

EIR Investigation

THE SYNARCHIST DOSSIER

'Strategy of Tension' Bombs Set Off Political Quakes in Europe

by Jeffrey Steinberg

Seventy-two hours after Synarchist terrorists launched a new "strategy of tension" with a string of deadly bombings of commuter trains in Madrid, Spanish voters turned out in unprecedented numbers, on March 14, to bring down the right-wing Popular Party government of Prime Minister José Aznar (Aznar was not seeking re-election, but had hand-picked his successor). The defeat of the Popular Party also represents a crushing defeat for the George Bush/Dick Cheney Administration in Washington, for British Prime Minister Tony Blair, and, most of all, for Italian Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi—who all participated in the so-called "coalition of the willing" to invade and occupy Iraq.

Evidence has now surfaced that, in the 48-hour period following the Madrid bombings, the Aznar cabinet devised two options, "Plan A" and "Plan B," for what amounted to a coup d'état. "Plan A" involved a declaration of martial law, and the suspension of the elections for the duration of the terror crisis. "Plan B" involved a several-month delay in the elections. Both options were presented to the Spanish King Juan Carlos, and he rejected them both, according to Spanish news accounts. Spanish television blacked out the mass demonstrations against the Aznar government, that took place all over Spain on March 13. By that point, the Popular Party knew that they would be swept out of office the next day.

Once before, in 1981, King Juan Carlos had rejected a right-wing coup attempt, this one involving a group of Spanish generals and young officers linked to the old Franco fascist apparatus.

Prior to the March 2003 Iraq war, Spanish citizens had participated in mass demonstrations against the conflict, with an estimated 85% of all Spaniards strongly opposing the ac-

tion. Nevertheless, on the eve of the election, polls showed the Popular Party ahead of the opposition Socialist Workers Party (PSOE) by a narrow margin. On election day, with an 82% voter turnout, including a record-setting turnout by young voters, the Socialist Workers Party won over 43% of the vote, driving Aznar's party out of power.

Lyndon LaRouche identified the Spanish vote as a "fundamental shift in geometry" in all of Europe. "This is not something that can be reversed. Berlusconi is in big trouble, along with Blair and Bush," LaRouche said.

Both the policies of Aznar—particularly his participation as junior partner in the Bush-Blair imperial war schemes—and the Madrid bombing itself, represented a clear signal that the same Synarchist bankers who put Benito Mussolini, Adolf Hitler, and Francisco Franco in power in the 1920s and '30s, during a previous period of global financial collapse, intend once again to install fascist regimes, to impose slave labor austerity and bail out the financial oligarchy—through wars and genocide.

Under Aznar and Berlusconi, a new Black International was being given wide berth to organize—not only in Europe, but all over Central and South America as well. In LaRouche's judgment, sane forces in Europe decided that they could not allow a repeat of this horror, and moved, following the Madrid attacks, to nip the Synarchist upsurge in the bud. The confirmation that the Aznar regime was contemplating a coup, under the cover of the terror attacks, adds further confirmation to this assessment.

Bologna Bombing Revisited

On Thursday, March 11, a total of ten sophisticated remote-detonated bombs went off on three Madrid commuter



New Spanish Prime Minister Zapatero's (right) government, pulling troops out of Iraq, represents a shift that may have Europe-wide effects. Under outgoing Prime Minister Aznar (left) and Italy's Berlusconi, a new fascist "Black International" was being given wide berth to organize. To save his government and right-wing policy, Aznar not only ordered a false "ETA did it" line, but planned a last-minute election postponement or a coup.

trains. Over 200 people were killed, and several thousand injured. Had all three trains been on schedule, they would have all been inside the Madrid station when the explosions occurred. This could have caused a level of deaths on a par with the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks in the United States.

Prime Minister Aznar, desperate to parlay the bombings into an election win for his party, personally phoned editors of major Spanish newspapers, to insist that they name the Basque separatist ETA as the authors of the attacks. When a group of Moroccans were arrested, based on evidence obtained from three bombs that were timed to go off later, but were found and defused, other media began screaming that the bombings were the work of al-Qaeda.

The reality, however, is quite different. Neither ETA nor al-Qaeda had a past profile of such actions; and both groups had been under intense scrutiny by both Spanish and French security services, ever since 9/11. The term "al-Qaeda," furthermore, has become an almost meaningless term, referring to a wide range of organizations and networks that oppose the new American imperial doctrine of Cheney and company. They range from Islamists to Arab nationalists, to leftists and rightists around the globe. These terms are meaningless in the context of the reality of the "new international terrorism," with its interface with a vast global underground economy of drug and weapon traffickers, offshore money-laundering centers, and other criminal networks.

Even more to the point, Lyndon LaRouche has been warning since August 2003 of a new 9/11 attack against the United States or allies of the United States, to be blamed on Hispanic terrorists. (See documentation)

LaRouche made this assessment on the basis of two factors: First, on July 24, 2003, Vice President Dick Cheney had spoken at the American Enterprise Institute and virtually assured the audience that there would be another massive terrorist attack on the U.S.A., possibly involving the use of

weapons of mass destruction.

Second, since early 2001, there were significant stirrings from the surviving neo-fascist networks of the 1970s and early 1980s "strategy of tension"—in Italy, Spain, France, and throughout the Western Hemisphere, particularly Argentina and Mexico.

These overt Synarchist groupings centered around the leading Franco fascist in Spain, Blas Piñar, whose son was recently promoted to the rank of General in the Spanish Army, despite having been implicated in the failed right-wing putsch attempt in the early 1980s. In Italy, one of the veterans of the "strategy of tension" terror campaign, Roberto Fiore, returned home after 20 years exile in Great Britain, and immediately entered into a high-profile political alliance with Alessandra Mussolini, the granddaughter of the fascist dictator, who heads a neo-fascist party and is in the Italian parliament. In Argentina, the network is centered around the Carlist magazine *Maritornes*, which intersects the Christendom College apparatus of extreme right-wing "Buckleyite" Catholics in the United States.

While neither ETA nor al-Qaeda have a profile of carrying out the kinds of train attacks that occurred on March 11, the Black International networks now being revived in Europe and the Americas, do. In August 1969, the event that kicked off the entire "strategy of tension" was the simultaneous bombing of 10 trains in Italy, including four train stations around the country. In August 1980, the same apparatus blew up the train station in Bologna, killing 80 people and injuring many more.

In each of those instances, the actual terrorists were members of right-wing underground cells, like Ordine Nuovo and the Nucleus for the Defense of the State. But the bombings were staged in such a way that, for years, police believed that they were the work of left-wing terrorists. This was the essence of the "strategy of tension:" Create chaos

through blind terrorism, and lay the basis for fascist military coups.

The failure to see the obvious parallels to the “strategy of tension” on the part of European and American intelligence services, LaRouche has warned, could be the result of more than mere incompetence. There is a long history of contamination of the Western intelligence services by the very oligarchical factions that promoted Hitler, Mussolini, Franco, and their heirs today. The contamination runs from the top down, beginning with the private financial institutions—typified by Lazard Brothers, Banque Worms, the Bank of England from the time of Montagu Norman, and the Harriman, Morgan, and Mellon interests in the United States.

Even before the end of World War II, individuals like Allen Dulles and James Jesus Angleton, both top officials of the Office of Strategic Service (OSS) and later, founders of the CIA, were negotiating secretly with top Nazi officials, to secret them out of Germany along with vast Nazi-seized wealth, to regroup under the aegis of the Cold War against communism. These top Nazis and fascists were smuggled into South America, the Middle East, and other parts of the world, later to resurface as the architects of the “strategy of tension” destabilizations.

A Moment of Truth

The electoral outcome in Spain has delivered a serious setback to the financial oligarchs behind this new Black International offensive. However, the setback will be inconsequential unless there is a serious counterintelligence campaign to clean out these resurgent terrorists—in Europe, in the Americas, and elsewhere. Otherwise, the Madrid attacks will prove to have been merely the opening shot of a new terror war, aimed at destabilizing governments and paving the way for a new Synarchist world order of bankers’ wars and Schachtian looting.

Lyndon LaRouche and *EIR* have a track record of more than 30 years of exposing this Synarchist insurgency. In the pages that follow, we provide a representative sampling of the vast dossier that *EIR* has published on this vital subject. The footprints of the Synarchist International are all over the Madrid bombings; yet, for the moment, every leading intelligence service in the world, with few exceptions, appears blind-sided. The World War II archives of the United States military and intelligence services are full of documentation of the pivotal role of the Synarchist international. In France, military intelligence files, accumulated by resistance forces within Vichy, are also of relevance.

With the death of Franklin Roosevelt, and the severe right-wing turn in the United States under President Harry Truman, the Synarchist apparatus, which had been all but dismantled in the Americas, was saved and promoted. Nevertheless, the institutional memory is still accessible, and the legacy of the international mobilization to defeat the Synarchist insurgency must be revived, if the world is to avert several generations of a Schachtian New Dark Age.

Some Press Point to Strategy of Tension

In the wake of the Madrid bombings, a number of European press outlets broke ranks from the line that ETA or Islamic terrorists were responsible, and pointed to the model of the Italy-based Strategy of Tension. Brief excerpts follow:

Reseau Voltaire, March 12: This French online newsletter was the first, after LaRouche, to bring out the relevance of the Bologna train station bombing in 1980 for the Madrid terrorist attacks. The newsletter first criticized the way, when there is a terror attack, politicians and news media immediately go for this or that hypothesis, falling often into the trap of those who ordered the attacks. On the contrary, it recommends that journalists base themselves on the “comparative studies of historical precedents” in order to better understand what is the present phenomenon. “Thus, to attribute an operation of this importance to a Basque group only because it happened in Spain, is a bit light.”

Among the most murderous attacks in the last 60 years, one finds the bombing of the Bologna station in 1980, part of a “strategy of tension.” The online newsletter compared the *modus operandi* of the Bologna and Madrid attacks, showing that in both cases, the aim was to kill the maximum number of people—the bombs were placed in train stations and exploded at the highest peaks of population density—and in both cases they targeted a popular strata. “In their investigations of the Bologna attacks, the Italian judges with their experience of terrorism orchestrated with the complicity of a State, rapidly oriented their investigations towards the extreme right-wing track. But they were distracted by information put out by the Italian secret services of General Santovito. That information misled the judges into a multitude of false tracks. According to the magistrates, whose version is confirmed by the acts of the Supreme Court of Nov. 23, 1995, the ‘SISMI addressed to them a mass of difficult-to-verify information, in order to put them onto unproductive and even extenuating investigations.’ ”

The newsletter also focused on highly synchronized attacks on Dec. 12, 1969, which the police immediately blamed on “Italian anarchists.” The real track leading to Mario Merlino and Stefano delle Chiaie, a well-known fascist as the Italian counterespionage SIO confirmed, was buried. “Looking at things in perspective, the end of the Second World War seems to have marked a real beginning for the repeated deployment of terrorist methods by the States, in order to destabilize their own democratic systems and limit their individual liberties. Italy became a real laboratory of right-wing subversion.”

The newsletter defined “strategy of tension” as a “campaign aimed at provoking the collapse of law and order and, as a side effect, provoking a crisis of confidence in the citizens vis-a-vis their democratically-elected governments, creating thus the conditions for a takeover by the army,” or towards the more authoritarian parties. In this context, *Reseau Voltaire* mentions the Loi Reale of Italy (1975), the Patriot Act of Ashcroft, and the Perben II laws in France. “At best one can affirm that this strategy had been determined by the secret services of the Atlantic Alliance, without excluding that those whom they recruited in the extreme right-wing milieu to carry it out went beyond their original wishes, and that this was carried out with the complicity of agents placed at the highest levels of the Italian State.”

The Scotsman on Sunday, March 14: Under the headline “Expect dirty tactics in new war on terror,” this paper published an assessment of the war on terror, quoting the well-known French investigative magistrate Jean-Louis Bruguière describing it as “the Hundred Years’ War of modern times.” The *Scotsman* traced the lineage of the European war on terror to the immediate postwar regroupment of Nazi (i.e., Synarchist) networks, who were initially put on the Allied payroll, but who later wound up leading a neo-Nazi terrorism. The article cited the cases of Klaus Barbie, the Bolivian death squads, and the European-wide network known as the Black Orchestra, which included the Ordine Nuovo which did the Bologna train station bombing.

“Ordine Nuovo, it was found, had developed a political theory which was a chilling foretaste of the terrorism of the 21st century. It came to be known as the ‘strategy of tension’ and its aim was to carry out acts of terrorism which could be blamed, not on right-wing extremists, but on radical left-wing groups. The idea was that by sending intelligence agencies off on a false trail, panic and confusion would be created, to the point where the army might step in to take control.” The article then quoted from a document written by the Black Orchestra, which said, “‘In our view, the first move [is] to destroy the structure of the democratic state under the cover of communist activities.’”

“There is an awful familiarity about that passage today. The immediate presumption in Spain was that ETA must have been responsible for the bombing of the Madrid trains. The explosives were of a type used by ETA; plans were unearthed linking ETA to attacks on trains; and a lorry containing bombs was traced back to ETA. The evidence all pointed one way. Now, however, it seems that the trail may have been the wrong one, and police find themselves fighting on two fronts, just as they had to do in their war against the Black Orchestra.”

The *Scotsman* ended with an ominous warning: “That war was won in the end . . . because the organisations responsible were finally penetrated, exposed and brought to justice. It took a generation to do it, and most of what happened is concealed so deep in intelligence files that some of it has never emerged to this day. The same tactics may well be used again. The war that led to the bloody mayhem of last week may take



One of the model “strategy of tension” train bombings with mass killing: Bologna train station in 1980.

even longer than the last one—and be even dirtier.”

As for Spain’s police, confronted with right-wing political disinformation, they find themselves fighting on two fronts, just as they had to do in their war against the Black Orchestra.”

Junge Welt, March 15: This left-wing Berlin daily categorically discarded the ETA, al-Qaeda or other Islamic whipping boys officially cited, and recommended the “Strategy of Tension” that haunted Italy in the late 1960s and throughout the 1970s, as the point of reference. The Madrid bombings’s forebears were the 1969 Piazza Fontana bomb that killed 17 and wounded 85 in Milan, the 1974 bomb attack on the *Italicus* train that killed 12 and wounded 50, and the Bologna central station bomb that killed 85 and wounded 200, in 1980. And, had the *Italicus* bomb detonated a few seconds earlier, when the train passed through a tunnel, the catastrophe would have been much greater. Italian authorities promptly “identified” the communists or anarchists in those cases, but it soon turned out that fascist networks, supported by circles in the military, police and secret services of Italy, as well as in NATO and at the CIA, were responsible for these and other bomb attacks. The attacks were part of what was then called the “Strategy of Tension” to prevent the participation of the Italian Communist Party in a coalition government, by a right-wing state coup.

Junge Welt concluded, “One must fear that attacks on trains in Madrid are the beginning of an analogous strategy, and that more attacks of the same type, against normal masses of people in trains, department stores, shopping malls will also follow in other countries of Europe.” They benefit “only those who promote a Fourth World War against the Islamic countries, a Clash of Civilizations (Samuel P. Huntington).”