

Soviet plan hurt U.S. intelligence capability in the Middle East

by our special correspondent

Since the 1976 election of Jimmy Carter as President of the United States, the Soviet Union's secret intelligence arm, the Commissariat of State Security, the KGB, launched a well-balanced plan to reduce U.S. capabilities in the Mideast.

The key to the Soviet scheme was to exploit Carter's inane commitment to his version of human rights, his "Global 2000" plan for world population reduction, and most significantly, Alexandre Bennigsen and Zbigniew Brzezinski's Islamic Arc of Crisis policy. This latter policy was an attempt to use the Islamic fundamentalist card against the Soviet Union's Muslim population. However, the effective control and penetration of the fundamentalists by the Moscow-headquartered Oriental Institute turned the Islamic Arc policy of Carter's National Security Adviser Brzezinski into the Arc of Crisis for U.S. policy in the Mideast and Persian Gulf.

In order to accomplish their objectives of turning Brzezinski's discredited mad scheme into a capability for destroying U.S. intelligence in the Mideast, the KGB deployed the gaggle of networks ranging from North Korean-trained Iranian kamikazes to Syrian- and Libyan-trained terrorists.

Specifically, U.S. foreign service and intelligence personnel were hit by a wave of psychological terror ranging from personal threats against individual officials and their families to rumor-mongering about officials' personal lives. In several cases, U.S. officials were targets of assassination threats as a result of rumors initiated by the KGB that U.S. officials had raped some local Muslim women. This tactic was successfully utilized in Iran and Afghanistan during 1976-79, when the Shah of Iran was overthrown, and the Soviets successfully invaded Afghanistan. It resulted in the assassination of two U.S. diplomats in Afghanistan.

During this critical period when the upheavals in Central Asia reached a climax, U.S. personnel were shifted out of the region, causing confusion among the various official departments and more significantly, destroying the continuity of the anti-Islamic Card forces with the State Department's Intelligence and Research Bureau (INR), CIA, and DIA. The confusion resulted in completely wrong assessments of current political developments in several countries in that region.

As these events in Central Asia were unfolding, U.S. personnel in the following countries received the same treatment as their colleagues in Iran and Afghanistan: 1) Greece,

2) Turkey, 3) Pakistan, 4) India, 5) Bangladesh, 6) Kuwait, and 7) Lebanon. In each area, the basic operational mode of the KGB was fairly successful. According to informed sources, some of these operational schemes involved at least 36 countries, including some in Latin America.

The document (see *box*) released for the first time publicly, reveals one critical incident showing how the State Department viewed Soviet-instigated operations. The group identified in the released text identified as the "Secret Trans-World Organization For Punishment" was one of the original names for the Islamic Jihad organization (see *EIR*, April 9, 1985, p. 31). The reference to the Chinese-American "friendship" was actually targeting the People's Republic of China's secret cooperation with the Shah of Iran before his demise. It should be remembered that the Islamo-Marxist Mujahedeen organization in Iran had extensive ties with not only the KGB, but P.R.C. intelligence. At least half of the Confederation of Iranian Students were self-proclaimed Maoists. The Chinese had been supporting the Maoist organizations prior to the agreement with the Shah and stopped doing so as a result of some sticky U.S. mediation between the two countries. What this incident points out most clearly is that U.S. officials, although aware of the KGB instigations, were completely blind to the overall gameplan of the KGB in securing control over Brzezinski's Islamic Card.

If Brzezinski's insanity were not enough, former President Carter in his newly published book, *The Blood of Abraham: Insights into the Middle East*, adds his own lying version of events during this period. ". . . Across the Persian Gulf, the seeds of rebellion were being germinated in Iran, by the autocratic rule of the Shah . . . and by the adverse reaction of conservative religious leaders to the Shah's rapid moves toward a Western and secular society. The fundamentalist Shia Muslims were especially critical of growing equality for women and non-Muslims, the absence of Islamic influence in the government . . . and the brutal oppression by state police of those who demonstrated publicly against the Shah's policies.

"During the mid-70s, there was no serious thought within our own intelligence agencies or among the political leaders of Europe or the Middle East that the Shah would actually be overthrown. However, because of reports of increasing vio-

lence in Iran, when the Shah made his first visit to Washington . . . I spoke to him about the need to address the revolutionary forces against him. . . .”

Carter’s self-righteous claims of concern over the Khomeini forces being “oppressed” by the Shah and his ignoramous attitude about U.S. intelligence having been lacking in thought about the possible overthrow of the Shah is not only insulting to the memories of the U.S. intelligence officials who were killed by Khomeini’s terrorists, but to the simple historical fact that during his administration, the greatest intelligence retreat of the United States in 130 years took place.

Text of previously unpublished document

The following are excerpts from an unpublished document recently made available to *EIR* by State Department sources:

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

SECSTATE WASHDC

SUBJ: THREATENING LETTER OF PROBABLE SOVIET INSTIGATION

1. (S - ENTIRE TEXT)

2. ON APRIL 8 POL COUNSELOR RECEIVED LETTER CONTAINING NEATLY PRINTED WARNING ABOUT CHINESE-AMERICAN FRIENDSHIP AND “SEVERE PUNISHMENTS” TO BE METED OUT EVEN-HANDEDLY TO “AMERICAN AGGRESSORS” AND “CHINESE AGGRESSORS.” THE LETTTER HAD A BLACK BORDER AROUND IT CARRYING SOME THREE DOZEN WORLD CAPITALS, IN EUROPE, ASIA, AND LATIN AMERICA, AND WAS HEADED BY THE PURPORTED NAME OF THE THREATENING ORGANIZATION: THE “SECRET TRANS-WORLD ORGANIZATION FOR PUNISHMENT.” THE LETTER CAME ADDRESSED TO POL COUNSELOR BY NAME (NOT POSITION) FROM VIENNA. . .

3. SINCE CHINESE RELATIONSHIP WITH U.S. IS OF NOT THE SLIGHTEST INTEREST TO ANY IRANIAN TERRORIST GROUPS, THE LETTER CAN ONLY BE OF SOVIET INSPIRATION. IT HAS BEEN FORWARDED TO WASHINGTON THROUGH OTHER CHANNELS FOR MORE SPECIFIC INVESTIGATION. THE FACT THAT IT WAS ADDRESSED BY NAME TO POL COUNSELOR HERE, AMONG OTHERS, RAISES MORE GENERAL QUESTION AS TO WHETHER LOCAL SOVIET EMB IN TEHRAN HAS NOT BEEN ORCHESTRATING, OR CONTRIBUTING TO, SELECTIVE ANTI-AMERICAN INTIMIDATION CAMPAIGN OVER SOME TIME—TO GO WITH ITS ATTEMPTED INTIMIDATION OF OTHERS, REPORTED SEPARATELY.

EIR Special Report

How Moscow Plays the Muslim Card in the Middle East

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- **The Soviet Islam establishment**, including Shiite-born Politburo member Geidar Aliyev, the Soviet Orientology and Ethnography think tanks, and the four Muslim Boards of the U.S.S.R.
- **Moscow’s cooptation of British intelligence networks** (including those of the “Muslim Brotherhood”—most prominent member, Ayatollah Khomeini) and parts of Hitler’s Middle East networks, expanded after the war.
- **The U.S.S.R.’s diplomatic and political gains in the region since 1979**. Soviet penetration of Iran as a case study of Moscow’s Muslim card. The August 1983 founding of the Teheran-based terrorist “Islamintern,” which showed its hand in the Oct. 23 Beirut bombings.

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