

## **Special Report**

# **NSC Moves to Detonate Crisis on Indian Subcontinent**

by **Leela Narayan**

Nov. 29 (IPS) — K. M. Kaiser, Bangladesh Ambassador-at-Large and an agent of Henry Kissinger, is now enroute to Pakistan and will soon be in China "to seek Chinese military assistance in event of an Indian intervention" into Bangladesh to prevent atrocities there now underway. Kaiser, also a close ally of Chou En-lai, will arrive in Peking at the same time as Kissinger. Together, the three will plot turning the Indian subcontinent into a primary point for detonation of a thermonuclear showdown with the Soviet Union.

In provocations to date: East German radio reported late yesterday the discovery that U.S. "wheat ships" bound for Bangladesh are in fact carrying weaponry. Within Bangladesh, CIA-run gangs of Islamic Maoist gunmen shot and wounded the Indian Ambassador in the course of an attempted kidnapping, and have been set loose in a broad effort to provoke bloody communal feuding between Hindus and Moslems.

The Nov. 24 edition of the Indian daily, the Patriot, sharply denounced "Kissinger, the great destabilizer" as responsible for the events. Kissinger has openly proclaimed CIA covert operations to be "the United States' inherent right; destabilization operations in Bangladesh are already underway, and are intended to flow across the frontiers...." the Patriot declared.

Through a rapid-fire series of deployments, Kissinger's National Security Council is now massively intervening in the internal affairs of every U.S. ally in Asia and the Middle East in an effort to reactivate the defunct Central Treaty Organization (CENTO) as a military bloc against the Soviet Union, and as short-term backing on the western front for the planned Chinese invasion of Bangladesh and India from the north. A Pakistani-CENTO military incursion into pro-Soviet Afghanistan or disputed Kashmir is an included option.

Indian government sources early this week confirmed that China and Pakistan have cooperated in applying military pressure to their respective borders with India as the Bangladesh situation has grown more unstable under NSC auspices. Should India be forced to intervene into Bangladesh to prevent CIA atrocities, any Chinese

military deployment in alliance with the U.S. would provide the tripwire for thermonuclear confrontation with the Soviet Union.

### **Bangladesh**

The first set of provocations against India culminated Nov. 26. India's High Commissioner to Bangladesh, Samar Sen, was critically wounded by Islamic Maoist gunmen who attacked and attempted to kidnap him as he entered the offices of the High Commission in Dacca. The gunmen were immediately identified as assassins of the CIA-linked Jatiyo Samajtrantiric Dal (JSD), acting under the orders of the National Security Council headquarters in Bangkok.

An Indian intervention might have occurred at that point, either to protect Indian nationals, or to prevent a threatened bloodbath of Bangladesh's 10 million Hindus. The Indian government, however, has not allowed itself to be provoked, but has repeatedly made efforts to establish stable relations with the new government in Bangladesh. Even so, the likelihood of new such assassination attempts or other provocative acts is high.

The Indian government is not unaware of the source of such provocative action. The Indian Communist Party (CPI) weekly New Age has revealed that the U.S. Ambassador to Bangladesh, Davis Boster, was Chargé d'Affairs in Chile when Chilean President Allende was assassinated; 157 members of the present U.S. Mission in Dacca were members of the U.S. staff in Saigon during the Indo-China war.

Within Bangladesh, a state of civil war reigns. Frequent violence between Dacca University students, liberation fighters in the armed forces, and military loyal to the present regime are reported. On Nov. 22, four hours of gunbattles raged in Dacca as students tried to seize Radio Bangladesh. All communications were cut. Under cover of such chaos, the CIA has organized several terror campaigns against the Hindu population.

The current martial law administration on Nov. 20 apparently rounded up the entire leadership of the most overt countergang — the JSD or National Socialist Group, which over the past three weeks, had effectively terrorized the entire Bengali population,

massacring much of the educated intelligentsia. On Nov. 8, one day after the CIA countercoup which reestablished the Maoists in power and displaced the four-day-old pro-Soviet regime, the JSD massively distributed leaflets claiming responsibility for the assassination of pro-Soviet intellectuals.

No doubts remain that the JSD is controlled by the CIA. Its modus operandi is a composite of the methods of the Socialist Workers Party, Ku Klux Klan, and the Revolutionary Union in the U.S. Its responsibility for attacking the Indian High Commissioner, and earlier placing a live grenade in his home, erase any doubts about the aim of its actions: to provoke a war with India.

No sooner had the JSD membership been arrested than the CIA formed a new countergang with the same ingredients, the "Muslim League," under the chairmanship of Khondakar Mustaque Ahmed, (who came to power after the Aug. 15 coup), and the vice-chairmanship of Taheruddin Thakur (the cabinet minister who plotted pro-Soviet President Mujibur Rehman's assassination). The first meeting of the League brought together two pro-Peking parties and Islamic fanatics. The remaining thugs of the JSD are still at large and have also reportedly joined the Muslim League.

### **Reviving CENTO**

The Pakistani military has leaked its stand on the situation through an article published in the Nov. 26 Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung (FAZ), a West German paper. "An open conflict between India and Bangladesh has moved dangerously close to the realm of possibility," the FAZ reporter in Islamabad, Pakistan writes. Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's statements earlier this week concerning the delicate situation in Bangladesh are totally misrepresented by the article, which describes them as India's declaration of intent "to pit Hindus and Muslims against each other as a substitute for direct intervention....The Soviet Union, as reflected in its press coverage may be pushing the Indians to intervene in Bengal," and Pakistan "voices concern" for the "stability of the continent," FAZ continues.

In fact, the Pakistani-FAZ charges come amid major, provocative efforts

to reactivate the old CENTO alliance against India and the Soviets; this would put Mideast countries on a war footing and derail the strong economic development thrusts of India, Iraq, and Afghanistan.

A visit by Pakistani Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto to France, Oct. 21, a 60-man Turkish delegation to Pakistan, and a separate visit by Bhutto to Iran Nov. 1 have resulted in the push for an "independent" arms consortium. The Giscard d'Estaing government in Paris has committed itself to a Mirage jet-manufacturing plant in Pakistan and sales of Mirages to China. Negotiations are again underway between the U.S. and Pakistan military to give the U.S. a naval and air base in Gwadar, Baluchistan, which would effectively seal the whole Persian Gulf strategically. There is speculation that Pakistani pilots who trained the Libyan air force may fly Mirages for China.

Preparing for the CENTO revival, the Pakistani army chief of staff has spent most of November in the troubled Baluchistan region, setting up a terror operation which could be blamed on the banned pro-Soviet National Awami Party, (NAP), and usher in martial law. The state of siege in Baluchistan, a disputed territory bordering on pro-Soviet Afghanistan, gives Pakistan the option of opening hostilities with Afghanistan and forcing neighboring Iran into the resulting anti-Soviet alliance. Over the past few months, both Afghanistan and India have substantially normalized relations with the Shah, and only such a "communist terrorist" threat could draw him into a re-rigged CENTO.

Within Pakistan, this military deployment has virtually imprisoned Premier Bhutto. Mass strike waves coalescing behind a combined opposition front of moderate Muslim parties and NAP sympathizers, are demanding the ouster of the Bhutto government — for police brutality and terror operations launched by the military! Particularly in the tribal areas of Baluchistan, within the ranks of the working class, Bhutto's ouster is viewed as synonymous with the end of police terror; the opposition is otherwise programless. The combined opposition parties, who control all major cities in Pakistan, have also repeatedly revived the issue of Bhutto's responsibility for the Bangladesh war of 1971.

Bhutto's ability to survive politically is considerably undermined by the Opposition unless he makes a deal with the CIA-controlled military, the only

real centralizing institution in Pakistan. Both Bhutto and the military desperately want to hide Pakistan's covert operations in Bangladesh, especially the links between the "Muslim League" in Bangladesh and Pakistani Islamic Maoist circles. Meanwhile, Turkey has given the Pakistani military full support on its claims on Kashmir, a region disputed with India, in return for Pakistani support on the Cyprus issue. Coinciding with the deal, the Washington Post Nov. 27 published a totally fabricated, two-month-old story that India is having major troubles with Kashmiri leader Sheikh Abdullah, setting the international climate for Pakistani incursions into that region.

Speaking on behalf of the Gandhi government, the left-wing Patriot ran a major policy statement identifying the CENTO revival as an imperialist venture designed "to feed war psychosis" and "divert the attention and resources of developing countries from tasks who fulfilment would deny imperialism any base in the region." "Iran, is aligned with Pakistan and Turkey — dumping grounds for U.S., French and British arms...the regimes are hired outposts of the dominant world imperialist structure...." ""

In diplomatic efforts to stop CENTO's reformation, Indira Gandhi met Nov. 27 with the Iranian Ambassador in New Delhi for three hours. A top level Indian delegation is now in Moscow discussing the strategic political question of Asian Collective Security. The Patriot, Nov. 26, reports that the contents of the discussions include Portugal, Angola, and the Mideast as well as the sub-continent, all key hot spots in the National Security Council drive for nuclear war. "The threat (of war)," the Patriot states, "can be activated from closer and closer points. The label of a so-called superpower rivalry, that all such moves are explained under, has to be firmly rejected by all freedom loving nations of the area — as Vietnam has done."