EIRSpecialReport

Planning crises: nuclear disaster to nuclear war

by Konstantin George

Sometime during the past two weeks, a nuclear war was simulated in which a majority of the American people perished. The simulation was conducted by a secretive but highly active body that is already a "government within the government," the Federal Emergency Management Agency. The FEMA simulation was only part of an ongoing series of simulated disasters, any one of which, like Hitler's Reichstag Fire, would make FEMA the U.S. government in fact, with dictatorial powers.

Officials at the agency told *EIR* that FEMA has "full emergency legislation on the shelf and ready to go," and that FEMA and Zbigniew Brzezinski, National Security Advisor, are jointly preparing a "Federal Master Mobilization Plan"—an entire military government—that would take over the United States the moment a new Middle East war were declared.

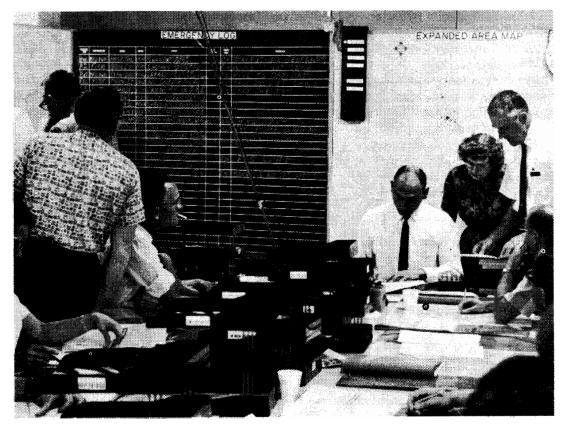
In fact, the recent nuclear war simulation began as a regional "limited nuclear war" in the Middle East. A U.S.-Soviet nuclear exchange left "Washington destroyed," said a high FEMA official. "Thirty-four agencies and every department of government was moved. We at FEMA coordinated the entire relocation."

The purpose was not the handling of actual thermonuclear war, however. Not enough population or resources would be left to relocate or "restructure." As a FEMA official concedes, "We were testing the mandate our agency was given when it was established by Presidential executive order last March."

The executive order was handed down one day prior to the "accident" at Harrisburg's Three Mile Island nuclear plant. The evidence is overwhelming that sabotage in the plant, followed by managed lies in the news media, followed by a week or more of "crisis management," was all

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Civil defense personnel now under the Federal Emergency Management Agency engage in monitoring activities during a simulation of a nuclear attack on the United States. Photo: U.S. DoD

nothing but a "test" of FEMA's mandate. Three Mile Island was FEMA's first "simulated disaster."

Under the mandate, FEMA has dictatorial power over every operating level of government, industry and banking in the event of natural disaster, energy crisis, or war—without interference from Congress, the courts or even the Joint Chiefs of Staff. As Three Mile Island would indicate, "Reichstag Fire" is the term that embodies FEMA's modus operandi: create the crisis that brings you dictatorial power. And as the Persian Gulf focus of the recent 'nuclear war' simulation indicates, fostering regional conflict and destabilization in the Mideast, with its impending outbreak of war or cut-off of oil supplies, is precisely the dictatorship-triggering crisis toward which FEMA has been building for over a year.

Whence FEMA?

During the summer of 1979, the U.S. Department of State issued a memorandum over the signature of Secretary of State Cyrus Vance, stating that it was probable that the entry of the exiled Shah of Iran into the United States would provoke the taking of U.S. citizens hostage by the Khomeini dictatorship.

In October, 1979, Vance capitulated to combined pressures from Henry A. Kissinger and Kissinger's traveling checkbook, David Rockefeller; the State Depart-

ment admitted the Shah to the United States. No precautions were taken to secure the embassy and consulates in Iran, or to provide security to jeopardized nationals.

Worse, the "militant" students holding fifty U.S. hostages in Teheran are directly controlled by a circle in the United States most visibly headed by former Attorney-General Ramsey Clark, who continues to be an official special representative of the U.S. State Department and the White House itself.

Although the Iran situation is out of efficient control by the Carter administration, it is otherwise the case that the administration's willful solicitation of the hostage situation and subsequent exploitation of that affair is a precise parallel to the Hitler regime's use of the Reichstag Fire—FEMA proves the comparison is warranted.

FEMA was created in March 1979 by Presidential Review Memorandum 32. PRM 32 was the Carter executive branch's writing into statutory form of a proposal earlier co-authored by the Trilateral Commission's Samuel P. Huntington, who argued that under conditions of global "fiscal austerity" modeled on Nazi finance minister Schacht's program, the time of parliamentary democracy has come to an end in the West. A version of "fascism with a democratic face" should be developed by "hollowing out" effective agencies of government, reducing them to mere facade. Within the "hollowed out" regions of government, special, appointive "emergency"

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agencies should rule nations and the world by methods of "crisis management." Thus, each department of the U.S. government now has an Emergency Coordinator, accountable only to FEMA in time of crisis.

PRM 32, or the Federal Emergency Management Agency, is precisely analogous to those emergency provisions inserted into Weimar Germany's law which were employed to effect the process of 'legal coup d'etat' on behalf of the Hitler regime's consolidation of power. In fact, as one source close to FEMA's activity stated: "I'm talking about accepting elimination of civil rights, of parts of the Constitution."

The FEMA program

Once a contrived crisis inaugurates FEMA's formal dictatorship, fascist restructuring of the economy and

relocation of the labor force forms the core of its government program, which breaks down as follows:

*Oil rationing. "We don't care if the Persian Gulf shuts down," said a FEMA official. "We have already developed plans to put into action for an oil cutoff. There will be a federal rationing plan and we will convey the plans to the state and local level. Rationing will totally depend on our coordination with local officials."

*Nuclear evacuations. The purpose of FEMA's nuclear scare around TMI was to begin conditioning the population to the "probability of nuclear plant disasters in the future that would necessitate mass evacuations," said an official. "We're applying FEMA's plans for population relocation for the evacuation of all perimeter areas around every operating nuclear power plant in the United States with emphasis on nuclear plants near to

What is FEMA?

FEMA, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, was established by Presidential Review Memorandum 32 (PRM-32), drafted in spring 1978 by National Security Council staffer Samuel Huntington for NSC chief Zbigniew Brzezinski. In an "emergency" FEMA is authorized to bypass all constitutionally mandated institutions to carry out all measures it deems necessary.

FEMA does not operate under the President directly, but under the National Security Council.

The Executive Order that established FEMA mandates an Executive Council within the National Security Council, called the Emergency Management Committee, as the crisis command center. This Committee, chaired by the FEMA director, includes the National Security Adviser Zbigniew Brzezinski, the Assistant to the President for Domestic Affairs Stuart Eizenstat, the Director of the Office of Management and the Budget John McIntyre, and the NSC Assistant for Policy and Intergovernmental Relations, David Aaron.

On June 19, 1978, President Carter and OMB chief John McIntyre held a White House press conference announcing the formation of FEMA under special reorganization authority adopted by Congress in April 1977. FEMA gained official congressional approval 60 days later, since Congress did not veto the proposal.

Under the Brzezinski PRM-32 guidelines and the provisions of the Presidential Executive Order of June

- 19, FEMA assumed control over the following agencies:
 - 1. Defense Civil Preparedness Agency (DCPA).
 - 2. Federal Disaster Assistance Administration.
 - 3. Federal Preparedness Agency (FPA).
 - 4. Federal Insurance Administration.
- 5. National Fire Prevention and Control Administration.
 - 6. National Weather Service.
 - 7. Earthquake Hazard Reduction Program.
 - 8. Dam Safety Coordinating Program.
 - 9. Federal Emergency Broadcast System.

The FEMA reorganization shut out the Pentagon and Joint Chiefs of Staff from involvement in national emergency action. All such functions are centralized under the director of FEMA.

Under the provisions of Carter's Executive Order ignored by the Congress, the director of FEMA, appointed by the President, maintains total control over *all* federal agencies involved in crisis management from his chair on the National Security Council.

FEMA's official creation was followed rapidly by the marathon Camp David sessions that began on July 6 and that resulted in the well-publicized Carter cabinet shakeup. The cabinet shakeup brought important personnel in to run the FEMA-cabinet interfaces.

The new cabinet members included Charles Duncan, Secretary of Energy. Duncan is a protégé of J. Paul Austin, chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Rand Corporation, the originating institution for the doctrine of "limited nuclear war." Before the reorganization, Duncan was Harold Brown's No. 2 man at the Defense Department, where he was in charge of overseeing the creation of the "strike forces" for invasions of the Mideast.

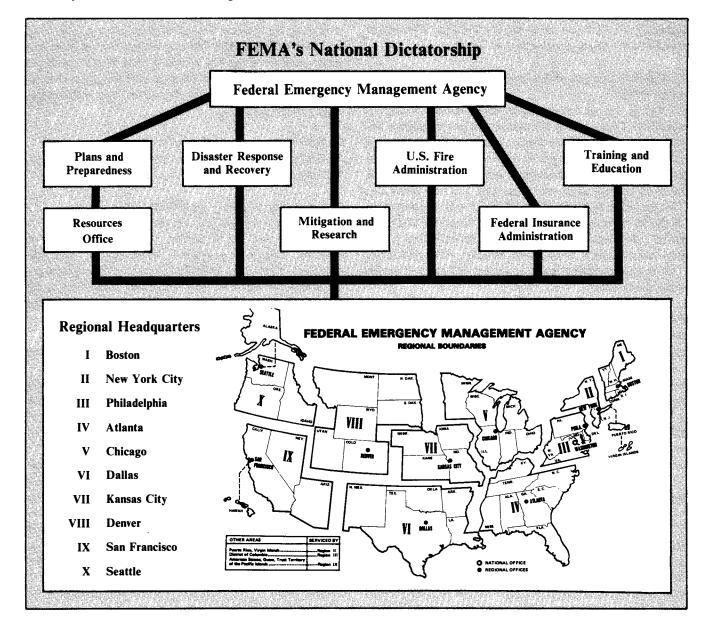
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big cities. We're going to run these evacuations from the top down... We're already doing exercises on this to set up in advance who does what to whom."

*Urban dislocation. Characteristic of FEMA "final dry runs" was the just concluded New York City transit strike, run through FEMA's New York Regional Emergency Operating Center in order to profile and prepare the population for acceptance of austerity and hardships. The transit strike, said a hired psychiatrist who monitored popular response carefully, was only one of a "series of psychological shocks" that will force people to develop a "sense of limits."

*Militarization of banking and industry. FEMA's Planning and Preparedness Office of Resources has developed a plan to restructure the entire U.S. economy, markedly similar to House Banking Committee chair-

man Henry Reuss's "Omnibus Banking Act of 1980," which Carter recently signed into law. All credit allocation to banks, farms, or industries passes under control of the Federal Reserve, making chairman Paul Volcker economic reichsfuehrer. FEMA's proposal would dismantle sections of industry, forcing mass relocations to concentrate employment in war production and synthetic fuels projects, analogous to Nazi Germany's 1936 Goehring plan. "We used our off-the-shelf plans to create a new cabinet level Secretary of Defense Resources to organize all resources throughout the economy," said a FEMA source. "... We allocated on a priority basis all manpower, natural and industrial resources, and all transportation and communications." Like Nazi Germany, much productive industry and farming would be shut down.



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