

Fundamentalists plot hot Maghreb summer

by Thierry Lalevée

The Islamic fundamentalist Nazi Ahmed Ben Bella, former Algerian President and a Soviet asset, has been a very busy man in recent weeks, traveling abroad and receiving many guests in his new offices of Montreux, near Lausanne, Switzerland. One guest was radical Black Muslim leader Louis Farrakhan of the "Nation of Islam" in the United States, who on embarking on a 30-day Middle East tour at the beginning of May, stopped by Ben Bella's office to receive letters of introduction to many regional leaders.

Farrakhan, of course, was the recent recipient of up to \$30 million in funds from another fundamentalist Nazi and Soviet asset, Libya's Col. Muammar Qaddafi, who called upon American blacks to revolt in a closed-circuit television message to a Farrakhan-sponsored conference in Chicago.

Another guest was Ali Reza Mo'ayeri, the Iranian chargé d'affaires in Paris who began his diplomatic career in November 1979 by entering the premises of the American embassy in Teheran to take the entire staff hostage. Later that year, he took part in the violent assault on the mosque in Mecca, and afterward went to work for Libyan and Syrian intelligence services, in Teheran, and in the Bekaa Valley in Lebanon.

Between hosting these guests, among others, Ben Bella paid a surprising visit to Saudi Arabia and the Gulf at the invitation of leading Saudi princes who thought it best to pay him blackmail money, for the better security of the kingdom.

For Ben Bella, this is a "reactivation." After last year's creation of his Arab Democratic Movement, which aimed at "liberating" all Muslim lands, Ben Bella was hardly heard from, given the total inability of his followers to mount any successful operations against his arch-enemy, President Chadli Benjedid of Algeria. Ben Bella, a protégé of Nazi International banker François Genoud of Lausanne, was the "most popular Algerian leader . . . outside of Algeria," commented the French daily *Liberation*. His prestige was severely shaken when in early January, some of his close collaborators, including his former intelligence chief, his former justice minister, and his nephew decided to accept Chadli's offer of amnesty and return to Algiers. In the same period, an adventurous attempt at smuggling weapons into Algeria met with failure.

Hinting at what Ben Bella will be up to were the discussions held by Hojatessalam Hadi Gaafari's radical faction of mullahs in Iran May 19-21. While they focused primarily on the upcoming creation of an Islamic Shi'ite Republic in southern Lebanon, some of the radicals demanded massive terrorist operations during the summer months, aimed at provoking the United States into invading Iran. This, according to their vision, would provoke a general Islamic outburst against "Western imperialism."

Plans for such large-scale operations were discussed as early as May 1984 (see *EIR*, May 7, 1984) but as observers remarked, such a plan would only work were it done in close cooperation with Moscow, which would use the Iranian provocation to make its own move into the region. Among other things, the Iranian radicals would need to develop operational capabilities inside the United States.

Enter Farrakhan. Indicative of what is now afoot are reports that a subject of discussions between Farrakhan and Ben Bella was the creation of an "International Islamic Command" headquartered in the six new offices that Ben Bella has at his disposal in Montreux, thanks to a large new influx of financial support. Such financial support has enabled Ben Bella to extend his organization in France and Belgium.

As investigations are showing, it is in the Lausanne-Geneva region, dominated by the activities of Nazi banker Genoud, the direct controller of Ben Bella since the early 1950s, that plots are being hatched against Algeria, Tunisia, and Egypt. Though Ben Bella had no evident hand in it, his followers were ecstatic at the news of riots which rocked the Algerian quarter of the Casbah at the end of April. Spreading the word around, Ben Bella announced that he is planning a spectacular operation against Chadli in coming months—Moscow's revenge for Chadli's successful U.S. visit.

Muslim fundamentalists working against the Tunisian government have been activated, too. The Paris-based leadership of the Islamic Trend Movement (MTI) from Tunisia is known to have received large sums of money through the Iranian ambassador to the Vatican, Hojatessalam Hadi Kosrowshahi. MTI's liaison in Paris is the same Mo'ayeri who visited Ben Bella. The MTI, moreover, has been given a new credibility by the *New York Times* which, in its unmistakable way of preparing for the coming Washington visit of Tunisian President Habib Bourguiba, warned of Tunisia's instability and of the rising power of the fundamentalists.

The *New York Times* is never innocent. Reports now indicate that the MTI may use Bourguiba's absence to unleash a limited military action in Tunis.

In parallel, fundamentalists in Egypt have given June 15 as the deadline for the Mubarak government to implement Islamic Law. Sheikh Hafez Salama, Imam of the fundamentalist Mosk Nur (Light) in Cairo, announced he would otherwise organize marches on the presidential palace, displaying the green banners of Qaddafi's Libya. Iranian propaganda gloated about unconfirmed reports of sabotage of American planes by Egyptian army troops.