

uency, "but Baghdad is a little too far." Besides knee-jerk reactions, mostly triggered from Washington and elsewhere, Chandra Shekhar has maintained a stoic silence on the Gulf war crisis. In his stead, Foreign Minister V.C. Shukla reiterates the government line which amounts to the position that there can be talks only after Saddam Hussein retreats from Kuwait.

Chandra Shekhar's lack of credibility became highly visible during his recent telephone conversation with his Pakistani counterpart on the Gulf issue. If press reports are to be believed, the Indian prime minister told Pakistani Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif that, despite his best efforts, India has not been able to establish contact with the Iraqi President once the Gulf war began. It is unthinkable that such a situation could have arisen during Indira Gandhi's days. It also shows the poor image of not only the Indian prime minister, but also of the country which, even in the 1980s, was considered the leader of the Non-Aligned Movement and the developing nations.

The Anglo-Israelis

In the vacuum, the Anglo-Israeli lobby in India has become increasingly active since the December 1988 electoral defeat of the Congress Party. Commerce Minister Dr. Subramanian Swamy, an avowed anti-communist with known links to the militant Hindu chauvinist groups, has long been in contact with the Israelis. He was recently accused by a Member of Parliament of holding "clandestine" meetings with both Israeli and U.S. officials, during his visit abroad for the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) talks. Swamy, who studied and taught at Harvard, visited Israel in 1981 and goes so far as to certify them as "non-expansionists," cloaking the fact of Israel's territorial conquest in the guise of greater national interests.

Backup to Dr. Subramanian Swamy is provided by another Anglo-Israeli asset, K. Subrahmanyam. The former director of the Institute for Defense and Strategic Analyses and a Pugwash participant, Subrahmanyam worked in London's International Institute for Strategic Studies on deputation and is linked to the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute. He was also the secretary for defense production in the Ministry of Defense for about seven months beginning August 1979, during the fag end of the Janata Party rule. One of the Janata Party's major components was the Jan Sangh, the precursor to the present-day Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), the Hindu chauvinist group which has been accused of instigating many Hindu-Muslim riots in 1990.

Over the years K. Subrahmanyam has taken a rabid anti-Pakistan stance, which often verges on being fanatically anti-Muslim, rivaling that of the Hindu chauvinists belonging to the BJP. His stance on the Pakistan military and its nuclear program is the same position that the Israelis have long been

U.N. did not intend Iraq to be destroyed

Rajiv Gandhi, the former prime minister of India, who now is the president of the Indian National Congress, issued the following statement, "The War in West Asia," on Feb. 7, 1991.

The war in West Asia is getting out of hand. None of the objectives for which the war is being waged in the name of the United Nations is anywhere near being achieved. We must now give peace another chance.

We were deeply concerned at the outbreak of hostilities because we felt that all avenues for a pacific settlement of the dispute had not been quite exhausted. We were also firmly of the view that the Security Council's authorization to use "all necessary means" to secure Iraqi compliance with its resolution did not mean only a resort to arms. . . .

There is also a dangerous escalation in the kind of weaponry being used and, worse, that is proposed to be used. The escalation that is imminently possible extends to non-conventional armaments like fuel air weapons as well as chemical and other weapons of mass destruction. Clarifications and denials notwithstanding, we are yet to see brought on record a categorical refusal to resort to nuclear weapons under any circumstances. The illusion that the technology of warfare has moved to the point where Iraq's capacity to fight can be reduced to naught without causing any serious damage to human life or civilian property has been exposed for what it is: sheer illusion.

propagating, accusing Pakistan of being in the process of making the "Islamic bomb."

The glee of the Israeli lobby in India following Israel's successful strike on the Iraqi nuclear research center at Osirak in 1981—violating all international norms—is not unlike the glee shown by K. Subrahmanyam following the massive U.S. air attack on Baghdad in the early hours of Jan. 17 and since.

In his daily "analysis" of the Gulf war carried by a local English daily, Subrahmanyam's Anglo-Israeli, anti-Muslim bias is explicit. He has acknowledged, for instance, that U.S. Ambassador to Iraq April Glaspie, only seven days before Iraq's march into Kuwait, gave Iraqi President Saddam Hussein the green light, only to dismiss this fact in the

Iraq is being used as a testing ground for new weapons technology. The idiom in which the war is being advocated, propagated and fought gives the impression almost of a game, or a war machine that is so taken in by its technological superiority that it seems to have forgotten the price in human suffering it is exacting. The bombing of Iraq has taken a horrendous toll of innocent human life. There are children out there in Iraq whose lives are being psychologically blighted by the relentless, round-the-clock bombing. Who knows how many children this war has already killed, how many more are destined to die, how many orphans this war has left untended, how many it has left destitute, from how many their laughter and play has been stolen, how many have been robbed of their childhood? We do not believe that the mandate of Resolution 678 extends to the destruction of Iraq. The Security Council cannot have authorized the liberation of Kuwait through the obliteration of Iraq. . . .

As India is a member of the Security Council, I have written to our Prime Minister suggesting that the four ingredients on the basis of which we might be able to "restore international peace and security in the area" and ensure sustained peace in West Asia would include: an immediate cessation of hostilities; the replacement of the multinational force by a U.N. Force under Chapter 7 of the U.N. charter; the withdrawal of Iraq from Kuwait; and a just, comprehensive and definite settlement of the question of Palestine. . . .

The specific and well-defined mandate of Resolution 678 is to secure an Iraqi withdrawal from Kuwait and "to restore international peace and security in the area." These are objectives with which we wholly concur. We are also entirely in agreement with the directive to secure these objectives by "all necessary means." The war, however, is not contributing to the achievement of these objectives.

surmise that, perhaps, the United States was giving Iraq the nod to claim the Rumailah oil fields along the border and nothing more. But besides such deceptions and half-truths, Subrahmanyam is carrying out the Anglo-Israeli propaganda campaign to the letter, focusing on character assassination of Saddam Hussein, drooling over U.S. technological warfare superiority and precision bombing, describing the multinational forces as "allies," and attacking the Iraqi President for "communalizing" the conflict by invoking Islam, among other things.

The Anglo-Israeli lobby's anti-Muslim campaign has already begun to bear fruit. In Ghaziabad, an industrial town close to Delhi, when a procession of Muslims wearing Saddam Hussein badges, shouting pro-Saddam slogans, and

On the contrary, it is serving only to entrench the Iraqi presence in Kuwait and aggravate instead of abating the breach of "international peace and security in the area." Our plea is for a return to the letter, the spirit and the purpose of Security Council Resolution 660 to 678 relating to the illegal Iraqi occupation of Kuwait, a sovereign and independent member of the United Nations.

Let us give peace another chance. We have seen the U.N. Secretary General's confidential report to the Security Council of his last conversation with President Saddam Hussein. Parts of this report have appeared in the press. Now that we have had the opportunity of seeing a copy of the report, we are persuaded that the report contains elements which could be built upon to even now secure a satisfactory resolution of the issues through peaceful settlement within the framework of Security Council Resolutions on the subject, under the aegis of the United Nations and strictly in conformity with the provisions of the U.N. Charter. . . .

Possible solutions must look beyond the present conflict to the long-term arrangements to be put in place to ensure the security of the region. Suggestions have been made for regional security arrangements involving the continuous and indefinite participation of non-regional forces. Past experience and political wisdom suggest that any excessive reliance on, or the indefinite stationing of, non-regional forces for security in the West Asian region or, indeed, any region of Asia, Africa or Latin America would add to and not diminish the security problems of small and developing states. It would also fuel grave political instability and international tension. The proper agency for maintaining and restoring international peace and security in any area in the world is the countries concerned themselves, acting in concert with the United Nations and within the framework of the U.N. Charter. . . .

carrying an effigy of President Bush, went by, Hindu chauvinists engaged them in a violent clash. There were reports of Hindu fanatics trying to break down the doors of Muslim homes and knifing people. This has been the first such riot ever in the suburban town. In Aligarh, where many Hindu-Muslim riots have taken place before, the pro-Saddam student community at Aligarh Muslim University claims that they were being constantly confronted by the Hindu chauvinists who burn Saddam Hussein's effigy and raise anti-Muslim slogans.

Comes the controller

Whatever may be the merit of such "analysis," the clout of the Anglo-Israeli lobby in India cannot be underestimated.