

Facts Behind Terror by Jeffrey Steinberg

British aim terrorism at detente

French sources are naming England and Libya as the control points for a wave of violence and killings aimed against Europe's effort to ensure world peace.

On Thursday, Jan. 31 less than 48 hours after a meeting of interior ministers in Melun, France to discuss antiterrorist countermeasures, a former minister in deGaulle's government was murdered.

The ministers from every leading European nation except Great Britain had been reviewing evidence that a new terror wave was in the making. That evidence included an increase in drug flows, regional terrorist upsurges in Corsica and Spain's Basque provinces, a remobilization of the Red Brigades and Autonomists in Italy and France, and new assassinations.

As French Interior Minister Christian Bonnet told the daily *Le Figaro* on Jan. 31: "My colleagues live in countries where terrorism rules and this necessitates a maximum security." Referring to Corsican Autonomists, he said "their action is not gratuitous; it is guided from abroad." According to informed French sources, Bonnet meant Libya and Great Britain.

The assassination of former Minister Jacques Fontanet was conducted in broad daylight. Fontanet was gunned down in front of his house. Despite assistance from French President Valery Giscard d'Estaing's sister and her husband, who returned to their home next door minutes after the shooting, the former minister died that night at the hospital.

Fontanet had had a long political career as one of the leaders of General de Gaulle's party, the MRP. As education and then labor minister under Presidents de Gaulle and Pompidou he was known for advocating cooperation with the labor movement, including the Communist CGT Union, much like the late Labor Minister Robert Boulin, whose death last October under suspicious circumstances was pronounced a suicide.

Even more significant a warning to France was the fact that Fontanet was a good friend of Jacques Chaban Delmas. Only a week before, Chaban—as he is commonly called, after his code name in the Resistance during World War II—had been in Moscow as an unofficial envoy of President Giscard d'Estaing, discussing with Soviet leaders the ways and means to prevent "the outbreak of war." Six months ago, Chaban received death threats from the Basque terror group, the ETA, and had to receive state security protection after his "rapprochement" with Giscard.

Also on Jan. 31, Italy's Red Brigades terrorists killed one watchman and wounded another in an attempt to blow up a FIAT-owned factory in Turin, Italy. That attack on the Italian auto manufacturer is only the first in a series if the orders given by the *London Times* are implemented.

On Jan. 23, just one week before, the *London Times* ran a feature on FIAT by John Earle, entitled "A Company on the Front Line" which included the following advice regarding FIAT owner Agnelli: "For anyone seeking to destabilize the structure of the economy, it would be difficult to find a better target than this symbol of private capitalism." The article was published with a list of FIAT managers and operatives wounded by terrorists since 1975. Remarks on "frightening effect" that is really what is being sought with the random murder of employees, were speckled throughout the article.

Why is FIAT being singled out? Not because it is some "capitalist symbol," but rather in view of the deal concluded with the Soviet authorities for a second "Togliattigrad," a multi-billion dollar auto factory and town to be built in the U.S.S.R.

Also on Thursday, the Spanish Embassy in Guatemala was burned to the ground resulting in 39 dead. The action there was undertaken by "leftist" peasants, part of the Jesuit network which crisscrosses Latin America and which provides the ideology for European terrorists as well.

The past weeks have witnessed an escalation in destabilization operations against King Juan Carlos of Spain. Because Spain is a bridge to Latin America for the European Monetary System, and because the King appealed to President Carter, on behalf of West German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt, to adopt a reasonable global peace settlement in the Mideast, Spain and Juan Carlos are, in the eyes of the London crowd, a major adversary.