

by such efforts as the ADL's campaign to remove God from the public schools and from public life in general. A new, allegedly more tolerant American society is now allegedly shedding its Christian anti-Semitism.

Dinnerstein adds one caveat: "This conclusion has to be modified, however, in terms of one well-defined American group: African-American. . . . [R]espected black leaders have often targeted Jews for opprobrium in a manner that would have ended the public careers of white persons who articulated identical words or sentiments."

There is no question that in the history of western civilization, and the history of the United States, there have been many tragic instances of genuine anti-Semitism, in some cases violent anti-Semitism. But the Dinnerstein account, based on historical fraud and doctored data, is a recipe for disaster.

Dinnerstein is no well-meaning quack. His book is a hate-filled piece of ADL propaganda which should be roundly denounced by serious historians and theologians committed to a truly ecumenical dialogue during these trying times. But for purposes of that kind of critique, there is no good reason to read this book.

Some facts but not the truth

by Linda de Hoyos

Assassination of a Prime Minister—As It Happened

by S. Anandaram

Vision Books, New Delhi, 1994

255 pages, hardbound, 260 rupees

Assassination of a Prime Minister was written by the head of the Special Investigative Team charged with probing the conspiracy that led to the Oct. 31, 1984, gunning down of Indian Prime Minister Mrs. Indira Gandhi by her own bodyguards. According to the author, the book was prompted by the failure of the Indian government to put forth its own definitive version of the assassination, and by Rajiv Gandhi's withdrawal of the charge-sheet against alleged co-conspirators of the two actual assassins in 1988, when Gandhi himself was ousted from government. When Anandaram complained to Rajiv Gandhi on this point, Mr. Gandhi, who would himself be murdered in May 1990, suggested that Anandaram write a book on the results of the special investigative team's

work and "let the public know the true facts of the case." Hence *As It Happened*.

The title is, however, a misnomer. It is impossible, as an outsider, to say whether Anandaram's effort is a deliberate part of the coverup of the true conspiracy that killed Mrs. Indira Gandhi, or whether it accurately reflects the thinking of those involved in the investigation. One thing is certain: The method used by the investigation could never uncover the truth. As a result, the actual assassins of Mrs. Gandhi have never been brought to account.

The methods, as reported, are police methods—that is, empirical methods, used to construct a picture of the actual physical act of the assassination and to work outward to the possibility of a broader conspiracy. As former superintendent of police for the state of Andhra Pradesh, and director general of the Central Industrial Security Force, these are the methods the author was presumably trained in.

Given the presence of five eyewitnesses, there was never any doubt that Mrs. Gandhi was murdered when two of her bodyguards, Constable Satwant Singh and Sub-Inspector Beant Singh, stepped in front of the prime minister as she was walking through her garden in the morning to meet an Irish TV news crew headed by Briton Peter Ustinov. She was killed at close range by 30 bullets entering her body, dying on the operating table several hours later.

The ostensible motivation for the murder was revenge for the June 6, 1984 entry by the Indian Army into the Golden Temple in Amritsar, Punjab, and the cleaning out of the nest of Sikh terrorists holding the temple hostage, resulting in the murder of many inside, including the Sikh separatist leader Sant Bindranwale. Both Beant Singh and Satwant Singh were Sikhs. Beant Singh was killed later that day in the guard-house, but Satwant Singh lived to stand trial and be hanged in June 1989 with another convicted co-conspirator Kehar Singh, uncle of Beant, who was charged with inciting Beant to use his access as security guard to murder the prime minister as a religious act of retribution.

But even so, it becomes apparent that the actual murderers were close to being mere patsies for a higher-level conspiracy. Satwant Singh, the author reports, was a "rather late entrant into the conspiracy and got into it without much thought, and was now full of remorse. . . . One also got the impression that his knowledge was limited to the part he had directly played in it and that he did not know much about the origin and organizers of the conspiracy."

Efforts to probe higher-level conspiracies were thwarted by the Supreme Court, which threw out the charge-sheets against friends and associates of Kehar Singh who were apparently anxious for revenge on the prime minister. The Thakkar Commission, charged with carrying out an independent investigation of the murder, concluded that "regarding the involvement of foreign agency so far no agency was involved in the conspiracy to assassinate the late PM has been placed before the commission. . . . There is material to

show that some foreign agencies were interested in destabilizing India and that these agencies were engaged in activities calculated to achieve that said result." Nevertheless, the Special Investigative Team reported it could find no evidence of outside agency involvement except for Pakistan's harboring of Sikh terrorists, and Anandaram reports further that "a very intensive and secret investigation" had been carried out to see if political or other adversaries of the prime minister may have contributed to the assassination, but such probes turned up no evidence whatsoever.

'Derivative Assassination'

In its investigation of Mrs. Gandhi's murder, *EIR* employed a different method. Rather, the murder was considered to be a "derivative assassination," that is, that while the assassins were the hands-on capability who carried out the act, the intellectual authorship and even logistical backing for the assassination came from elsewhere. More significantly, there was the question of motive. The Sikhs did not benefit from Mrs. Gandhi's assassination, as the murder sparked a wave of rioting and Sikh-killing in the capital. In the past 10 years since the Indian Army's retaking of the Golden Temple, the Khalistani Sikh separatist movement has largely dissipated, its major terrorist- and drug-linked proponents discredited in the eyes of most Punjabis.

The primary beneficiary of Mrs. Gandhi's murder, and also that of her son Rajiv Gandhi, was the oligarchical-financial nexus that had been challenged by Mrs. Gandhi's leadership of the Non-Aligned Movement, which, in March 1983, had demanded the creation of a new monetary system and a world economic system that would dispense with the murderous conditionalities policies of the International Monetary Fund. In this effort, Mrs. Gandhi had given India and herself moral authority as one of the major leaders of the developing sector.

Even before Mrs. Gandhi was killed, *EIR* had opened the lines of investigation as follows: How was the Sikh separatist movement created? How is that capability logistically maintained from backers outside India? Under conditions of escalating standoffs between the Gandhi government and the Khalistani movement, a "derivative assassination" was not difficult to set into motion, from the intelligence agencies outside the country who offered succour to the Khalistani movement. Even Anandaram reports that a leaflet was circulating after June 1984 entitled "Indira De Sikh" which held Mrs. Gandhi responsible for Operation Blue Star, and asked: "How will she remain alive? Death is certain. Her turn is about to come. Some person will appear for her also like Udham Singh who visited England and shot Dwyre [British perpetrator of the famous 1919 Amritsar massacre] in Parliament."

Little fish Beant Singh and Satwant Singh rose to the bait. But the ocean in which they swam was, as *EIR's* book *Derivative Assassination* proved beyond a doubt, controlled

and operated jointly by primarily British and Soviet intelligence operations, beginning with Jagjit Singh Chauhan, an exiled Khalistani in London who received money from London backers. Also operating against the prime minister was the World Sikh Organization, which boasted of its association with Jon Speller, a shared intelligence operative of British, Russian, Israeli, and U.S. agencies. The signal for the assassination also came from outside India: an August 1984 cover story in the London *Economist* portraying Mrs. Gandhi as Kali, the goddess of destruction, because of her role in bringing down a state government (hardly an action warranting such an over-response); and a Sept. 30, 1984 signal piece in which by Rostilav Ulyanovski, deputy of the Soviet Communist Party's International Department, denouncing Mrs. Gandhi for trying to "concentrate power in the hands of one person."

Within 31 days, Mrs. Gandhi was dead. It can be left to the Indian government to determine whether the incompetence displayed by her security staff (both Beant and Satwant were about to be fired for numerous citations) was deliberate. No matter the case, the fact that the Indian government—as Anandaram's efforts show—has not brought to light the truth of the derivative assassination of Indira Gandhi has only further amplified the terrible loss to all humanity of her leadership.

Derivative Assassination: Who Killed Indira Gandhi?

by the Editors of
Executive
Intelligence
Review

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