

# Who toppled Iran's Shah

With the seizure of power by his followers in Iran, the Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini is being hailed in the British press as "Iran's Savonarola" — the man who will destroy what remains of Shah Mohammed Rezi Pahlavi's program to lead Iran into the 21st century as a major world industrial power. The process to which Iran is now being subjected is identical to that which the fanatic Al Ghazali employed in the 10th century to destroy Persia's contribution to the brilliant Islamic culture that, at the time, was the world's most advanced.

Behind the Islamic "fundamentalism" which Khomeini has led to victory over the Shah lies no morally unblemished religious fervor, but — as the Shah charged in the weeks prior to his departure from Iran — the forces of the British monarchy and the British Secret Intelligence Service. In the following report, we answer the question of **who**, **how**, and **why** the British moved to overthrow the government of the Shah.

## Background to the operation

To understand fully the reason for the decision to launch the attack on the Shah, some history is required.

The goal of the final phase of the City of London's Operation Pahlavi was — and is — the destruction of the European Monetary System. The primary motivation on the part of the British was to unleash chaos and confusion in Iran and the Persian Gulf generally in order to disrupt the partnership that had begun to emerge since 1975 among France and West Germany, the socialist countries, and the leading nations of the Islamic world, including the Arabs, Iran, Pakistan, and Turkey. With the accelerating motion in that direction at the start of 1978, including the July 1978 Bremen accords of the EEC, the attack on Iran also accelerated.

By December 1978, this British policy — as enunciated by the London Economist in its famous article, "The Crumbling Triangle" — became known as the "arc of crisis" policy, its primary U.S. advocates were the London agents Henry A. Kissinger and Zbigniew Brzezinski. The goal of the policy was twofold: the rapid reversal of the potential for regional economic development in high-technology, capital-intensive projects such as the ambitious nuclear energy plans of both the Shah and Pakistan's Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto; and the precipitation of a U.S.-Soviet confrontation over the Middle East.

A rapid survey of recent Iranian history will clarify the process from the Iranian side.

During the late 1960s and early 1970s, the Shah of Iran, under the direction first of the State Department's Eugene Rostow, and then Henry Kissinger of the National Security Council, set Iran on a course towards militarization and a role as the "protector" of British and Anglo-American interests in the Persian Gulf region. The cornerstone of this policy, which was forced down the throat of a reluctant Shah, was a policy of massive arms buildup, along with a close integration of Iran's military and security apparatus with Israel's.

After 1973, with the sudden rise in oil prices, engineered by Kissinger and U.S. Ambassador Richard Helms in Teheran, the Shah — like his father, always a nationalist — began to see an opportunity for independent action. In particular, he began to examine the possibility of making Iran, as he put it, "the world's sixth industrial power" in one generation, and launched a highly ambitious development program.

The first open challenge by the Shah to the Kissinger-Helms strategy came in 1975 when the Shah, with the mediation of President Houari Boumediene of Algeria and King Faisal of Saudi Arabia, signed a pact with neighboring Iraq that ended a war of attrition waged by the Kurds of Iraq. That rebellion was backed by Helms and the CIA, British Secret Intelligence Service, and the Mossad. (Incidentally, Ayatollah Khomeini, who was then in exile in Iraq, actively supported the Kurdish rebellion against his Iraqi hosts, according to Arab sources.) The Iran-Iraq pact of 1975 was a severe defeat for the City of London Middle East policy.

During 1976, the Shah initiated his startling rapprochement with the Soviet Union, a process that culminated with a dramatic visit by the Shah to Moscow and then vast expansion of trade with the socialist countries. The centerpiece of that arrangement was an enormous three-way gas deal involving Iran, the Soviet Union, and West Germany.

Then, during 1977, the Shah began the final phase of his Operation Independence. Iran began to gradually distance itself from its close links with Israel and to establish closer ties with the Arabs, especially Saudi Arabia. These ties were consolidated at a series of OPEC meetings in 1977 and 1978, at which Iran made an astonishing volte-face, dropping its support for higher oil prices and an end to the U.S. dollar as a means of OPEC payments. Instead, the Shah gave his full support to the Saudi Arabian policy of supporting the dollar. In exchange, King Khalid paid an unprecedented visit to Teheran and arranged Saudi financial aid for the Iranians. This enraged the British, who were

hoping to persuade OPEC to break with the dollar, and replace it as the world's reserve currency with the International Monetary Fund's Special Drawing Rights; and it enraged Kissinger, the chief architect of the 1973-74 oil price increases.

Together, now, the Iran-Saudi axis not only threatened to topple the London design for an Iran-Israel axis against the Arabs, but it created an enormous world financial power whose primary goal was an industrial-development alliance with Japan, West Germany, France, and potentially with the United States — a goal which more than a century of British diplomacy has fought to prevent.

### **How Operation Pahlavi works**

The overall capability for the British operation against the Shah, which initiated and still runs the "Khomeini revolution," is the psychological-warfare branch of the British SIS headquartered at the London Tavistock Institute and Sussex University (see "How Brzezinski Is Linked to the Jones Cult," by Lyndon H. LaRouche, EIR Vol. VI, No. 2, January 16-22, 1979). At least 20 to 30 distinct organizations were mobilized in the Iran case to guarantee the success of the operation. Among the most important were the Bertrand Russell Peace Foundation, Amnesty International, the Institute for Policy Studies and the Transnational Institute/Institute for Race Relations, the Socialist International apparatus, a dozen student groups and organizations, the world human rights apparatus, the American Friends Service Committee, the Trotskyist "Fourth International" and the Maoists, and so forth.

Amnesty International — whose political godfather was Sean McBride of British Intelligence — issued its report on Iran in November 1976, accusing the Shah and SAVAK, the secret police, of torture and illegal detention of political prisoners. The lurid report, which was played up heavily by the Washington Post and the London Times, among others, was issued to coincide with the election of Jimmy Carter to the Presidency.

The election of Carter installed Zbigniew Brzezinski at the NSC, and under his tutelage the Human Rights Division of the State Department launched the loud campaign for "human rights." Many U.S. intelligence officials warned that to apply the human-rights policy to Iran would grossly upset legitimate U.S. interests in the Persian Gulf region, — but Brzezinski went ahead anyway.

The key figure at Amnesty International in the Iran operation was former U.S. Attorney Ramsey Clark, who surfaced last month leading anti-American demonstrations in Teheran and praising the Ayatollah Khomeini.

Clark's former deputy attorney general, Warren Christopher, now No. 2 man at Cyrus Vance's State Department, was also deeply involved in the Iran operation, along with Amnesty International adviser Richard Falk. The AI-Clark-Christopher operation set off a chain reaction of nosy lawyers' organizations and pompous jurists traveling to Iran to inspect the Shah's system, headed up by the London- and Amsterdam-based circles around the International Jurists Organization.

As would be true right up until the day of the Shah's departure from Iran, the results of these kangaroo-court "investigations" were broadcast into Iran via the British Broadcasting Corporation. In view of the obvious excesses and inhuman behavior of the SAVAK toward dissidents in Iran, it must be stressed that the SAVAK as an organization was part of the Israeli Intelligence-led British faction in Iran, and was never fully trusted even by the Shah himself, who, however, needed a security-intelligence organization for Iran's national interest — and SAVAK was all he had.

### **Enter the British**

This human-rights mobilization by the State Department-NSC and the Amsterdam, Geneva, and London circles was only the first step in the British-directed Operation Pahlavi. A multi-layered network of operatives swung into action — at whose core was a network of direct London operatives including Sir John Bagot Glubb Pasha, Faris Glubb, Lord Caradon (Hugh Foot), Christopher Mayhew, Sir Robert Swann, and so forth.

**First**, within Iran itself, an overlapping network of field agents and organizations led the destabilization of the Shah in its early phases, beginning in January 1978. The center of this network is the Bahai Cult, a secret quasi-Islamic sect whose creation was sponsored directly by British intelligence through the Scottish Rite of Freemasonry in the 19th century. There are at least 300,000 Bahais in Iran, although the headquarters of the movement is in Evanston, Illinois, and its chief temple of worship is located in Haifa, Israel. Even today, the British government is the chief financial backer of the Bahai, who are considered to be "an arm of the British government" by leading Iranians.

The Bahai cult, which included among its members most of the old landed Iranian oligarchy, exercised tremendous power in Iran as a secret society that penetrated all aspects of Iranian life including the royal court. The Bahai were also the chief liaison between leading Iranian circles and Israeli Intelligence, via Scotland Yard. During the first phase of the Shah's moves to halt the operation, he arrested large numbers of Bahai cultists, including several top generals, his own personal physician, the chairman of the Bank Saderat, and Prime Minister Hoveyda.

Interestingly, the Bank Saderat chairman was also found to have been one of the prime financial backers of the burgeoning Shi'ite opposition to the Shah through his contacts with the Ayatollah Nouri, who was caught receiving large payments from the bank to mobilize his religious followers against the Shah.

The Bahai-oligarchy circles, according to reliable Iranian reports, were largely comprised of men who had been on the payroll of British Petroleum (formerly known as the Anglo-Persian Oil Company) for as many as 40 years.

**Second**, the innermost circle of the oligarchy in Iran was comprised of a handful of elite Iranians who were closest to London. These included Empress Farah, the Shah's wife; Ardeshir Zahedi, the Iranian Ambassador to the U.S.; the Hoveyda family; and the Amouzegar family.

All of these family interests were represented together in the Aspen Institute, one of the chief projects of British Intelligence in the United States.

One of the Shah's chief failures was his inability to break with this circle, despite its repeated evidence of outright treason.

**Third**, there is the "Khomeini movement" centered around the person of the fanatic, anti-technology Ayatollah Khomeini. In fact, the "Khomeini movement" is not his movement at all; he has been out of the country for over 15 years. Instead, his movement is the movement of Ali Shariati, the Institute for Policy Studies, and the London-run Moslem Brotherhood.

In simplest terms, four networks that overlap can be identified as the "Khomeini supporters."

### **1. The Russell-IPS network**

The closest to Tavistock Institute itself is the network associated with the Bertrand Russell Peace Foundation, the Lelio Basso Foundation, Middle East International magazine in London, the "U.S. Committee on Iran," and the Institute for Policy Studies.

The Bertrand Russell Peace Foundation describes itself as an organization that "services a large number of trade union, community, civil liberties, socialist, radical, activist, and women's organizations." Its directors, including Dame Edith Russell, Ken Coates, and Chris Farley serve as an interlocking directorate for Amnesty International and a dozen other leftist, communist, and radical organizations in Western Europe and the United States. It is, of course, violently anti-Soviet. In recent years the BRPF has been deeply involved in supporting anti-Shah activities, whipping up facile student and youth opposition to the "fascist" Shah. Together with the Lelio Basso Foundation, the BRPF has sponsored a number of British-American "investigations" into Iran. The most recent was a trip to Iran in September 1978 by James Cockcroft of Rutgers University, Russell Kerr of the British Labour Party, and Giulio Francanzani of the Italian Christian Democracy (DC).

At the bottom levels of this network are the so-called mass-movement organizations that supply many of the active terrorists, student "demonstrators," and so forth for Khomeini. Among them are the Iranian Students Association (ISA); the Young Muslims Organization (YMO), which is headed up by Dr. Ibrahim Yazdi, former Iranian communist who is now one of Khomeini's chief advisers; the Committee on Repression in Iran (CARI); the Committee on Artistic and Intellectual Freedom in Iran (CAIFI), which included Bertrand Russell intimate Ralph Schoenman; and the American Friends Service Committee (AFSC).

The Transnational Institute — a branch of the McGeorge Bundy-founded Institute for Policy Studies headed by Marcus Raskin — in Amsterdam maintained a careful link with Khomeini during his stay in Paris, following the Iraqi expulsion of the ayatollah last summer. Eqbal Ahmed was the intelligence officer responsible for Khomeini.

### **2. The Paris-Shariati axis**

Khomeini's advisers and policymakers from Paris are a motley crew of French Anglophiles, existentialists, environmentalists, and anthropologists linked to terrorist controller Jean-Paul Sartre, Zionist lobby Jacques Soustelle, and cultist Claude Levi Strauss. The key creation of the French existentialist network was the late Professor Ali Shariati, the fanatic Iranian ideologue who maintained close ties to Bertrand Russell, the psychiatrist and preacher of violence Frantz Fanon, Sartre, and Soustelle and became a cult figure in Iran by preaching about the revolt of Islam against the "evils" of the industrial West. From the 1960s until his death in 1977, Shariati operated out of the sociology departments of Iran's university system, one of which is controlled directly by the daughter of the late anthropologist cum British/Tavistock Institute agent, Margaret Mead, a dean at one of Iran's leading universities.

Ali Shariati worked throughout most of the 1958-68 period as a sociologist at the Sorbonne in Paris, where he struck up a close friendship with existentialist-terrorist ideologue Frantz Fanon and with the philosophical circles of pro-terrorist Jean Paul Sartre. During the early years of this decade, Shariati spent as well some time in Algeria, backing up the Fanonist tendencies within the Algerian National Liberation Front.

In 1968, Shariati left Paris for Teheran. From that time until his death in London in 1977, Shariati — according to James Cockcroft — "lectured to thousands in Teheran and elsewhere," speaking in "Islamic religious metaphor" to "tell the people that only a revolutionary act could prove one's faith," and "preaching new life into the religion mummified by colonialism."

According to Cockcroft and others, Shariati made a "tremendous impact on the younger generation" of Iranians, teaching that — in the words of one Iranian source — "the machine is evil and it is better to work with your hands." The London Guardian reported that the whole Paris circle of Khomeini "advisors" — Ghotbzadeh, Yazdi, Banisadr — was "converted" to Islam under Shariati's personal direction.

Among Khomeini's top French advisers were Rene Dumont, Jean Pierre Vigier, Michel Foucault, and Haroun Tazieff, all connected to the British-intelligence-linked National Center for Scientific Research in Paris. Also attached to the National Center is Abdul Hassan Banisadr, economics aide to Khomeini who has lived in Paris for 10 years and is a member of Khomeini's inner circle. In a recent interview in the French publication Liberation, Banisadr spelled out Khomeini's "Islamic economic system" as centered on plans for Maoist-style factory and village councils, import cutbacks, and limitation on oil production and foreign investment.

Banisadr's "economic program" is the outgrowth of policy recommendations made by an environmentalist and nuclear energy foe, Rene Dumont, who was recently named by Khomeini to serve as his adviser on "agricultural affairs." Dumont, a teacher at the National Center for Scien-

tific Research as well as at the National Agronomy Research Center of France, traveled extensively in Iran profiling Iranian agriculture in 1976. On the basis of a report written by Dumont about his travels through Iran, he was recruited by Khomeini to draw up further guidelines for maintaining Iran's rural economy.

Dumont is also honorary president of the "return-to-nature" cult, Friends of the Earth, and in 1974, he ran as the ecology candidate in the French presidential elections. In the course of his career, he has been booted out of both Cuba and Algeria for his activities.

Another key Khomeini cultist is Michel Foucault, special correspondent to Iran from *Nouvelle Observateur* and the Italian daily *Corriere della Sera*. Foucault is also closely connected to the Tavistock Institute. Last year, he was part of a special team of "soft energy experts" deployed to Iran from the National Center for Scientific Research, together with a sociologist from the *Ecole Pratique des Hautes Etudes*, as part of a British-backed effort to swing Iran away from its commitment to "hard energy" sources such as nuclear energy and oil. Foucault and other members of the group recommended the use of wind as a viable energy source for Iran!

Foucault also was involved in a "sociological study" sponsored by the National Center focusing on the views of the Iranian peasantry toward the Shah's modernization drive. Six months following the conclusion of the profiling job, the first anti-Shah riots in Iran broke out.

According to well-briefed sources in France, the National Center for Scientific Research and the National Agronomy Research Center maintain close contact with Claude Julien, editor in chief of *Le Monde Diplomatique* and the chief connection in France for the Washington-based Institute for Policy Studies, which has been responsible for providing a left-liberal cover of "respectability" for Khomeini's operations.

### 3. The Philby network

The "communist" tint to the Khomeini support faction is given by what is, in fact, a British Intelligence penetration of actual Soviet-Communist networks through old British Fabian Society circles and such operatives as Kim Philby, the triple agent. Philby, in April 1978, was given an important Middle East advisory post by the Soviet Foreign Ministry. It is his faction and his co-thinkers in the "Eurocommunist" movement, especially in the Italian Communist Party (PCI) and the French Communist Party (PCF), that have loudly supported Khomeini in his Islamic-Marxist revolution. In addition, through such contaminated sources, the PCI has established an interlocking

relationship with pro-Khomeini circles in Libya and within the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), serving to conduit funds and support into the Khomeini faction.

Such British-controlled Eurocommunist circles have direct analogs in the Middle East. The case of the Iraqi Communist Party is exemplary, where the Bertrand Russell Foundation set up directly a subsidiary "faction" of the ICP in the early 1960's, largely drawn from the rebellious Shi'ite minority, according to Uriel Dann.

But the most glaring case is that of the Iranian CP, the Tudeh party, itself. The Tudeh was nothing more than a front-group for British Petroleum from its earliest period. In the early 1950s, the Tudeh, for instance, opposed the nationalization of the (then) Anglo-Persian Oil Company under the government of Prime Minister Mosadegh. When Mosadegh's police later raided the headquarters of the Anglo-Persian conglomerate, they discovered many documents revealing that Anglo-Persian had secretly subsidized every communist daily and weekly newspaper in Iran. These are circles out of which emerged Ibrahim Yazdi, Khomeini's spokesman.

### 4. The Muslim Brotherhood

Finally we come to the basic component of the Khomeini-Shariati movement in Iran: the Islamic fundamentalist ("Muslim Brotherhood") network. A detailed profile of the Muslim Brotherhood was provided in a recent issue of the *Executive Intelligence Review* ("Islam sects fuel Mideast chaos," *EIR* Vol. VI, No. 4, Jan. 30-Feb. 5, 1979).

The controllers of the Muslim Brotherhood today are the London circles associated with Glubb Pasha, Abdul-Rahman Azzam Pasha, and the Islamic Foundation of Europe. The Hans Seidel Foundation of Munich, certain Islamic circles around Aix-la-Chapelle in West Germany (Mosque Bilal), and a group of Swiss foundations and banks presently sponsor the Muslim Brothers internationally. Otto von Hapsburg is one of the directors of this operation.

Khomeini, although himself not a member of the actual Muslim Brotherhood organization, is working closely with the network in Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, and Libya, among other countries. He recently sent an envoy to visit Mawdoodi, the boss of the Muslim Brothers in Pakistan, who operate under the name *Jamaat-i-Islami*. In Iran, the Brothers have supported a small but highly active terrorist group called the *Fidayani Islam*, which has been carrying out a series of assassinations in Iran in recent years.

The trademark of the Brotherhood is its fanatic anti-Western outlook, which spills over into uncontrollable xenophobia.

— Robert Dreyfuss