

Muslim Brotherhood sends 'killer squads' to the U.S.A.

by Nancy Coker

Within 24 hours of the murder of the Shah of Iran's nephew in Paris Dec. 7, Mustafa Chafik, the head of the Muslim Brotherhood in Iran, took responsibility for the killing and threatened more terror.

"The Islamic Fedayeen [the name of the Muslim Brotherhood in Iran] are continuing their activities in Europe and the United States to identify these wrongdoers and punish them for their actions," stated Ayatollah Khalkhali, a Brotherhood leader in Iran and chief of the Islamic tribunals. "This will continue until all these dirty pawns of the decadent system have been purged."

State Department spokesman Hodding Carter III, asked by *EIR* at a Dec. 10 press briefing about reports that Khalkhali's Muslim Brotherhood killers had been deployed in the United States for assassinations, answered that security measures had been taken for certain individuals because of Khalkhali's threats. Up until a month ago at least, even after the taking of hostages in Iran, National Security Council adviser Zbigniew Brzezinski, according to White House press secretary Jody Powell, was still viewing Muslim fundamentalism, the ideology of the Muslim Brotherhood, as a "bulwark against communism."

Khalkhali's terrorist declaration should relieve any doubts pertaining to the *EIR*'s exposure of the Muslim Brotherhood as a terrorist grouping, and makes even more urgent a thorough investigation into the Brotherhood and its controllers. In the United States a compe-

tent investigation would begin with those in the Carter administration who abetted the rise to power of the Muslim Brotherhood. It would also look at the Muslim Student Organization. The MSA, first established by former Iranian foreign minister Ibrahim Yazdi while he was in the United States, is known to have a terrorist training center in Plainfield, Indiana.

The SAVAK angle

According to sources in Paris, the responsibility for the murder of the Shah's nephew can be laid at the doorstep not only of the Muslim Brotherhood but on SAVAMA, the shadowy intelligence service of Khomeini.

The following evidence exists.

1. Two days before the assassination of Chafik, an Iranian general, Hossein Fardoust, paid a secret visit to Paris. According to Marc Valle, the lawyer for the murdered man, Fardoust is responsible for having ordered the assassination. "You can easily draw conclusions as to who organized the cold-blooded murder," charged Valle, "because it was after Gen. Fardoust's visit that strange men were seen lurking in the area where the killing took place."

Fardoust was formerly the number-two man in the SAVAK, the secret police of the Shah—and is now one

of the leading intelligence officials of Khomeini's SAVAMA intelligence apparatus.

Last month, *EIR* exposed Fardoust as one of the contact men for NATO Gen. Robert Huyser, who was Brzezinski's and Vance's man-in-Teheran during the February revolution to neutralize the military and ensure the downfall of former prime minister Shahpur Bakhtiar.

2. Three weeks ago, two former leading officials of the SAVAK's Foreign Operations Division now working with SAVAMA, also visited Paris to prepare the assassination of the Shah's nephew and to plan other hits against Khomeini's opponents living in exile. The two are Gen. Farouzian, the second-ranking member of SAVAMA, and Gen. Kaveh, the head of SAVAMA.

Following their stay in Paris, members of the Iranian community there have reported an increase in surveillance. Several have reported receiving threatening letters and phone calls.

The SAVAK-SAVAMA operation and, in particular, the role of Fardoust, Farouzian, and Kaveh, were discussed in the Oct. 23 *Financial Times*:

Ayatollah Khomeini's regime in Iran is being actively aided by a number of key military and security officers who were close to the Shah until he went into exile last January. Well-placed Iranians say that among those now holding official or unofficial positions are a number of boyhood friends of the former monarch and the Shah's last chief of staff of the armed forces. Senior figures in SAVAK, the old secret police force, have also apparently switched sides without qualms.

The two most important men believed to have changed sides are Gen. Hossein Fardoust and Gen. Abbas Gharabaghi. They were closely involved in the military's negotiations with the Khomeini camp for a transfer of power during the crucial 48 hours leading up to the Teheran uprising of February.

The present government is meanwhile believed to have retained almost intact three departments of the old SAVAK. These departments include numbers two, six, and eight, dealing with the communists, tribes at home, and counterespionage.

All intelligence activity comes under Defence Minister Mustafa Chamran. Working under him, prominent Iranian exiles say, are two senior members of the old organization, Gen. Farouzian and Gen. Kaveh.

Meet the assassin: Ayatollah Khalkhali

From France's Le Figaro, Dec. 11:

Khalkhali "has made frequent stays in insane asylums under the regime of the Shah, for if he was arrested by the political police for words against the emperor, he was also detained by psychiatrists who were astonished to see this religious man chase after domestic animals in the streets of Qom to make them submit to torture. He had in effect the habit of hanging dogs and cats and of gouging out the eyes of birds. One sees who one is dealing with.

"And yesterday, he told us, just like that, that it was he who had organized the assassination against the nephew of the Shah in Paris. He added that that was only the beginning and that the whole Pahlevi family 'was going to get it' as well as the ex-prime minister, Shapur Bakhtiar; about twenty former officials under the Shah; and even 'the people who inhabit the White House.' "

In short, Khomeini's secret police SAVAMA is largely composed of the repressive apparatus of the Shah's SAVAK. The connecting link is the Muslim Brotherhood, itself an agency controlled by British intelligence operatives.

Confirming Khalkhali's boast that he and his hit men were behind the assassination in Paris, French police have reported that they have evidence linking the murder to Khalkhali's Fedayeen-e Islam.

From Iran itself, Foreign Minister Sadegh Ghotbzadeh is doing his utmost to protect Khalkhali. In a Dec. 9 television interview, Ghotbzadeh claimed that "Khalkhali is not head of anything."

According to insiders, Khalkhali—a certified lunatic who used to torture and dismember animals until he was committed to an insane asylum years ago—is not only chief of the Muslim Brotherhood in Iran but heads the Islamic tribunals. Khalkhali has also been given the responsibility for security inside the "holy city" of Qom itself. According to these same sources, Khalkhali and his Fedayeen were responsible for the attempt to assassinate opposition figure Ayatollah Shariatmadari last week.

Half of Iran in rebellion

The rebellion that has engulfed Iran has the support of approximately half the country's population located in five distinct ethnic areas.

The central figure of the insurgency is Ayatollah Shariatmadari, the second highest ranking religious leader and Khomeini's premier rival. The base of Shariatmadari's followers is the city of Tabriz, the capital of Azerbaijan province in northwestern Iran, whose population is Turkish-speaking Azerbaijani Turks, who comprise one third of Iran's population. Azerbaijani Turks also comprise one third of Teh-

eran's population. There is also a strong pro-Shariatmadari militia in the holy city of Qom, where Shariatmadari is now residing.

Shariatmadari's followers have seized control of Azerbaijan, expelling pro-Khomeini government troops and representatives, seizing the radio station in Tabriz, and kicking out the pro-Khomeini governor. The Iranian army, which is largely commanded by Azerbaijani officers, is largely behind Shariatmadari.

Many leading opposition figures and groups which supported Khomeini's Islamic regime have since broken with the Ayatollah

and gone into Azerbaijan, notably the Fedayeen and the Mura-dine al Khalq. These two guerrilla groups have also lent military backing to the Kurdish minority's opposition to Khomeini. As well, a number of prominent figures associated with the National Front have broken their allegiance to Khomeini and sought refuge in Azerbaijan. The influential former head of the National Iranian Oil Company, Hassan Nazih, is now working closely with Shariatmadari. Nazih's influence extends into the oil producing region of the Khuzestan district.

Shariatmadari is backed in his confrontation with Khomeini by other ethnic minorities in Iran, including the country's 4 million Kurds. Both the Kurdish Democratic Party and Sheikh Hosseini, the religious leader, have endorsed the rebellion.

In Khorasan province, the Turkomen population there is led by Ayatollah Qomi, who maintains close ties with Shariatmadari and has mobilized his followers behind him.

In Baluchistan, Baluchi rebels there have taken the pro-Khomeini governor of the province hostage.

Although Khuzestan province is reported to be presently quiet, the Arab Sunnis who comprise the bulk of the population are reportedly at odds with Khomeini's fanatic brand of Shiite fundamentalism. Also residing in Khuzestan is the Bakhtiari tribe, who maintain their loyalty to former prime minister Shahpur Bakhtiar, now in exile in France. The situation in Khuzestan is crucial, given the fact that it is that province that produces Iran's oil; the Arab and Bakhtiari populations there comprise most of the labor for Iran's oilfields.

