

Indira Gandhi's murder puts the world closer to war

by Linda de Hoyos

The murder of Indian Prime Minister Mrs. Indira Gandhi on the morning of Oct. 31 may well be the death blow to world peace. It has thrown India into an orgy of violence, which if not stopped, will destroy the country and the entire subcontinent. It has increased the possibility of war between India and Pakistan and the consequent blow-up of that war into a superpower showdown.

The greatest loss to the world, however, is not the immediate strategic results of her vile murder, but the loss of her current and future contributions to humanity. Of all the leaders of nations today, Mrs. Indira Gandhi most exemplified the maxim of the great poet Friedrich Schiller that each individual must be at once a patriot of one's country and a citizen of the world. She was at once the soul of India and put forward that soul as a powerful force for good in the world.

Indira Gandhi's assassination culminates a long process of steadily escalating operations against her government, operations the sources of which, she repeatedly stated, were foreign powers. Those powers have been identified as British intelligence, often running through channels operating out of the United States, the Swiss-based Nazi International, and the Soviet Union. *EIR* has proven these forces responsible for every separatist movement in India.

The Sikh separatist movement has posed the most dire threat to the integrity of India. The major spokesman for this synthetic creation is the London-based Jagjit Chauhan Singh. On June 7, the day after the Indian Army moved in on the Sikh Golden Temple, which had been turned into a fortress for insurrection in Punjab, Chauhan went on the airwaves of the British Broadcasting Corporation to call upon Sikhs in India to murder Mrs. Gandhi and her son, Rajiv. The Indian government protested to Britain that the BBC was permitting open incitements of violence over its airwaves, which were heard by millions in India. The British government took no corrective action.

On Aug. 25, 1984, the British signaled their full policy support for Chauhan Singh with the most vicious personal attack launched against Mrs. Gandhi up to that point. The attack was fielded through the London *Economist*, which depicted Mrs. Gandhi in a grotesque caricature as the goddess of Kali, the goddess of death.



Mrs. Gandhi visiting in Srinagar, the capital of the Indian state of Jammu and Kashmir.

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The *Economist* lead editorial began its diatribe: "A ruler who regards opponents as demons is liable to start behaving in a demonic way. . . . Like the warrior goddess Kali, she set out to smite all centers of opposition power. . . . The manipulation of India has gone far enough."

The London *Economist* signified that the stage of destabilizations against the Gandhi government had gone beyond the point of pressures to the call for her elimination as the country's leader.

The policy was seconded by the Soviet Union one month later in an interview appearing in the *Times of India* with R. Ulyanovskii, deputy chief of the Central Committee's International Department, who expressed the Soviet Union's "concern for the strengthening of tendencies for placing all power in the hands of one person." Given that Moscow a year before had issued its endorsement of Mrs. Gandhi through Ulyanovskii, this statement could only be seen as a warning-threat against Mrs. Gandhi personally.

One week after Ulyanovskii's pronouncement, Indian security forces went on full alert on the basis of reports of an imminent assassination plot against the prime minister.

The fact that Mrs. Indira Gandhi is now dead at the hands of assassins has nothing to do with the complaints voiced by London, Moscow, or Washington, that she had reversed the democratic tradition set by her father in order to achieve a Gandhi dynasty. Since when have the British and Soviets become champions of democracy?

The issue was the strategic crisis and Indira Gandhi's determined work on behalf of global stability. First was the fact that Mrs. Gandhi represented the primary obstacle to the

total destabilization of the subcontinent itself. More importantly, as the chairman and most respected leader of the Non-Aligned Movement, Mrs. Gandhi was actively—despite the domestic crises she faced—using her influence to cool out international crises. Before she was gunned down on Wednesday morning, Oct. 31, Mrs. Gandhi was in the process of pulling together a combination of forces—including Iraq and Egypt—to try to achieve a coalition for stability in the Middle East-Indian Ocean basin. This initiative reportedly had the backing of the Reagan administration.

This is but one example of the kinds of foreign policy interventions Mrs. Gandhi was in the midst of.

In the world strategic arena, it was Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's unique capability to speak in the arena of world politics for the hopes and demands of millions of human beings who have suffered under imperialist, colonialist forms of rule. Mrs. Gandhi, who personally took charge of the Science and Technology Ministry, personified India's own great achievements in the 37 years of its independence in science, technology, nuclear power, and agriculture, and brought those achievements to bear as a champion of the underdeveloped world upon the enemies of civilization. Her murder is a warning from those oligarchical forces that they will no longer tolerate such challenges to their power. It is now up to republican patriots everywhere—especially those in the United States—to decide: Will Indira Gandhi's murder result in their cringing in fear at the powers that struck her down, or will it cause them to act decisively and swiftly against her murderers and for the new world order she fought so hard for?