

# The world must act to save Bhutto

It has become absolutely clear that the military regime of Pakistan is preparing to murder imprisoned Premier Zulfikar Ali Bhutto. The junta awaits only the court decision on Bhutto's appeal of the death sentence against him, a decision which is expected any day.

The junta's intentions to kill Bhutto were exposed by the uncovering of a quiet inquiry made by the Pakistani Embassy in Washington to the NBC-TV network for the purchase of 30 minutes of national television time for a Pakistani government statement. The Pakistanis would not reveal to NBC the nature of their planned broadcast, but informed sources have indicated that the government will use the time to tell the world why they have murdered the Prime Minister of Pakistan.

The decision to kill Bhutto would immediately set the stage for political chaos in Pakistan. Combined with the events in neighboring Iran, the unrest is calculated to unleash an expanded wave of regional destabilization from the Persian Gulf into India. While officials in the State Department and the White House's National Security Council have stated their concern over the events in Pakistan, there is no evidence that any action is being taken to stop the murderous military regime of General Ziaul Haq in Pakistan. Will the Carter Administration sit back and watch another Iran crisis unfold?

## Propaganda for murder

The TV caper of the Pakistani Embassy reveals the lies of the government, and its attempts to lull world opinion to sleep on the Bhutto case by proclaiming that they are merely awaiting the independent judgment of the Supreme Court. The court concluded its hearing of Bhutto's appeal of the death sentence from a lower court more than a month ago.

On Jan. 23, Mr. Hussein, an official of the Information Office of the Pakistan Embassy in Washington, talked to Victor Bazani of NBC on the terms of purchase of the air time. Embassy Information Minister Khalid Ali admitted the embassy's activities, but attempted to describe as "routine" this virtually unprecedented purchase by a foreign government of U.S. television time.

According to the NBC official interviewed by this reporter, the embassy official told him that Pakistan wanted the broadcast between now and March, at the network's convenience. When questioned about the nature of the broadcast, Hussein was "circumspect." NBC's Bazani said that when he further questioned Hussein about the contents he was told that the broadcast would present "a point of view" of the Pakistan government.

The State Department and the National Security Council, when informed of Pakistan's efforts to purchase the air time, indicated surprise. However it is not clear that either State or the NSC has done anything in response.

If Bhutto dies, the responsibility for the murder will not lie merely with the stupid thugs in Pakistan who pull the trigger. It will lie with men like Henry Kissinger, who told Bhutto at their

last meeting in 1976 that "we will make a horrible example of you." The Anglo-American imperialists and their Zionist lobby have been the driving force behind the ouster of Bhutto in the July military coup and the subsequent moves to eliminate him completely. Their aim is, despite the illusions of the thugs who think they are doing this for themselves, to spread chaos to Pakistan, to encourage its disintegration as a unitary state, and to unleash the "tribal revolts" of Baluchistan (a part of Pakistan) and the Northwest Frontier Province, which would work in tandem with a tribal breakup of Iran among warring tribal groups like the Kurds.

This is the scenario of Bernard Lewis, the anglophile Islamicist who has worked with Kissinger and Brzezinski to organize the fracturing of Iran using "Islamic" movements of the Khomeini variety. The Islamic fundamentalist thugs who now control the Pakistani junta are part of the same Anglo-American network of the Muslim Brotherhood fascists as Khomeini.

## Junta contemptuous

The Pakistani junta and its fanatical Muslim Brotherhood supporters in the Jamaati Islaami Party have made clear their contempt for world opinion. According to a report several days ago in the London *Daily Telegraph*, a senior official of the junta put it this way: "Carter is always going on about human rights — ad nauseum; but it doesn't matter a damn so far as we're concerned. Persia (Iran) and Saudi Arabia are the only two countries that could have affected things."

The British-authored destabilization of Iran and London's sponsorship of the "fundamentalist Islamic movement" throughout the region has effectively checked the impact of those two governments. The Shah of Iran is a known friend and supporter of Prime Minister Bhutto whose influence on the Pakistani situation has now been destroyed. The official Saudi stand is reportedly unclear, although Muslim Brotherhood elements in the Saudi monarchy are giving backing to General Zia's junta, this including the announcement several days ago of a \$92 million loan to the bankrupt Pakistani nation.

Within Pakistan, the junta is making its preparations for Bhutto's murder. As yet unconfirmed reports from Pakistan indicate that the Supreme Court has made its decision — against Bhutto — and that the regime is only waiting for what it views as a more politically opportune moment. Police and troops are also reported to be deployed throughout Pakistan to deal with the violent demonstrations and riots that are expected. Leaders of the Pakistan Peoples Party — Bhutto's party — are reported going underground to avoid arrest.

Massive propaganda is being carried out to smear Bhutto, including the release of a four-volume **White Paper**, another in a long series which attempts to pin corruption and other charges on Mr. Bhutto.

— Daniel Snider