
From the Soviet press

Soviets lie that 'It's the CIA'

June 2, 1983—TASS from New Delhi charges U.S. support for “extremists operating in the Indian state of Punjab.” TASS cites the India Press Agency on “the publication in London of the facsimile of letters of recommendation, which had been sent by American Senator Jesse Helms, who is known for his reactionary views, to J.S. Chauhan, the self-proclaimed ‘president’ of the non-existent ‘Independent Sikh State of Khalistan.’” TASS notes that Chauhan recently toured the United States, where he was “entertained at their homes by influential businessmen and politicians.”

July 3, 1983—*Pravda* article, “Who Is Subverting the Unity of India,” by New Delhi correspondent V. Shirokov. Reports growing concern in India about Sikh separatism in Punjab, charging that separatist leader Dhillon Singh has ties to the CIA.

March 18, 1984—TASS from New Delhi reports on “new facts” about a U.S. role in “the underhand scheming whose purpose is to wrestle [Punjab] from the rest of India and set up a puppet ‘State of Khalistan’ . . .” Cites Press Asia International, that the U.S. embassy in New Delhi had sponsored a conference “which discussed ways for scaling up subversive operations in Punjab” and decided “to set up several new centers in the U.S. and Pakistan for training terrorists who are to be later sent to India.”

Aug. 30, 1984—*Pravda* article by V. Alekseyev, “Who is Threatening India’s Unity.” Charges that “a peace-loving, economically and militarily strong India with dynamic leadership is not a part of the U.S. global strategy in Asia and in the world as a whole.” Quotes Mrs. Gandhi on “outside forces” pressuring India.

The pressure includes, according to *Pravda*, the U.S.-led arming of Pakistan, which is the “main cause of the current tension in Indo-Pakistani relations.”

“And what about the so-called ‘Kirkpatrick Plan,’ . . . which has been drawn up by the CIA. This secret document, as the Indian weekly *Link* wrote, envisages nothing more or less than India’s dismemberment into a number of tiny states.” The article concludes, “The separatist actions and outbreaks of religious and communal violence are part of the overall

conspiracy by forces hostile to India, aimed at destabilizing the situation in the country and weakening its positions in the international arena, including the Non-Aligned Movement. India’s enemies are attempting to strike a blow against that which is of paramount importance for the republic’s very existence—its national unity.”

Sept. 7, 1984—Radio Moscow in Hindi says that Western espionage has stepped up in the Chaibasa area, Bihar state. There the CIA is operating under cover of missionary organizations, according to the Indian weekly *Link*. The broadcast recalls examples of missionaries setting up U.S. and British operations in Assam in the 1940s, under cover of combatting potential Japanese intervention, but later actually for expanding the Naga and Mizao separatist movements in the 1960s.

The Chaibasa operations, according to Radio Moscow, are linked to “Project Brahmaputra,” through which U.S. embassy assistance is delivered to Chauhan and to the Jammu and Kashmir separatists, and to the “Kirkpatrick Plan” to “Balkanize India.” This is what U.S. leaders want, as well as “to weaken Mrs. Indira Gandhi’s position in the forthcoming parliamentary elections.”

Sept. 20, 1984—TASS from New Delhi reports on a statement by R. L. Bhatia, Member of Parliament and General Secretary of India’s National Peace and Friendship Committee, against “a fabrication made up by U.S. spy services and palmed off on Pakistan, alleging that, according to space reconnaissance data, India is preparing a bomb strike against Pakistan.”

Radio Moscow broadcasts in Hindi and English, in subsequent days, pick up on this.

Sept. 15, 1984—*Krasnaya Zvezda*, the Soviet military daily, accuses the United States of stirring up a scare about a Soviet and Afghan invasion of Pakistan, in order to derail “even slight progress and the upward trend which has begun to show in Pakistani-Afghan talks.”

Sept. 30, 1984—Rostislav Ulyanovskii, Deputy Chief of the International Department of the Soviet Central Committee under Boris Ponomarev, writing in the *Times of India* Sunday magazine, attacks Indira Gandhi for “inexcusable” compromises at the expense of the people of India, and for strengthening the tendency to concentrate power in the hands of one person. Ulyanovskii asks whether the Congress party will submit to this, or will instead continue its democratic traditions.

Oct. 2, 1984—*Krasnaya Zvezda*, in a feature by A. Golts, warns Pakistan about its military collaboration with the United States. “It does no harm, of course, to remind the Pakistani generals and their transatlantic patrons that this policy may lead to ruinous consequences, above all for Pakistan itself.”