THE LIE OF ZIONIST-NAZI COLLABORATION

DR JACOB GEWIRZ EXPOSES

THE ALLEGATION of Zionist-Nazi collaboration is not a new one. What is new, and profoundly disturbing, is the vast increase in its use by anti-Israeli propagandists in the campaign to discredit Zionism.

That Jews were forced to be involved in the malevolence of the Third Reich is a matter of common knowledge and common sense. In fact, much of the material which is now being used and distorted by the anti-Israeli lobby in this context comes from quite respectable Jewish sources.

It is rather to the credit of Zionists that they foresaw the terrible events in Germany and took action to prevent it. Even before Hitler came to power, the Zionists and National Socialists raised race and the nation to the supreme level, it was inevitable that a common bridge should arise between them.

The Soviet allegations of Zionist-Nazi collaboration were later to be exported to Britain via the extreme Left, especially the Trotskyist Socialist Workers Party. It is ironical that this party, which is anti-Stalinist, was formed in the Lebanon.

Research has shown that the Grand Multi, leader of the Palestinian Arabs, included the Grand Multi, leader of the Palestinian Arabs, in their propaganda in Beirut. They were active in the PLO-directed Journal of Palestine Studies, which originated in Beirut.

Polkehn depicts the grandfather of Nazi antisemitism, Alfred Rosenberg, as a fervent supporter of Zionism, claiming that Eichmann visited Palestine in 1937 as a guest of the Haganah despite his own admission at his trial in Jerusalem that he came to make contact with the Grand Multi, leader of the Palestinian Arabs; and concludes with the charge that the Eichmann letters are a collaboration with the Nazi regime.

The PLO article also highlights the Von Mildenstein episode. In some aspects it is even more detailed than the “History Today” account.

Polkehn’s article also serves as the basis for the Socialist Workers’ Party leaflet, “Israel: A Racism State,” which received widespread distribution at universities and polytechnics in 1977-8 at the height of the campaign to ban Zionist societies on campus.

Working in close cooperation with the SWP is the British Anti-Zionist Organisation, which in its own right was responsible for the dissemination of the leaflet in Britain.

The conference, which was attended by the chairman and national secretary of BAZO, decided on a two-pronged campaign which would not be limited to intrusion of this or that aspect of the policies of the Zionist State, but would be conducted with a sharp and uncompromising decisiveness.

The conference’s Libyan chairman thereupon called for “the exploitation of the racist, reactionary nature of Zionism” and the “advocacy of a unitary, democratic, secular Palestine … as an alternative to Zionism” — a well-known euphemism for the destruction of Israel.

A vital part of BAZO’s brief is to win Jews, particularly Jewish students, over to the Arab side. It has been without some success in its endeavours. By using Jewish and renegade Israeli sources to discredit Zionism, it hopes to undermine Jewry’s devotion to Israel.

The “Zionists collaborated with Nazi” campaign is made to measure for BAZO’s primary objective, which is to isolate Israel from its diaspora supporters, as it informed its members:

“Special attention will be made in our attempts to win those of the Jewish faith away from support of Zionist Israel … Utilising our principled two lines and paying great attention to combating racist, anti-semitic tendencies in Britain, we will be able to sever the link that sustains the belief that Zionists have tried to forge between their State and our British nationals of the Jewish faith.”

The odious charge of Zionist-Nazi collaboration is a very significant variation of the “Zionism equals racism” theme. The latter was aimed at convincing the Third World that Israel was like South Africa, a pariah State that had no right to exist.

The charge was made not only in Israel but also in the Third World and in the Arab world itself, where there was little experience of Nazism, whereas racism with its overtones of apartheid and colonialism had a direct relevance in the Islamic world, whose friendship Israel needed and was not to undermine its support among the Western democracies.

Kastner affair. But in stark contradiction to BAZO’s own line, Neturei Karta blames the Zionists for the Holocaust because they had the audacity “to declare war on the Nazis.”

While Soviet motives in escalating the “Zionism equals racism” theme are not open to conjecture, the objectives of BAZO were spelled out in an internal report of the “Zionism and Racism” conference held in Libya in July, 1976.

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