

Public relations notwithstanding, however, the Farrakhan New Nation of Islam remains at the center of a separatist insurgency dedicated to launching a bloody upsurge of terrorism against the Reagan administration in accordance with Soviet wishes. Farrakhan himself all but admitted this, in his effusive praise for Qaddafi and Ben Bella at the Saviors Day fête, and in his on-the-ground collaboration with the American Indian Movement, the leading U.S. component of the Nazi-communist Society for Endangered Peoples, a collection of over 200 separatist groups dominated by KGB-owned terrorist cells such as the Basque separatist ETA and the Shining Path (*Sendero Luminoso*) of Peru.

U.S. intelligence sources have additionally reported that in the immediate aftermath of the May 13 confrontation of the MOVE cult with police in Philadelphia, the New Nation of Islam convened emergency action meetings in cities all over the United States. The Black Israelite sect, whose founder, Ismael Ben Israel, is a permanent fixture at Farrakhan-sponsored rallies including that on Saviors Day, was recently busted by police in cities throughout the Midwest for running a \$10 million airline ticket forgery ring. In one incident in Ohio, police arrested a member of the El-Rukn gang from Chicago, who had jumped bail in a triple murder case in Illinois, and was being shuttled out of the country to a Caribbean nation by the Black Israelite ring. El-Rukn, formerly the Black P-Stone Nation street gang founded by social engineers from the University of Chicago on a model strikingly similar to that of the MOVE cult, is virtually controlled by the New Nation of Islam. The gang is notorious as the center of an assassins-for-hire and dope-smuggling ring terrorizing the south side of Chicago.

In his Saviors Day speech, Minister Farrakhan made a repeated point of the alliance that his New Nation of Islam had forged with the proto-terrorist American Indian Movement. "Black man and Red man have once again been united as we were in the beginning. . . . The two million American Indians are welcomed into the community of Islam. . . ." Since the time of the Khomeini revolution and the Teheran hostage crisis, the AIM has been serving as a terrorist back channel between the Muslim Brotherhood and domestic U.S. terrorist networks. AIM leader John Mohawk is a director of the Society for Endangered Peoples, the West Germany-headquartered international separatist agency heavily funded by Qaddafi.

This "underground railroad" of the separatist-terrorist apparatus built up inside the United States for the past five years, conforms to the profile of the kind of network eligible for Qaddafi's funding. In a recent international release, Qaddafi announced the formation of an international Islamic revolutionary force dedicated to destroying the nations of Western Europe and the Americas. With \$25-30 million in Qaddafi money now seeping into the United States, the prospects of activating such a separatist insurgency are vastly improved.

U.S. policy dilemma in North Africa

by Thierry Lalevée

President Ronald Reagan's quoting of Ibn Khaldun in an interview with the French daily *Liberation* on April 27 was a special expression of American concern about North Africa. As he reminded his interviewer, Ibn Khaldun was a 14th century Arab philosopher, and is seen as a national hero and national philosopher by the Maghreb countries, especially Algeria and Tunisia. The very same day, Tunis, which displays a large statue of Ibn Khaldun in one of its most important city squares, announced that Tunisian President Habib Bourguiba would meet President Reagan at the White House on June 18.

After Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak's visit to the United States in March, and after Chadli Benjedid became the first Algerian President ever to visit America, in April, Bourguiba's trip will complete what has been called the consolidation of an American-North Africa axis, linking Washington, Algiers, Tunis and Cairo.

There are obvious absentees. Qaddafi of Libya is not expected to pay a state visit to America for decades.

The absence of King Hassan of Morocco, however, points to the problem of U.S. policy in this region. Tied by treaties of political and military cooperation which it has signed over the period since last summer with Syria, Greece, Yugoslavia, and Malta, Morocco has been caught up in an anti-American axis that threatens to pull all of the Mediterranean and North Africa into the Soviet sphere.

Last fall a "Union of States" was signed between the Libyan Jamaariyyah and the Moroccan Kingdom, boosted by President François Mitterrand of France. Meanwhile, repeated attempts by King Hassan to set up a meeting with President Reagan, even at the private level, have been rebuffed by the White House. The private visit in March of the new Moroccan foreign minister, Abdelatif Fillali, a crony of Henry Kissinger with whom he shares the leadership of the "American-Moroccan Foundation," was a total failure, diplomatic sources explained: America told Fillali in no uncertain terms that it could not condone the alliance with Libya.

Soviet delegations have been flocking to Morocco, including most recently General Gretchev, chairman of the "Soldiers Committee" of the Soviet Union. The French have also put on a show of friendship. When French Premier Laurent Fabius came to Rabat in May, he flaunted, "This is my first visit to the Maghreb, and I wanted it to be in Moroc-

co.” This is a stab at Algeria, which Paris now considers “treacherous.”

Spain, too, has come under heavy pressure, between France and Morocco, to break its commitment to NATO and join the anti-American axis. Diplomats in Rabat have made no secret that they consider Spain “unripe” for joining the NATO military alliance. Blackmail to push Spain toward the Soviet-sponsored axis takes the form of Moscow’s public support of Moroccan claims over the two Spanish enclaves of Ceuta and Melilla, an issue which could trigger civil war in Spain.

Pentagon countermoves

Last fall, the Pentagon began reassessing its policies toward North Africa, sending the highest-level-ever military delegation, led by Undersecretary of Defense General Burns, to Algeria, Tunisia, and Egypt in September, followed by two trips by Secretary Weinberger himself in October and November. All this made clear America’s concern for regional stability and its willingness to help in the fight against the Islamic fundamentalists and the Soviet troublemaker Qaddafi. But North Africans can’t help wondering whether Washington is only interested in firming up ties to get military facilities to make up for growing Soviet power in the region and the unreliability of such NATO members as Spain and Greece—or whether the U.S. will think in terms of using its newly developed Maghreb connection to spearhead the development of the African continent.

This last option is the prime consideration of Mubarak, Chadli, and Bourguiba. Because of traditional ties to the West, Tunisia and Egypt are ready to consider the military consequences of such a relationship, but this is hardly true of Algeria, which wants to remain non-aligned.

In his speech on April 19 at the White House, Chadli Benjedid stressed: “Beyond existing trade relations, there is, in the development of our national economy, considerable potential for multifaceted cooperation between our countries. The genius of the American people has enabled man to conquer nature! Algeria aspires to enter an era of scientific and technical progress that will lead to the acquisition and mastery of advanced technology in various fields to spur our national development.” This extraordinary speech was followed by lengthy visits of the Algerian President to the Imperial Valley to assess for himself America’s success in the fight against the desert and how it could be replicated in the Sahara. Algeria’s concern for high technology to allow the development of Algeria and of the Sahel region, was also revealed by the fact that although Washington granted Algeria the status of “friendly country,” allowing it to buy weapons at special credit, no deal was signed at that level.

This same issue will be brought up by President Bourguiba of Tunisia, a founding member of the Non-Aligned Movement, who will urge America to get involved now in the development of Africa—the only way to actually ensure the security of the Mediterranean.

Defense ‘scandals’: Who pays the bill?

by Carol White

On April 1, the General Electric Company was indicted before a federal grand jury in Philadelphia. Now, GE has pleaded guilty to 108 counts of defrauding the Air Force and agreed to pay the maximum fine of \$1.04 million. The amount in question is \$800,000 which they appropriated to themselves on a nuclear-missile contract.

While company executives had denied the charge, and 40 current and former employees of the company had denied allegations of fraud, despite the fact that they had been offered immunity from prosecution, the situation changed last week when one employee, a former GE unit manager, was indicted for perjury. Individual criminal penalties can go as high 10 years in prison, and fines of \$20,000.

Roy Baessler, a general manager, has now testified that he was involved in deliberately altering worker time cards, in return for the dropping of perjury charges against him. GE has accepted his testimony, and reversed its plea to guilty. Their Space Systems Division is now suspended from bidding on contracts by the Air Force.

The case involves the building of test equipment for the replacement and modernizing of Minuteman warheads, from the Mark 12 to the Mark 12A. The substantial charge is that GE ran into cost overruns which were not assignable to the government under this contract, and so they altered 100 worker time-cards in order to defray the costs by assigning \$800,000 in labor costs to a different contract—one in which cost overruns were reimbursable. One hundred out of 100,000 time cards were involved.

Despite the fact that this was made into front-page news, it would not be especially noteworthy were it not for the fact that on April 30, Deputy Defense Secretary Taft announced that 30 major defense contractors will be indicted in the near future. The top three, General Dynamics, McDonnell-Douglas, and Rockwell International, are presently being audited, along with Boeing, Newport News Shipbuilding, Bell Helicopter, and Pratt-Whitney.

While the Defense Department initiated the auditing process, the Justice Department, the Securities and Exchange Commission, and the Congress quickly got into the act, as what looks to be the beginnings of a “Defensegate” got underway with a great deal of media prompting and cheering.