

Qaddafi's African bridgehead

Libya, with Soviet aid, is penetrating, and ravaging, sub-Saharan Africa, Douglas DeGroot reports.

A massive Libyan military intervention into the Chad civil war placed the capital, NDjamena, and most of the country into the hands of the Libyans and the various factions in Chad allied with the Libyans on Dec. 15.

This move promises to be only the beginning, since the takeover of Chad by a Libyan-recruited mercenary force, after a month-long airlift of troops, tanks, and arms reportedly planned by Soviet and East German advisers gives Libyan strongman Muammar Qaddafi a strategic beachhead into sub-Saharan Africa. From Chad, Qaddafi can deploy his mercenary "Islamic Legion," with arms from his vast stockpile into western and central Africa on a rampage against what this advocate of "Islamic fundamentalism" sees as the supposedly imperialist evils of modernization and development. The Khoemini hordes, supported by Qaddafi, that overthrew the shah in Iran, had the same profile.

The unstable situation produced in Africa by Qaddafi's adventures cripples the possibility that the French "dialogue" proposal to develop Africa as a joint venture involving Arab capital and European technology will provide Africa with an alternative to its present economic collapse.

The Soviet endorsement of Qaddafi as a marcher-lord to carry out the destruction of Africa also sets a trap for the incoming Reagan administration, making it easy for Reagan's Heritage Foundation and Hoover Institution-associated advisers to push him into an anti-Soviet confrontationist posture instead of backing a vigorous development policy that would expose the Soviets for blocking with antidevelopment forces.

Dark Ages

All of Africa has already been written off, with the intention of plunging the continent into a Dark Ages. Qaddafi's policy of fomenting regional wars and internal destabilizations throughout Africa will implement a neocolonialist order, forcing the populations that manage to survive to eke out a cult-ridden tribal subsistence lifestyle with the most backward of technologies.

The Libyan takeover of Chad provides Qaddafi with a springboard for launching this operation throughout the rest of Africa. Nigeria and Sudan, located on either

side of Chad, are the two key pivots for spreading this Dark Ages campaign throughout the remaining regions of Africa not already caught in the throes of regional conflicts and destabilizations (e.g. southern and eastern Africa), and both countries are already being targeted. If Nigeria, the most heavily populated country in Africa, is unsuccessful in its efforts to maintain its integrity in the face of the Dark Ages onslaught, the smaller countries around Nigeria will not be able to resist the chaos spreading from Nigeria. If Qaddafi is successful in Sudan, he will provide the trigger for a U.S.-Soviet clash in the strategically located Horn of Africa.

Who is behind assault?

The forces behind this Dark Ages assault on Africa include an alliance of the British-allied Kim Philby KGB networks in the Soviet Union, and European oligarchic families. The latter is made up of Italian "black nobility" families, the British oligarchy, and the Jesuit "liberation theology" networks they control.

Boris Ponomarev, Soviet Central Committee Secretary for relations with foreign communist and socialist parties and liberation fronts, is a prime example of the Philby-controlled network in the Soviet Union. Ponomarev is pushing the line that modernization and development "exploit" and "oppress" Third World populations, and is opportunistically allying with the destroyers of Africa, seeing this as a way of weakening the West.

In Paris, recently, he attacked French military policy, undermining efforts by Brezhnev and French President Giscard d'Estaing to cooperate based on mutual recognition of the positive role each was playing to stabilize relations.

The leading families in Libya are connected to ancient Italian oligarchical families. In early January Qaddafi is going to Italy, where he will no doubt meet with his controllers, who are tied to these families. Qaddafi's trip was organized by Ahmed Shahati, the organizer of Khomeini-style People's Committees which have replaced the government in Libya. It was through Shahati that key Qaddafi controllers such as terrorist controller Michele Papa of the Italian Socialist Party

and the networks of the late Lelio Basso, who was part of the Bertrand Russell Foundation, mediated Billy Carter's connection to Libya.

Qaddafi's more direct British connections date from the days of his military training at Sandhurst. His Jesuit connections are indicated by his professed admiration of Jesuit theoretician Roger Garaudy, formerly of the French Communist Party.

Qaddafi's operation into Chad

The Libyans began their takeover of Chad with a massive airlift of troops, arms, and tanks into Chad that began in the latter part of October. As Qaddafi's forces took more territory from anti-Libyan forces and worked their way toward the capital, NDjamena, they reportedly handed out Libyan identity cards in the conquered areas. After a week of artillery barrages and Libyan air strikes, on Dec. 15 the Libyan forces finally succeeded in taking over the city.

Throughout the Libyan buildup into Chad, numerous African countries, who knew precisely what the consequences would be for them if Qaddafi took over Chad, urged the French to take action to stop Qaddafi's invasion. The French only quietly assured these African countries that the Qaddafi menace would not spread beyond Chad, and issued a weak statement expressing concern about the Libyan invasion, without mentioning Libya by name.

Diplomats from several African countries have expressed bitterness about French passivity in the face of Qaddafi's invasion, and tended to agree with the often repeated reports that the French had struck a deal with the Libyans to split Chad up into zones of influence.

However, other reliable sources report that the Soviets were exerting blackmail pressure on Giscard not to take any action by threatening to order the French Communist Party to form an electoral alliance with the French Socialist Party, a development that would be a more significant threat for Giscard in next spring's presidential elections.

African anti-Qaddafi activity

There are very few African countries into which Qaddafi has not meddled. *Le Continent*, an African newspaper in Paris, reported that the Gambian government had arrested individuals who admitted that they had been sent by a Senegalese Islamic fundamentalist who is in the same networks as Qaddafi to participate in an effort to overthrow the Gambia government. Senegal, Gambia, Ghana, and Gabon have all severed relations with Libya because of subversive Libyan activities. Mauritania has just kicked three Libyan diplomats out of the country following pro- and anti-Khomeini student clashes.



During the Nigerian civil war in 1967.

Before the Libyan takeover of Chad, Nigerian government officials leaked that they were considering kicking out the Libyan ambassador for recruiting mercenaries to join the assault on Chad. Anti-Libyan demonstrations took place in neighboring Niger.

After the Libyan takeover, a previously scheduled Organization of African Unity summit on the Chad civil war took place in Lagos, Nigeria, but broke up after one day without being able to agree on a strong denunciation of Qaddafi. African sources report that Nigeria, which was very concerned about Qaddafi's activity in Chad, did not take a strong position at the conference it hosted, and blamed the failure of the conference on this development. However, the riots in Kano that coincided with the Libyan takeover of Chad reportedly gave the Nigerians cause to reconsider their intended public denunciation of the Libyan invasion.

In the face of such institutional lack of resolve to confront and expose Qaddafi's marcher-lord activity, those Reagan advisers in favor of an adventurist foreign policy will be able to capture Reagan. And these advisers know exactly what the destructive consequences will be for Africa.

When asked if this kind of policy would not lead to a bloodbath in Africa, Reagan adviser Peter Duignan of the Hoover Institution said bluntly: "Africa already has the most refugees in the world, so it isn't going to make all that much of a difference. I have no interest in peace if it's not our friends involved. We have to kill as many Marxists as possible. That'll do it. We have to knock out Libya. Sadat would be happy to do it."