

also calling on France to intervene to prevent the Iran crisis from spilling over into the rest of the Middle East.

### Brzezinski's gameplan

Brzezinski's gameplan to prevent Bakhtiar from putting together a government by a general left-right destabilization that also includes manipulating the religious opposition. If Bakhtiar's efforts can be wrecked, thinks Brzezinski, then the pro-NATO generals in the military can be induced to make a coup d'etat that would install a violently anti-Soviet army dictatorship.

The immediate result of this coup would be the eruption of a civil war pitting the rightists against the more moderate army factions. The eventual result of this crisis would be the breakup of Iran — and Pakistan — into competing regional-tribal areas, and, almost inevitably, U.S. and Soviet intervention.

In a series of statements, the USSR has warned against such a coup encouraged by the U.S.

But, according to Iranian sources, Bakhtiar's efforts are being undercut by Carter, Brzezinski, and the NSC. The source said that Brzezinski is in telephone contact twice or more daily with Ardeshir Zahedi, the Iran ambassador to the U.S., who is presently in Iran. Zahedi is working closely with the rightist military, who insist that the Shah not leave the country.

The coordinator of the U.S. effort to undercut the Shah-Bakhtiar joint efforts to stabilize Iran is David Aaron of the NSC. Aaron, according to West German sources, is the man who ordered a special 60-man intelligence-military team into Iran last month for the purpose of "working against Bakhtiar." Aaron cooperates with Marvin Zonis and other anti-Shah American intelligence people, who comprise the British-linked Iran specialist group here. Also deeply involved in the disruption of Iran is the Institute for Policy Studies in Washington, along with Noam Chomsky.

Should Brzezinski's gameplan succeed, a naval aircraft carrier task force is presently sitting off the coast of China, just outside the Indian Ocean, ready to be sent into the Persian Gulf for a "show of force" aimed at the USSR. Although Carter has reportedly ordered the task force to remain stationary, he is ready to order it to move toward Iran should the situation get worse.

The pretext for an intervention, presumably, would be the need to "protect American lives" by rapid evacuation, as well as to secure oil supplies. But, following a brief crisis when the Teheran airport was shut down and many foreigners stranded with no transport, the Iranian army moved rapidly to reopen the airport and ensure the orderly departure of anyone wishing to leave.

— Robert Dreyfuss

## Geopoliticians spell out

### Exclusive to the Executive Intelligence Review

In interviews last week which have been made available to the *Executive Intelligence Review*, high level "geopolitical strategists" connected to British and Zionist lobby policy circles spoke with unusual frankness and candor of the deeper aims behind their management of the Iranian crisis. Portions of three of the most revealing follow.

#### BERNARD LEWIS [PRINCETON UNIVERSITY]:

*Q: What is your evaluation of what's going on in Iran?*

**Lewis:** First, I think I know more about it working out of the library at Princeton than they know in Washington where ignorance prevails. It's all the Soviets. First came the coup in Afghanistan, then Iran was next on the list. They're infiltrating the Persian-speaking population of Russia into Iran. The Soviets are setting up separatist movements in Iran and throughout the region. They're carving it up through particularism. It has to be the Soviets behind all this. The proof is in the superb planning and staff. Only Moscow could pull it off. Even the PLO and Libya could not have organized so disciplined an insurrection. The other element in this is (French President) Giscard d'Estaing.

*Q: Do you think Bakhtiar can hold power?*

**Lewis:** Our best chance now is an army government, that is anti-Soviet.

*Q: Do you see confrontation developing?*

**Lewis:** Well, it would be great if Kissinger and Schlesinger were in there in key positions and we had a repeat of the 1973 nuclear alert. But, now, if it comes to a showdown Carter will back down. Did you see the recent London *Economist* article, "The Crumbling Triangle?" It was very good. The Soviets smell blood, they're moving on Turkey. We need a show of force, but it isn't directed solely against the USSR. If we have a showdown confrontation it will also be designed to force the Saudi Arabians, the Sheikh of Abu Dhabi, to toe the line and support us against Soviet aggression.

#### RAY CLINE [GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY]:

*Q: What is your analysis of the present Iran crisis?*

**Cline:** It's all Carter's fault. He's a fool who hasn't read the first page of the standard works on geopolitics like Mahan, Mackinder, and Haushofer. He doesn't understand the ABC's of geopolitics. It's part of a

# New Dark Age

general failure of policy. The Soviets grabbed Afghanistan, South Yemen, Ethiopia, the Horn of Africa. But now Zbig (National Security advisor Zbigniew Brzezinski—ed.) has Iran policy firmly in his hands, thank goodness. We've got to forge an alliance of Israel, the moderate Arabs, Iran, and Turkey and force the Soviets to back off. Boy, we really miss Henry Kissinger, I'll tell you that. We have to organize a campaign against the White House, that's the root of the trouble: make Carter realize his inadequacies, toughen him up. But, I'm not optimistic. Nobody picked up my call for an "ocean alliance" against Communism.

*Q: Do you see a confrontation developing over Iran?*

**Cline:** Well, you know I'm for a military buildup but we don't have time for that, we have to take our stand now. The trouble is if we have a confrontation with the Soviets, Carter wouldn't hold up for 30 minutes. In fact, we could be in the middle of a nuclear chicken game and the idiot Carter wouldn't even realize it, he'd be talking about his friend Brezhnev. That's why we need a campaign to pressure Carter to stand up to the Communists.

*Q: How would the alliance you talked about be organized. It seems a pipe dream.*

**Cline:** Well, first, if the Shah falls, I hope we can get the Brazil model or the Greek junta type right-wing anti-communist military government. Israel has made some mistakes in her diplomacy but I think Begin is showing great flexibility now, so a separate peace with Egypt might come off, and, if we hang tough in the Iran crisis, that could reassure the Saudis.

## JOSEPH HARSCH [CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR]:

*Q: In your column today you call for a "show of force" confrontation with the USSR over Iran. Isn't that an extremely dangerous and provocative strategy?*

**Harsch:** Not at all. The key is sea power. That carrier we've got heading for Iran is like a small fleet. It'll be really powerful. Don't worry about the Soviet "warnings." They've been quiet. That's just routine. They can't do a damn thing. If the Soviets occupy northern Iran, it will play into our hands. It'll be great — it'll unite the whole conservative Moslem world against them. It's absolutely essential that we have a show of force confrontation at this time and that Carter not back down. It's the only way to reassure the Saudis, show them that we mean business and keep them in the Free World camp.

*Q: In your column you foresee a cutoff of oil from Iran leading to shortages and rationing in the West, with an earthquake effect. What do you mean?*

**Harsch:** Look, if we have another cutoff of oil, it'll be a great opportunity to get our house in order, for Carter to act presidential. That sort of crisis would be just what the doctor ordered in a certain sense. It would force us to balance the budget. Impose the necessary austerity. Get the population more conscious of the need for conservation. It could even help us lick inflation.

*Q: Brzezinski talks about an "arc of crisis" extending from the Persian Gulf through Northern Africa. Do you see the American strategic position threatened there?*

**Harsch:** I see it as an "arc of opportunity." For example, the conservative Moslem religious fanatics and their revivalist movement are a tremendous development. The Soviets will never get to first base with Khomeiny. And, the Shah will be forced to abdicate, which is good. There is a message in all of this — the mad rush of modernization must be stopped. That's what Khomeiny and the Iranian people, especially the middle class, are saying. End the cult of progress. Even though I support our China policy, I expect Teng to get the message to drop this modernization fetish. People want a simple life. Furthermore, the crisis gives us an opportunity to flex our military muscle. I know there are moves to put together a joint British-American naval patrol force to deal with the Iran crisis. I'm hoping NATO can be drawn in.

*Q: You seem to be saying that the feudal life of the Middle Ages was a good thing. Couldn't your philosophy lead to a new Dark Ages? Have you read Barbara Tuchman's new book, A Distant Mirror, about the breakdown crisis of the 14th century, the Black Death, and so on?*

**Harsch:** Oh, I got Tuchman's book for Christmas and am really looking forward to reading it. You see, history proceeds in cycles. I just visited France, went to the place where the Hundred Years War was fought. You know, sometimes you need long periods of decay and disintegration to shock people, then the pendulum swings back the other way. The operative principle in history is greed. The Shah doesn't understand this lesson. Henry VIII, Queen Elizabeth I, and the Protestant Reformation were based on greed. They created a political party by dividing up the Church properties and redistributing the wealth. The Shah hasn't created a political party, he hasn't satisfied the middle classes. All he's got is the army whom he bribed with modern weapons and this modernization business.