

The human rights mafia behind Sikh terrorism

by an EIR Investigating Team

Under the banner of "justice" for the Sikh terrorists who murdered Indian Prime Minister Mrs. Gandhi, there is a large and growing "human rights" movement attempting to destabilize India. It is directed by the same Anglo-Soviet circles who ordered the assassination, and is characterized, from top to bottom, by a fanatical hatred of the "Gandhi Dynasty's" attempt to create a modern nation state in India. Not surprisingly, this Amnesty International-led mafia is heavily interfaced with the anthropologists, religious specialists, and others who created modern postwar Sikh terrorism in the first place (see *EIR*, May 28), including much of the same personnel who were active in overthrowing the Shah of Iran.

It is generally acknowledged by specialists that the first shot of the Iranian revolution was fired, not by a mullah, but by Amnesty International (AI), in November 1976. In that month, AI released a major international report charging the Shah with torture, violations of minority rights, etc., beginning an international campaign to discredit him. With slightly different predicates, AI is now leading the charge against India, on behalf of the Sikh terrorists trying to establish a nation of "Khalistan" out of a broken India.

Human rights for whom?

The intentions of the human rights gang led by Amnesty, are best judged by examining their clients, in the United States and abroad. The two most prominent organizations in the United States, with whom the Amnesty crowd works, are the World Sikh Organization (WSO) and the Sikh Association of America (SAA), both of whom are not only separatist-terrorists, but notoriously so. The American population got a good taste of the Sikh Association of America when its national president, Dr. Hamdan Azad of Houston, appeared on ABC's Nightline hours after Mrs. Gandhi's assassination. Even the cynical Ted Koppel was shocked by Azad's gleeful endorsement of Mrs. Gandhi's murder.

To those who have followed Azad and his SAA, the reaction was entirely expected—he is a leading associate of the self-styled "president of Khalistan," Dr. Jagjit Singh Chauhan, who repeatedly called for the assassination of Mrs. Gandhi, over the British Broadcasting Corporation and any other media available to him. Callers to Chauhan's Khalistan

House in London, are directed, that in the United States, "you must get in touch with Dr. Azad."

As for the WSO, its General Secretary, General Jaswant Singh Bhullar, was the chief military adviser to Sant Bindranwale, the Sikh terrorist leader who was directing assassination campaigns against civilians and anti-Khalistan Sikh factions in the Punjab. With Bhullar's help, Bindranwale turned the Golden Temple into a fortified command post for terror, finally precipitating the invasion of the temple by the Indian Army. Several days before the storming of the temple, on May 30-31, Bhullar fled India, reportedly with an arrest warrant on his head. After a tour of Canada, the United States, and the U.K. to meet with Sikh terrorists abroad, Bhullar and associates founded the WSO in July 1984. As WSO President Didar Singh Baines has said of the WSO, "Dr. Chauhan runs the government [of Khalistan], we are the party."

The philosophy of these two interlinked organizations was explained by Kuldit Singh, the Detroit-based secretary of the SSA, to one of his clergy supporters: "Well, Khalistan movement, now it is the movement of the entire community, here also. Everybody now, you talk about the WSO, their main resolution is Khalistan. You talk about the Sikh Association, our resolution is also for Khalistan. Khalistan was a very legitimate demand and government has turned down that demand and started killing Sikhs left and right."

However, as the controllers of Sikh terrorism realize, the road to Khalistan will not be paved with rantings on national television about assassinating heads of state. Thus, the more subtle approach, emerging out of the Sikh terrorist faction in the past several months, is the "human rights line." As Surgit Singh, the Buffalo-based community relations director of the WSO, attempted to explain: "Personally, I am not a member of any organization. Once you become a member of any organization, your credibility for humanitarian causes is kind of gone because anything you say is considered political propaganda. However, I do hear from WSO people and also from the Sikh Association of America. . . . I chose the path of human rights."

What this independent gentleman, in his zeal for humanitarian causes, perhaps forgot to mention, is that he has been the close friend and chief speechwriter for Jagjit Singh Chauhan for over 35 years. Surgit says he was advised "to go the human rights route" in a meeting some months ago with Jeane Kirkpatrick, the former U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, and an old friend.

Surgit evaluates the progress of the WSO down the human rights road as follows: "WSO is coming a little further now. The problem was that they had a group of people who were too emotional. I tried to tell them they should disassociate themselves from that group because things are done differently in the West from the way they are done in India or anywhere in the Third World. Your method is different,

your approach is different."

The following are the chief players in the "human rights" plan to destabilize India:

Amnesty International: With a branch in India, and currently in sensitive negotiations to get another group in to investigate the "Sikh cause," AI has been after India for years, as indicated in the Indian coverage in its recent publications, such as "Torture in the Eighties." AI professor Barney Reuben of Yale has just authored a preface to a Sikh human rights book which will be out in mid-June. Leading AI policy figures include Ramsey Clark, who marched in Teheran carrying a "Death to America" placard and Zbigniew Brzezinski, notorious for his "fundamentalism as a bulwark against communism" line which has destroyed much of the Middle East.

Human Rights Internet: HRI's Washington, D.C. executive director Laurie Weissberg was instrumental in pulling together the mid-April "hearings" on Capitol Hill where Bhullar and company told their story to U.S. congressmen.

National Council of Churches, South Asian Division: under Rev. Lonnie Turnipseed, the NCC has been engaging in dialogue and prayer sessions with terrorist Sikhs and their supporters, "so they do not feel isolated." The parent body of the NCC, the World Council of Churches, was kicked out of Egypt by Egyptian President Sadat some months before his assassination on charges of destabilizing the country.

Minority Rights Group: Based in New York and London, MRG has been one of the loudest cheerleaders for Sikh terrorism. A leading figure in London MRG, Dr. Christopher Shackle of the University of London, authored their pamphlet on minority rights violations in the Punjab. Shackle's interest in human rights is a bit odd. His office is at the headquarters of the East India Company in London, which *still* exists and retains the most voluminous files on India. The East India Company, of course, was responsible for the deaths of millions in India in the 19th and 20th centuries through manipulated famines.

At least one of Dr. Shackle's erstwhile students converted to Sikhism and became a key figure in the support apparatus of Chauhan. The New York MRG figure Barbara Joshi testified at the mid-April hearings, and is raring to go to push the terrorist Sikh cause.

Human Rights Committee for Sikhs: Based in Syracuse, N.Y., this outfit is headed by a former Jewish anthropology student, who converted to Sikhism during the course of his studies and is now known as "Ralph Singh." Singh is a fanatical one-worldist, president of his local United Nations Association, and bitterly opposed to the industrial development of India because it "disrupts traditional cultures."

Human Rights Caucus of the House Foreign Affairs Committee: Led by Congressmen Lantos and Porter, the Caucus was a cosponsor of the mid-April hearings, providing the room on Capitol Hill. When those hearings caused a

major international incident between the Indian and U.S. governments, the State Department responded, "As part of the American democratic process the public discussion of domestic and foreign issues is encouraged."

Other congressional supporters named by Bhullar's gang as close to them include Yatron, Fazio, Rowazik, Torricelli, and Solarz, with Vic Fazio (D-Calif) planning to circulate a "dear colleague" letter on their behalf.

Society for Endangered Peoples: A leading figure in this Libyan-funded organization is the London-based Richard Hauser, whom Chauhan describes as "his spiritual guide"; regarding Chauhan, Hauser says "I like Chauhan enormously. . . . We have worked together quite a lot." Hauser is now in touch with "leading figures in the Indian government" in conciliation work of various minority groups, which he says is "quite sensitive." Of his contacts, he reports that it "would be indiscreet" to release their names.

U.N. Human Rights Committee: The key contact in this outfit of Bhullar's WSO is Tom McCarthy. The Sikh cause will be brought up in August at the Geneva U.N. session.

Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith: WSO community relations leader Surgit Singh reports that he is collaborating with ADL head Kenneth Bialkin. Bialkin is notorious as the lawyer for drug-pusher Robert Vesco, now operating out of Cuba. ADL Washington head David Brody has also been contacted to help.

To help clean up its terrorist image, the WSO has retained the public relations help of former Congressman Jim Corman, headquartered in the same building as Bhullar, at 1420 16th Street in Washington. Corman reports that, unfortunately, everyone accuses his clients of "skulduggery," but "I must say, I've worked with these people for nine months and I am convinced they are honest, straightforward people and there's no terrorism or anything else they're involved with, particularly General Bhullar and the group he's with." Either Corman's judgement is influenced by the fact that Bhullar's gang has not murdered anyone in his presence, or perhaps by the fee paid to him by WSO's President Didar Singh Baines, the figure who says that the WSO is the party for Chauhan's government of Khalistan.

In an interview, Chauhan further boasted that in India, the Sikhs had the cooperation of the People's Union for Civil Liberties and the People's Union for Democratic Rights, which are "extremely active," according to Amnesty International. Both organizations have attacked the anti-terror laws passed by the government after the Sikh blind terror wave of May 10, which killed 80 people. The main concern of these organizations is not "human rights," but the overthrow of the current government. The PUDR is a front for the Communist Party Marxist, which is drawing closer to the Soviet Union; the PUCL was formed during the 1975-77 Emergency by Janata Party leader J. P. Narayan.