

Middle East Report by Nancy Coker

Khomeinism flourishes at Georgetown

Egypt is a target of the Anglo-American academics who oversee fundamentalist insurgencies in the Islamic world.

Speech after speech repeated the refrain. Islamic fundamentalism is here to stay; the secular nation-state in the Middle East is soon to be a thing of the past.

The event was not a conclave of Khomeini's ideologues in Teheran, or a rally of terrorist supporters in Paris; it was the eighth annual symposium of Georgetown University's Center for Contemporary Arab Studies, which met on April 14-15 in Washington, D.C. Barbara Stowasser, chairman of Georgetown's Arabic Department, happily noted in her introductory remarks to the conference participants that the symposium marked "the tenth anniversary of the resurgence of Islam."

"In less than a decade," the conference brochure states, "Islam has become so dominant a force in the eyes of the West that other ideologies and forces of solidarity in the Islamic world—such as nationalism—are thought to have receded into the background."

Masquerading as "objective scholars," most of the professors who participated in the Georgetown event are agents in good standing in British intelligence's latest effort to plunge the Middle East into religious and sectarian warfare, using the Muslim Brotherhood and similar cults. Many of the conference participants were intimately involved in the plot which toppled the Shah and brought Khomeini into power in Iran.

The Georgetown symposium was, according to one of its participants,

"an important strategy session." It provided an opportunity for leading Muslim Brotherhood apologists from around the world to meet with like-thinking officials in the U.S. State Department to discuss extending the "Khomeini model" elsewhere in the Islamic world.

Ismail Faruqi, a professor at Temple University in Philadelphia, was one of the symposium's most vociferous advocates of Khomeini barbarism. Faruqi praised the fanatical Muslim Students Association (MSA) and its spin-off organizations for their role in spreading Islamic radicalism.

The MSA is the U.S. branch of the Muslim Brotherhood; it serves as a safehouse for terrorists and for Brotherhood troublemakers thrown out of the Middle East. Faruqi is a top MSA official.

"Hundreds of Islamic publications are pouring into my office every week," said Faruqi in his symposium presentation. "They reflect only a fraction of the thinking taking place in the Islamic world. Most of the thinking, the most important thinking, is taking place in meetings such as these."

In a luncheon address April 15, Richard Mitchell, a professor at the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor who has spent the past 30 years profiling the Muslim Brotherhood on behalf of British intelligence, justified the outbreak of Islamic fanaticism in the Middle East as the lawful response to "the Western secularism that was imported to the Islamic community."

"Whatever one may say about Iran," Mitchell continued, "Ayatollah Khomeini and those around him are running a functioning state; they are fighting a war; all this, despite the opposition from around the world. Iran is not about to collapse. The Islamic movement has been a success. It has rationalized and legitimized itself. And that is why it will prevail."

Ali Dessouki, a professor at Cairo University and a leading light of the Egyptian left, also exerted himself to justify the inhuman record of Islamic fundamentalism. Dessouki has privately affirmed that the Egyptian left hopes to take power some day by riding the coattails of Egypt's Islamic movement.

"Modernization was the beginning of our loss of identity," said the urbane Dessouki. "It brought about cultural colonialism, and resulted in our cultural schizophrenia."

Mansour Farhang, a key inside man in the Khomeini takeover who operated out of the Iranian foreign ministry from 1979 to 1981, praised Khomeini as a "magnificent leader" remarkable for his "creativity."

"If there is anywhere that Iran may serve as a model," Farhang told an inquirer, "it is in Egypt. The same process that occurred in Iran is now under way there."

Cherif Bassiouni, a U.S.-based Egyptian who is tied into Italian terrorist networks through his International Institute of Advanced Studies in Criminal Sciences in Syracuse, Italy, predicted "explosions" throughout the Middle East, detonated by Muslim fundamentalists. "There is no bridge between that raw political reality of the fundamentalists and the rulers that oppose them. The raw anger of the fundamentalists is not capable of being contained by any rational argument. An explosion is inevitable."