
Investigative Leads

Moscow's 'mullahs' launch terror wave

by Thierry Lalevée

Earlier in the month, Sheikh Islamzadeh, deputy foreign minister of Iran, whose presence in Damascus always precedes a major terror wave, had met with Syrian intelligence chief Gen. Ali Duba in Switzerland. That Islamzadeh was chosen for the job of liaison stems from the fact that his mother was a member of the Syrian Alawite clan, like the ruling clique in Damascus. In the first week of August, Duba's deputy, Col. Ezzedin Suleyman, arrived in Teheran, together with Dr. Mohammed Nassif, head of the security department of the Syrian interior ministry, while Iran's Minister of the Pasdarans, Mohsen Hashemi-Rafighdust, was himself in Damascus meeting with President Hafez al-Assad, on his way to Tripoli to meet Qaddafi!

The mullahs who are not mullahs

Coordinating these operations in Teheran itself is a clique which donned the mullahs' robes only in 1979, after years of intelligence and political training in the Soviet Union or East Germany. This includes President Khamenei, and his brother, Prime Minister Mir-Moussavi; Hojatessalam Khomeinia, who led the assault of the "Student Followers of the Line of the Imam" against the American embassy in 1979; and the so-called "Ayatollah" Azari Ghomi, the former attorney general of Iran, whose presence in Europe last December reactivated the terror networks of "Carlos" in France.

Of those mullahs associated with the hardcore terrorist operation, the only one with any actual theological training is Ruhollah Khomeini's official heir, Ayatollah Montazeri, chairman of the "Imams of the Friday Prayers." This terrorist-control apparatus held a series of meetings July 27-30 in Canada and Europe. One conference took place in Hamburg, at the mosque formerly run by Ayatollah Beheshti, and now directed by Hojatessalam Mohammed Moghadam, a regular visitor to Leipzig, East Germany. Gathering Imams from throughout Europe, the meeting discussed the implementation of the decisions taken at the world congress of the organization in May. A day later a plane was hijacked in Frankfurt, as Azari-Ghomi's presence in Europe was spotted!

Ironically, except for the dying Khomeini and Speaker of the Parliament Hojatessalam Hashemi-Rafsanjani, there is not a single trained mullah ruling Iran's erstwhile theocracy; all have been removed from the political scene. After the decision to put Grand Ayatollah Shariat Madari under house-arrest two years ago, the process was completed in recent

months through the arrests by Hojatessalam Khomeinia of the leading Ayatollahs Shirazi, Golpayigani, Najafi-Marashi, and Qomi. These ayatollahs were advocating a diplomatic settlement of the war with Iraq—a process opposed by Moscow which, supporting Iraq militarily, wants the war to continue.

Target: Mecca

It is out of this Soviet-controlled apparatus that recently discovered networks of Iranian terrorists have been operating. This has notably included a grouping based in Madrid and Barcelona. But apart from four Iranians arrested at the end of July, the network remains intact. In Barcelona, under the cover of the "Foundation of the Martyrs of the Revolution" (run by Ayatollah Kharroubi, a close associate of Azari Ghomi and Khomeinia), which sends war-wounded soldiers abroad for treatment, Iranian Pasdarans from the "Sepah Pasdarans" foundation in Teheran were running a three-year-old terror network, responsible for many murders and bombings. The operation was conducted from within Barcelona's best known hospitals! Four accomplices were arrested as they were about to hijack a Saudi airliner and assassinate leading Iranian opposition figures. As investigations proceeded, it was revealed that Barcelona is a key coordination center between Iranian and European terrorist leaders, as well as the Basque ETA. One founding-member of the French terrorist group Action Directe is known to reside there.

It was then reported to German authorities that similar "medical facilities" exist in Frankfurt; but little if anything was done. West German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher is reported to have been informed, while in Iran recently, of the plan for the hijacking of a French plane, but kept his mouth shut, later playing the role of mediator between Iran and France. Indeed, Genscher had other missions in Teheran, such as trying to obtain the release of some of the leading members of the communist Tudeh party and their passage to Moscow.

The discovery of such networks reflects the intensity and far-flung nature of Iranian operations worldwide; Saudi Arabia may soon be the next target. The mining of the Red Sea, probably done on behalf of broader Soviet military-strategic aims by the Iranians and the Libyans, is one such indication; another is the report that Khomeinia has been busy training the entirety of the expected 150,000 Iranian pilgrims in 15 specially equipped mosques in Teheran on "how to behave" in

Mecca. Complementing this is several months of propaganda work directed at parts of the Saudi army, designed to neutralize them in case of crisis.

A grave misestimation by U.S. intelligence agencies of the Soviet role in Iran is currently preventing an accurate understanding of the terrorist offensive now hitting Europe and the Middle East, as well as obscuring critical questions pertaining to the future of Iran itself. This error is the lingering heritage of Zbigniew Brzezinski's mad geopolitical dream of using the "Islamic fundamentalism" card as an anti-Soviet weapon.

Consider the following recent developments:

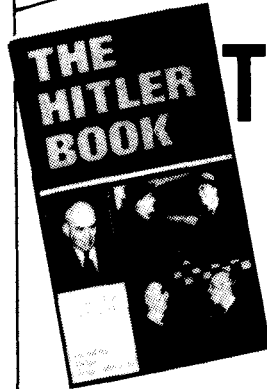
- Since July 9, dozens of sea-mines have exploded in the Gulf of Suez and the Red Sea up to the Strait of Bab el Mandeb, damaging many ships. The naval forces of the United States, France, Egypt, and England were placed in a state of alert.
- July 31: An Air France passenger jet leaving Frankfurt for Paris was hijacked and forced to land in Teheran.
- Aug. 5: A bomb exploded outside the American embassy in Amman, Jordan.
- Aug. 5: The Armenian separatist-terrorist organization ASALA announced that it would launch new operations in Los Angeles, scene of the summer Olympics, "regardless of innocent victims."
- Aug. 6: An assassination attempt took place in the Spanish resort city of Marbella against the owner of the Kuwaiti daily newspaper *Al Anbar*.
- Aug. 7: An Iranian airliner bound for Mecca with some 300 passengers aboard, many of them pilgrims, was hijacked and forced to land in Rome.

This terror wave comes within the time frame of the Los Angeles Olympics. *EIR* has warned that the Soviet Union and allied forces in the Nazi International would take this opportunity to launch a wave of terrorist destabilization against the West. While limited measures by law enforcement authorities have so far prevented a replay in Los Angeles of the bloody Munich Olympics massacre of 1972, terrorism has been directed at Europe and the Middle East.

The Soviets are not operating directly, but through surrogates—Islamic fundamentalists, particularly an Iranian faction of self-proclaimed "mullahs" (with no religious training) and the Pasdarans (Revolutionary Guards).

Key to Soviet ability to deploy Iranian Islamic terrorism are the roles of Syria and Libya. "If it were not for Syria's continuous support, Khomeini's Iran would have collapsed a long time ago," commented an Iranian exile source. Prior to the present terror wave, many meetings occurred in Damascus, Teheran, and Tripoli. By mid-July, Colonel Qaddafi's key intelligence operative and cousin, Ahmed Qaddafi, was in Teheran, accompanied by Abdel Ghadir Bagdadi, a former student leader in Libya, expelled from Britain in March for his role in the assassination of a British policewoman.

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