

## Middle East Report by Robert Dreyfuss

### Is Ayatollah Khomeini a British agent?

*A clandestine radio station operating from Iran unmasked Khomeini and revealed the "secret" of the Iranian revolution.*

According to the Free Voice of Iran, Ayatollah Khomeini has been on the payroll of British intelligence since World War II.

And Khomeini is not the only one. Sharing Khomeini's illustrious pedigree is none other than Foreign Minister Sadegh Ghotbzadeh, who was recruited to British intelligence in 1963 by Richard Cottam of the CIA.

And then there is Ramsey Clark—the same Ramsey Clark who introduced former Foreign Minister Ibrahim Yazdi, then working for the CIA, to Ayatollah Khomeini. Since the revolution, Clark has received millions of dollars from the Iranian regime to support terrorist and communist organizations in the United States.

Many of these items have been reported, along with others, in *Executive Intelligence Review*. But now they are also the repeated subject of an unusual radio station.

For the past several weeks, a clandestine radio transmitter in Iraq, identifying itself as the Free Voice of Iran, has been broadcasting extremely accurate and high-quality information concerning the "secret" of the Iranian revolution into Iran in Persian-language programs that have become the talk of Iran. Put together by the exiled opposition to Khomeini, these programs have excited the country by broadcasting the truth about the Khomeini revolution.

One of the more revealing broadcasts was aired on June 5, the anniversary of the June 5, 1963 anti-Shah riots that catapulted the little-known Khomeini into prominence. The broadcast provides a detailed account of the assets and operations of British intelligence in Iran since World War II—and the links to Khomeini.

"With the nationalization of [Iran's] oil industry . . . Britain was actually ousted from the Iranian political scene and was replaced by the United States," the broadcast recounts. "But the British never accepted this development . . . and were always waiting for an opportunity to regain the former positions of the empire with the cooperation of their agents."

Who were the British agents in Iran? The broadcast classifies them into four groups: certain paid politicians and journalists, who had been bought off by Britain to fight against the nationalization of the oil industry; the Freemasons; the khans, feudalists, and landlords, well-known for their backwardness and pro-British sympathies; and "the pseudoclergy—the fourth arm of Britain's force in Iran."

"With the implementation of land reform," the broadcast reports, "the power enjoyed by the khans and feudalists would be destroyed. Thus one of Britain's arms would stop functioning. The British tried, with the help of the other

arm—the clergy—to save the khans and to regain their previous position in Iran."

Khomeini was one of the "holy men" chosen.

But why Khomeini?

According to the broadcast, Khomeini "was among the clergy who, since the days he was a religious student, received rations from the British, and under the label of 'monthly tuition from the proceeds of the Indian awqaf,' received monthly payments from British agents and was in constant contact with his masters."

But this was not the only reason. "The second reason was that Khomeini owned more than 400,000 hectares of farmland in Khomein, and like all other feudalists exploited his fiefs. . . . He started opposition to the [Shah's] land reform program and declared that it was contrary to the Shariah [Islamic law]. . . . Yes, the British Embassy financed the 5 June disturbances and the naive people were instigated by the clergy, who fooled them by exploiting their pure religious feelings."

Two days earlier, on June 3, the Free Voice of Iran presented a detailed account of the background of Foreign Minister Ghotbzadeh, drawing in part from material first published in the *EIR*. The broadcast recounts how Ghotbzadeh became the point man for Richard Cottam, an agent of the CIA operating out of the U.S. embassy in Teheran. Cottam later brought Ghotbzadeh to the U.S. "By paying money and promising him protection, Cottam induced Ghotbzadeh to implement the plan for establishing the Muslim Student Association," the U.S. branch of the Muslim Brotherhood.