

MEDIA "REVEAL" CIA-MY LAI LINK

Nov. 25 (IPS)--Nine months ago New Solidarity International Press Service blew the story on the CIA's responsibility for the My Lai massacre as part of the CIA's takeover of the U.S. Armed Forces. Now the news finally has made its way into the bourgeois press.

Today's Newsday, a Long Island daily, as well as several radio stations and other media outlets, provide belated corroboration of New Solidarity's story. Their source is a copyrighted article from the Sunday Oklahoman.

The brief Newsday story reported that Capt. Dennis Johnson, an intelligence officer with the company that raided the Vietnam village of My Lai, claims that the operation was CIA-directed. Johnson, who was punished in 1971 for his involvement in the cover-up of the slaughter, reports that the company's commander Lt. Col. Frank Barker met with two CIA agents just before the raid was carried out. The massacre was part of Operation Phoenix, a mass-murder operation headed by William Colby, now Director of the CIA.

Retired Lt. Gen. William Peers, a top Army "covert operations" agent who headed up the "investigation" of the My Lai massacre, denied Johnson's story.

IRA BOMBINGS SPARK MARTIAL LAW MEASURES IN BRITAIN

Nov. 25 (IPS)--British Home Secretary Roy Jenkins today announced comprehensive police powers amounting to virtual martial law. Nominally aimed against the Irish Republican Army (IRA), these powers will be used first to replicate the terror of Northern Ireland in Britain, and second, as the pretext for indiscriminate harassment of the British Left.

Jenkins, a member of both the British Labour Party and the Trilateral Commission, has waited for anti-Irish hysteria to peak following last week's bombing in Birmingham before announcing these measures. British Intelligence, which formed the Provisional IRA in the late 1960s to create terror in Northern Ireland, has now deployed the IRA to pull the same operation in Britain.

Gasoline bombings and other retaliatory acts have been reported in Irish working class areas as British workers vent their frustration against these manufactured scapegoats. Auto workers in Britain's industrial heartland have walked off the job, refusing to return until action is taken against the IRA. Irish workers who have lived in Britain for as long as 30 years

were afraid to show up for work on Friday. Housewives are staying home, too scared even to venture out to local stores for the day's shopping.

The press is gleefully fueling an already explosive situation. The Observer headlined the Birmingham explosion: "The night a city felt trapped." Describing bomb casualties, the Observer quoted a local doctor: "You would go into the casualty ward and could be forgiven for thinking roast beef was cooking--the smell of burns was still there long after these people were removed."

With reports of more fabricated "terrorist" attacks to follow, Jenkins warned: "We could be moving to a situation that could be as dangerous in the long-term as in Northern Ireland itself."

Jenkins' measures made it an offense to be a member of, or support in any way, the IRA. Since the British Left openly supports the IRA as a liberation force in Northern Ireland, they will be prime targets in Jenkins' new reign of terror. Homes of British leftists are already regularly raided and searched on the pretext of IRA sympathy. Now they will be subject to intensive interrogation in Irish-style detention camps while awaiting deportation, imprisonment, or unlimited fines if tried and found guilty.

The Conservative Opposition has promised special cooperation with the Government's proposals so they can become law by Nov. 28.

BIRMINGHAM PLAN FOR SELF-POLICING, WARRING NEIGHBORHOODS IS MODEL FOR U.S.

NEW YORK, N.Y., Nov. 25 (IPS)--A pilot citywide system is being set up in the city of Birmingham, Alabama to divide the working class into squabbling, self-policing "strategic hamlets" competing for jobs, services, and housing. It is a triple-tiered structure with 86 elected neighborhood citizens committees at its base, an intermediate level of 19 community committees, and a Citywide Advisory Board. Elections to the neighborhood committees were held Nov. 20.

The system is strikingly similar to the Judenrat (Jewish Council) structure set up by the Nazis to control the doomed Jewish ghetto of Warsaw.

Under the Community Planning and Development Act of 1974, the Department of Housing and Urban Development is helping to set up similar structures in cities throughout the United States.