

Georgetown professor backs Khomeini's Pol Pot economic plan

According to Thomas Ricks, a professor at Georgetown University in Washington, D.C., what is in store for Iran is the depopulation of Iran's cities and the forcing of Iran's Westernized urban population back to the land in Maoist-Cambodian style agricultural projects. For years Ricks has profiled, nurtured, and supported pro-Khomeini "Islamic" fanatics—such as Khomeini's foreign minister Ibrahim Yazdi. Ricks has coordinated his sordid activities with his colleagues at Georgetown, whose liberal "pro-Arab" Center for Contemporary Arab Studies is but a front operation for manipulating and subverting the Islamic world.

Earlier this month, Abdulhassan Banisadr was appointed Iran's Deputy Finance Minister by Khomeini. An outspoken proponent of genocidal zero-growth economics, Banisadr has publicly called for Iran's economy to be modeled after Pol Pot's Cambodia. When asked what he thought about Banisadr's endorsement of Cambodia-style economics, Ricks stated the following:

"I like what Banisadr is pushing: ruralization by persuasion. A more appropriate phrase might be ruralization by voluntarism. Volunteering to go out into the countryside is popular among Iranian youth. They want to dedicate themselves to two or three years in the rural areas. So there's no need for government force, except in the case of professionals like doctors, who will have to be pressured into making the move. Cambodia's policy of dismantling cities is now being applied to Iran.

Iran needs labor-intensive cooperatives. Too much land is lying fallow. Only 11 percent of the land is being cultivated. . . . The investment patterns of Iran are being reversed. There is a decision to increase the rural force, to drop the urban population from its current 42 percent to 35 percent or so in the next years, by shifting more people to the countryside. The future for politics in Iran is in the rural areas. The radicalization of Iranian ideology will begin in this way."

The move by Khomeini predictably sparked a massive demonstration in Tehran on Aug. 11, of over 100,000 protesting the closure, organized by the influential National Democratic Front led by the grandson of revolutionary leader Mohammed Mossadegh, Hedayatollah Matin-Daftari, along with the leftist Fedayeen al-Khalq and Mujahedeen al Khalq and numerous other smaller political groupings.

Lighting the fuse

The demonstration was forcefully broken up by Khomeini's Islamic Guard using clubs and broken bottles, sending hundreds to the hospitals. The next day Khomeini's fanatical followers, primarily from the slums of south Tehran, began a systematic campaign of ransacking the offices of the various opposition parties, beating opposition figures.

The offices and the home of Matin-Daftari, a close ally of Bakhtiar, have been ransacked and a warrant issued for the arrest of the National Democratic Front leader. The offices of the Iranian Communist Party have been closed as well as those of former Khomeini supporters, the Mujahedeen and the Fedayeen al Khalq, who have broken allegiance to the Ayatollah and have gone underground.

Khomeini has since announced the closing of 22 more Iranian newspapers, plus a new and more stringent set of regulations for foreign press: expelling more

foreign pressmen from the *Los Angeles Times*, the *New York Times*, the British Broadcasting Company, and the *Financial Times*. He has furthermore called for full disarmament of all civilians, a clear warning to the heavily armed Mujahedeen and Fedayeen guerrilla organizations whose base of operation is Tehran. At the same time, Khomeini has initiated a treacherous campaign against the leader of the Kurdish Democratic Party, Dr. Abdulrahman Qassemou, and Kurdish religious leader Sheikh Ezzedin Hosseini. Khomeini referred to the powerful KDP as the "party of Satan."

A former Iranian diplomat has characterized Khomeini's provocations as "suicide . . . he is alienating the entire country by these tactics." He stated that Khomeini is trying to "smoke out" his opposition for a confrontation. In particular he noted that if Khomeini does not believe he can rebuild Iran's military then he must force a confrontation with the left, particularly the Mujahedeen and Fedayeen, two large and well armed guerrilla groups. Yussef Ibrahim in the *New York Times* of August 16 reports:

"The strength of the Fedayeen who saw portents of the clergy's assault against the left months ago, is believed to be 3,000 to 4,000 men under arms. According to Iranian sources, they maintain caches of weapons and ammunition that were replenished by raiding army bases. The Mujahedeen al Khalq has over 5,000 trained guerrillas. Both the Fedayeen and the Mujahedeen are