

EIR: Could you elaborate a little more on the question of out-of-area deployments?

Oliart: I cannot imagine under what conditions my country could have an interest in intervening militarily in countries which you have called Third World countries, and which are not included in the geographically delimited area of the North Atlantic treaty. For a great many years now, my country has not had an expansionist policy outside its own territory. Spain is concerned and involved in defending and developing its own national territory and population. I do not see reasons why at this point we should find motivations to intervene in other countries.

EIR: In your opinion must the NATO mandate for Spain be under Spanish control or could you accept integration of other commands?

Oliart: More detailed discussion will be required on this topic. But, as you know, Spain is a country between southern Europe and northern Africa. The Straits of Gibraltar are not an abyss separating us from Africa, but rather a means of communication.

Furthermore, we are a nation between the Mediterranean and the Atlantic. This poses so many problems that if you take the NATO commands as they presently stand, you could come up with Naples, just as you could come up with Norfolk. Perhaps the first priority from which we move is a Spanish command, as now already exists. This is justified precisely by the fact of our complex situation, and by the enormous importance, in my eyes, which my country has strategically for NATO as a nation, and as a reserve territory, a last bastion. It is not inconceivable that there must be a single command for this territory which is so special.

EIR: You mean a single Spanish mandate?

Oliart: Yes, naturally. Dependent or integrated of course, as is the English, as is any other mandate, on the alliance as a whole. This is what we plan to discuss with our allies. We wish to see whether this is possible or not. We think that they too must work through the question in depth, i.e., whether, given our complex situation, we must fit into the pre-conceived schemes of NATO, which has been around for 35 years. This alliance was constituted by agreement between the countries which composed it at the time of its creation. But a new piece is entering the alliance, which has its own peculiarities, unlike those of any other European country.

EIR: But will this be a *sine qua non* condition?

Oliart: I would not go so far as to say that it is a *sine qua non* condition, but it is a priority which we want examined very thoroughly indeed.

INDIA

Behind the Khalistan separatist movement

by Thierry Lalevée and Uma Zykovsky

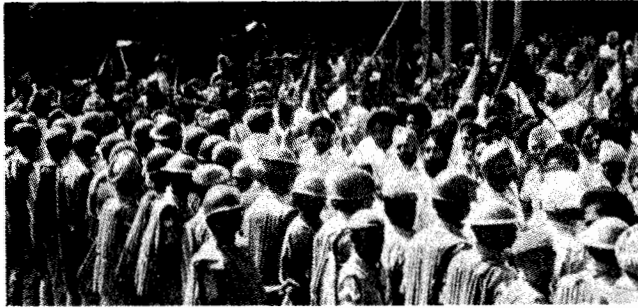
In September 1981, a small band of terrorists hijacked an Indian Airlines aircraft from India to Pakistan, making international headlines as representatives of the obscure "Khalistan" separatist movement. Although no one in India knew much about this group, the Khalistanis, as they call themselves, had taken care to inform the *New York Times* of their goals a few weeks prior to the hijacking.

The *Times* reported that the group demanded Indian recognition of the "nationhood" of the Sikh community and acceptance of their plan to carve a new Khalistani nation out of a big part of north India. There are approximately 16 million Indian Sikhs, a separate religious community which comprises about 2 to 3 percent of the nation's population. The Sikhs share many customs and beliefs with Hinduism and have never expressed a desire to separate from the country. Nevertheless, the Khalistanis, a fundamentalist extreme sect within Sikhism, told the *New York Times* that they will use terrorism, sabotage, and communal rioting to force India to surrender to their demands for a "Sikh homeland." In April this year, the National Council for Khalistan and the Dal Khalsa party, both groupings of Khalistani separatists, systematically provoked Hindu-Sikh riots in the holy city of Amritsar. The riots were triggered with an old British colonial trick: the Khalistanis placed severed cow heads in a Hindu temple, where the cow is considered a sacred animal.

The Indian government reacted swiftly, banning the Khalistanis and clearly expressing what everyone in India thought and saw: First, the Khalistanis have no support for their movement, even in the areas they claim for a homeland; and second, by choosing Pakistani dictator Gen. Ziaul Haq as a "friend" and sparking conflict between Hindus and Sikhs—two communities that have coexisted peacefully for a long time—the Khalistan movement was doing a third party's dirty work.

Made in Britain

There are three levels to any investigation of the Khalistan movement: who is behind it? why? and how is



A 1978 demonstration by Sikh militants in New Delhi.

it organized so effectively that even with virtually no base in India, it is still operating internationally?

Indian government investigations have located the primary bases of operations for the Khalistanis in London, the United States, and Canada. In these three places, the group's main activities are concentrated on pulling in overseas Indians to fund the homeland scheme. As was the case with Muslim fundamentalist operations, it is known that funds and materiel from Great Britain and North America, including guns, are entering India through Sikh religious channels and being hoarded in temples which are off-limits to the police.

By February of this year, no doubts remained for the Indian government that Washington and London were giving shelter to the Khalistan movement. After the Indian government revoked the passport of the movement's London-based leader-in-exile, Jagjit Singh Chauhan, on the grounds that the Khalistan movement was secessionist and terrorist, the Washington-based Heritage Foundation, working through the office of U.S. Senator Jesse Helms and U.S. Undersecretary of State for Security Affairs James Buckley, allowed Chauhan to enter the U.S. anyway and continue organizing for the movement. (See box on page 46 for more on Chauhan.)

During this and other visits, Chauhan was wined and dined around Washington. He reported himself to this news service that a special cell has been set up at Georgetown University's Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) to sell the idea of a separate Khalistan to U.S. policymakers. It is Chauhan's plan "to organize the movement like the Zionist lobby in the United States. We have them as our model."

The Coupland plan

The Khalistan movement and Chauhan are but players in the latest stage of an operation, worked out by the British Foreign Office as early as the first decade of the century, to balkanize India using tensions between India and Pakistan as a trigger. The plot is

known to insiders as the Coupland Plan, which was drawn up in 1942 by a special emissary of the Crown to India, Sir Reginald Coupland. The idea then and the scheme now are basically the same: to break India up into pieces and ensure that the Indian subcontinent, encompassing what is now India, Pakistan, and Bangladesh never becomes a force for peace and development in Asia. Quite the contrary, South Asia's role as a pawn in Anglo-American strategy is merely to weaken the Soviet Union.

To understand the ideological underpinnings of the Khalistan movement, one has to examine the Coupland plan.

The historic British view of India, which has unfortunately been adopted by the United States lock, stock and barrel, is that separatist movements under various guises will dismember the Indian subcontinent. The first such shock was delivered in 1947 with the partition that created India and Pakistan. Now the view is that periodic mini-partitions, with the Indo-Pakistan conflict as a trigger, will finish off the job. British intelligence estimates that by 1984, six or seven pieces of India and Pakistan will come into being, with absolutely no prospects for development.

Coupland wrote in his 1942 report: "India is a geographic unit; it is not divided by such physical barriers as separate nations in Europe. Its unification under British rule has not only made all Indians feel themselves Indians; it has saved India from the fate which political and economic nationalism brought on Europe." This "fate" was the successful industrialization of France, Italy, and Germany, which kept Britain off the continent. Instead, India remained the looting ground for the British oligarchy and became "the jewel of the Empire" precisely because it was converted into a Malthusian hell-hole.

Coupland developed his point further: "The Partition threatens to throw India back to the condition it was in after the breakup of the Moghul Empire, to make another Balkans. This would negate the development of democracy in India. Partition would also prevent a free India from taking its due place in the world as a great Asiatic power; for it would probably mean disruption into several states ranking from Egypt to Siam.

"The British government cannot impose, but it could, at need, propose a settlement. The drawbacks to Partition are the converse of the case of Union and apply to all Indians, not to Muslims only. It would rob India of the supreme, the one unquestioned boon which British rule has given her. *It would convert the whole subcontinent into a complex of rival quasi-national sovereignties, walled off from one another, by political and*

economic frontiers. India in fact would be balkanized and instead of being a peaceful and stable element in the new international structure, it might well become like the Balkans in the past, a breeding ground for world war."

As things stand today, the top three Coupland plan "case studies" have been implemented. First was the bisection of the eastern state of Bengal between India and Pakistan in 1947, and subsequently between India and the new nation of Bangladesh in 1971. Each time Bengal has been cut up, it has been at the cost of millions of lives. Second is the case of the northeastern state of Assam, which for the last three years has been in turmoil, held hostage by a "sons of the soil" movement with separatist overtones. Finally, the latest and possibly most explosive made-in-London scheme to come alive is the Khalistan movement in the northwest state of Punjab, India's bountiful agricultural state. When Khalistani leader-in-exile, Jagjit Singh Chauhan admitted to this news service that the Coupland plan was "good" and reflected the aims of his movement, he gave away his role in the bigger plot. Coupland's primary analysis was that India was a "communal" nation divided on Hindu-Muslim-Sikh lines. He visited the Punjab shortly after the 1940 Lahore conference that called for a separate Muslim state (what became Pakistan) and indicated that the Sikhs would fight "tooth and nail" against the creation of a Muslim nation that divided what this community considered its homeland. This bloodbath occurred as per prediction in 1947, and the seeds of revenge have been kept alive in the Sikh communities living in London and Africa ever since.

Coupland's second manipulation tactic was pitting the notion of a strong federal system against state demands. He pushed for greater local control, charging that in post-Independence India "the crux of the constitutional problem is not in the provinces but at the center . . . whether India remains united or partitioned," and recommended as much decentralization as possible and a constitution similar to that of Switzerland. Today's Khalistanis echo Coupland's calls for decentralization, but the Indian government has held firm on implementing a republican constitution which determines the allocation of resources from the center for the good of the entire nation.

The Khalistan movement was created first in London, and subsequently spread in the United States and Canada. In 1966, the then-finance minister of the state of Punjab, the little-known Dr. Jagjit Singh Chauhan suddenly resigned from office and moved to London. Chauhan told his close lieutenants that he would create the Khalistan movement, and it must be done in Britain first. The target was the wealthy Sikh entrepreneurial community in the Commonwealth. Little is known of his activities in the first years except that in 1971, Chauhan was active in Anglo-American contingency

plans for redividing the subcontinent as a result of the India-Pakistan war. (This war was provoked by Henry Kissinger's backing for a Pakistani military dictatorship that was set on committing genocide against its own people in East Pakistan. India intervened in support of the Bangladesh liberation movement after close to 5 million refugees flooded into India's eastern states seeking refuge from the carnage. At that time, Kissinger vowed that India would be bled to death by the refugees and the crisis in the Bay of Bengal became a flashpoint for superpower crisis. Anglo-American geopolitical strategists sent the Seventh Fleet into the area to back up the Pakistani genocide campaign.)

At that time, Chauhan took out a half-page advertisement in the *New York Times* calling for the creation of Khalistan. To this day, Chauhan traces his relationship to that period of chaos, indicating that Henry Kissinger promised financial support to his movement and to establishment of Khalistan Airlines, which is now situated in the same building as the notorious drug-smuggling Pakistan International Airlines.

Jagjit Singh Chauhan: profile of a British agent

EIR had the opportunity to talk recently in Europe with Dr. Jagjit Singh Chauhan, the self-appointed "leader" of the Khalistan movement. Chauhan operates out of London, but spends most of his time traveling in Europe and North America propagandizing and raising funds on behalf of the Khalistan separatist movement. Although he is very murky about his doings, particularly during the past decade, what he does admit to is revealing.

The picture that emerges is not of a "leader" of a mass political movement of Indians of the Sikh religious minority, but of an agent of a network of intelligence operations which eventually traces back to the British Secret Intelligence Service, the mother of all separatist movements in India since the days of the British Raj.

Chauhan talked to *EIR* just after returning to London from Vienna. There are no Sikhs in Vienna—he was meeting there with the Socialist International. He described the previous secretary-general of the Socialist International for ten years as an "old friend" and said that the Khalistan movement "should be

The next phase of the operation was launched in 1977, when Mrs. Gandhi's government was ousted and an unstable coalition named the Janata Party took office in India. This coincided with the coup d'état by General Ziaul Haq in Pakistan and the Kissinger-ordered hanging of the legitimate Prime Minister, Zulfikar Ali Bhutto. This period of instability on the subcontinent was used by London and Washington to send Sikhs into the Punjab to set up terrorist and sabotage capabilities run out of the temples which are off limits to police.

Sikh activities in the U.S.A.

In the United States, the prominent Sikh, Ganga Singh Dhillon launched a propaganda drive for U.S. Congressional support of the movement. Dhillon is married to the daughter of a wealthy East Africa-based millionaire of Indian origin. Dhillon is of particular importance in Khalistan activities because he is the contact man with Pakistani Gen. Ziaul Haq whom he refers to as "my brother." During the last two years

Dhillon has met with Zia several times, seeking the Pakistani dictator's permission for the Khalistanis to set up bases along border areas with India. It is reliably reported that the Pakistan Embassy in London finances Chauhan and a pro-Khalistan newspaper printed there.

Immediate expansion plans for the movement involve a June visit by Chauhan to West Germany where he plans to meet political figures and think tanks associated with the opposition to Chancellor Helmut Schmidt. It is reported that, to test the waters, some Sikhs are being sent to West Germany across the East German border (where Indians can go without visa problems). Then, in shady maneuvers to get political asylum, legal fees of up to \$15,000 are being paid to lawyers close to Christian Social Union politician Franz Josef Strauss. Chauhan himself speaks hopefully that a cell, similar to the CSIS Washington project, can be created at Heidelberg University's South Asian Studies Center. A final scheme on the books to legitimize the Khalistan movement is an effort to get status under some guise at the United Nations.

brought into the main orbit of the international socialist movement." Among Chauhan's friends in the socialist international he told *EIR*, is George Fernandes. Fernandes is the Indian socialist whose underground terrorist activities against the Gandhi government in the early 1970s were illegally financed by the socialist international on the orders of Willy Brandt, who was backing a destabilization of the Indian government at that time. Chauhan also claimed to have recently met Socialist International-linked AFL-CIO head Lane Kirkland in the United States.

Chauhan also told *EIR* of his links to another asset of British intelligence—the Zionist movement. He revealed that while in the United States recently he met with the President of the American Jewish Congress. On a visit to Canada, he met with Zionist groups there.

The geopolitics of separatism

Chauhan's "friends" in London have also given him some geopolitical "ideas," about which he freely talks. Chauhan proclaims that his goal is to redraw the map of the South Asian subcontinent, shifting the national boundaries of India, Pakistan, Nepal, and Bangladesh into a loose confederation known as the "United States of South Asia," creating Khalistan in the process. He backs separatist movements inside India, like the northeast hill tribe terrorist agitation of the Nagas and Mizos (armed and backed by China) and similar separatist movements of the

Baluchis and Pathans inside Pakistan.

Chauhan says that a United States of South Asia is necessary because centralized government is not "natural," primarily because the people are not "evolved enough." The "natural ecology" of the people can be preserved with the establishment of the new system, applying the oligarchic canton model of Switzerland, he says. Chauhan, not surprisingly, is also an advocate of "appropriate technologies," that is, the preservation of labor intensive agricultural and industrial production on the excuse that development of capital-intensive technology doesn't fit the "natural ecology." According to Chauhan, "the unnatural conglomeration of cultures" in India today "has to be rectified," in other words, the central India government must be destroyed.

Chauhan's assertion that the United States of South Asia would fit into a new "Third Bloc" echoes the Third Force concept now guiding British designs against the two superpowers. The bloc could include South Asia, China, France, Germany and Britain, an idea, Chauhan says, he has discussed with his friends in the Socialist International.

Chauhan's loyalty to London apparently knows no bounds. In a recent issue of his *Khalistan News*, Chauhan supported the British war against Argentina in the South Atlantic. One question about his activities remains perplexing: when does Chauhan, in his many travels to the outposts of British intelligence across the globe, have time to talk to Sikhs?