Izvestia Names Raskin, IPS As Behind Terrorism

The Soviet publication, Izvestia, official organ of the government has named and condemned key figures in Anglo-American planning and execution of international terrorism, notably Marcus Raskin, the former director of the Institute for Policy Studies in Washington, D.C. This is only the second time outside of the Executive Intelligence Review and the publications of the U.S. Labor Party that a major press outlet has identified Raskin's pivotal role in global terrorist activities.

The Izvestia article, which referred to an expose of Raskin and IPS which appeared in the Italian Communist-related journal, Giorni Vie Nuove, last summer, focused on Raskin-IPS connections to Italian terrorism, in particular the kidnap of former premier Aldo Moro. At the time of the Giorni Vie Nuove article, Richard Barnet, Raskin's co-director at IPS, went to Italy to strongarm the editors and succeeded in forcing the resignation of the author and a public apology. It is doubtful that Barnet will be going to Moscow this time.

The shortcoming in the Izvestia exposé is that it fails to distinguish between the terrorist and antiterrorist factions in the CIA. While it identifies Raskin's connection to the CIA, it does not identify his factional position in the "Left CIA," that is, what intelligence insiders know to be the American intelligence community's "British faction." It is in fact British Secret Intelligence Service networks that Raskin and IPS have had at their disposal for international terrorist deploy-

Nevertheless, the Soviet Union's naming of names which even the Italian government has declined to do has a potentially significant countervailing impact on future Anglo-American terrorism. The IPS-Raskin crowd have been principals not only in Italy, but in Franco-German terrorist atrocities, in the so-called Mollucan problem in the Low Countries, in the Japanese Red Army, the U.S. "Weathermen" and "Symbionese" terrorists, and so forth.

Of equal immediate importance, the exposé favorably affects the Italian and Middle Eastern political situations in an interconnected way. As stated in an April 27 communiqué of the Palestine Liberation Organization, which has been cleansing its own ranks of terrorists in the interest of new Mideast peace initiatives, "the Moro kidnappers in Italy were not only aiming at the Italian state, but also at the Palestinian cause, because Italy was playing an important role in achieving peace in the Middle East." The PLO mission's chief in Italy told the Italian newspaper La Repubblica April 29 that the Moro investigation should include a probe of the involvement of Israeli intelligence - very much a part of those

British-dominated intelligence networks at Marcus Raskin's general disposal.

Against significant pressure, Italian Premier Giulio Andreotti has persisted in his refusal to make any concessions to Moro's kidnappers. He has had the support of both his own Christian Democratic and the Communist parties, and his handling of the crisis was praised last week by U.S. State Department representatives sent to Italy on an antiterrorist mission, and West German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt, who has offered Andreotti full cooperation.

The Italian Communist paper Unità this week implicitly attacked the Jacobin "power to the people" ideology of terrorism, an ideology given to the Red Brigades by such "sociologists" as Aquaviva, who has publicly urged a "new Jacobin Revolution" in Italy. Unità declared that those who seek to use terrorism to provoke a bloody "French Revolution" scenario will fail, because the working class and the Communists know a fake when they see one.

Izvestia:

Raskin and "Blind Terrorism"

The following is excerpted from the April 30 Izvestia article, "Letter from Rome, An Alarming Spring," by A. Krovopalov:

... I don't want to dramatize everyday life in Rome. The local newspapers do this every day. Banner headlines and stories — one more disquieting and alarming than the other. The rush of dramatic events connected with the kidnapping of Aldo Moro remains the central theme of events in the political life in the country. This criminal act is not isolated, although it is the most shocking and serious. In Italy cases of terror and political provocation have become more frequent. A kind of escalation of violence is in progress. In the first three months of 1978, 913 terrorist acts were committed (in the same period last year there were 425).

The extremists of the "Red Brigades" have formally "signed for" the bandit attack on the leader of the Christian Democrats. This underground group is responsible for a whole string of crimes in the last few years. In Turin, some of their representatives are now on trial, among them Renato Curcio, called the godfather of the organization.

The main goal of "left" terrorism is to destroy the parliamentary majority in which the communists are participating. The hits are carried out against both the DC (Christian Democracy) and the PCI (Italian Communist Party). The broad masses of Italian workers understand very well that no matter what phraseology the extremists take cover behind, they are first and foremost enemies of the working class, adversaries of democracy.

The press puts the number of activists in the underground groups at several hundred. The terrorist attacks are carried out on such a professional level that some people think that the extremists from this organization use paid assassins. However the question of just who is using whom is not so simple. . . .

Here is what was asserted on the pages of the journal Giorni Vie Nuove last year: At the present time Marcus Raskin is concerned with Italy in the name of or on commission from the CIA. He has created two special departments of the Institute for Policy Studies in our country. The first is responsible for recruiting terrorists and their organizations. The second, exclusively for carrying out the actual operations. Besides this there is a third section, a so-called "Death Section," which hires professional assassins for the physical elimination of "undesirable individuals." The first section is headed by Eddie Grevels . . . It is said the employees of the Justice Ministry have succeeded in establishing that this hireling of Raskin was, in his time, one of the possible creators of the Red Brigades. Indeed, in 1968-1969 he lived for a long time in Trento, where he took a great interest in the problems of the students at the local university, especially in the sociology faculty out of which came Renato Curcio and other members of terrorist organizations.

M. Raskin is an entirely real person, who has been identified as one of the organizers of "blind terrorism" in Western Europe by someone extremely well versed in such affairs — General William Yarborough, himself a former CIA figure. From his admissions it follows that the American intelligence services, wishing to destabilize the situation in a given country and to prepare public opinion for the creation of a strong police dictatorship, continuously increase the number of extremist groups, masked under both "left" or "right" names.

As soon as the news of the bandit raid on Aldo Moro spread, reports appeared in the American press that the CIA was disassociating itself from this terrorist act. But not everyone in Italy was convinced by such "explanations." The journal Panorama recently noted that several groups are active in the organization and incitement of anticommunist activities in the Apennines. Among them are "Americans for a Democratic Italy," "Committee for Freedom of the Mediterranean," and similar dubious bureaus with loud names, bringing together political figures, diplomats, and intelligence cadres.

Among the quite "fresh" operations carried out by Washington "specialists" on Italy can be mentioned the visit to the USA of former head of Italian intelligence Vito Miceli. As early as 1972 this general received money from the Americans for carrying out the necessary "actions" during the parliamentary elections taking

place at the time. Miceli was involved in the preparation of two fascist coup attempts and remains under investigation to this day. Miceli's official post is parliamentary deputy from the neofascist party of Almirante (the MSI — ed.). In the United States this guest openly said that NATO must not remain idle, that the present development of Italy demands that it take urgent measures.

What does he have in mind? One can only guess. As early as the 1950s and 1960s several secret plans were worked out in the NATO headquarters under various code numbers: OPLAN No. 100-1, "Operation Prometheus," "Document 70/5" and others. All these documents anticipated the lightning-fast seizure of power by the military with the support of the police, fascist bands and, if necessary, NATO formations. Who knows whether or not analogous extraordinary plans exist now, too, among the ringleaders of the North Atlantic bloc?

The streets of Rome are strewn with the slogans and placards of the neofascists.

In Naples a meeting was held for "coordination of activities" of neofasicsts from Italy, France and Spain. On April 20 hundreds of youth at this gathering raised their hands in a fascist salute and shouted: "If Moro is freed, then we will imprison him." Thus are united into one front the provocateurs and bandits covering themselves with "revolutionary" terminology, the secret services of the USA and NATO, and the neofascist forces. . . .

Andreotti:

Terrorists Oppose Economic Development Of Italy

The following is part of a statement made by Italian Premier Giulio Andreotti, which was broadcast over national television:

... The government's refusal to negotiate with the Red Brigades must be considered definitive ... When one assumes government responsibilities one takes an oath to make the laws be respected; no one of us has the right to go beyond that limit ... Those who have unleashed this offensive (the Moro kidnapping — ed.) want to destroy the system we have ... The State is above us, even if it is an expression of the country's political and social life: indeed, there are many things to be innovated, but not with violence or bombs ... The Red Brigades are fighting against the multinationals, but I want to launch an appeal to the multinationals to come to Italy, to invest in our country with every means, to solve the problem of youth unemployment. ..

... Given the rumors of the involvement of foreign secret services, the Italian government has contacted the Chinese, Soviet, Czechoslovakian, and U.S. embassies for explanations. But no foreign state has until now given to the Italian government the proof of those international connections of the Red Brigades that every-

body is talking about. The U.S. press has accused the East; Russia and China have exchanged accusations. But apart from journalistic attributions no fact to sustain the accusations has been furnished, that is, not an ideal fact but a practical one. . . . We have not slowed down our government activity, and have even approved 50 law bills. Our intense international activity has equally continued. The state will continue to act . . .

PLO Cleans House In Quest For Peace

The following are excerpts from the April 27 Le Monde article on the reassertion of Yasser Arafat's leadership of Al Fatah, the principal faction of the Palestine Liberation Organization. The article also makes note of the fact that Arafat may be the recipient of international support in his efforts to clean out dissident factions—possibly a prelude to the reintroduction of the joint U.S.-Soviet statement of October, 1977.

... The crisis began on April 17 with the arrest in southern Lebanon of 120 Palestinian commandos belonging to the group led by Abou Daoud and Nagi Allouche, both members of the Fatah command council. The motive given by Arafat and Fatah military head Abou Jihad for this operation, is that Daoud's group had been infiltrated by the followers of Abou Nidal, the dissident leader of Al Fatah, currently living in Baghdad and presumed responsible for the death of Said Hammami, PLO representative in London, and the death of Youssef Sebai in Nicosia, Cyprus. (At the time of Hammami's death, a PLO official accused British intelligence services of complicity in his murder — ed.).

Daoud was to preempt any further deterioration of the situation in the south, which could endanger the deployment of UN forces there and put into question the commitment made in this connection by Arafat during his meeting with the head of the UN (Kurt Waldheim — ed.). They also think that the failure of the Israeli military campaign in Lebanon, if it is used profitably, could once and for all mark the end of efforts to force the PLO out of a negotiated settlement in the Mideast. They therefore want to conserve their freedom of maneuvering without being put under pressure by the extremists.

... Did they obtain prior assurances concerning their participation in broader peace negotiations? No indication has been obtained in this situation although their adversaries claim that they had indirect contacts with Americans through the intermediary role of Romanian President Ceausescu and Saudi Arabia's Prince Fahd.

... To these charges, Arafat's faction answer that after the collapse of the "steadfastness front" following the invasion of southern Lebanon, the PLO must define a new strategy and has the right to demand a freedom of maneuvering at least as broad as that of Libya, which is preparing to reopen diplomatic relations with Eg,pt or Iraq which plans to cooperate militarily with Saudi Arabia.

Arafat's Pre-emptive Purge

The following is excerpted from an article appearing April 2 in the Jerusalem Post:

... When Arafat agreed with Waldheim to declare a moratorium on fighting in the area last week, the alleged renegades (Daoud and his faction) reportedly planned to upset the pledge and start trouble by attacking both UN troops and the Israelis.

... A source said that there was a scheme to make Arafat appear unable to control even his own Fatah organization which was to have been enhanced by rumors accusing the PLO leader's closest ally in Fatah, Abou Iyad, of plotting against the chairman as well. There have been unsubstantiated rumors of such a split in Fatah for some time.

However, the sources close to the PLO leadership said that Abou Iyad, far from undermining Arafat's position of leadership, had played a major role in the move against Abou Daoud.

Arafat: Why Is Israel Afraid?

In a May 3 interview with New York Times columnist Anthony Lewis, PLO leader Arafat said that the Soviet-American declaration of Oct. 1, 1977 could be "a fundamental basis for a realistic settlement . . . That is why I have referred to the American-Soviet declaration, because I feel the necessity of these two powers' guarantee to have such a new situation left in peace."

On the question of Israeli fears, Mr. Arafat continued his answer with a series of questions.

Would you believe that Israel, which scares all the Arab states around it, is afraid of the Palestinians resistance movement? This state armed to the teeth, including nuclear weapons? Assume that a Palestinian state has been founded. Would you believe a state which is going to start from zero for the establishment of its institutions, its economy, culture, social problems — would such a state be able to form any serious threat against Israel?

Arafat also made explicit the PLO's willingness to reach an agreement with the Israelis over the question of territorial withdrawal. When Arafat's interpreter, M.-. Hout spoke at one point of "the establishment of a Palestinian state on any piece of territory liberated from our homeland," Mr. Arafat correcting him, said in English: "Liberated or from which the Israelis have withdrawn."

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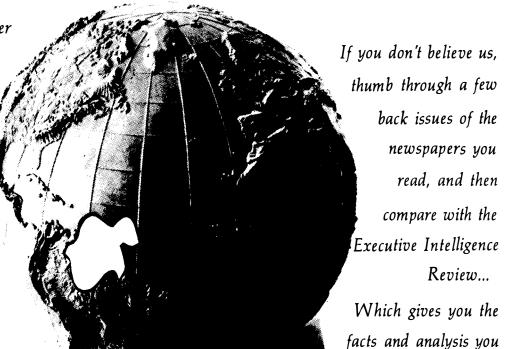
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