers. The scheme worked as follows: A multinational, Gec-Alsthom, for instance, would deposit a significant portion of cash to the Jains in advance for aiding the multinational to win a contract. Jain would pass the money to the hawala dealers, who would use the money to buy gold in Arabia, smuggle it into India, and then sell the gold at almost 50% the purchasing price. Some money would be passed back to the Jains, for purposes of politician-buying. The hawala dealers would also buy drugs with the money from the gold sales, and then sell the drugs at an even higher profit rate. The source of

Briefly

DENG XIAOPING, the Chinese supremo, is in good health, according to his son, Deng Pufang, who recently visited Manila. The message was relayed by Filipino President Fidel Ramos, who had invited Deng's son to the Philippines, at his weekly press conference on Feb. 7.

THE CHINESE military's general logistics department sent its assistant director and five other high-ranking officials to visit the U.S. at a time when Sino-U.S. relations are tense around the issue of Taiwan, from Jan. 29 to Feb. 10, for talks on logistics modernization, training, and education of China's military, as well as a tour of several U.S. bases.

LEIBNIZ, the German universal thinker who exerted a seminal influence on the thinking of Lyndon LaRouche, as well as on American history, will be the subject of an international symposium in Leipzig on April 9-11. The gathering celebrates the 350th anniversary of the birth of the scientist and political thinker, and is sponsored by the city of Leipzig, its university, and several German scientific academies.

INDIAN External Affairs Minister Pranab Mukherjee told the press that India will not allow Tibetans in India to build up a campaign against China. He said India has a clear-cut policy on Tibet, and "our concern is as much that as providing political asylum to Tibetans. We will not permit them to pursue political activities from India," he said, according to the *Indian Express* of Jan. 14.

POPE JOHN PAUL II'S three-day visit to Venezuela has given a new sense of optimism to the country. *EIR's* reporters on the scene emphasized that this was the most crucial aspect of the pontiff's pastoral visit from Feb. 9 to Feb. 11. He was warmly welcomed by President Rafael Caldera, who has been resisting the furious assaults of the international banking fraternity on the country's sovereignty.

the money coming into the hawala traders is Dubai or London.

It has further come to light that the Jains were siphoning off some portion of the money to send to anti-India terrorists in Jammu and Kashmir. The list of beneficiaries of Jain largesse is over 100, and also involves high-level bureaucrats, who so far have not been named.

Sri Lanka asks Brits to stop funding Tigers

On a visit to London in January, Sri Lankan Foreign Minister Lakshman Kadirgamar asked his British counterpart Malcolm Rifkind to cut down on the propaganda and fundraising support in Britain for the murderous LTTE, the Tamil Tigers.

Kadirgamar observed that the LTTE is using its London office as a center for subversion of Sri Lanka. "The vast sums of money remitted to the Tigers by front organizations in western countries such as Britain, contributes substantially to their campaign of terror and subversion. Kadirgamar appealed to the British government to resolve this problem," the Colombo Broadcasting Corp. reported on Jan. 17. Specifically, the London office of the LTTE is run by Anton Balsingham, the group's "theoretical" leader, who is married to an Australian.

A 'Desert Storm' against China?

The world has to move against China now, as it "should have" against Iraq in 1990, advised Gerald Segal of the International Institute for Strategic Studies in London recently. A Chinese invasion of Taiwan is not the most likely outcome of the current crisis, Segal admitted, but, "when anybody moves this many troops around, you'd be crazy to ignore it. We made that mistake with Saddam Hussein, in 1990. The Chinese are on a ladder of escalation. They don't quite know where they are—but they are moving up," he was quoted in the London *Independent*.

Alleged Iraqi troop movements threatening Saudi Arabia, used by George Bush to justify U.S. troop movements to the Gulf and the subsequent war, have long been exposed as a lie. Journalist Jean Heller, who exposed the hoax in Florida's *St. Petersburg Times*, told EIRNS that satellite photos taken in September 1990 showed large-scale U.S. military presence in Saudi Arabia, but nothing of an Iraqi presence pointing anywhere near Saudi Arabia, and not much in Kuwait. The Bush administration claimed that 500,000 Iraqi troops threatened Saudi Arabia.

Zapatistas don't want Mexican Army to hit dope

Gen. Mario Renán Castillo, head of the 7th Military Zone of the Mexican Army in the state of Chiapas, told the press on Feb. 6 that the Army's anti-drug campaign is needed because Chiapas "has long been a thoroughfare for drug traffickers who have tried to introduce huge quantities of cocaine" through the area, and the Army had detected a "bombardment" of cocaine in Chiapas rivers.

The general spoke to reporters from San Cristóbal, the state capital, to explain the Army's operations against trafficking bases, networks, and airstrips.

"Commander Tacho," a spokesman for the Zapatista National Liberation Army, which has been committing mayhem in the state since early 1994, called in reporters on Feb. 5 to threaten to pull out of peace talks with the government if the raids continue. The Zapatistas pretend to be oppressed Mayans struggling for human rights, but the identity of foreign organized crime interests in pulling their strings is becoming more obvious by the day.

A few days earlier, El Barzón, a national Zapatista front, announced a mobilization to demand implementation of the deregulated trucking provision of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), which would allow free transit across the border to the United States—a provision most congenial to the drug cartels.