

bly, a combination of the two. Anathema to actual Indian foreign-policy approaches and emphatically repudiated by Indian authorities, such a report is given credibility by virtue of Israel's demonstration that it is perfectly capable of carrying out such outlaw actions.

This particular piece of disinformation fits into the kind of misperceptions between India and Pakistan that have always been used to breed suspicion and distrust in the region. Besides creating an adverse atmosphere around the summit meeting itself, it is meant to rekindle mutual suspicions between India and Pakistan, which may well be played in turn into the summit itself in the form of a Pakistani challenge to India's leadership. It is well known that certain Anglo-American circles are eager to have the Non-Aligned movement tie itself in knots around one of the many bilateral or otherwise local political issues—such as Afghanistan.

## African destabilization focused against Nigeria

by Douglas DeGroot

The leaders of the African member-states of the Non-Aligned movement are under intense attack as the summit approaches. These include President Shehu Shegari of Nigeria, who is the guest of honor of the Indian government in January during its celebration of Republic Day, and the leaders of the frontline group of nations most directly involved in the fight for survival against South African attacks—Presidents Eduardo dos Santos of Angola and Samora Machel of Mozambique, who are leading countries that have been independent only since 1975, after long fights against Portuguese colonial rule; Prime Minister Robert Mugabe of Zimbabwe, which gained independence in 1980 after a long struggle against a minority regime; and President Kenneth Kaunda of Zambia—all of whom, if they chose, could give vital “flanking support” to a debtors' cartel.

The International Monetary Fund and the oligarchs who created it have innumerable options from which to choose when they want to destabilize African countries. Their success in preventing African nations from industrializing and developing viable economies has made African nations extremely vulnerable to financial pressure, leaving them little ability to resist threats of aid cutoffs and IMF conditionalities. The debilitating currency devaluations and cancellations of development plans that are habitual demands of the IMF create the preconditions for destabilization at the snap of their fingers.

Nigeria, the eighth largest country in the world, has been singled out for special treatment because of the potential it represents for Africa as a whole. Its estimated population of 100 million amounts to nearly one-quarter of Africa's total

population. It has just begun implementing longstanding industrialization plans (steel plants, petrochemicals, infrastructure) after political and civil war dominated the first two decades of independence since 1960.

Nigeria is now being targeted as the weak link in OPEC (see article, page 4). The fifth largest oil producer in OPEC until the economic depression drove down their production, Nigeria, which produces a high-grade oil similar to North Sea oil, depends for over 90 percent of its export income on oil. The British drove down Nigerian production by lowering the price of North Sea oil, and taking contracts away from Nigeria, while Nigeria was under pressure from OPEC not to lower prices.

Nigeria had based projections for its present five-year plan, which was launched at the beginning of 1981, on an expected oil production level of 2 million barrels per day. Now Nigerian production is already reported to be down to about 900,000 bpd again.

Northern Nigeria, whose population is heavily Muslim, was hit with riots at the end of 1980, and again in October 1982, by a synthetic “Islamic fundamentalist” cult which claimed thousands of victims by the time they were suppressed. There were also repeated reports of involvement of Libyan strongman Qaddafi's networks in the disturbances in northern Nigeria.

Fear of the Libyan threat has opened some African governments to collaboration with Israel for security reasons, which is potentially dangerous. Israeli Defense Minister Ariel Sharon's January 1983 trip to Zaire has resulted in a deal in which the Israelis will reorganize President Mobutu's security and the Zairean military.

In southern Africa, South Africa is on a drive to weaken all black nation-states. South Africa is now training 5,000 guerrillas from nations surrounding South Africa for purposes of carrying out sabotage activities in their nations of origin. Pretoria has greatly stepped up its interventions into neighboring states after the seven-nation African tour last November of U.S. Vice-President and population-control advocate George Bush. On the heels of that trip, South African Foreign Minister Roelof Botha visited Washington, and met with Secretary of State George Shultz.

South African troops continue to occupy southern Angola. South Africa is also supporting the anti-government rebel group, UNITA, which along with South Africa has carried out over \$10 billion dollars of damage since Angolan independence in 1975, according to Angolan President Eduardo dos Santos.

South Africa has 20,000 troops occupying Namibia illegally, since the old League of Nations mandate has expired. The Johannesburg paper *Beeld* has reported that South Africa plans to build a new military base in the Walvis Bay region of Namibia, as well as renovate another base nearby, which indicates that South Africa has no intention of withdrawing from Namibia, the area from which it launches its operations into Angola.