

Mrs. Gandhi's killers take aim at Rajiv

by Allen Douglas

According to reliable intelligence sources, the same international network responsible for the assassination of Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi is now mobilizing against her son, Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi. The targeting of Mr. Gandhi—one possible date mentioned for an attempt is May 9—comes in the midst of escalating violence in Punjab and the shootings of several prominent Congress Party-I politicians. Central to the threat is the World Sikh Organization of the London-based Jagjit Singh Chauhan and an Anglo-Soviet intelligence network centered around Lord Nicholas Bethell of Britain and Jon Speller of the New York City publishing house, Robert Speller and Sons.

On April 19, in the midst of escalating demands by radical Sikhs against the Indian government, Sikh terrorists opened fire on Congress Party-I leaders in two separate incidents. One of the Congress-I's seven general secretaries, Raghunandan Bhatia, was wounded when Sikh terrorists opened fire on his house, wounding two of his associates and killing a third. In another incident, two people, including a local Congress-I party leader in Punjab, were wounded by Sikh gunmen. The shootings took place only hours after the central government released a top leader of last year's violence at the Golden Temple.

Though the central government has made concessions on all points of the Sikh demands, this means nothing to the radical Sikhs demanding a Sikh "nation" of Khalistan out of a broken India. "Khalistan head of state in exile" Jagjit Singh Chauhan, concluded an April 12-15 meeting of separatist-terrorists from all over the subcontinent at his Khalistan House in London with the announcement, "Rajiv Gandhi is on the hit list!" Two of his associates in the last murder plot, Gen. Bhullar Singh, general secretary of the World Sikh Organization, and Talwinder Singh Parmar, who had been in extradition process from Germany to India before "escaping," are said by intelligence circles to be an active part of the current threat.

The case of Jon Speller

Though Bhullar's WSO is an important level of the operation, the masterminds of assassinations rarely advertise their intentions through the mass media as is Chauhan's prac-

tice. A much more crucial part of the command structure centers on Jon Speller and his collaborator, Lord Nicholas Bethell. While the Bethell case has been described at length earlier (*EIR* Feb. 22, 1984), the activities of the Speller network in the United States, including the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith and a dirty faction of the United States intelligence community linked to former CIA counterintelligence chief James Jesus Angleton, put a "Made in U.S.A." label on Anglo-Soviet destabilizations directed at India. Speller was key to preparing trips of Chauhan to the U.S. to meet State Department and congressional figures over the years.

His involvement shows how the Anglo-Soviet sponsorship of assassinations and upheaval in India works. Speller was trained by Commander Sergius N. Riis, a top intelligence figure deployed by leading Anglo-American families, centered in the British Round Table, in their Bolshevik Revolution project of November 1917. Riis, a U.S. Naval Intelligence operative, was the case officer who first oversaw Trotsky's "escape" from New York City via Canada to Moscow in time for the November Revolution, and then joined Trotsky to become a ranking commissar of the Cheka, the predecessor of the KGB. His job, from 1917 through 1919, was to serve as a liaison from "the families" of the West to certain reluctant "White Russian" church and military circles to convince them to come over to the Bolshevik side. Riis maintained the contacts established then, later transferring a significant portion of his international intelligence network to publisher Robert Speller and his son Jon. Jon served as the personal aide to Riis for a period of two years, during a time Riis was frequently meeting Soviet officials at the U.N.

Not surprisingly, Occidental Petroleum's Armand Hammer, with a history of dealings with the Soviets going back to the early 1920s, has reportedly funded the Speller publishing concern over the years. Hammer is notorious as a Soviet operative, running at one point the Harju Bank in Reval, U.S.S.R., as a conduit for Comintern funds into the West.

The Comintern's Ghadar Party

As the Speller case indicates, the barrage of Soviet propaganda in *Izvestia*, *Pravda*, and elsewhere about a U.S. destabilization of India and CIA support for Singh Chauhan and his friends, is a fraud. Though there is a dirty U.S.-based component involved, this component all has Soviet ties. More importantly, the figure who signaled that Mrs. Gandhi should be eliminated, was Rostislav Ulyanovskii, Deputy Chief of the International Department of the Communist Party, in a Sept. 30, 1984 article in the *Times of India* declaiming against Mrs. Gandhi for her "centralization of power." The same Ulyanovskii wrote a recent crocodile-tear one-page appreciation of her in the KGB publication, *Literaturnaya Gazeta*. The continued Soviet drumbeat about alleged U.S. involvement in destabilizing India through Chauhan and friends covers up the very deep control they themselves maintain over

Chauhan's World Sikh Organization, control which goes back over 60 years.

At the turn of the century, the Anglo-American families who helped sponsor the Bolsheviks were running another operation to ensnare the growing demands for Indian independence. Called the Ghadar party, this pseudo-independence movement was formed out of radical Sikh networks in San Francisco and Vancouver, British Columbia. The Ghadar party had Bolshevik instructors at their cadre schools in the West Coast from soon after the turn of the century. Following the Bolshevik revolution, the Comintern took over control of these networks directly and many Sikhs were sent from the Punjab and the West Coast of the United States to Comintern training centers in Moscow and Tashkent, a fact reflected later in Chauhan's own frequent trips in and out of Tashkent in the early 1970s. Besides the Soviet-centered activities, Comintern funds poured into the San Francisco area, setting up organizations like the Sikh Educational Society in Stockton, California. The Ghadar members who came out of this apparatus were cadre for the founding of both the Communist Party of India (CPI) and its splitoff, the Communist Party-Marxist (CPM). To this day the CPM has three pictures on the walls of its headquarters in Jullundar—Marx, Lenin, and the bell-tower of the University of Berkeley, where many of the Sikhs were on scholarship as a cover for terrorist training in the area.

Former Ghadarites are not only in the leadership of the CPM today, but in the project to refound the Ghadar as the World Sikh Organization, under way since 1972, CPM figure Sohan Singh Josh, has traveled back and forth between Moscow and the Ghadar archives at Berkeley. The current chairman of the WSO, Didar Singh Bains, a former student of Chauhan's, sponsored a memorial to the Ghadar in 1960 and states that many current WSO leaders are second-generation Ghadar trainees.

Why target India?

India is under attack to eliminate its potential international role in shaping the new monetary system, for which mass forces are organizing around the world. This potential was indicated in the pointed coverage by India's Press Trust of the proposal by Schiller Institute leaders Lyndon and Helga LaRouche for the "Indira Gandhi Memorial Summit" of heads of state to reorganize the world's monetary system before it collapses.

The British side of the conspiracy against India wants genocide in the former colonial sector, in the name of conserving "scarce resources" for the Anglo-Saxon race. The Soviets, for their part, are protecting the International Monetary Fund because it's their best strategic partner in handing countries over to the hegemony of the U.S.S.R. As is clear from the "Soviet Lobby" wars in India, the Soviets want total isolation of India, especially from any new, more productive relations with the United States.

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