
II. A Case Study: South Asia

London runs terrorism to destroy the nation-state

by Linda de Hoyos

In a classic case of the arsonist being called in to put out the fire, the British Special Air Services (SAS) arrived in New Delhi at the end of August to take charge of operations to free Western hostages being held by the Al-Faran terrorists in Kashmir. In the process, according to the Indian press, the SAS is taking in all the confidential security details concerning Kashmir, including the Indian security positions, terrorist locations, and all relevant intelligence.

Of course, the Al-Faran, an immediate offspring of the terrorist Harkat-ul-Ansar (see dossier below), is one collection center for the far-flung afghansi networks that have been redeployed to stir up trouble on behalf of British geopolitical objectives. In this case, the objective is either to instigate a war between India and Pakistan over Kashmir (the disputed territory that has sent the two countries to war three times already), or to bring about the open secession of Kashmir from both India and Pakistan, transforming it into a British intelligence and financial enclave right at the junction of India, Pakistan, Russia, and China.

'India has to go'

British staunch encouragement of the Kashmiri separatist movements is an open secret in New Delhi. Leading mouthpieces of the British oligarchy make no bones about their desire for the disintegration of the countries of the Indian subcontinent, particularly India.

For example, on May 26, 1991, only five days after the brutal assassination of former Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, the *Times* of London, the premier voice for the British Foreign Office, put forward this view in an editorial entitled "Home Truths": "There are so many lessons to be learnt from sorrowing India, and most are being muttered too politely. The over-huge federation of almost 900 million people spreads across too many languages, cultures, religions, and castes. It has three times as many often incompatible and thus resentful people as the Soviet Union, which now faces the same bloody strains and ignored solutions as India. . . ."

"The way forward for India, as for the Soviet Union, will be to say a great prize can go to any States and sub-

States that maintain order without murders and riots. They should be allowed to disregard Delhi's corrupt licensing restrictions, run their own economic policies, and bring in as much foreign investment and as many free-market principles as they like. Maybe India's richest course from the beginning would have been to split into 100 Hongkongs."

Or take Max Madden, presumably less "colonialist" being a Member of Parliament for the Labour Party. Speaking on June 2, 1993 at a conference on Kashmir in Denmark, Madden demanded India's self-annihilation: "I've always wondered why in a world where we've seen the British Empire disintegrate, the Russian empire disintegrate, why is it that alone of the great countries of the world—let's remember, by the end of this century, India will have the greatest population in the world—why it alone should be the Union of India and its present boundaries continue forever? I think there cannot be any immunity to India to the sort of pressures that we see in the rest of the world, and it might well be that the Constitution of India may be amended, there could be a new constitutional settlement in India. . . . We all hear from Indians that they have the largest democracy in the world; many of us question that very fundamentally."

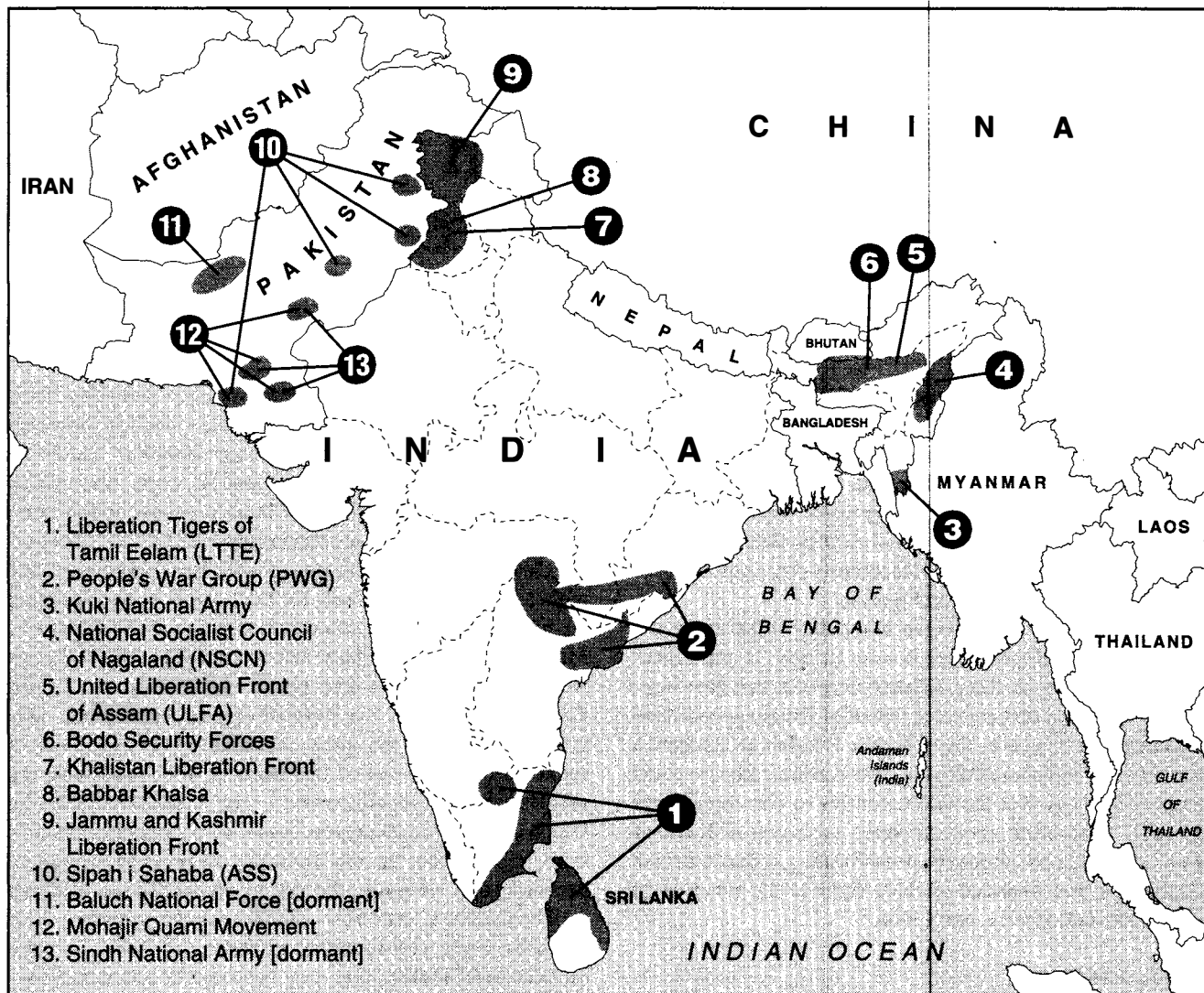
Madden suggests that the United Nations oversee the transition phase for Kashmir's "independence," a role that could be extended to the entire region: "The United Nations has a legal and moral responsibility and obligation to secure the self-determination for the people of Kashmir. It may require a period of U.N. administration of Kashmir. So be it. And it may involve the whole region. So be it."

Timebombs left behind

British intelligence has not only the predisposition to foment separatist and terrorist operations through the South Asia region; it also has the capabilities. All of the major conflicts in the region are explosions along the fault lines deliberately left as the legacy of direct British colonial rule:

- The Kashmir dispute arose out of the British-instigated 1947 partitioning of the Indian subcontinent to form the Muslim-majority Pakistan, the same maneuver that creat-

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ed the Mohajirs, Indian Muslims who migrated to Pakistan at that time, and thus laid the basis for the ongoing conflicts in Karachi, Pakistan and the creation of the Mohajir Quam Movement (see below).

● To the south, the “Tamil problem” was foisted on Buddhist and Christian Sri Lanka, when the British brought Hindu workers over from Tamil Nadu in southern India, to work on British colonials’ lucrative tea plantations. Although the British used the Tamils as virtual slaves, they also ensured that handpicked Tamils would dominate the colonial bureaucracy. At the point of independence for Sri Lanka, the British-revived Buddhist chauvinists demanded an enemy, and the enemy was the Tamils, not the British. Thus, the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE, or Tamil Tigers, see below), are the product of a conflict induced by British colonialism.

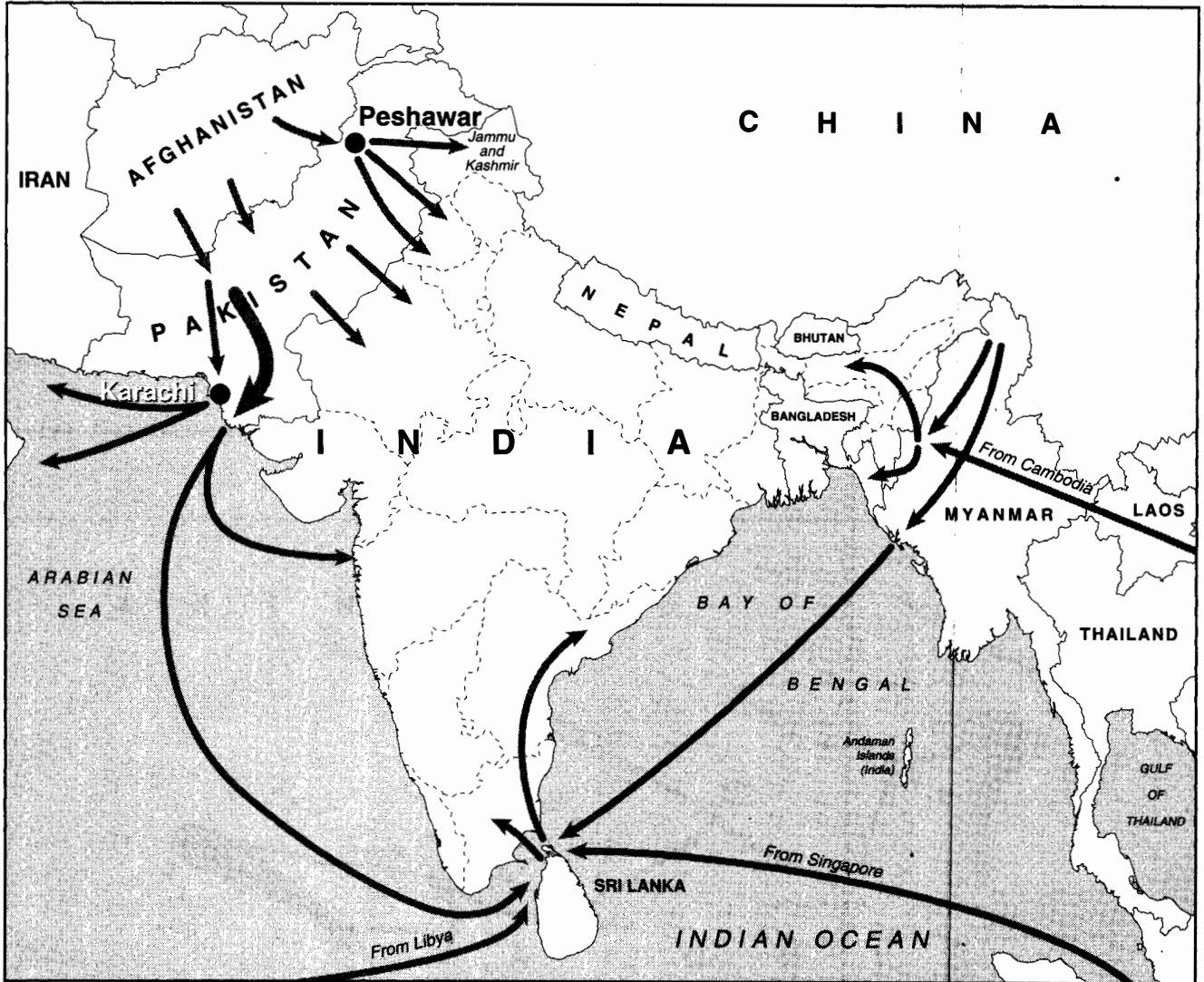
● In Northeast India, the cauldron of contending ethnic entities—all mixed up together in the drugs-for-arms trafficking—stems directly from the British division of Bengal, which led finally to the creation of Bangladesh, and a strict colonial policy of apartheid between “tribals” and “non-tribals.”

Headquarters: London

Is it any surprise, then, that many of the leaders of the insurgent operations against the nations of South Asia, are found at headquarters in *London*? Such leaders enjoy British intelligence’s active and public protection, as the record shows.

In 1991, for instance, British judge Popplewell revoked the deportation order of Khalistani campaigner Karamjit Singh Chahal, charged with terrorism in India. Amnesty In-

Weapons routes in South Asia



ternational and other human rights organizations have also taken up Chahal's case for asylum.

More recently, Britain turned down a request from Pakistan's Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto in August to extradict Mohajir Quam Movement leader Altaf Hussein, headquartered in London. "When Altaf sits in London and he gives a call for a strike [in Karachi] and his militants enforce that strike and kill 30 innocent people a day, I think the British government has a moral responsibility to restrain him," Prime Minister Bhutto said. British intelligence doesn't see it that way. In fact, a British Foreign Office spokesman declared that Britain was not aware of any evidence of Hussein's involvement in "terrorism" in Pakistan.

Drug traffickers are also favored. In April 1995, the notorious Iqbal Mohammad Memon, reputed to be a drug-traffick financier, was arrested by Interpol in London. Five months

later, Memon walked out of a London court a free man, India's request for his extradition denied.

As the reports and dossiers that follow demonstrate, these cases are not aberrational, but consistent with British geopolitical aims. As the interview with Lord Avebury (see below) shows, British intelligence has at its command an entire array of hundreds of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to function as the propagandistic and often financial support for the hard-core terrorists and insurgencies. On the ground level, such agencies as Prince Philip's World Wildlife Fund (WWF, now the World Wide Fund for Nature) provides the "animal sanctuaries" for guerrilla-terrorist protection in India and Sri Lanka, in particular. Unless counterinsurgency efforts begin to focus on this reality, the erosion of the nation-states of South Asia will continue, at its currently increasing tempo.