

Quebec turning to the EMS?

Crisis, martial law are threatened in response

Quebec, long a thorn in the side of London, now threatens a major turn away from Great Britain and its Canadian Dominion in favor of the European Monetary System. The largely French-speaking Canadian province bordering on the United States is about to join a growing list of nations actively forming an independent relation to the EMS — like Ireland and Mexico — rejecting a special relationship to Great Britain in favor of a future of prosperity and development.

This is what is behind the warnings from Anglophile press conduits in London and North America about the “threat of Quebec separatism.” The circles propagating these warnings are preparing a “right vs. left” confrontation over Quebec, capable of escalating to the scale of the 1970 “War Measures Crisis” which brought federal troops into Montreal and placed the province under martial law for an extended period.

Informed sources in Quebec are concerned that such a crisis may be sparked by a labor-government confrontation over legislation just introduced in the Quebec National Assembly.

William Safire's Jan. 18 Op Ed in the New York Times, the Toronto Globe and Mail, and elsewhere, is exemplary of the press cover provided to Britain's planned maneuvers. The Safire column, which coincided with Parti Québécois Prime Minister Rene Levesque's visit to the Georgetown Center for Strategic and International Studies, was little more than a summary of an article published in the November 1977 issue of the New York Council on Foreign Relations' journal Foreign Affairs. That article was authored by International Institute for Strategic Studies Director and former Royal Canadian Mounted Police Security Services chief John Starnes.

Safire's piece repeated warnings that the movement for Quebec independence from Canada poses a major military strategic threat to the U.S. NORAD (North American Air Defense) and NATO early warning defenses. “Do not trust Levesque's promises of moderation, only Quebec separates the U.S. from the Soviet Union over the Arctic Circle,” is the warning from the semi-official British intelligence policy-making body, the Royal Institute of International Affairs to the U.S. State Department. Included in this cry is the perennial claim that “Quebec separatists are controlled cooperatively from abroad by Cubans, the French, and the Soviet KGB,” an assertion widely disseminated by the Honorary Chairman of the Canadian branch of the Royal Institute, Walter Lockhart Gordon.

Safire's Jan. 18 column carried one significant update on this general line: he suggested that the increasing likelihood of a Canadian Progressive Conservative Party government under Joe Clark after this spring's elections may well bring the Quebec situation to a head.

Behind the “separation threat”

What the British policymakers from Starnes to Safire do not consider to be for public consumption, but privately acknowledge (see interview), is the existence of an independent and pro-separatist force that is currently shaping the potential outcome of the Quebec situation. This grouping cannot be reduced to the standard right or left dichotomy that generally facilitates confrontation.

This faction in and outside of the Parti Québécois, traces itself not to the French Jacobin terror of Robespierre and Marat, but to the Republican humanist tradition of 19th century Quebec patriot Papineau, who wanted to ally the province with the U.S. This is the faction that has rekindled British worries by moving toward an alliance with the new European Monetary System.

The commitment of that Quebec tradition, as embodied in Papineau's original declaration of 1838, was never “freedom at any price” and certainly not a militant attachment to the backwardness of Quebec rural culture. Rather, the patriotism was based on hatred of British political and economic domination of Quebec and a recognition of the viability of the tenets of the U.S. Constitution as an alternative. For this reason, some Quebec separatists traditionally include a policy of annexation to the U.S. in their political aims. In the post-World War II period this tradition was centered in the Union Nationale Party of Maurice Duplessis which ruled the province until Duplessis and his successor met with suspiciously abrupt ends, during the 1960s.

Following the Liberal Party premiership of Lesage, the Union Nationale again took power. Premier Daniel Johnson hosted French President Charles de Gaulle's 1967 historic “liberation” of Quebec from British rule. Although the Union Nationale was decimated within two years of de Gaulle's “Vive Quebec Libre” speech, the French government has never strayed from its commitment to support Quebec independence. This was made painfully clear to Canadian Prime Minister Trudeau during his December meeting with Giscard in Paris.

British plans to consolidate policy control over North America by the 1980s is what is stimulating the traditional anti-British currents of Quebec separatism. In the words of leading Canadian member of the British oligarchy's secret society, the Knights of St. John of Jerusalem, Robert Scrivener, Britain desires “a single North American political and economic alliance from Panama to the Arctic Circle to prepare for global economic and regional military warfare in the 1980's.”

The elaborate pattern of Canadian corporate mergers, take-

overs and consolidations, involving firms under the control of a tight circle of British intelligence's wartime Special Operations Executive (SOE) — the "Old Boys," — represents an important aspect of implementing this policy. Under these circumstances, the potential for anti-British political consolidation in Quebec today is bound to be directly tested.

The issues involved are economic. The collapse of net capital investment in Quebec as well as the Canadian economy as a whole, which accompanied the abrupt collapse of the Canadian dollar over the last two years has left Quebec saddled with over \$26 billion in outstanding debt. This is largely owed to London banks and was acquired for the purpose of bolstering the Bank of Canada's sagging liquidity, as opposed to aiding provincial industrialization and export development.

Who supports the EMS in Quebec

Although the Levesque wing of the presently ruling Parti Québécois party has been increasingly adamant recently respecting their political and economic allegiance to Canada and the British Crown, a very different tendency of increasing interest and support for the newly initiated European Monetary System has begun to surface in Quebec. That support, repeatedly acknowledged by high level Parti Québécois spokesmen in discussions with this new service, relates to a series of Quebec diplomatic visits now under way or scheduled to nations supporting the EMS. This diplomacy has forced acknowledgment of an internal debate on "foreign policy questions" in the province's usually British-controlled French press.

One member of a Quebec delegation now on its way to the British Isles confided to the Executive Intelligence Review that the visit to EMS member Ireland is considered the most important stop on the trip, much more significant than the trip to Britain itself. This attitude is important to upcoming visits to Japan and West Germany by Quebec Minister of Industry and Commerce Rodrigue Tremblay which aim at consolidating plans for a \$1 billion provincial development fund, clearly conceived in conjunction with the new political and economic avenues opened up by the EMS alternative to the International Monetary Fund.

Tremblay is identified by London-dominated circles, like the Canadian Institute of International Affairs, as at the center of a dissenting faction within the present Quebec cabinet, against the Levesque "Sovereignty-Association" policy spelled out in a policy document now under consideration in select Parti Québécois leadership circles. The document, titled "Operation America" may possibly have as a point of origin the "operation Lafayette" program announced by U.S. Labor Party Chairman Lyndon LaRouche last fall.

That proposal, rapidly attracting interest in Quebec political and church-affiliated circles, posed a North American commitment to the EMS policy for global technological development as the basis for an orderly relief of Quebec from the economic and political reins of London in favor of peaceful annexation to the United States.

The Tremblay faction of the Parti Québécois, in conjunction with layers of the Catholic Church supporting Pope John Paul II's continuation of the Vatican policies inaugurated by Pope

Paul VI, is in direct opposition on the separation and economic issues to networks Premier Levesque serves.

Levesque's associates are identified both presently and historically with the Jesuit "American Heresy" faction of the Catholic Church, for which the Georgetown Center for Strategic and International Studies serves as the U.S. headquarters. This Catholic faction originally opposed Papineau and his "Lafayette plan" for Quebec's annexation to the U.S. In this century, they have been exemplified by the self-espoused Quebec fascist leader, anti-Semite, and supporter of Mussolini, Abbe Groulx. Levesque and his "Sovereignty Association" policy, like the present leader of the Quebec Liberal Party, Claude Ryan, both avowedly represent the Groulx-Jesuit tradition and outlook.

The new "right vs. left" script

Informed circles in touch with Vatican representatives in Canada have disclosed that there is deep concern that a new wave of violence on the same scale which brought troops into Quebec in 1970 may be in the offing. Violent labor-government confrontations reenacting the staged 1974 strike wave may be the initial spark triggering such a crisis, they fear. Flagrantly anti-labor legislation just introduced to the Quebec National Assembly confirms that these fears are well grounded.

If passed, the legislation will wipe out the provincial construction and building trades unions in one blow, replacing them with a "Crown union" to be called the Office of Construction (OC). This, in turn, will drop all presently unemployed workers from work eligibility and force the remainder to work under "no strike conditions." Whole classifications such as maintenance, until now included in construction union contracts, will be dropped from the union category, while still others will be forced to accept "piece work" terms in place of the customary hourly wage.

This provocation targets the very unions which were at the center of the 1974 crisis. Moreover, these unions constitute the major trade union nesting ground within the province for "Maoist" radical networks connected to Britain's Tavistock Institute and the Washington D.C. terrorist control center, the Institute for Policy Studies.

During the 1974 events, Louis Laberge and Marcel Pepin, the leaders of the major confederations, were associated with these institutions including such terrorist groups as Black Rose, the Praxis Corp and the Front for the Liberation of Quebec (FLQ). The FLQ was the very group which conducted the kidnappings and assassinations that led to provincial martial law in 1970. With these networks still in place, a construction work force, justly outraged by the new proposed legislation, is susceptible to being led into a new round of militant "actions," triggering a crisis engulfing the province's "right vs. left" scenario.

That scenario is not limited to labor confrontation. The recently released report of a commission appointed by Canadian Prime Minister Trudeau to study the "national unity" problem posed by Quebec has set the stage for acts of terrorism and consequent military intervention on this issue as well.

The report, authored by task force chairman and former Canadian Trilateral Commission Director Jean Luc Pepin, ad-

vises that Quebec independence is "inevitable" and constitutes a democratic right of the province. One of Pepin's collaborators on the study, Toronto Kings College President Ronald Watts, has issued a separate statement stating more explicitly that "civil war over the Quebec independence drive is in fact inevitable."

The task force report has been met by closed ranks on the part of Trudeau, Progressive Conservative opposition leader Joe Clark and newly appointed Canadian Governor General Edward Schreyer, all of whom have issued statements that Levesque's meek "Sovereignty Association" is unacceptable as terms of negotiation. The potential for terrorism is signalled by the recent return of notorious FLQ members Cossette and Trudels from Paris, where they have been exiled since 1970. On arrival in Montreal, the two terrorists were allowed to remain free on bail pending trial for the kidnapping and assassination of the diplomat LaPorte which put Quebec under federal martial law. Another prominent ultra-leftist, FLQ liaison Pierre Bourgal, has also gained publicity recently touring Canada and lecturing youth conferences on why he abandoned the Parti Quebeçois as "insufficiently radical."

And the CIIA's Honorary Director Walter Gordon has recently moved back into the public spotlight with the announcement of a new political-economic think tank which will offer "radical economic solutions" as opposed to the "right-wing" think tanks like the Economic Council and the Montreal-based C.D. Howe Research Institute associated with masterminding-Scriver's North American political alliance policy.

The Gordon initiative is strikingly reminiscent of a Gordon venture of the mid-1950s which launched the economic warfare and political destabilization tactics that eventually decapitated the province's Gaullist republican forces, replacing their Union Nationale Party with Levesque and the Parti Quebeçois.

It was Gordon who founded a Royal Commission on Economic Prospects including a number of associates from the wartime Canadian Foreign Exchange Control Board which he led under the SOE. Important among these were Douglas Fullerton and the now deceased John Deutsch, both of whom were prominent in the establishment and administration of the Canada Council in 1957. The Royal Commission masterminded the economic warfare maneuvers which led to the fall of the Duplessis government, and the Canada Council funded the provincial and federal "new left" movement including the FLQ.

Gordon's new think tank, which includes Senator Maurice Lamontagne and will be coordinated by Praxis Corp. founder Abraham Rotstein, is staffed largely by veterans of these earlier "special operations." (Praxis Corp was British intelligence's Canadian "new left" terrorist subsidiary.)

Under these circumstances, Quebec republicans would be foolish to overlook the likelihood that Walter Gordon may well be up to his old tricks again.

— Peter Wyer

Quebec specialist: Common market for N.Amer.

Dr. Alfred Hero, a founding member of the U.S.-Quebec Committee, a subsidiary of the Canadian Institute of International Affairs, theorizes that Quebec Premier Levesque's scheme for provincial independence leaving Quebec tied to NATO and the Crown will be realized. The following interview with Dr. Hero, who is considered a leading U.S. authority on Quebec separatism, was made available to the Executive Intelligence Review by an independent journalist.

Q: What is your assessment of the renewed emphasis on "sovereignty association" by the Parti Quebeçois government?

A: One generally finds that rhetoric is moderated once a party is in power. What looked like clear-cut independence before appears now pretty fuzzy. They have, after all, come out for a common currency, a common market, staying in NATO as well as maintaining the DEW (Distant Early Warning) Line, maintaining common armed forces with Canada. The referendum will be worded to ask "for authority to negotiate sovereignty and economic association with Canada" — and on these terms, I expect Levesque will win the referendum.

Q: Are you familiar with the existence of a policy document now circulating within the PQ called "Operation America," and, if so, does this represent a dissenting view to the "sovereignty-association?"

A: Yes, I've heard about it. That's crazy!

The American business is not new exactly. Tremblay proposed a common market with the United States as far back as his days as a professor at Stanford. The economics of the proposal is not bad, but the politics are awful! How can you preserve Frenchness and Quebec culture in the context of a link with the U.S. if you can't in Canada?

Q: Some people are supporting a general U.S.-Canada Common Market.

A: I advocate a general common market myself. You would have a centralizing of high-technology manufacturing in the U.S. Canada would lose jobs. It would favor the resource industries. Of course, French Canadians feel that their struggles are with English Canada, not with America — that is with what they call the Montreal Rhodesians. It is not directed at Americans but at Toronto.

Q: Have you heard of a policy associated with the North American Labor Party called "Operation Lafayette?"

A: What pays for Quebec is not annexation. Quebec would gain only from a common market. Of course, there is always the criticism from the PQ left. They want a clear-cut political break with Canada. Ottawa wants to rationalize the entire national economy. This runs against the grain of the Quebec separatists. Quebec wants back what it put into the economy.