

Indians Wonder:

Who Killed Sanjay Gandhi's Father-In -Law?

India's Desai government has set up various investigatory panels to look into the events and issues leading to the June 1975 declaration of a state of emergency by former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi. The main thrust of these inquiries, under the guidance of right-wing Home Minister Charan Singh, has been to expose the "excesses of the emergency": tortures, coercion and police violence in maintaining "law and order."

A second, very much related theme has been the use of government to the benefit of a small clique of people around Mrs. Gandhi's son, Sanjay. Special committees have begun work investigating Sanjay Gandhi's business operations and bank swindles, but so far almost no one has publicly caught Sanjay out in any unsavory foreign connections. Major reorganization of the Indian special security forces and intelligence agencies is also underway.

Still many in India believe that the U.S. CIA did have a role in preparing the conditions for the emergency and possibly had a direct decisive input into layers of the Gandhi government during the emergency period. As of this moment, none of the inquiries has cleared up these doubts and some believe the issue is being consciously covered up.

Reprinted below, is an exclusive story from the June 19 issue of New Wave, a weekly published in New Delhi, which tends to substantiate the charges of U.S. involvement and opens up a new area for investigations. The murder of Sanjay Gandhi's father-in-law Col. T.S. Anand has made headlines in Indian papers for two weeks but the case still remains unsolved.

Who Committed Anand's 'Suicide'?

Who murdered Col. T.S. Anand, father-in-law of Sanjay Gandhi? The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has taken over the case from the Delhi police. Investigators have stumbled on some sensational details in their efforts to establish the motive for the crime.

The CBI, which does not believe in the police theory of "suicide" has been digging deep into the past of Anand, particularly during the last two years when he emerged as a top consultant for some companies.

It is now known that Col. Anand had long association with the CIA, first at the official level, and later at personal level. Anand was with the border intelligence organization of the army for some years in the late sixties. At that time, India relied, to some extent, on intelligence reports of the CIA and there was regular coordination between the two organizations. As a key man in the Indian outfit, Anand had ample opportunities to establish close contact with the notorious American spy network.

Close Friendship

Later, he came over to the Cabinet Secretariat, again in a department in charge of coordination of intelligence reports. Here too Anand had a chance to retain his close and intimate relation with the CIA. All these details are now part of official records. What was not known then, but has come to light during the investigation is the fact that Anand had more than mere official relation with the CIA.

He had built up intimate friendship with some top CIA operatives in India. This relationship continued even after he quit the government services, and opted to act as a liaison man for some top manufacturing units. At the time of his murder he was the consultant to Demag and MAN, both of West Germany (Sanjay Gandhi's Maruti company was their agent in India). He also "represented" some companies which are known to be CIA conduits.

Information now available with the investigators reveals that Anand landed these cushy jobs with the help of Kreisberg, the top CIA operative in India. One guess is that the CIA exploited its close West German connections to provide Anand with regular source of huge income, a major part of which could have gone to support the small pro-American group entrenched in vantage positions in government.

Anand proved very useful to his American friends on several occasions. One example of this was his successful intervention in persuading the then Prime Minister Indira Gandhi to attend a luncheon hosted by the U.S. ambassador William Saxby during the emergency. The luncheon was in honor of some visiting U.S. Senators, and it came in the midst of a high powered anti-U.S. campaign. Even the every smiling Saxby did not expect that Indira Gandhi would condescend to attend the luncheon. But on the advice of Kreisberg, Anand and his son-in-law, Sanjay prevailed on the former Prime Minister to attend the luncheon ignoring the protocol.

Anand's Ally

Incidentally, Anand was not the only friend of Kreisberg, the CIA spook. Kuldip Narang, one time a member of the AICC who came to wield some influence during the emergency, was also close to the CIA man. Informed circles believe that it was Narang who first escorted Sanjay Gandhi to visit Kreisberg at the latter's residence. Being close to Sanjay Gandhi, Narang could boast of being an important member of the close set-up around the pro-U.S. group.

Today, neither Kreisberg nor Kuldip Narang is available for seeking corroboration of these details. Kreisberg left India within a few days of March election results.

Kuldip Narang too has left the country and is now living in the USA along with his wife. He has now a job arranged thoughtfully by Kreisberg.

Anand was thus the last living link between the CIA and some important people in position of power during the emergency. He knew all the ramifications of the CIA in the corridors of power particularly during the emergency. In fact, no other person was so well placed as Anand to have direct access to the constant flow of information and inducements between the all powerful CIA and its Indian clients.

His death has forever choked this vital source of information. Particularly at a time when the Janata govern-

ment has set up a number of commissions of inquiry to probe into all aspect of the emergency.

In a manner of speaking, had Anand lived, he could have proved to be a great source of embarrassment to many people. He could have helped the commissions of inquiry with solid information to bring the guilty to book, as no other man could have done. Is it then possible that Anand was killed only for this reason? To blot out the last living link between the CIA and its network in high position?

In murder cases motive is the main thing. Maybe the investigators already have the details to establish the motive.