

have even devised special laws for the natives.

On one of the latest official Canadian government maps, one finds the following fine print, pointing to the location of Indian reservations: "No definite statement on the precise legal status of Indian Reserve and Settlement land can be made without extensive enumeration of particular cases. In general terms an Indian Reserve, the legal title to which is vested in Her Majesty in right of Canada, is set apart for the use and benefit of an Indian band by an Order-in-Council and is subject to the terms of the Indian Act, R.S.C. 1970. An Indian Settlement is situated on Crown land and has not been officially set apart by legislation." What this means, is that the Indians do not "own" the land, but that it is "put aside" for their use. Of course, what goes on in the reservations is controlled by Her Majesty, or if you will, by Order-in-Council, which are decrees made by Her Majesty's Privy Council. The exploitation of resources by mining, drilling, or what not, for example, is totally under the jurisdiction of Her Majesty.

So, according to the British scenario, the natives may want to stay in Canada, if Quebec secedes. If tomorrow's 60,000 Quebec natives were to be coached by some modern-day Stanley or Livingston, they would say, "Okay, we believe that at least two-thirds of Quebec's territory is ours." Obviously, this won't go over very well with the French Canadians. It's a recipe for chaos. But guess what? Chaos is a British tradition, "yu knoweu!"

Notes

1. Lester B. Pearson was the first Canadian ambassador to the United States, when the British loosened Canada's leash and upgraded Canada's legation to an embassy in 1945. He was key in setting up the United Nations and its bastard offspring like the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO). He received the Nobel Peace Prize for his role in the Suez Canal crisis. He is the father of what are known today as "U.N. peace-keeping operations."

2. Georges-Henri Lévesque was not a relative of former PQ leader René Lévesque, but they knew each other well, and were both part of the same British operation. Georges-Henri Lévesque was the founder of the first university in Rwanda, the National University of Rwanda, in 1963.

3. Louis Joseph Papineau (1786-1871) Speaker of the House for Lower Canada (Quebec). Leading spokesman for the right of Lower Canada to become sovereign. He has been officially portrayed as being the leader of the failed armed rebellion of 1847, against the English, but that is only propaganda.

4. René Lévesque said of himself when he worked at the Office of War Information in London: "We were after all among the best paid people. I had a sort of assimilated rank of lieutenant. I think that I finished captain. I wasn't a captain in charge of a unit, but the equivalent."

5. Maurice Strong set up in 1969 a cover for British intelligence operations, called the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), for the purpose of destroying everything de Gaulle had done to help develop the French-speaking African countries.

6. Michael Ignatieff is a "fellow" of King's College, Cambridge, and a graduate of Harvard. He is the son of top British intelligence operative George Ignatieff, of an aristocratic Russian family. George worked for the Canadian foreign office during the Pearson and Trudeau years. Michael Ignatieff is now spewing propaganda for BBC television.

Karabakh war enters the negotiation stage

by Haik Babookhanian

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Since mid-May, the active front in the war over Nagorno-Karabakh has shifted to the diplomatic arena. Armenian military victories finally forced Azerbaijan to give up trying to solve the Karabakh question by force and to sit down at the negotiating table. [The historically Armenian Karabakh province was allocated to Azerbaijan by Soviet authorities—ed.]

Another persuasive circumstance was that behind the Azerbaijani trenches lie densely populated regions, while most Armenian cities and towns are removed from the front. Thus, the Azerbaijani population located in the combat zone would be the first to suffer from a renewal of active military operations. This would lead to an increase in the number of refugees, whose presence in the capital city of Baku has already heated up the social and political situation in Azerbaijan.

Moreover, the Azerbaijan Army, which has lost approximately 35,000 men, is not particularly "itching for battle," especially since the "battle" for Karabakh has nothing in common with the idea of the "Motherland" for Azerbaijanis. This fact, evidently, is the key to the Armenian victories over the numerically superior and better armed Azerbaijani Army: The Armenians are defending their homes, women, children—the Motherland—while the Azerbaijanis were trying to capture something belonging to somebody else. Finally, Azerbaijani mothers put this question to their government: Why are our sons dying in Karabakh?

The country's economic troubles also chilled the ardor of the Azerbaijani leaders. The net material product in 1993 was 51.3% of what it was in 1988, and the volume of industrial production 67.7%. Gross agricultural output has decreased almost by half. Retail turnover is at barely one-fifth of its previous level.

For many years now, Azerbaijan has been hoping to remedy its economic position by means of joint exploitation of its oil resources with the West. But Russia envies such relationships, and despite numerous agreements between Baku and English and American companies, nothing is moving.

Arms supply investigated

Even Turkey's moral support and ever greater participation in provisioning and training the Azerbaijani Army are no great consolation for Azerbaijan. The U.S. Congress at last

took an interest in Turkey's deliveries of American and Turkish weapons to Azerbaijan. According to an Aug. 17 announcement by the Human Rights Caucus in the U.S. Congress, its co-chairman, Rep. John Porter (R-Ill.), stated that he was disturbed by a report that American weapons were being used by Azerbaijani forces in the continuing struggle over Nagorno-Karabakh. On Sept. 1, Rep. Frank Wolf (R-Va.) arrived in Karabakh for the purpose of identifying the path by which weapons manufactured in NATO countries were being delivered to Azerbaijan for use against Karabakh. Meanwhile, the Armenian press circulated photographs of NATO weapons, as well as documents proving their ownership and delivery into Azerbaijan with Turkey's assistance.

But the prospect of being exposed evidently does not disturb Turkey. During a recent visit to Baku by Turkish Armed Forces Chief of Staff General Guresh, agreement was reached on stepping up Turkish assistance to Azerbaijan. Moreover, the Third Turkish Field Army, with 1,500 tanks, 2,500 cannons, and 1,100 armored vehicles, has been deployed along the border with Armenia.

"Turkey could have done that a long time ago," Turkey's President Suleyman Demirel told Russian television on Aug. 24, replying to a question about whether Turkey didn't wish to introduce its troops into Karabakh. "But Turkey prefers to resolve the Azerbaijan question together with Russia, the U.S.A., France, and England." As if nothing had happened, he added: "We are faithful to the principle of nonintervention. We do not want the Caucasus to turn into an arena of Christian-Muslim struggle. Suppose for just a minute that the Christian world helped Armenia, and the Muslim world, Azerbaijan. This could lead to a Christian-Muslim war, which is impermissible."

The Turkish leader reached the height of cynicism when he said, "We do not wish for any people to suffer from the cold." It is now the third winter that the Armenian people are experiencing indescribable suffering because of Turkey's blockade, which does not permit even humanitarian aid to be shipped across its territory.

Russia's role

The dominant role of Russia in settling the Karabakh war also causes Turkey some discomfort. Demirel said that "Russia must not leave an impression of an attempt to restore the empire." General Guresh stated bluntly, "Russia presents a real threat for us."

The Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) is also expressing its irritation over Russia taking the Karabakh negotiation process "into its own hands." The CSCE is Russia's rival for the role of "main peacemaker." But it would seem that the CSCE let slip its last chance in 1992, when sluggishness, the absence of any real mechanisms, and failure to take into account the historically justified aspirations of the Karabakh population left the CSCE in the political shadows.

Ultimately, Russia's position in the Transcaucasus was also strengthened by the U.S.A.'s agreement for Russia to play the role of intermediary, given during the visit of the President of Armenia to Washington in August. Since the United States also agreed to the entry of Russian forces into the Georgian-Abkhazian conflict zone, one can speak about changes in U.S. foreign policy and Clinton's recognition of Russian interests in the Transcaucasus.

As for the Armenian-Azeri talks in Moscow, with Russian mediation, it is important to note that not only Armenia and Azerbaijan are participating as parties to the conflict, but also Nagorno-Karabakh. The basic thesis of the talks—peace for land—is interpreted variously by the sides: What kind of peace, and which land? In exchange for stopping the war, Azerbaijan demands the return of all territories around Karabakh, including also the Lachin "humanitarian corridor," as well as the city of Shusha, in the very heart of Karabakh.

At the same time, Azerbaijan categorically does not want to recognize the independence of Karabakh. The Armenian side naturally opposes the surrender of Lachin, which would mean a complete blockade of Karabakh. Giving up the city of Shusha is an equivalent to the loss of Karabakh itself. Furthermore, several areas of Karabakh are under occupation by Azerbaijan.

The fundamental problem, however, is the question of the guarantees for a comprehensive peace. The only such guarantee is for Azerbaijan to recognize the independence of Karabakh. Until this occurs, the Transcaucasus region will constantly be a zone of risk for rekindled war and the struggle among the "powerful of this world" over the right to dispatch "peacemaking forces" here.

Unrest rocks Azerbaijani capital

Over 400 people were injured and 77 people were arrested on Sept. 12 in the first serious riots since Haidar Aliyev came to power in Azerbaijan. The violence occurred in Baku when security forces, joined by pro-government crowds, broke up a demonstration by the opposition Popular Front. The Popular Front had called the demonstration to protest what they said is a coming Armenia-Azerbaijan peace agreement, brokered by Russia, that would end the five-year-old war over the region of Nagorno-Karabakh.

Talks were held in early September in Moscow between Armenian President Levon Ter-Petrossian and Azerbaijan President Aliyev. No agreement was reached.