Carter Administration Revives 'Operation Garden Plot'

A series of statements issued this week by individuals in and around the Carter Administration points toward a new wave of international terrorism run through the Institute for Policy Studies-Interpol command structure and intended to justify police state measures in the USA and military intervention abroad. Ambassador Douglas Heck, head of the State Department's Task Force on International Terrorism; Brian Jenkins, Rand Corporation terrorist planner and recently hired State Department special consultant; and Max Kampelman, Washington D.C. attorney and director of the pro-nuclear war lobby, Committee on the Present Danger, all issued glaring "predictions" of Entebbe-style incidents drawing attention to the potential of such events to trigger a full-scale war in the Mideast.

Most indicative of the frame of mind within the Administration was the full page article by Brian Jenkins in the Washington Post March 27. Jenkins called for the

creation of special U.S. Commando Units to intervene in internal affairs of any nation "involved in terrorism" against U.S. citizens. (Extensive excerpts from his article are reprinted below; for additional Administration terror-counterterror scenarios see Middle East.)

The men in overall command of the terror are top officials of the Carter Administration — Secretary of State Cyrus Vance, HEW Secretary Joseph Califano, Deputy Secretary of State Warren Christopher and others.

These men and their network of collaborators in Carter circles were the key figures in the 1960s Operation Garden Plot conceived and executed during the Johnson Administration. Garden Plot was a full-fledged attempt to impose martial law on the United States. The activation of the current terror wave represents an extension of the terror-counter-terror capability built during the original Garden Plot

A history of Operation Garden Plot is appended below.

Rand Calls For Terror 'Command' Structure

Brian Jenkins, director of Rand Corporation's "research on international terrorism" and author of the January scenario for nuclear terrorism entitled, High Technology Terrorism: Surrogate Warfare, printed a near full-page call in the March 27 Washington Post for a National Security Council-controlled "command organization" to coordinate all responses to domestic and international terrorism. An advocate of proxy warfare against the Warsaw Pact and governments in the Third World through threatened and actual nuclear terrorism, Jenkins calls for full "command" interface with all U.S. military special operations units in preparation for planned Entebbe-style scenarios.

Below are quotes from Jenkins' Washington Post piece. The reader should note the congruity of Jenkins' plan with "emergency powers" proposed earlier this month by the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration's Task Force Report on Disorders and Terrorism.

Upgrading the Fight Against Terrorism by Brian Jenkins

"International terrorism is increasing.... It may compel us to alter some of our fundamental concepts of national security.

At present we are inadequately prepared.... We have

not yet created a permanent organization charged to surmount bureaucratic boundaries and provided it with a budget, staff and necessary instruments to operate effectively.

We have not assembled the military capabilities to rescue Americans held hostage abroad, or to recover the facilities that terrorists may have taken over, or carry out other foreseeable missions in this new area of conflict.

A complicated incident that crosses national borders and domestic jurisdictions, such as the hijacking of the TWA airliner by Croatian extremists last September, may bounce around the government like a floating crap game.

A Rising Trend

Terrorists appear to be getting more sophisticated in their tactics, their weapons and their exploitation of the media. Some of the new weapons being developed for military arsenals, such as shoulder-fired, surface-to-air missiles, may find their way into their hands.

Terrorist groups appear to be strenghtening their links with each other. One result is the emergence of multinational free-lance terrorist groups that are willing to carry out attacks on behalf of causes they are sympa-

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thetic with, or to undertake specific operations or campaigns of terrorism on commission from client groups or governments. The seizure of the OPEC headquarters in Vienna is a splendid example.

New Agency

We need to consider creating a government entity to deal with the more serious incidents of terrorism. Whatever form it takes, this entity should be situated high enough to override department and agency boundaries in the executive branch — possibly as a special component of the National Security Council staff. The State Department's office for combating terrorism currently headed by Ambassador Douglas Heck, could be the embryo of such an entity, but it would have to be upgraded and augmented.

...it should offer the President ready but invisible access. It should have a permanent staff that includes civilian officials and members of all (military — ed.) services — the latter not being mere representatives. It would not supplant the working group of the Cabinet Committee to Combat Terrorism. It would, however, take over the mission of the task forces that are set up at State to deal with international terrorist incidents.

It would become operational in domestic incidents ... when the requirements of the situation clearly exceeded local law-enforcement capabilities and the consequences could be national or international in scope (a threat of mass destruction, for example). Abroad, it would intervene in terrorist incidents when Americans were in peril, when military force could become necessary, when there was a clear danger to the national security (for example, the theft of a nuclear weapon), or when a foreign group operating internationally was carrying on a concerted terrorist campaign against the United States.

The staff would examine these and other contingencies that could require a national response, identify the possible means to deal with them and marshall the necessary resources. It would inventory U.S. intelligence, civilian law enforcement and military assets, identify any shortcomings, and formulate contingency plans. In an actual incident, the group would become the staff for the President or any special action group established by the President to deal with a serious terrorist threat.

The Military Option

We must not peremptorily dismiss military action as a possible option in dealing with terrorism. At any time, an incident may occur in which a band of political extremists will seize a large number of American hostages on foreign territory, negotiations have failed, the captors appear on the point of killing the hostages and the local government is unwilling or unable to protect persons within its borders.

...Such missions ... should not be "black bag" operations, even if they must necessarily remain covert during the execution phase. They may be considered legitimate applications of force in extreme circumstances, and an appropriate function of the legitimate armed forces of the nation.

We already possess some components for a counterterrorist force: the Army's Special Forces, Ranger battalions and airborne units, the Navy's Seals, the Fleet Marine forces, and the Air Force's Special Operations squadrons. But they could not be assembled rapidly to deal with a fast-breaking crisis. Again, the problem is the lack of an organization for bringing selected capabilities together."

The Original 'Operation Garden Plot'

Officially, Operation Garden Plot was the designated name of a joint-Justice Department-Pentagon blueprint for the imposition of martial law in the United States in the event of civil disorders and riots reaching a level of intensity beyond the control capabilities of civilian agencies alone. The project was initiated in the fall of 1967 by Cyrus Vance, then a Special Advisor to the President, immediately following the Detroit riots, and was formally instituted as an official federal contingency plan in February 1968 under an Executive Order signed by Attorney General Ramsey Clark. The principal components of the "official" Garden Plot were the following:

** A Domestic War Room was established in the basement of the Pentagon to serve as a command center for the deployment of 25,000 specially trained airborne troops stationed at Fort Campbell, Ky. and Fort Bragg, N.C. This War Room was fitted with detailed blueprints for military occupations of every prominent U.S. city that had experienced urban unrest or was profiled as a potential center of such disorders.

** The Justice Department's Interdepartmental Intel-

ligence Unit (IDIU) was established as a massive com- . puter dossier bank drawing in profile information on millions of American citizens gleaned from every federal and state agency maintaining computerized records. The IDIU conception was not to build a static bank of "dirty laundry," but to maintain an ongoing "tracking capability." This "tracking capability" enabled the Wall Street networks then in control of the Justice Department to conduct Cointelpro operations against targeted citizens on the basis of constantly updated reports from the Department of Health, Education and Welfare, the Department of Labor, the Office of Economic Opportunity, and local police agencies - in addition to recording traditional FBI, CIA and military intelligence information. On the basis of the "tracking" and as one feature ' of Garden Plot, a list was compiled by the Justice Department (under the name ADEX) of individuals targeted for immediate detention at the first activation of civil disorders.

** Corollary training programs for civilian and local and state police officials were conducted in every region

of the country to bring local government agencies directly into the Garden Plot umbrella and to facilitate the transition from civilian to martial rule. These training programs were also designed as profiling and recruiting vehicles for establishing networks in every major city through which to implement counterinsurgency policies against the local populations.

The Real Story

The Garden Plot martial law program was a dramatic violation of every right guaranteed under the U.S. Constitution; and this point was appropriately drawn out by Senator Sam Ervin during two years of hearings on computer surveillance of American citizens sponsored by his Sub-Committee on Constitutional Right (1970-71). At that time testimony from official involved in the IDIU component of Garden Plot established that individuals in both the military and in the federal government who held views in opposition to Kennedy-Johnson Administration policy were targeted for surveillance and harassment.

This, however, is only one side of the Garden Plot story. The same lower Manhattan group that initiated the formal government project simultaneously was sponsoring the creation of networks of controlled terrorist gangs and agent provocateurs through private channels principally associated with the Institute for Policy Studies and the Ford Foundation.

Operation Garden Plot, like the current operations being run through the National Security Council and its IPS-Interpol adjuncts, was a coup d'etat scenario employing synthetic terrorist gangs like the Weatherman, the Black Liberation Army, etc., as the triggers through which traditional institutions could be replaced by martial rule under circumstances in which the military intervention "appeared" to the targeted population as the "lesser evil" alternative to social unrest and chaos. It was on this principle of psychological warfare that operation Garden Plot was conceived and executed.

Rockefeller Networks Ran It

While Garden Plot was not formally instituted until 1968. the same core of lower Manhattan political intelligence operatives who drafted that program was involved by no later than 1963 in conducting the terror-counter terror operations described in outline above. A review of the careers of these individuals represents an efficient history of the Garden Plot project.

John Doar: Currently identified as the Carter Administration's top choice to replace Clarence Kelley as FBI Director, John Doar was responsible for running the first large-scale domestic terror-counter terror campaign in the U.S. while serving as Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights during the early 1960s. Under orders from Attorney General Robert Kennedy, Doar oversaw the deployment of large numbers of FBI agents into the South to build up the Ku Klux Klan as a government controlled terror apparatus. Reports submitted to the Senate Intelligence Committee last year indicate upwards of 75 percent of the membership in the Klan during this period were FBI employees.

At the same time, Doar, in conjunction with the newly created Institute for Policy Studies (founded by Marcus Raskin and Richard Barnett — both "retired" members of the Kennedy national security establishment) directed the deployment of "civil rights workers" drawn from the IPS-affiliated groups like Students for a Democratic Society and the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee. Both groups were financed through Wall Street foundations including the Stern Family Fund and the Taconic Foundation.

When violence broke out in the South between the KKK and the civil rights workers. Doar joined with the Rockefeller Foundation-funded Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights Under Law in calling for the use of federal troops. Among the "Lawyers for Civil Rights" were Cyrus Vance and Joseph Califano — both serving at the time as General Counsels for the Pentagon and both close collaborators of Doar in the Garden Plot operation.

During 1967-68, Doar joined with Vance, Califano, Ramsey Clark and Warren Christopher in drafting the formal Garden Plot proposal.

Cyrus Vance: The current Secretary of State, a founding board member of the Trilateral Commission and the recent Director of the Rockefeller Foundation, Vance has been one of the leading Wall Street counterinsurgents throughout the past 25 years. During his early 1960s tenure first as General Counsel to the Pentagon and then as Secretary of the Army, he was involved in promoting the application of military counterinsurgency warfare methods against the U.S. population. As Secretary of the Army he oversaw the deployment of U.S. troops into five southern cities during the staged KKK violence and subsequent civil disorders. In July 1967, two weeks after the left the Pentagon, Vance was sent into Detroit by President Johnson to oversee military deployments during the Detroit riots. His conduct in that situation prompted both Michigan's Governor Romney and former President Eisenhower to criticize him harshly at a press conference for having provoked unnecessary violence by his "mis-deployment" of the troops.

In the midst of the Detroit events, Johnson appointed a special White House task force on the disorders including Vance, Califano, Doar and Ramsey Clark. Vance in particular used this opportunity to convince the President to take two steps: 1) to create the Vorenberg Commission which in turn led to the creation of the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration; and 2) to immediately work towards the development of a "working plan" for dealing with all future disorders. In the fall of 1967, this working plan was transformed into an official White House Directorate. The Directorate was charged with responsibility for drafting a model to permit:

**computerization of intelligence dossiers on all individuals potentially profiled as disrupters;

** design of blueprints for martial rule in the event of continued disorders:

** creation of a structure through which to conduct roundups of profiled "disrupters" as a pre-emptive move against spreading disorders.

During the winter of 1967-68, the Defense Intelligence Agency (which Vance had helped to create during his Pentagon tenure) sent operatives to all the targeted urban centers to facilitate the creation of the IDIU computer dossier system. Vance conducted a public relations campaign on behalf of the Garden Plot perspective and activated the Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights Under Law to both support the project and actively assist in designing the local contingnecy plans.

Joseph Califano: Currently the Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare, a close collaborator of Vance throughout the Kennedy-Johnson period, Califano participated in the drafting of the Garden Plot program and headed the joint Pentagon-Justice Department Directorate during the riots that ensued following the Martin Luther King assassination.

Warren Christopher: Currently Deputy Secretary of State and a founding member of the Trilateral Commission, Christopher was an early collaborator of Vance in the domestic military operations. Christopher coordinated U.S. troop deployments into Los Angeles during the 1965 Watts riots and subsequently headed the Governor's commission on civil disorders that presented the definitive report on the events. When Vance was ordered by Lyndon Johnson to conduct the military operations in Detroit in 1967, he immediately brought in Christopher to serve as his assistant. When Ramsey Clark became Attorney General in early 1968, Christopher assumed the Deputy Attorney General's post from which he codrafted Garden Plot and served as liaison to Army Counterintelligence head Lt. Gen. William Yarborough in creating the IDIU.

Ramsey Clark: A close associate of Institute for Policy

Studies directors Raskin and Barnett (who coordinated the terrorist-agent provocateur networks integral to Garden Plot), Clark was the individual who completed the process earlier begun by Robert Kennedy of transforming the Justice Department into a "dirty tricks" machine deployed in Cointelpro campaigns against the U.S. population. Under Clark's brief tenure as Attorney General, the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration was constituted; the Operation Garden Plot blueprint was adopted as official U.S. government policy; the IDIU computer data bank was instituted as a 1984-style surveillance system. Clark's continued involvement in terrorist-counter terrorist operations was recently reflected in his keynoting of the Ralph Bunche Institute Conference on International Terrorism — at which the Entebbe hijacking operation was first spelled out to a select audience of counterinsurgency planners; and by his more recent active support for IPS candidate for president of the United Steel Workers Ed Sadlowski.

Lt. Gen. William Yarborough: One of the leading unconventional warfare experts in the U.S. Army, Yarborough designed a prototype model of Garden Plot that was implemented on a massive scale in Western Europe during 1966-68 when Yarborough was stationed as director of counterintelligence for U.S. forces in West Germany. His prior assignment had been to create the Special Forces program for the U.S. Army at Fort Bragg. During the period in which Garden Plot was being implemented in the U.S., Yarborough was the central military figure in the effort — sitting at that time on the NSC and serving as the Director of Army Counterintelligence (and therefore establishing the IDIU).