

# Dukakis backing for MacBride plan plays into Soviet terror scenario

by Kathleen Klenetsky

Whether Michael Dukakis chooses to admit it or not, he has implicated himself in a Soviet-orchestrated terror campaign, directed at disrupting U.S.-British defense relations and destabilizing NATO's northern flank. The Democratic presidential nominee has played an instrumental role in promoting the so-called MacBride Principles for Northern Ireland, a set of "fair employment" guidelines, patterned after anti-apartheid measures, which have been used as the basis for a Jimmy Carter-style "human rights" campaign in Ulster.

Developed by the late Dr. Sean MacBride, former chief of staff of the terrorist Irish Republican Army, and one of the few Westerners ever to receive the Lenin Peace Prize, the principles were first issued in November 1984. Within months, thanks to Dukakis's support and the efforts of a coalition of left-wing clergy, the AFL-CIO, disarmament groups, and organizations involved in promoting sanctions against South Africa, Massachusetts became the first state to adopt them as state law. Since then, Dukakis has threatened to create a major diplomatic breach between London and Washington, by his repeated support for the MacBride campaign.

Despite the best efforts of the MacBride leadership to sell the guidelines as a means of forcing the British to increase Catholic employment in Ulster, such appeals are pure public relations, tailored to win well-meaning, but naive, Americans, to the cause.

The architects of the MacBride operation have no commitment to improving the lot of Ireland, Catholic or Protestant. Their aim is to create the conditions in which the IRA, outlawed both in Ulster and Eire, can flourish, by bringing Northern Ireland's economy to a standstill, and rubbing tensions raw until Ulster becomes ungovernable. If they succeed, Ulster could become a staging ground for Soviet *spetsnaz* attacks on British and NATO military installations.

Along with Dukakis, the IRA has emerged as one of the most enthusiastic boosters of the MacBride Principles—a dead giveaway as to the campaign's real purpose. Despite its romantic image and ostensible commitment to Irish nationalism, the IRA has been functioning since at least the late 1960s as a Soviet instrument. As Lyndon LaRouche recently

pointed out, while British policy toward Northern Ireland in its historical evolution has been utterly unacceptable, it should be clear that the IRA is not an Irish issue, but functions as an instrument of Soviet irregular warfare, and that any support, in whatever form, for the IRA, is support for Soviet irregular warfare.

That assessment is borne out by several recent developments, not least of which was the endorsement of the IRA by the July 28 issue of the Soviet magazine *New Times*. The article denounced British "terror" against Northern Ireland, and compared its actions there to apartheid. Intelligence sources report that the IRA has acquired highly sophisticated weapons—courtesy of Soviet surrogates—and training in terrorism from the Syrians.

The IRA's latest onslaught, which erupted this summer, has taken numerous lives, disrupted NATO exercises, and created fears that Britain may have to redeploy some of its troops committed to European-wide defense back home to counteract the IRA threat.

## The MacBride hoax

Superficially, the MacBride Principles seem like traditional civil rights measures. They call on the 25 or so U.S. companies based in Northern Ireland, as well as non-U.S. companies which receive U.S. contracts, to comply with such provisions as affirmative action for Catholics, providing security escorts to Catholic workers to and from their place of employment, etc. But even taken at face value, the guidelines are idiotic. Unemployment in Northern Ireland hovers around 20% for the general population, and among the Catholic minority it runs significantly higher. In such a situation, imposing quotas would be totally counterproductive. What is obviously required are more jobs, but the self-styled "progressive forces" promoting the MacBride Principles have no interest in such matters.

The MacBride campaign, which is based almost entirely in the United States, has snowballed. Now one of the leading items on the "progressive agenda"—as MacBride organizer Pat Dougherty of the New York City Comptroller's office put

it—the guidelines have been enacted into law by 11 states and numerous municipalities. Federal MacBride legislation is pending in Congress.

Proponents claim that the principles are not intended to force companies to divest themselves of their operations in Northern Ireland. But critics—and these include the Catholic Party in Ulster—strongly disagree. Says John Hume, leader of the Social Democratic and Labour Party, and the most prominent moderate Catholic in Ulster: “The effect of the MacBride Principles campaign, whether people like to admit it or not, is to stop investment coming in, and that is bad for us. Taking jobs from Protestants and giving them to Catholics isn’t going to solve the problem. That will just create other tensions. What we need is more jobs overall.” According to one source, two U.S. companies which had been considering investment in Ulster have decided not to, for fear that the MacBride Principles will set off a conflagration.

The MacBride measures which have been passed thus far contain not-so-subtle threats of disinvestment; there are calls for pension funds and other state funds to be invested in companies that abide by the principles, implying that funds should not be invested in those that don’t. The federal MacBride legislation, sponsored by Sen. Al D’Amato (R-N.Y.) and Rep. Hamilton Fish (R-N.Y.), and a related bill introduced by Rep. Brian Donnelley (D-Mass.), provide for tax and other penalties against companies that don’t adhere to the principles.

MacBride partisans have hinted that the guidelines will eventually lead to the imposition of South Africa-style sanctions. Richard Harvey, a New York lawyer involved in the MacBride campaign, says he doubts the MacBride Principles will work “unless backed by an overt threat of divestment within six months.” Like the sanctions against South Africa, which will cut the United States off from vital strategic minerals, this would mean catastrophe for Western security interests. Not only would divestiture create the conditions for a new explosion of violence; it would also threaten vital defense production. Several British-owned defense contractors in Northern Ireland, such as Short Brothers, will be affected, since they receive contracts from the U.S. Defense Department and subcontracts from American defense producers.

Forcing a break in U.S.-British defense cooperation will deal a blow to NATO, and will hasten the strategic decoupling of Europe and the United States, which is Moscow’s key goal. But this doesn’t faze Dukakis. In addition to making the MacBride Principles law in Massachusetts, he signed a bill in 1983 to prohibit the investment of any state funds in any company or financial institution involved in the supply of munitions to British forces fighting the Soviet-backed IRA in Northern Ireland.

Dukakis has pledged to make “Irish issues” a top priority of his presidency, and MacBride partisans are confident that he’ll rush federal MacBride legislation, and very possibly stronger measures, through Congress.

## Who was Sean MacBride?

Dr. Sean MacBride (1904-88) was just the kind of person one would expect to be among the small number of Western recipients of the Lenin Peace Prize. His family background prepared him for a lifetime of undermining Western civilization: His mother, Maude Gonne, was an Irish revolutionary who became a Theosophist and joined Satanist Aleister Crowley’s Order of the Golden Dawn. His father, Maj. John MacBride, helped found the Irish Republican Army, and was executed for his role in the Easter Uprising.

Sean MacBride joined the IRA at an early age, becoming its chief of staff in the 1930s, and later serving as attorney for many Irish terrorists. He also founded Amnesty International, which tries to defend terrorists in the name of “human rights.” Although he posed as an “Irish nationalist,” MacBride’s real love was the idea of a one-world government. He belonged to the Pan-European Union, founded by the fascist Count Richard Coudenhove-Kalergi, and dedicated to destroying the nation state. He eventually became assistant secretary general of the United Nations, and U.N. Commissioner for Namibia.

MacBride was an ardent apologist for the Soviet regime, going so far as to defend the Bulgarians accused of being involved in Ali Agca’s attempted assassination of Pope John Paul II. He helped establish the International Commission for the Study of the Antonov Case—Antonov being one of the Bulgarians arrested in the assassination try—and issued a statement saying the case against the Bulgarians was “part and parcel of the ideological campaign which is directed against the People’s Republic of Bulgaria and other socialist states.”

As Minister of External Affairs in the 1940s, he fought successfully against Irish entry into NATO.

More recently, he played a leading role in the Soviet-run disarmament campaign. Operating out of the International Peace Bureau in Geneva, MacBride collaborated with the Socialist International’s Willy Brandt, Olof Palme, and Bruno Kreisky, with special venom reserved for the Strategic Defense Initiative.

Shortly before his death this year, MacBride launched a new initiative to declare nuclear weapons illegal. According to Princeton Prof. Richard Falk, who worked with MacBride on both this and other operations, including organizing support for Ayatollah Khomeini’s takeover of Iran, the initiative has the active backing of the Soviets. Rein Mullerson, a Soviet lawyer, co-directs the campaign, which will hold its kick-off meeting early next year.