

MID~EAST REALITIES

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Vol 2, #1 *News, Facts & Analysis governments and interests groups don't want you to know!* September 24, 1995

QUOTE of the Week

Arafat is Collaborator says Edward Said

"I don't think its wrong or any kind of exaggeration to say that Arafat and his Palestine Authority have become collaborators with the military occupation, a sort of Vichy government* for Palestinians..."

"With Oslo the peace process entered a new and much more destructive phase. Far from bringing peace, it brought greater suffering for Palestinians, the main victims of the mess, and a much greater threat to the long term interests of the Israeli people. Every leader involved with the Oslo process -- Palestinian, Israeli, American or European -- has acted, in my opinion, without principles and without anything remotely resembling vision and truthfulness. Worse, large droves of intellectuals, scholars and experts have in my opinion betrayed their vocations, to say nothing of their expertise and knowledge. And this betrayal has contributed to the amazingly compliant attitude of the American media in particular, who have celebrated, extolled, saluted and rejoiced, where there has been neither occasion nor cause to justify such excessive handclapping and jubilation."

* Nazi-installed French Govt during WWII German occupation
Prof. Edward Said speaking at Tufts University, 4/95

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LIE of the Week

Saudi Propaganda

This week's Lie of the Week goes to an entire feature section in the publication *Washington Report on Middle East Affairs*. Published with considerable encouragement and support from the Arab establishment, especially in Saudi Arabia, this publication is in actuality a propaganda vehicle with the purpose of distorting coverage of Middle East affairs in ways to the benefit and liking of the kings and dictators who rule, oppress, and squander the resources of the region.

From the September 1995 issue of

Washington Report On Middle East Affairs

With pictures of past and present Saudi Kings at top of feature page

"The year 1995 will go down in Middle East history as the year that Saudi Arabia got its second wind."

"...Saudi Arabia's remarkable new Cabinet".

"...The Saudi economic recovery is very good news for the United States."

Plus...a gushing book review by former U.S. Government official and *Washington Report* Editor Richard Curtiss of "*Dessert Warrior*" by HRH (that's "His Royal Highness" if anyone is wondering) General Khaled Bin Sultan.

In the old colonial bastion, England, the wealthy Arab establishment has its exclusive, lavish "dining clubs"; its extensive lists of available women; a variety of political and journalistic hacks to do its bidding; and the English-language publication *Middle East International* to twist things their way among academics and intellectuals.

In the new superpower, America, the same Arab establishment -- increasingly self-centered, increasingly parasitic, and increasingly despicable -- led by a group of Saudi businessmen along with members of the Royal family, and working in tandem with old-line State Department "Arabists" at the "American Enterprise Trust", also has their publication, this one seductively known as *Washington Report on Middle East Affairs*.

Many publications accept paid advertising features from governments and sometimes corporations -- identifying them as such. But there's no need for the Saudis, Kuwaitis, and others of their kind to purchase paid advertising sections when it comes to *Washington Report* -- for what appears in its pages is practically the very same thing masquerading as journalism and information.

If we had a "Lie of the Year", for the current cover feature *Washington Report* would definitely be nominated...and would be likely to win! No doubt former Ambassador Andy Killgore (Publisher of *Washington Report*) and Dick Curtiss (Executive Editor) have rushed copies to the Gulf to show off to their patrons and benefactors.