

and runs the “leftist” M-19 through emplaced military intelligence personnel (see below).

It therefore comes as no surprise when Gómez Hurtado brazenly states, as he did this week, that the embassy takeover politically favors his Conservative Party.

Violence

Over the past days, many of the nations whose ambassadors are being held hostage have engaged in feverish diplomatic activity to pressure the Colombian government to not cave in to military pressure to storm the embassy—Entebbe style—and provoke a bloodbath. The diplomatic community’s concern is well taken. Earlier this week, Colombian President Turbay Ayala told the press that “not a single peso, not a single prisoner” would be handed over to the M-19, as the terrorists are now demanding. Turbay has agreed in the course of negotiations only to providing them an airplane and safe conduct so that they can leave the country. The M-19, however, is emphatic that they want all political prisoners released, and most knowledgeable observers agree that they will begin to assassinate the hostages two-by-two—as threatened—if the Colombian government stalls for too long. At that point, crack antiterrorist squads can be expected to launch a lightning raid of the embassy.

The press is reporting that top Israeli and American antiterror units have arrived in Bogota to aid the Colombians in such an assault. Sharpshooters have carefully taken up positions in the environs of the embassy. And one freed hostage reports that the M-19 guerrillas, in addition to being highly trained and heavily armed, have wired the embassy with explosives and will blow it up should a raid be launched.

Nothing would please Gómez Hurtado and his Black International allies more than to set off such a bloodbath. It would mean the end of what little democracy remains in Colombia, and would usher in a military dictatorship. This in turn would mean civil war—a return to the conditions of the 1948-58 “La Violencia” period when almost half a million Colombians were killed in fratricidal battle. Under current conditions, and with prompting from further terrorist acts, the entire region would quickly become one large Iran.

Even as the tense negotiations over the seized embassy continue, political violence is spreading in Colombia. This past week, three terrorist bombs were set off in three different cities, including one at the Mexican consulate in Medellin. A radio station was also reportedly seized by ultraleftists in the port city of Barranquilla. In response, Defense Minister Camacho Leyva authorized his troops to kill any “suspicious” individuals or those who fail to obey a “halt” order. As a result, over half a dozen people have been killed in two days by trigger-happy troops.

Caribbean now new center of war danger

by Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr.

In my nationwide half-hour NBC-TV address of Jan. 27, I stated that I was omitting discussion of the potential for an early thermonuclear war crisis in the Caribbean. With a terrorist attack on the Dominican Embassy in Bogota, Colombia, the Caribbean nuclear confrontation with Moscow was set into motion.

Now, as in the case of the taking the U.S. citizens hostage in Iran, the official Carter administration coverage of the Bogota hostage crisis is predominantly a pack of lies.

Avoiding as much as possible the kind of information which would be immediately understood only by high-level intelligence circles, I report the most relevant of the more easily understood facts of the new hostage crisis as we have them in hand at this moment.

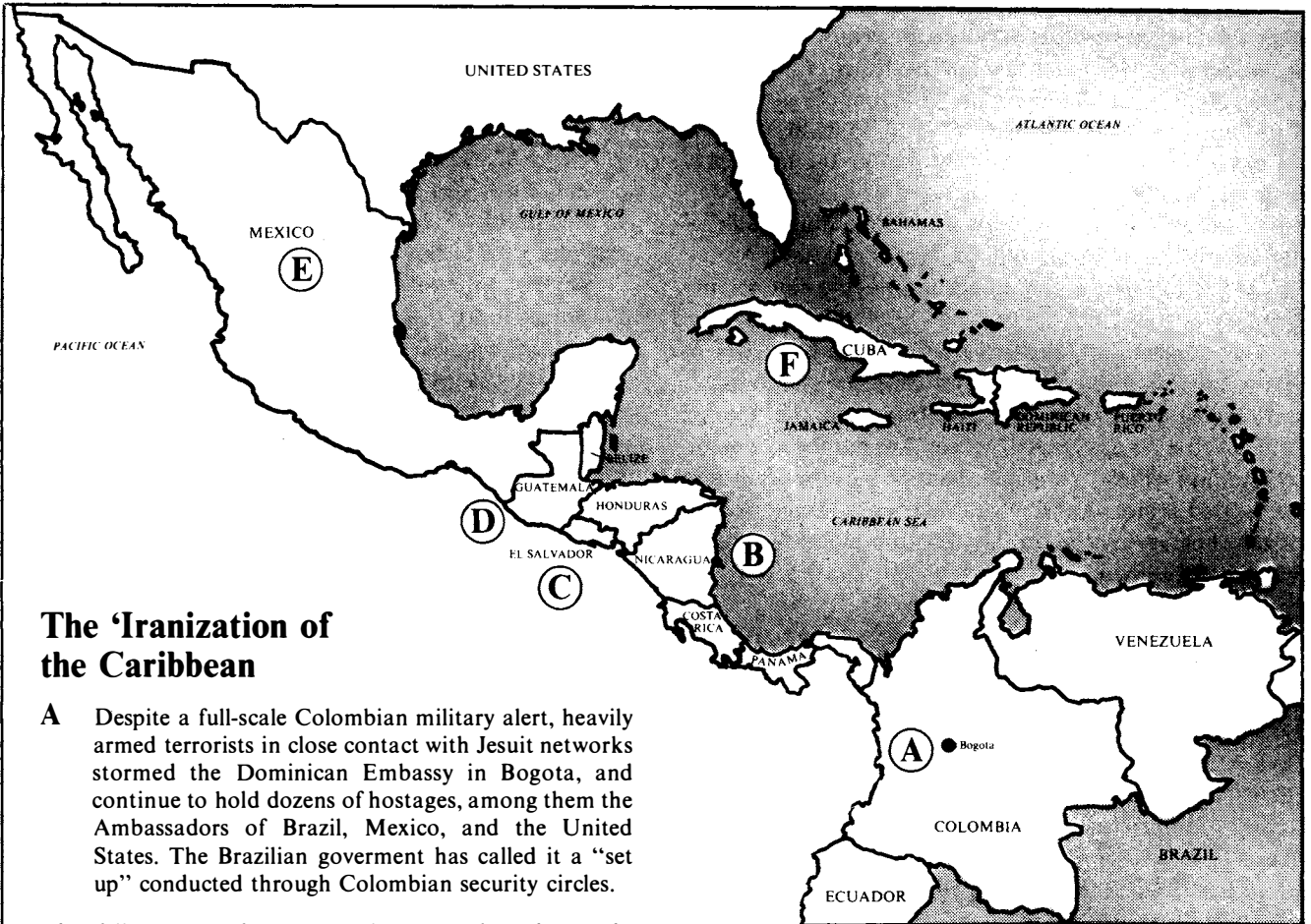
A plot known well in advance

A heavily armed terrorist group stormed the Dominican Embassy in Bogota, Colombia while a large part of the diplomatic community was there, attending the celebration of a major Dominican national holiday. About 60 hostages are reportedly being held, in addition to an undetermined number of dead and injured. The hostages include the ambassadors of Brazil, Mexico and the United States. The U.S. ambassador is currently negotiating, by walkie-talkie, on behalf of the terrorist group holding himself and other hostages.

This attack was widely advertised in advance.

In the Feb. 16 issue of a leading Mexico City daily, *Excelsior*, it was reported that the Colombian military had been placed on a full-scale alert, because of the discovery of a “terrorist plot against foreign embassies in Bogota.”

In the Feb. 22 edition of a London intelligence publication, *Latin America*, the following item appeared under the slug “Colombia/Alert”:



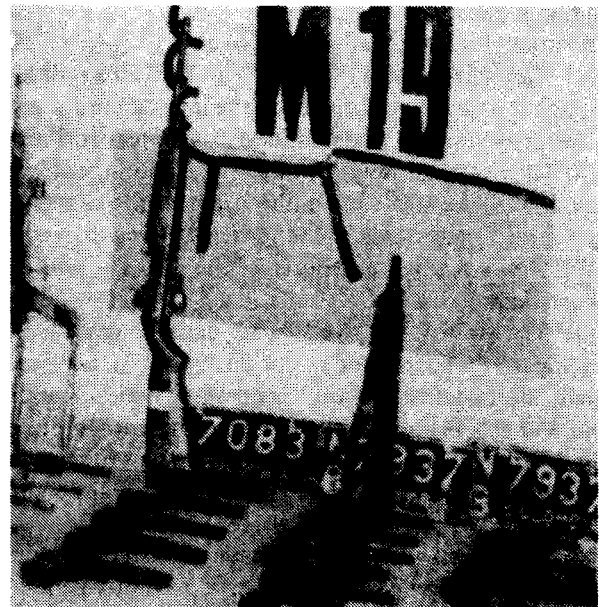
The 'Iranization' of the Caribbean

A Despite a full-scale Colombian military alert, heavily armed terrorists in close contact with Jesuit networks stormed the Dominican Embassy in Bogota, and continue to hold dozens of hostages, among them the Ambassadors of Brazil, Mexico, and the United States. The Brazilian government has called it a "set up" conducted through Colombian security circles.

The following warfare potentialities are brought to the threshold of action by the effects of the ongoing hostage crisis in Colombia.

- B** A Colombian invasion of Nicaragua, to which powerful "right-wing" oligarchist forces inside Colombia are committed.
- C** A "right-wing" coup in El Salvador aided by "right-wing" elements in Guatemala.
- D** A "leftist" insurrection in Guatemala, quickly involving Honduras and possibly Belize.
- E** An "Iran-style" destabilization of Mexico, designed at the Washington, D.C. Georgetown University (Jesuit), featuring "left" and "right" deployments under control of the Bishop of Cuernavaca (Jesuit) and potential "left" terrorism against Mexican oil fields.
- F** U.S. military action against Cuba, as "leaked" into U.S. press recently by Kissinger and Brzezinski channels.

Under present circumstances, the activation of F by the Carter administration is sufficient to provoke general thermonuclear war. Otherwise, the combined effects of these scenarios afoot around the Bogota hostage crisis is to bring the Caribbean to the threshold level at which the crisis spreads into South America, triggering continent-wide warfare as per the scenario drawn up by Luigi Einaudi and Henry Kissinger for a "Second War of the Pacific."



"The armed forces have been put on full-scale alert after the alleged discovery by the government of a plot by unidentified left-wing groups to attack various embassies in Bogota. After recent disturbances at the national university and the arrest of more than 20 students, the university has been closed until after the local elections on March 9."

The Dominican embassy is opposite a major university campus in Bogota, and the terrorist attack on the embassy was followed by an accompanying riot on that campus.

The situation is therefore analogous to Secretary of State Cyrus Vance's cooperation with Henry A. Kissinger in bringing the exiled Shah of Iran into the United States—after Vance himself had earlier authored a memorandum in which he warned that entry of the Shah into the United States would probably trigger taking of U.S. citizens hostage by the Iranian dictatorship of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini.

Who controls the terrorists

The terrorist group claiming responsibility for the attack is known as "M-19." The group is known to be backed by the "liberation theology" network among Latin American Jesuits, and is linked by intelligence circles to the son of the former Colombian dictator, Alvaro Gomez Hurtado, himself a leading Jesuit operative.

In particular, the following illustrative facts are well-known concerning "M-19":

(1) They murdered Jose Raquel Mercado, a leading Colombian trade unionist then organizing resistance to the Milton Friedman policy of imposing austerities modeled on those of Friedman's idol, Nazi Finance Minister Hjalmar Schacht.

So much for their "left wing" cover.

(2) They seized more than 4,000 arms from a military camp, over a year ago, triggering the implementation of the "security statute" as demanded by Gomez Hurtado.

(3) They work closely with the "liberation theology" Jesuits in Colombia, including the Jesuit-controlled proinsurrectionist magazine *Alternativa*. This magazine is otherwise a leading promoter of the growing and use of marijuana.

(4) The ability of "M-19" to deploy against the Dominican Embassy under conditions of a full-scale security alert against just such impending actions echoes Cyrus Vance's bringing the Shah into the United States without any precautionary steps either to evacuate or adequately defend U.S. diplomatic and consular personnel in Iran.

Moreover, all the facts we have reported here are fully known to the U.S. intelligence community generally, and the State Department's intelligence units in particular. Hence, the distorted official report put out by the

State Department last evening has a highly suspicious character.

Three imminent warfare threats in the region

At this moment there are three imminent warfare potentialities afoot in the Caribbean region, all brought to threshold of action by the effects of the ongoing hostage crisis in Bogota.

(1) Colombian Invasion of Nicaragua: The "Alvarista" forces in Colombia are openly committed to military operations against Nicaragua. Recently, this projected enterprise was given implicit blessing by the president of Panama.

(2) This operation dovetails with the coup being prepared directly to Nicaragua's north. "Right-wing" forces in El Salvador, based in Guatemala, have murdered a high official of the El Salvador government in his home, and a coup is expected at any time.

(3) The *casus belli* between Colombia and Nicaragua was set up by "liberation theology" Jesuits within the Nicaraguan government, claiming some otherwise ridiculously unimportant islands.

Attention must also be called to: (4) The role of the Bishop of Cuernavaca (Mexico), controller of the Communist Party of Mexico, and visibly leading representative of the "liberation theology" faction of the Jesuits in the Caribbean region, in his operations, beginning during 1978, to induce Cuba's Fidel Castro to ally himself publicly with the terrorist "Puerto Rican independence" forces. It is this faction of Jesuits, tied to the anti-Papal "New Rome" heretics in the United States, which is the controlling link between the Central American revolutionary forces and the governments of Cuba and Mexico respectively. Thus, through this heretic faction of Jesuits, overlapping Philip Agee and Ivan Illich, the treasonous elements of the U.S. foreign-service and intelligence communities are able to orchestrate "left-right" destabilization scenarios in much of Latin America through Georgetown University-centered networks.

The "Kennedy machine" within the U.S. intelligence and political organizations is most intimately overlapped with this Georgetown-centered operation. The Kennedy Center for Bio-Ethics at Georgetown University is one of the leading backers of the anti-Papal heretics of the Jesuit's "liberation theology" faction, as well as a leading voice for the "right to die" brainwashing operations against U.S. citizens.

These highlighted points indicate the way in which Cuba and Mexico are being sucked into a potential nuclear-war crisis by means of general destabilization in Central America.

(5) This is being fomented in coordination with an unleashing of all sleeper capabilities within Cuba itself, a combination of operations designed to provoke the Cas-



Alvaro Gomez Hurtado

tro government into a mood for punishing those it deems responsible.

(6) This is being promoted in leading political candidates' and related other circles by Carter administration briefings which repeatedly propose action against Cuba as a "credible" (Zbigniew Brzezinski's formulation) counteraction against Soviet postures in Asia.

(7) This is being deployed at just the point that the entire Carter administration "Arc of Crisis" and "China card" gambits have backfired. The humiliating failure of Carter policy operations in Iran is highlighted by the total failure of Carter's efforts to secure release of the hostages in time for the Feb. 26 New Hampshire primary. Iran now repudiates any "linkage" between Secretary-General Waldheim's humiliation of the United States and negotiations for release of the hostages. The hostages are now to be held until well into May, at the earliest, according to latest official Khomeinai dictatorship statements.

(8) Any threatened military action between Colombia and its neighbors will probably trigger activation of the "Second War of the Pacific" scenario. That scenario was developed for Henry A. Kissinger by Latin American specialist Luigi Einaudi of the Rand Corporation, and is a scheme for embroiling all of South America in a kind of "Thirty Years War" modeled after the 1618-1648 war in central Europe.

(9) Another extremely important cog in the wheel of Caribbean crisis is Venezuela. Leading elements in Venezuela are deeply involved in El Salvador. The ruling COPEI party strongly backs the Salvadorean Christian Democracy's participation in the ruling junta. While presumably backing the Salvadorean factions nominally allied to the Nicaraguan government's stability, Venezuela, a key case for Caribbean "Gusano" deployments, is a

principal conduit for destabilization operations inside Cuba itself.

In summary on this point, the three operating scenarios afoot around the Bogota hostage-taking are (1) A Colombian military operation against Nicaragua, dovetailing with "right wing" coup deployed into El Salvador from neighbor Guatemala, triggering "leftist" insurrection in Guatemala, and quickly involving Honduras and probably also Belize. (2) The drawing-in of both Cuba and Mexico into the Central American destabilization, leading to "Iran-style" destabilizations inside Mexico and a possible U.S. military action against Cuba. (3) The bringing of the crisis up to the threshold level at which it spreads into South America, triggering a scenario along the lines of the Kissinger-Einaudi "Second War of the Pacific."

All of this occurs under the condition that a U.S. military action against Cuba remains a thermonuclear casus belli between Washington and Moscow.

Is it likely?

On Feb. 16 the New York City *Diario-La Prensa* carried a report of an interview with Zbigniew Brzezinski's National Security Council aide David Aaron.

"Aaron asserted that Castro is playing an important role in the current situation in El Salvador, and that he is basically trying to reunite all the left guerrilla groups in order to confront them with the government junta. Aaron feels that in this regard the Cubans have scored some successes."

Naturally, no mention of the Georgetown University management, via Cuernavaca, of the most important connections between Havana and El Salvador. Sure, Fidel Castro is repeatedly demonstrated to be an easy mark for manipulation by the "liberation theology" faction of the Latin American Jesuits. Castro is involved, but chiefly through channels controlled by the circle around the "left-Jesuit" Bishop of Cuernavaca. My own intelligence service has penetrated these connections and has issued repeated warnings to various relevant U.S. intelligence and other entities, plus a brutally undiplomatic warning to Fidel Castro concerning the implications of his foolishness in this matter.

Following the Feb. 16 leak to *Diario-La Prensa*, an escalation of the same garbage was leaked through the pages of the *Washington Star*. In the course of a lengthy article slugged "Experts See New Cuba Role in Hemisphere Revolution," there is included the key passage:

"Specialists say that Cuba has in the past year or so assigned higher priority to attempts to subvert regimes in Latin America. They discern a new phase in the Cuban effort to spread communism in this hemisphere."

This is followed by an item conducted through yesterday's edition of the *Washington Post*:

"The U.S. Embassy in El Salvador has become a

fortress, waiting for attack. Iron gates and newly installed, thick concrete walls guard the main entrances; sandbagged gun emplacements are strategically located on the roof. Deep lines of stress mark the faces of the men and women who work inside."

Yesterday's Paris newspaper, *Le Monde*, adds:

"Could the U.S. take the initiative of launching a new military intervention south of the Rio Grande? It is, definitely, the evolution of thinking in the U.S. in the wake of the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan, that they are no longer the 'bad guys' of the planet, and so they would prefer to risk alienating themselves from their neighbors than to allow the propagation of revolution in what is their own hunting grounds."

Although *Le Monde* has some inputs from high-level circles in France, it is also closely allied otherwise to Mrs. Katherine Meyer Graham of the *Washington Post*, and, together with the English-language *International Herald Tribune*, a leading "leak sheet" for conducting Manhattan banking circles' policies to the attention of European influentials. The cited *Le Monde* article experts recognize as "I.D. format" for a Brzezinski-Kissinger leak.

There are many other echoes of the same theme around the world. The Soviet press service Novosti, usually representing a different shading of Soviet perceptions than TASS, is openly referring to possible U.S. military moves. Most relevant, a few days ago, Chicago banker Anderson delivered a public "U.S. offer" to defend Mexico's oil from threats, adding the overtone of threat, that the United States itself is the only military threat to Mexico and the entire Caribbean-Central American region.

Over the year-end, a leading British intelligence spokesman stated that although he would never have imagined earlier agreeing with LaRouche on any important policy issue, he agreed that the British had been wrong, and LaRouche correct, in Britain's overlooking the depth and weight of the "psychosis factor" in and around the Carter administration. To put the point in language suited for plain speech among friends in the kitchen, "Those nuts in Washington are actually moving the United States toward a thermonuclear scenario in the Caribbean."

Compared to Iran hostage articulation

Intelligence-witting Republican circles, including those linked to George Bush, currently describe the combined taking and manipulation of U.S. hostages in Iran as being either "articulated" or "manipulated" by the Carter administration. These judgments are based inclusively on official State Department documents of the sort secured by Congressman Hansen (R-Idaho) and published in such locations abroad as the Dublin (Ireland) press. Also included in the collection is a commu-

nication from official Carter administration representative Ramsey Clark to former Khomeiniac dictator Yazdi, in which Clark solicited from the Iranian dictatorship some action to secure the Shah, the tone of the letter implying an "imaginative action" of the sort one must equate to the taking of U.S. citizens hostage.

It is stated by these Republican circles that (A) they intend to use this information "to destroy President Jimmy Carter politically," but that (B) this denunciation of Carter will be delayed as agreed in the "national unity" agreement made last November between Henry A. Kissinger and Cyrus Vance. Until the hostages are either released or killed, Republicans possessing this devastating information against the Carter administration are to be held back.

It is doubted that Republican candidates will reveal the complete truth concerning the Carter administration complicity in the manipulation of the hostage situation. Reason: Henry A. Kissinger and Kissinger's traveling piggy-bank, David Rockefeller, were up to their ears in pressuring the Carter administration to bring the Shah into the United States, and in creating the dubious argument that the Shah had some urgent medical needs which could not be competently treated in Mexico.

The principal, documented facts of the development of the Iran crisis are as follows. The parallel to the developing Caribbean crisis is clear enough once these facts are considered.

How the 'arc of crisis' was cooked up

The key to the entire history of the present crisis in Iran, Pakistan and Afghanistan begins within a subdivision of the British Secret Intelligence Service known as the "Arab Bureau." It is relevant to note that the "Arab Bureau" was created as a "rib taken out of the Indian Office" of SIS during the late 1920s, and that the chief field officer for the newly created Arab bureau at that time was St. John Philby, a prolific writer, a professed convert to Islam, once decorated by Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev, and the father of the notorious H. "Kim" Philby who is today a recently promoted general officer of the Soviet State Security Organization (KGB). During the initial phases of the Arab Bureau, SIS and MI-5 cooperated to launch the "Muslim Brotherhood" in Cairo. Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini and his entire immediate ruling circle in Teheran are members of SIS's "Muslim Brotherhood."

The fact that the Arab Bureau is a "rib" taken out of the old Indian office of SIS is key to sorting-out the secondary complications of the Pakistan-Iran-Afghanistan operations today.

Historically, Khomeini's father was an agent of SIS's Indian office, under whose auspices Khomeini himself began his career as his father's successor.

This is also key to the complexities of the division between Sunni and Shiite divisions of the Muslim Brotherhood. The Shiite divisions (embracing Iran, Afghanistan, Pakistan and India) are historically structured as products of the Indian office, whereas the Sunni elements of the Muslim Brotherhood have acquired the structure derived from a half-century under the management of the Arab Bureau. However, the Jamaati-al-Islami, the branch of the opium-and-hashish-smuggling Muslim Brotherhood embracing the Zia dictatorship and the Afghan "rebels" based in Pakistan, is tightly coordinated at the top with the same command which also directs the Sunni branches of the Brotherhood or Ikhwan.

It is the combined forces of this British SIS-created Ikhwan, or "Muslim Brotherhood," which are the principal "asset" around which the "Arc of Crisis" "Islamic fundamentalism" "card" is constructed.

It was out of the Geneva (Switzerland) and London offices of SIS Arab Bureau that the "Arc of Crisis" doctrine of Brzezinski was originally cooked up.

This plan proposed the use of both the Muslim Brotherhood and assorted "particularist" nationalisms in the region from India, into Turkey, and down into Africa, to destroy all existing independent states in that region, and to create a fragmented region of squabbling petty autonomous regions, all modeled on the fourth century B.C. "oligarchical model" or "Persian model" world-rule scheme cooked up by the command of the "Western Division of the Persian Empire" based on Rhodes. In addition to the original, fourth-century B.C. "Persian model," the scholarly plotters of SIS's Arab Bureau employed the ninth-through-eleventh century Asharite destruction of Islamic civilization from within as the source from which to develop techniques for manipulating Muslim populations through perversions of Koranic beliefs.

Therefore, a noted Islamic scholar, Bernard Lewis, a subaltern of senior Arab Bureau official Sir John Bagot Glubb Pasha, was deployed to take a leading role in the development and implementation of the "Arc of Crisis" scenario.

How it was conduited into the Carter administration

The British SIS scenario was conduited into U.S. policymaking through the auspices of the Aspen Institute. That "charitable fondation" sponsored a study, directed by Bernard Lewis, which was then introduced to Carter policy through Henry A. Kissinger. This Aspen Institute conduiting of British policy into the Carter administration was first known as "The Bernard Lewis Plan." Later, it was given the more exotic title, "The Arc of Crisis," and also conduited into policymaking and news media under the alternative title of "Islamic Fundamentalism Card."

The following steps were taken, beginning mid-1977, to make the "Bernard Lewis Plan" operational policy of the U.S. intelligence community.

(1) The remaining capabilities of the CIA's "covert operations sections" were gutted by combined actions of Vice-President Mondale, Admiral Stansfield Turner, Naval Intelligence and corrupt elements of the FBI. Not only was the "cover operations" capability of the CIA destroyed under Turner during the massive purge of the summer of 1977, but Naval Intelligence and FBI teams were dispatched to uproot and destroy in-place private "assets" of the covert-operations sections. This purge of CIA capabilities emphasized CIA monitoring of Soviet policymaking and destruction of all independent CIA capabilities in the Middle East. Some frail vestiges of the CIA's in-place assets survived, but the overall capability of the CIA was destroyed in these areas, with Mondale-centered aid to Israeli and other secret-intelligence agencies to hunt down and variously kill, imprison or otherwise neutralize the few remaining survivors of the Carter-Mondale-Turner purge.

(2) With all independent, patriotic elements of the U.S. intelligence community largely "blinded" by this Turner purge, the Kissinger and Kennedy-machine crews were able to run disinformation through "national estimates" procedures. Increasingly, the "national estimates" and related intelligence findings put through administration and other channels have been wholly or partially lies.

(3) In this situation, Kissinger, Brzezinski et al. were able to exploit an Arab-Israeli peace negotiation, which I among others, had worked since April 1975 to set into motion, to use a "separate Israeli-Egypt" peace as a fraudulent cover for secret agreements which Israel and Cairo had been blackmailed into adopting.

I have a combination of direct and indirect knowledge of the contents of those secret agreements through my channels leading into high circles of those and other governments, including the overlay of those secret agreements with secret agreements between Carter and the Chinese Communists. Under these combined agreements, the Carter administration is in a three-way collaboration with the intelligence services of Communist China and Israel, working against all of the governments to which the U.S.A. is overtly or implicitly allied throughout Asia and Africa—including the destabilization of the Philippines, the Chinese Communist takeover of Taiwan, and the destabilization of Indonesia, Thailand, Malaysia and India.

(4) The establishment of the cosmetic "Camp David" cover for the secret agreements led to the immediate implementation of the next phase of the "Bernard Lewis Plan," the overthrow of the Shah of Iran.

Presuming that it was U.S. policy to maintain stability of nations on the Soviet Union's southern flank, my

associates and I worked to support stabilization of these governments, including the Gandhi government of India, the Bhutto government of Pakistan, and the government of Iran. In this connection, I was heavily involved in efforts to defeat Khomeinians from early 1978 onward, committing my resources to strengthening of the successor, Prime Minister Shahpour Bakhtiar government as the United States' last option for preventing general destabilization of the entire region.

(5) It is already reported in news media that U.S. NATO General Huyser was instrumental in implementing Carter administration orders to overthrow the Shah. It was former Attorney General Ramsey Clark, acting then and now as an official representative of the Carter administration, who led a Teheran demonstration demanding the overthrow of the Bakhtiar government in favor of the Khomeini dictatorship, and who has been closely connected to those persons who have been directing the "students" holding the U.S. hostages throughout the past 116 days.

Not only did the Carter administration, acting under direction from Henry A. Kissinger, orchestrate the taking of U.S. hostages, but that administration and Kissinger have since combined efforts to using threats of U.S. military action in the Gulf to blackmail Europe and Japan into bending to Carter administration demands delivered chiefly through Henry A. Kissinger and through close Jerry Brown and close Ramsey Clark associate, Warren Christopher. As a side-benefit of that exploitation of U.S. hostages for "crisis management" operations, the Carter administration is using its keeping the hostages in Iran as a lever for manipulating the 1980 U.S. presidential elections.

The analogy to the Hitler case

From 1932 through 1938, the British government not only put Adolf Hitler into power, but used Hitler as its adopted "asset" for "Eastward only" geopolitical purposes through the Munich agreements of 1938. However, having set their Frankenstein's monster, Hitler, afoot in that way, London overlooked the nasty propensities of overgrown Frankenstein's monsters to turn upon their creators. The accelerating collapse of the Carter administration's power to manipulate the internal situation in Iran is a fresh example of the same 'Frankenstein's monster principle' exemplified by London's creation of the Adolf Hitler regime in Germany.

The latest, Caribbean caper of the forces which control puppet-President Jimmy Carter, is another example. Of a nation which continues to tolerate Kissinger's and Carter's lunatic adventures in bluffing, one must repeat the old adage, "Whom the gods would destroy, they first drive mad."

The M-19 file *A Jesuit creation of Colombian military intelligence*

Over the past year, both Colombian and international press have expended significant efforts to give credence to the M-19 as a well-organized leftist guerrilla organization. However, *EIR* is in possession of growing evidence indicating that leading members of Colombia's Jesuit oligarchy, in particular Senator Alvaro Gómez Hurtado and the military intelligence and Church factions allied to him, are among the principal controllers of the M-19. This group and its international patrons not only stand to benefit most from the destabilization of Colombia and the Caribbean which is resulting from the M-19's current terrorist actions. It has in fact utilized every action of the M-19 over its six years of activity in Colombia to justify stepped-up repressive and police-state measures against the population and well-organized labor movement.

The M-19—shorthand for the Movimiento 19 de Abril—was founded in the immediate aftermath of the April 19, 1970 presidential elections which massively defrauded the followers in the ANAPO party of Colombian right-wing ex-dictator Gustavo Rojas Pinilla. One section of the ANAPO became so disillusioned with Colombia's lack of democracy that they decided to become urban guerrillas—or so the folklore goes. The M-19 was thus formed, largely out of right-wing exmilitary followers of Rojas Pinilla, and took its name from the date of their disenfranchisement.

Their first terrorist act was a pure publicity stunt: in 1974 they stole the sword of Simon Bolivar, Latin America's liberator.

Since then, Colombia's Jesuit networks have been working overtime to try to launder the M-19 as a bona fide "leftist" urban guerrilla group, including by trying to establish links with Nicaragua's Sandinistas. But the stigma of its "rightist" origins has persisted to this day. For example, just last week, Colombia's ambassador to Mexico told the press: "The M-19 was founded by ultra-