

From: THE PRIVATE SECRETARY

CONFIDENTIAL



HOME OFFICE
QUEEN ANNE'S GATE
LONDON SW1H 9AT

19 April 1985

Dear Charles

SIKH EXTREMISTS: DAMAGE TO INDO-BRITISH
RELATIONS

..... In your note of 17 April to Hugh Taylor you asked, inter alia, for a dossier on statements made by the militant Sikh separatist, Dr Jagjit Singh Chauhan. I attach a folder of press cuttings and other material reporting statements made by Dr Chauhan, or attributed to him. I am sorry that the quality of some of the copies is not better: the originals are with the police.

..... The attached memorandum points out the main events and considerations concerning Dr Chauhan's statements, and in particular the question of possible prosecution.

A copy of this letter, together with the enclosures, goes to Len Appleyard.

Jan Nigel

N A PANTLING

Charles Powell, Esq.

CONFIDENTIAL



2

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

Prime Minister

Chauhan

This is the dossier of

statements by Chauhan

which you asked for.

CDD

Please ask the file to
look at this again. I do
not see how Chauhan can get out
of the charge of interest to us here
by saying he went where
he clearly is just
by the nature of his
present position

cutting dated.....19

Now we'll get her son, say jubilant Sikhs in Britain



Rajiv Gandhi is sworn in as Premier



IN NEW DELHI: Angry Hindus attack a Sikh



IN BRITAIN... Sikhs celebrate with champagne in Southall

By JENNY REES

MRS GANDHI'S son, Rajiv, will suffer the same fate as his mother, exiled Sikh leader Dr Jagjit Singh Chohan warned in London yesterday.

Dr Chohan said that Mrs Gandhi had been killed in revenge for the military occupation of the Golden Temple at Amritsar, the Sikhs' holiest shrine.

As Sikhs in Britain celebrated her death, he added: "Rajiv is on the hit list. He was one of the architects of what happened at the Golden Temple."

Dr Chohan, head of the London-based exiled Khalistan Republic—the state Sikhs want for themselves in the Punjab—said of Mrs Gandhi's death: "I am not surprised."

"We said she would die. For no one invades our holy place and survives. Mrs Gandhi had to suffer as the Sikhs suffered."

Dr Chohan, 56, said a feeling of elation was sweeping the Sikh community in Britain.

"The Sikhs are overjoyed and some hysterical," he said.

Champagne

As he spoke, 100 turbaned Indians marched jubilantly through the streets of Southall, South London, a Sikh stronghold.

Celebrating Mrs Gandhi's death in carnival style, they shouted, drank champagne, and let off firecrackers. Others held a thanksgiving service.

In Bristol, Sikhs held a thanksgiving service and local leader Lakhinder Singh described Mrs Gandhi as "equal with Hitler, Mussolini and Stalin in her crimes against humanity."

In the Midlands, Sikh and Hindu leaders planned "keep the peace" talks as police mounted vigil over 175 temples.

Room 041

and Sikhs' joy at her death

SWEET REVENGE

**Why they danced
in the streets of
Southall yesterday**

HUNDREDS of jubilant British Sikhs threw a massive "street party" yesterday to celebrate Mrs Gandhi's assassination.

Within hours of learning of the Indian leader's brutal murder, Sikhs in London's Southall went wild with joy. They saw the killing as vengeance for the bloody day of June 6 this year when Mrs Gandhi ordered her soldiers to storm the sacred Sikh Golden Temple in Amritsar.

The troops were told to root out rebels fighting for an independent Sikh state.

In a horrendous gun-battle more than 1,000 Sikhs, including the sect leader Jarnail Singh Bhindranwale, died.

Yesterday London Sikhs let off fireworks and banged drums to celebrate their grim revenge.

They danced in the streets and drank champagne—despite their strict prohibition rule.



Booze-up... Sikhs break their no-drink rule to toast the killing

By JIM LEWTHWAITE and PAUL HOOPER

from police superintendent Bernard King.

Some of them carried banners declaring "One down, two to go" — a threat to Mrs Gandhi's son Rajiv and India's president Zail Singh.

The chilling mood of yesterday's celebration was highlighted by a beaming 11th-year-old boy, Intender Singh, who danced a little jig and declared "Everybody is so happy today."

Sikh leader Councillor Gurnaran Singh announced:

"When Mrs Gandhi sent troops into our holy place, she sinned her death warrant. We were

mourning the death of this tyrant."

And Sal and chip shop owner Avtar Singh of Hambro Road, Southall, said "The only way to react to Mrs Gandhi's death is to thank God."

But as the celebrations gathered momentum, police chiefs drafted in hundreds of extra officers to guard Hindu leaders.

Troops

Angry Hindu priest Brahmdeo Upadhyay condemned the celebrations.

"Allowing this fanatical mob to march through the streets pouring over the assassination is to push us closer to having a war on the streets."

Southall chief superintendent Bob May made a passionate plea for peace to the district's Hindus.



Jaggjit Chohan... exiled Sikh leader

'Just the start' warning

● THE Sikhs' self-styled ruler of their dreamt-of homeland of Khalistan pointed the finger at murdered Mrs Gandhi last night and declared: "This is only the beginning."

● Exiled Dr Jaggjit Singh Chohan, who lives in Reading, added "It's a natural reaction for Sikhs to celebrate."

QUICK LOOKS

Wham grand slam!

CHART-TOPPING Wham! are top of the pops with the lots.

The singing duo head a poll of 12,000 children asked to vote on the most popular band by the BBC schools network.

Wham! heart-thrabs George Michael and Andy Ridgely knocked Michael Jackson into second place, with Slavia Wonder third.

Boy George and Culture Club, last year's school favourite, tumbled to fourth place.

Caring comic

ACID tongue comic Joan Rivers, 44, was last night keeping a bedside vigil by her critically ill husband.

BRITISH-BORN businessman Edgar Rosenberg has had bypass surgery at a Los Angeles hospital after suffering a massive heart attack two weeks ago.

Shame of stick thief

THIEF Gordon Wilson branded himself "the meanest man in Britain" yesterday—for taking a blind man's white stick.

Wilson, 24, of Brixton, South London, told magistrates he hoped he could soon a free train ride with the stick. He was remanded in custody.

JR silrs up Reds

Oil baron J. R. Ewing was almost arrested by the KGB during a visit to Moscow. It was revealed last night.

Actor Larry Hagman, 53, said he started arguing with KGB men who burst into his hotel room overlooking Red Square during the May Day parade. They closed the windows "for security reasons."



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Gandhi's son at risk, says Sikh

READING RELIGIOUS LEADER'S WARNING

By SEAN RYAN

READING'S self-proclaimed world Sikh leader today predicted the new Indian Prime Minister would die like his mother at the hands of an assassin.

Dr Jagjit Singh Chohan said: "I am not a bit surprised at the death of Indira Gandhi. I told the Evening Post in June that anybody who has done sacrifice to the holy places must expect this, and so must Mr Rajiv Gandhi."

"I am that sure he will be assassinated, too, because this man was definitely instrumental in the decision-making on the massacre of Sikhs."

Meanwhile Dr Chohan advised militant Sikhs in Reading not to get involved in street violence.

More than 1,000 Sikhs were reported to have died in June when the Indian



Dr Jagjit Singh Chohan

Indira Gandhi lies in state in New Delhi

army stormed the Golden Temple shrine at Amritsar after laying siege to military chief Sant Bhindranwale.

Dr Chohan, who has declared himself president of a proposed Sikh independent state of Khalistan, says he is maintaining resistance to the Indian government.

The 57-year-old former Punjab finance minister, expelled by Mrs Gandhi in 1980, lives off the Oxford Road and was today under police guard at his London office.

He said: "Scotland Yard people came to see me to make the arrangements. They have been having some information and they have told me there is a possibility of an attack on me."

"But we Sikhs aren't sub-

posed to fear for our lives. It is part of our religion."

Dr Chohan added he was relying on his Reading neighbours to keep an eye on his home.

He neither condemned nor condoned the murder of Mrs Gandhi yesterday, and criticised those Sikhs who have publicly celebrated her assassination. "One should be sad, not pleased that another human being has died," he added.

"But Sikhs have been trying for the last two years to continue their struggle peacefully and nobody has listened to their just demands."

"Our religion says that

Sikhs must use peaceful means, but that you are ultimately justified in taking up the sword. It is also a sin to tolerate aggression." Dr Chohan said he had not known the precise date of the attack on Mrs Gandhi in advance.

He is now keeping in close contact with Sikh military leaders to consult with them over tactics in the "fight for independence."

He warned that for every Sikh killed in the backlash in India, 10 Hindus would die.

Dr Chohan advised militant Sikhs in Reading and other English towns not to get involved in violence on the streets.

Austin Rover's unions to strike

THOUSANDS of workers at Austin Rover's two main centres today voted to strike from Monday over pay.

But at a mass meeting at

workers belonging to various unions voted by a majority of three to one for a stoppage. About 1,600 night shift men at the assembly plant will vote this evening.

Falk dispute UN's back

THE United Kingdom is likely today to back Argentina's offer to negotiate a settlement to the Falkland Islands dispute over diplomatic success.

They said they had no doubt that nobody would stalling major the Argentine last year and the six weeks.

A successful American on the rostrum declare their Argentina, w minister said ment rejects force to impose over the island.

Britain's Sikh son said the problem was a t tion before th the right of th self-determin

Diplo

In the vote a sides claimed success — because of the votes cast because of a large number 54, as well as votes.

Britain broke the relations Aires after invaded the April 1982.

Unions to strike

Austria (chilli) Belgium (franc) Canada (dollars) Denmark (kroner) France (franc) Germany (marks) Greece (drachma) Holland (guilder) Irish Republic (pound) Italy (lire) Japan (yen) Korea (won) Malta (lira) Norway (krone) Portugal (escudo) Spain (peseta) Sweden (kroner) Switzerland (franc) USA (dollar) Yugoslavia (dinar)

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Advertisement for Austin Rover's unions to strike, including details about the vote and the strike action.

Jubilation in Southall

Militant Sikhs sing in the streets

Overjoyed Sikhs sang, danced, marched and set off fireworks in London throughout yesterday in jubilation at the death of Mrs Gandhi, while militants swore to seek further vengeance and start a guerrilla war in India.

The words "blood for blood" were everywhere outside the Sikh temple in Havelock Road, Southall, as Sikhs with flashing eyes and dark beards spoke of preparations to right their wrongs back in India.

Mr Amarjit Singh Dhillon, general secretary of the Supreme Council of Sikhs, said Mrs Gandhi "got what she deserved".

Not all Sikhs shared the militants' views. "It's bad to kill people. It is no solution to the problem," an old man said.

Not far away half a dozen policemen stood on guard outside a Hindu temple, but there appeared to be no sign of tension or violence between the communities.

The head of the self-styled Sikh government in exile, Dr Jagjit Singh Chohan, said the shooting of Mrs Gandhi was "only the beginning" of a campaign to wipe out those responsible for the bloodbath at the Golden Temple of Amritsar. "Mrs Gandhi had to suffer just as the Sikhs suffered," he said.

He appealed to Sikhs in Britain to stay calm and not to cause trouble on the streets.

There are about half a million Sikhs in Britain, representing about one third of the population who have Indian origins. They are largely concentrated in Southall, the West Midlands conurbation, Leicester and Bradford.

Many other Indians were shocked by the assassination, and Mr Prakash Mehrotra, the High Commissioner in London, appealed for "calm, courage and fortitude" from them and from Sikhs.

● NEW YORK: Sikhs danced and sang in the street outside the Indian consulate here yesterday. Women and children joined in and waved a yellow banner emblazoned with the word Khalistan a separate Sikh state. Some of the 50 demonstrators held placards saying "Rajiv Gandhi next".



Dr Chohan: "Mrs Gandhi had to suffer".

12-1
PHILL

Thatcher angry at militant Sikh

by our Foreign Staff

MRS THATCHER, who attended the funeral yesterday of Mrs Indira Gandhi in New Delhi, said her Government had wanted to prosecute a militant Sikh leader in Britain who had predicted Mrs Gandhi's death, after the storming of the Golden Temple in Amritsar.

She told reporters she had been shocked by remarks, made in a radio broadcast by Jagjit Singh Chohan, leader of the Sikh separatist Khalistan movement. 'But police could not find enough evidence to prosecute him for incitement to violence,' she added.

An unrepentant Mr Chohan told a London press conference last night that Mrs Gandhi deserved to die and her son and successor, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, would suffer the same fate because he had been an accomplice in the storming of the Golden Temple.

He insisted that he was not inciting Sikhs to assassinate the new Indian leader. 'I am not instigating people . . . I am simply telling you a historical fact.'

Mrs Thatcher had a brief private meeting yesterday with Mr Rajiv Gandhi, and said she had known and liked him for a

long time. 'I respect him greatly. I admire his courage and dignity and deep sorrow. That was there for all to see today,' she said.

After the funeral Mrs Thatcher met General Zia-ul-Haq of Pakistan and last night was having informal talks with President Jayewardene of Sri Lanka and George Shultz, the US Secretary of State. Today she will meet the Japanese Prime Minister, Yasuhiro Nakasone, before leaving for London.

Although no major incidents were reported yesterday, sporadic violence continued. The death toll is now believed to have reached 1,000. In one incident in an east Delhi suburb on Friday, more than 100 Sikhs were massacred in their homes by a mob of Hindu youths. Rumours flooded the city yesterday that Sikhs were preparing to mount co-ordinated counter-attacks.

Rajiv Gandhi left his mother's funeral pyre to visit violence-hit areas of the capital and ordered a crackdown on rioters. Police opened fire to quell riots in 10 places in New Delhi, killing seven people.

The low turnout along the seven-mile route of the funeral procession was said to be due both to the curfew, which had

been in effect overnight in large parts of Delhi, and fears of further bloodshed. Trains bringing mourners from outside the city were stopped on the outskirts to prevent a repeat of the massacres of the previous two days.

City hospitals were crowded with up to 2,000 wounded, most of them Hindus. The majority had been shot or stabbed, or slashed with ceremonial daggers carried by many Sikhs. At one hospital, where security guards held back big crowds of Hindus, a doctor told a Reuters reporter: 'The mobs are hungry for revenge although the hospital's floors are covered in blood.'

In one incident yesterday, 30 trucks and jeeps were burnt while police and troops guarded a Sikh community nearby.

Information Minister H. K. L. Bhagat appealed for peace and unity in his constituency in Delhi where some of the worst slaughter took place and which is now patrolled by army tanks.

In Southall, west London, one of the biggest areas of Sikh settlement in Britain, the mood was sombre. Business continued as usual on the Broadway, Southall's busy main street, and Hindu and Sikh shoppers mingled with no sign of tension.

● Rajiv Gandhi criticised US arms sales to Pakistan during a meeting with Secretary of State Shultz in New Delhi yesterday, the Press Trust of India reported. He also said India attached great importance to friendship with the United States, adding: 'There is a good base for building it up.'

D Mail 1107

Celebration . . . demonstrators in London call for an independent Sikh homela

A dance of death along the streets

By WILLIAM LANGLEY and PETER SHERIDAN

TO the outsider, it seemed almost impossible that the two events were linked. In the bleak streets of Southall in London, they were dancing for joy at Indira Gandhi's assassination.

And a dozen miles away inside the Indian High Commission in London, they were marking her death with deep reverence and sad protocol.

In Southall, children distributed sweets, fireworks flew and bands marched behind banners in a macabre celebration of the murder.

Britain's normally reticent, staid Sikh community turned a day of international mourning into a street party.

Ecstatic

There was ecstatic talk of an independent homeland for the Sikhs called Khalistan—and the promise of more murders if they are denied.

'Her death is a warning to all who follow her. If they do not stop the repression of the Sikhs,' warned Amarjit Singh Dhillon, general secretary of the Supreme Council of Sikhs in Britain, from the sanctity of a temple in Southall. 'We may not be in India, but we are to the fighters in



DR CHOCHAN
A warning

our homeland what the Provisional Sinn Fein is to the IRA here.'

Shops shut up for the day. Turbanned businessmen abandoned their desks, housewives in colourful saris with babes in arms all left their homes, as one of Britain's largest Sikh communities gathered to rejoice with a macabre dance of death.

There were several marches through the borough, and police feared a violent confrontation with the Hindu community.

To calm the situation, Police Chief Superintendent Robert Hay, addressed a packed Hindu temple in Lady Margaret Road.

'Accept this further burden and do not react in an unpeaceable way,' he said. 'We will ensure you are protected.'

One group of revellers danced through the streets with a bottle of champagne, drinking a toast to the assassination.

Amarjit Dhillon echoed their mood: 'Mrs Gandhi

ordered the destruction of the Holy Shrine at Amritsar, and now she has been punished not by humanity but by God.'

A coach ferried cheerful demonstrators from Southall to India House where they continued their demonstrations.

The leader of the exiled Sikhs, Dr Jagjit Singh Chohan, warned that the assassination was the start of a terror campaign against the Indian government and army.

At the High Commission in London, His Excellency Prakash Mehrettra, High Commissioner for less than four months, and an old family friend of Mrs Gandhi had heard of the shooting before dawn.

Condolences

'She was very dear to me,' he said in a voice that barely carried. 'She is a great personal loss and a deep loss to our people.'

Below him the ornate well of India House was filling with calls hoping to sign a book of condolences that had not even been prepared.

Mrs Thatcher arrived dressed in stark black. She stayed five minutes.

'She told me she could not imagine India without Mrs Gandhi,' said Prakash Mehrettra. 'Nor can many of us.'

Outside in the street, Mr Sinna Mani, president of the London-based Overseas Indian Association, appealed for calm.

'The Indian community must not take matters into their own hands,' he said.



The grim ce

**BURNED
ALIVE**

From Saturday's Mail

Sikhs start flight to their homeland haven

REPORT FROM NEW DELHI BY BRIAN JAMES AND STEPHEN LYNAS

British 'bloodshed' alert over death threats

D Mail 5/64

BIKH separatist leader Dr Jagjit Singh Chohan warned yesterday that Britain could become a battleground for warring Sikhs and Hindus if death threats against him are carried out.

The 57-year-old Indian, in exile in London, where his Bayswater

home is under a 24-hour police guard, said: 'Blood will be shed in Britain if I die.'

'Since Mrs Gandhi's death I have had telephone calls threatening my life and Scotland Yard have heard of similar threats,' he added.

'We want to keep Britain peaceful and keep it out of this problem as much as we can. But if anything

happens to me in retaliation for Mrs Gandhi's death, there can only be trouble.'

Dr Chohan is head of the self-proclaimed government in exile of the unborn state of Khalistan which seeks separation in the Indian state of Punjab. He called for Mrs Gandhi's death in June after she

ordered the attack on the Golden Temple of Amritsar.

He rejected suggestions that celebrations of Mrs Gandhi's death in this country had inflamed Hindus in India, causing greater bloodshed. 'They would leap on any excuse to justify their attacks,' said Dr Chohan.

Treasury is seeking a hidden round of cuts in next year's public spending on housing in addition to the £600 million reduction which Treasury ministers have been trying to push through the "star chamber" committee.

It said that the true cost of the total package of cuts could top £1 billion and that this would devastate a public housing programme, which had already been halved in real terms since the Conservative Government came to office in 1979.

The Chancellor is understood to be determined to claw back at least part of the local authority overspend in housing, which totalled about £250 mil-

by reducing the proportion of receipts from the sale of council houses which the authorities are allowed to plough back into housing investment.

If this proportion were cut from 40 per cent to 20 per cent the Government could reduce councils' entitlement to spend by more than £1 billion. But only part of the reduction would show up in the public spending white paper.

Mr Patrick Jenkin, the Environment Secretary, and Mr Ian Gow, the Housing Minister, have been fighting a strong rearguard action against the cuts.

Mr George Smith, president of the Institute of Housing, said that if they failed housebuilding by local authorities and housing associations would fall to only 20,000 new homes a year, 200,000 improvement grants would be cancelled or postponed indefinitely, and 50,000 jobs in the construction industry would be lost.

The institute called for a housing budget of £3,500 million next year, rising to £5,000 million by 1987-8, which would restore the programme to its 1979 level and create at least an extra 100,000 jobs in the construction industry.

Mr Neil McIntosh, director of Shelter, the national campaign for the homeless, has sent a letter to Mrs Thatcher asking her to oppose "short-sighted cuts which would damage the long-term future of Britain's housing." He pointed out that the number of households officially accepted as homeless had risen from 53,000 in 1978 to 78,000 in 1983.

tried to snatch the rifle of a security man on duty.

But generally, the return to normality continued throughout the country. In Delhi, more and more Sikhs were venturing on to the streets, apparently reassured by the deployment of troops and police in the worst trouble spots.

Police fired into the air to disperse a crowd gathering inside the old walled city. A curfew from 8 pm to 5 am remains in force. One looter was shot dead by the police on Sunday night, and 12 more bodies from last week's blood bath were recovered yesterday, bringing the official death toll in the capital to 471.

About 100 people demonstrated outside the BBC's New Delhi office yesterday, demanding the deportation from Britain of the Sikh separatist, Dr Jagjit Singh Chauhan, who threatened in a BBC interview after the Golden Temple operation to have Mrs Gandhi assassinated. They wanted him put on trial in India.

card to e

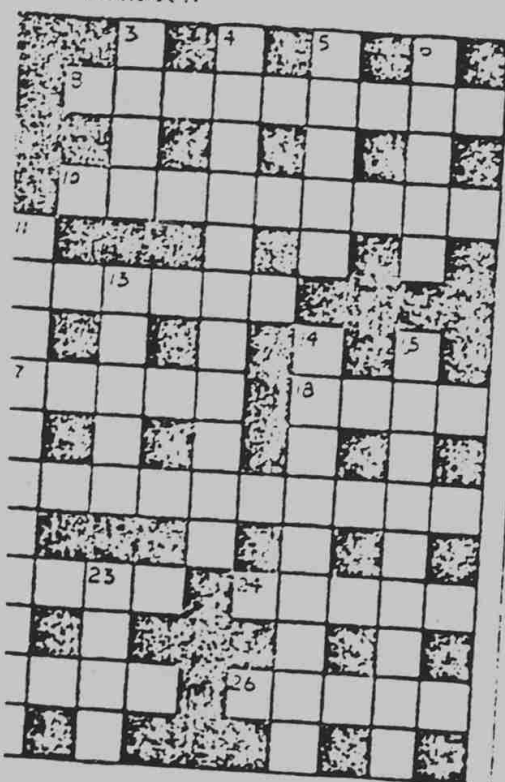
Continued from page 1 states. Mr Wirth but his view was the likely winning

In Chicago, where Mrs Reagan and Mr President and Mrs B temporarily together final team stop, were transported huge indoor stadium back of a vintage fit to the delight of a more than 20,000 been brought to a by the faded rock Frankie Avalon. tacky, but the peop it.

Only Senator Percy, desperately to preserve his job as of the Foreign Committee, looked rassed during this

N CROSSWORD 17,077

GORDIUS



being told to push off — that's a blessing! (9)
 24 Fleas jump about? That's not so (5)
 25 Name that's 24 — on second thoughts, due back on my return (9)
 26 One stupid about nothing, in a manner of speaking (5)

DOWN

1 The French under British rule won't wash? On the contrary! (9)
 2 Cover for pitch with lad still batting? (9)
 3 Not 24, but right in one of 23 (4)
 4 Long while for girl to finish — about one of 23 (4, 3, 1, 3)
 5 Many are unwilling to take

Miners' £2.8 m frozen

Continued from page one Burrows, last week asking to exercise their right to inspect the union's accounts.

Mr Potts said that the union had replied that the two men could see the accounts for half an hour each and that an accountant could not be present. Under the area union's rules the men have a right to inspect the books and, Mr Potts contended, case law showed

that a union member is entitled to bring an action with him.

The court heard 4 counts for the period July showed that £500,000 had been spent on strike, including expenses.

Mr Justice Vinel granted an order preventing the union from removing

THE WEATHER

Cloudy with rain

A TROUGH of low pressure will move N over S and central parts during the day.

London, SE, Cent S and SW England, Channel Islands: Mostly cloudy, rain at times, becoming drizzle later. Wind NE, moderate, becoming variable, light. Max temp 11 to 13C (52 to 55F).

E Anglia, Midlands, S Wales: Cloudy, rain at times. Wind NE, moderate or fresh. Max 9 to 11C (48 to 52F).

E, NW, Cent N and NE England, N Wales, Lake District: Becoming cloudy, rain in places later. Wind NE, light, becoming moderate or fresh. Max 8 to 10C (46 to 50F).

Iste of Man, Borders, Edinburgh and Dundee, SW and NW Scotland, Glasgow, Argyll, N Ireland: Mostly dry, sunny periods. Wind NE, light, becoming moderate. Max 7 to 9C (45 to 48F).

Aberdeen, Cent Highlands, Moray Firth, NE Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: Sunny intervals, scattered wintry showers. Wind N to NE, light or moderate. Max 6 to 8C (43 to 45F).

Outlook: Becoming brighter...

AROUND THE WORLD

Lunch-time reports		C F	
Ajaccio	S 19 66	Madrid	F 10 50
Algeria	C 23 73	Madeira	C 20 68
Amsterdam	S 10 50	Malaga	F 17 61
Antwerp	S 21 70	Malta	C 20 68
Bahia	C 27 81	Melbourne	C 15 59
Barcelona	F 17 63	Manchester	C 7 45
Belfast	C 6 43	Mexico	C 19 66
Berlin	F 24 75	Moscow	C 3 37
Birmingham	C 5 41	Mumbai	F 28 82
Bombay	C 32 91	Montreal	S 11 52
Bordeaux	C 11 55	Munich	S 7 45
Boston	F 12 54	Nairobi	C 24 75
Boulogne	S 10 50	Naples	F 15 54
Bristol	C 8 46	Newcastle	F 6 43
Brussels	C 7 45	New Delhi	S 26 79
Budapest	F 18 64	New York	F 14 57
Cardiff	C 11 52	Nice	C 17 63
Cairo	F 25 77	Oporto	R 13 51
Cape Town	S 23 73	Ottawa	C 8 49
Casablanca	R 20 67	Paris	C 7 45
Cebu	F 28 82	Perth	S 17 61
Colon	F 8 48	Port of Spain	C 14 57
Copenhagen	C 8 46	Rio de Janeiro	C 16 61
Darwin	F 19 66	Riviera	S 26 79
Delhi	C 8 46	Rome	R 13 51
Dublin	C 8 46	Salzburg	S 8 48
Edinburgh	C 8 46	Seoul	F 10 50
Hanoi	F 16 61	Stockholm	F 26 79

AROUND BRITAIN

Reports for the 24 hours ending yesterday:

Region	Sun		Rain		Max	
	hrs	in	in	in	C	F
ENGLAND AND WALES						
London	0.5	—	—	—	9	48
Birmingham	—	—	—	—	6	43
Bristol	—	—	—	—	9	48
Cardiff	4.3	—	—	—	8	46
Exeter	—	—	—	—	9	48
Manchester	0.7	—	—	—	7	45
Nottingham	—	—	—	—	6	43
Newcastle	5.5	0.5	—	—	6	43
Cardiff	4.4	—	—	—	5	41
EAST COAST						
Scarborough	—	—	—	—	6	43
Bridlington	2.3	0.1	—	—	7	45
Cromer	—	—	—	—	4	39
Lowestoft	—	—	—	—	9	48
Clacton	—	—	—	—	10	50
Margate	—	—	—	—	12	54
SOUTH COAST						
Folkestone	5.0	—	—	—	11	52
Hastings	0.7	—	—	—	10	50
Eastbourne	1.0	—	—	—	10	50
Brighton	—	—	—	—	9	48
Worthing	2.8	—	—	—	10	50

4 4 XXX 188

RAJIV GANDHI WILL DIE LIKE MOTHER
THE EXILED HEAD OF THE SECESSIONIST SIKH REPUBLIC SAID TODAY THAT
ASSASSINATED INDIAN LEADER INDIRA GANDHI DESERVED TO DIE AND HER
SON AND SUCCESSOR RAJIV WOULD SUFFER THE SAME FATE.
JAGJIT SINGH CHAUHAN, PRESIDENT OF THE SELF-STYLED REPUBLIC OF
KHALISTAN, TOLD A LONDON NEWS CONFERENCE: WE WILL NOT PRAY FOR HER
... SHE EARNED IT.

HE SAID RAJIV GANDHI WAS AN ACCOMPLICE TO THE STORMING BY INDIAN
TROOPS IN JUNE ON HIS MOTHERS ORDERS OF THE GOLDEN TEMPLE; THE
SIKHS HOLIEST SHRINE.
BUT HE STRESSED THAT HE WAS NOT INCITING SIKHS TO ASSASSINATE THE
NEW INDIAN LEADER. I AM NOT INSTIGATING PEOPLE ... I AM SIMPLY
TELLING YOU A HISTORICAL FACT.

HE SAID: SIKHS WILL NOT ALLOW TO LIVE THOSE WHO COMMIT
SACRILEGE AGAINST THEIR HOLY PLACES. SIKHS WILL NEVER REST UNLESS AND
UNTIL THEY TAKE REVENGE, AND THEY ALWAYS HAVE DONE. IT IS THE HISTORY
OF THE SIKHS.
REFERRING TO COMMUNAL VIOLENCE THAT FOLLOWED MRS GANDHI'S MURDER
BY TWO SIKH BODYGUARDS, CHAUHAN SAID HINDUS WERE EXTERMINATING SIKHS
AND HE ACCUSED RAJIV OF BEING PARTY TO THIS.

031738 NOV 84

WELL JUST A FEW MINUTES AGO I WAS SPEAKING
TO DOCTOR JAGJIT SINGH CHOHAN, (PHONETIC),
WHO'S THE PRESIDENT OF THE GOVERNMENT OF
THE REPUBLIC OF KHALISTAN, BASED IN TALBOT
ROAD, AND WHILE OTHER PEOPLE MAY BE SHOCKED
AT THE NEWS OF THE ATTEMPT ON THE LIFE, OR
MAY BE INDEED THE KILLING OF MRS GANDHI,
HE WAS CLEARLY PLEASED.

BBC RADIO,
on the day of
Mrs Gandhi's
assassination

DR JAGJIT SINGH CHOHAN:

THE REACTION I HAVE BEEN GETTING THE CALLS
FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD FROM ALL OF ORGANISATIONS
OF THE SIKHS, AND THEY REALLY FEEL THAT THE
JUSTICE HAS BEEN DONE TO MRS GANDHI. WHAT
SHE HAD DONE TO THE SIKHS ON 6TH JUNE, SHE
HAS BEEN PUNISHED FOR THAT.

EVERARD DAVEY:

MRS GANDHI IS NOW VERY GRAVELY ILL, AND YOU
SAY YOU SUPPORT THE ATTEMPTED ASSASSINATION?

DR JAGJIT SINGH CHOHAN;

IT IS NO QUESTION OF SUPPORTING OR OPPOSING
IT, THE QUESTION IS, AS I TOLD ON 3RD JUNE,
TO THE BBC INTERVIEW, THAT YOU REMEMBER,
AND I HAD SAID THAT ANYONE WHO HAS EVER TRIED
TO DO SACKILEGE TO THE THIS HOLY PLACE OF
THE SIKHS HAS NEVER BEEN ALLOWED TO LIVE
ALIVE, AND AT THAT TIME MY STATEMENT WAS
NOT TAKEN SERIOUSLY, AND , BUT NOW YOU HAVE
SEEN THE RESULTS, I TOLD YOU IT WAS A NATURAL
CONSEQUENCE WHICH HAS FOLLOWED.

EVERARD DAVEY;

DO YOU KNOW WHETHER OR NOT SIKHS WERE RESPONSIBLE
FOR THIS ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT;?

DR JAGJIT SINGH CHOHAN

SIKHS SHOULD BE RESPONSIBLE AND THEY ARE
RESPONSIBLE , AND WE TAKE THE RESPONSIBILITY,
THERE'S NO PROBLEM ABOUT THAT.

EVERARD DAVEY;

NOW YOU WERE TELLING ME THAT YOU GOT THE
NEWS OF THIS ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT VERY EARLY
THIS MORNING, BEFORE EVEN MANY OF US HERE

AT THE BBC. HOW DID YOU GET THE NEWS OF
IT?

DR JAGJIT SINGH CHOHAN:

WE GOT IT FROM THE UNDERGROUND HEADQUARTERS
OF OUR MILITARY COMMAND, SOMEWHERE IN THAT
REGION.

EVERARD DAVEY:

DID YOU GET WORD THAT THIS ATTEMPT WAS GOING
TO BE MADE BEFORE THE SHOTS WERE FIRED?

DR JAGJIT SINGH CHOHAN:

NO, ACTUALLY NOT, AND ONLY AS SOON AS IT
HAPPENED AND IT SEEMS TO HAVE SUCCEEDED,
SOMEBODY 'PHONED ME FROM THE HIGH COMMAND.

EVERARD DAVEY:

WHAT REACTION WILL THERE BE NOW, MRS GANDHI
IS IN FACT NOT YET DEAD, DO YOU THINK THAT
A FURTHER ATTEMPT WILL BE MADE ON HER LIFE,
ASSUMING THAT SHE SURVIVES?

DR JAGJIT SINGH CHOHAN:

NO, THERE'S NO QUESTION, I DON'T THINK SHE

WILL SURVIVE, BUT I TELL YOU THE SIKHS, THEY
WILL TAKE THE REVENGE UNLESS AND UNTIL ALL THOSE
WHO ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS BARBARIC ACTIONS,
OF KILLING THOUSANDS OF INNOCENT WOMEN AND
CHILDREN, THEY REPENT, AND THEY JUST TRY
TO CALM DOWN THE SIKHS, THE SIKHS WILL NOT
SIT IN PEACE.

EVERARD DAVEY

DO YOU THINK THIS EXTENSION OF VIOLENCE IS
GOING TO DO THE DEMOCRATIC PROCESS IN INDIA
ANY GOOD AT ALL? :

DR JAGJIT SINGH CHOHAN:

ACTUALLY THERE WILL BE NO DEMOCRATIC PROCESS
AND THERE HAS BEEN NO DEMOCRATIC PROCESS.
YOU HAVE SEEN IN PUNJAB NO FOREIGN CORRESPON-
DENTS ARE ALLOWED TO VISIT, NOBODY IS ALLOWED
TO GO TO THE COURT, WHERE IS THE RULE OF
LAW, WHERE IS THE DEMOCRACY, THIS IS ALL
FARCE IN INDIA, AND MRS GANDHI HAS BEEN FEEDING
THE WORLD WITH THIS, ALL THE WRONG INFORMATION
AND PEOPLE HAVE BEEN TRYING TO PLEASE HER
BY SAYING, 'HELLO, HELLO,' AND GOOD TO HER?
SHE HAS BEEN DOING ALL UNDEMOCRATIC THINGS,
THERE WAS NEVER REAL DEMOCRACY IN INDIA.

PG SEVEN

PRESENTER:

AND THAT REPORT WAS RECORDED A FEW MINUTES
AGO BEFORE FIRST NEWS CAME THROUGH THAT MRS
G. JHI HAD DIED. THOSE REPORTS THOUGH ARE
STILL UNCONFIRMED.

ALSO IN LBC RADIO INTERVIEW ON WEDNESDAY, 31ST OCTOBER
AMONGST OTHERS INTERVIEWED DR. CHOHAN SPOKE THE FOLLOWING
PARAGRAPH:

DR. J JAGJIT SINGH CHOHAN:

I GOT SO MANY TELEPHONE CALLS THIS MORNING AND I HAVE
ADVISED ALL THE SIKHS AND AGAIN I, THROUGH YOU, PASS
THIS MESSAGE TO THEM THAT THEY SHOULD THANK THE LORD,
AND PRAY AT THEIR HOMES, NOT BE JUBILANT, AND THEY SHOULD
THINK MORE SERIOUSLY FOR THE NEXT MOVE WHICH WE HAVE TO
DO TO CREATE OUR INDEPENDENT STATE OF KHALISTAN.

END

C

Transcript of an interview with Dr. Jayjit Singh Chauhan, on BBC Radio 4 in their programme 'World at One' today (June 12, 1984)

...

33/2a/2

We have now to set up this command post in London because this is the only place where I have been staying and I have been keeping in touch with Sant Jarnail Singh Bhindranwale back in Amritsar and his last orders reached me by a messenger and I have to carry out the mission left which has to be fulfilled.

Q What was the message that he gave?

A The message is now to continue this struggle till we achieve independence for the Sikh nation.

Q You want a separate state?

A Definitely, sovereign state, called the republic of Khalistan. Nothing less than that.

Q. How are you going to achieve that in Britain?

A. In Britain we are setting up now Khalistan House which will act as information centre because all the news are blackouted and no right information is coming. Mutiny is taking place in all the towns wherever the Sikh soldiers are. So the situation is becoming very serious and we have to set up the information centre. We have set up the network for getting the right information from India and then we have to pass the message back to the people. We are trying to set up some transmission from somewhere. We are talking to some sattelite people if we can buy some time on a sattelite so that we can beam even for an hour everyday that to the people in Punjab. Nobody is giving news what is happening ~~is~~ to the Sikhs everywhere, and what help we shall be sending them and we have sent the message that anybody who will be killed his family will be looked

after by the Sikhs living abroad. Any soldier
court martialled and who will leave the Indian Army
and join the Khalistan army will be given full pay
by the funds raised raised by the Sikhs living both^{abroad}
Canada, America, England and all over the world.

Q; It does sound rather than the Sikhs living
in India
here are inciting fellow sikhs/to defect from the
Army.

llr 5
A. It is not inciting. They have already. It
has occurred and it will not stop. The mutiny is
always a chain of reaction and no Sikh worth the name
of a Sikh can sit just calm at this hour. This is the
worst hour in the Sikh history and Mrs. Gandhi has
touched the holiest place which we worship. The
whole Sikh nation is united. There is no extremist now,
no moderate now. All the Sikhs are united, wherever any
Sikh is, he is with this cause now and we shall struggle
till we achieve our objective.

Q. Do you actually want to see the downfall of
Mrs. Gandhi's Government?

A You will see the Sikh history is anybody in the
history who has touched this holy place was never left
alive and I tell you today you may not call it a
prophecy. But within a few days you will have the news
that Mrs. Gandhi and his family has been beheaded. That
is what the Sikhs will do, I tell you. I am sorry to
say that. It will definitely hurt you but it will

happen. That is history, I cannot change that
history.

Q. And that will be carried out by a Sikhs?

A By a Sikh definitely, Even at a gathering at
Hyde Park corner on Sunday there were ladies who have
offered that we are ready to go, young girls born in
England, they said. We shall go and we shall do this
job, if you give us and assign this job. duty. And
that is the tradition. We do not want any sort of
violence, any violation of the law here. We want to
keep Britain very peaceful, but we shall have to
continue this struggle back in the home, that is what
we have to do and organise.

QPE/84 1/2/1

65

Sikhs in Britain set up 'republic'

By Paul Keel

Dr Jagjit Singh, the self-proclaimed president of the Republic of Khalistan, announced his "government in exile" from its ramshackle headquarters in west London yesterday where he vowed vengeance on Mrs Gandhi, the Indian prime minister, for the storming of the Golden Palace in Amritsar.

The 56-year-old Punjabi-born doctor of medicine said the function of the government would be to lead the struggle for the creation of an independent state in the Punjab and to support the families of Sikh soldiers who had been executed for mutinying against the Indian Army.

At a press conference held in a small room of the four-story terraced house in Bayswater, which was donated a few days ago by a Sikh businessman, Dr Singh predicted that the world would soon learn of Mrs Gandhi's death.

"Some man, some young person, I don't know who he will be, will come forward and take off the head of Mrs Gandhi and all those responsible for the sacrilege of this palace."

Until this happened all loyal Sikhs would, in accordance with their custom, sleep only on the floor and take their food without utensils.

Dr Singh pledged that the struggle would not take place in Britain. "I assure the people of Great Britain and the government that Sikhs will



Dr Jagjit Singh at his press conference yesterday. Picture by Frank Martin

never resort to violence and fight their battle on the streets of London.

He issued a plea to young Sikhs in Britain, who were upset about the assault on their sacred palace, not to resort to violence.

Asked how many Sikhs in

Britain he claimed to be representing, or Singh said: "Up to one week ago I was in a very small minority. After the third of June (when the palace was stormed) the whole Sikh nation is united."

Rebels "trained in Pakistan," page 7

Sikh exiles in protest

FOLLOWERS of Jarnail Singh Bhindranwale, the Sikh fundamentalist leader killed in the Indian army's assault on the Golden Temple in Amritsar last week, will establish a "government in exile" in London tomorrow. It will fight for Khalistan, an independent state Sikhs want carved out of Punjab province and surrounding areas of India.

The events in Amritsar have united the Sikhs in Britain in a fierce protest against India and its Prime Minister, Indira Gandhi, and given a huge fillip to the separatist movement, which hitherto had fewer than 1,000 followers in Britain.

There have been fire-bomb attacks on Indian diplomatic offices in London, Birmingham, Glasgow and Liverpool. India House at Aldwych in central London has been besieged by demonstrators. Indian banks have been attacked in Birmingham and Glasgow, and an attempt was made to burn two Hindu temples in Southall, west London, where Sikhs and Hindus live.

There are some 400,000 Sikhs in Britain, principally at Southall and Hounslow, Birmingham, Coventry and Wolverhampton. Today thousands from all over Britain plan to demonstrate outside India House after a march from Hyde Park.

Even the most moderate Sikhs, such as Sardar Amolak Singh, who leads a group which manages all the Sikh temples in Britain and has hitherto been opposed to the politics of Bhindranwale, now advocate separatism. "The Hindus have shown there is no place for us in

by Anthony Mascarenhas



Satwant Singh Khalsa

India," says Amolak Singh. "We have no choice but to have our own separate nation."

In a hastily arranged ceremony on Friday a group of Sikhs dedicated an unpretentious house in Talbot Road, west London as Khalistan House. Dr Jagjit Singh Chohan, who styles himself as the Khalistan president, says the house will serve as the centre for the government in exile following the capture of the Golden Temple. Sikhs at the ceremony vowed to avenge the deaths of Bhindranwale and his followers:

Dressed in warrior's uniform with sword. Satwant Singh

Khalsa, general secretary of Bir Khalsa Dal of the UK, a militant Sikh organisation, told The Sunday Times: "We have drawn up a list of people who were involved in the attack on the Golden Temple, including Mrs Gandhi, her son and General Ranjit Singh Dyal. We will track them down and take our revenge."

A statement signed by the Khalistan Liberation Organisation, described as a newly-formed Sikh underground army, offered a £50,000 reward "to anyone who brings Prime Minister Mrs Indira Gandhi and her son Rajiv Gandhi dead or alive to the Golden Temple, Amritsar". The money was said to have been put up by one man.

Several militant Sikh youth groups claim to have drawn up a "hit list" of Mrs Gandhi's "agents" in Britain, and to be planning attacks on Indian banks, airline offices and government buildings.

The growing protest may presage a struggle for leadership of the separatist movement. An action committee in charge of Sikh temples in the Midlands, meeting in Smethwick on Friday, supported the call for a separate homeland, without endorsing the "government in exile". It announced fund-raising for arms to support Sikhs in India, and demonstrations in Britain.

An Indian official in London who refused to be identified said: "We are in a state of red alert. The tightest possible security measures have been enforced. What else can we do now but pray?" Scotland Yard is protecting individuals and premises.

The Daily JANG London

dated 8. 6. 84

انڈراگانڈھی کے سر کی ہمت

لندن - ۶ جون (ٹائمز جگ) خالصتان
کی جلا وطن حکومت کے صدر ڈاکو جگیت
سنگھ چوہان نے بتایا ہے کہ انہیں خالصتان
آرگنائزیشن کی کھانہ اور کے سردار ہتھیار
کے سر کی طور پر اعلان کرنے کے لئے
مہلے کو جھارتی وزیر اعظم منشا اندراگانڈھی کا
سر لے گا۔ اسے وہ ایک کھیلنا کریں گے

B

Translation of
Daily Jang article

THE PRICE OF INDIRA GANDHI'S HEAD

London - 7 June (Representative Jang) - Dr. Jagjit Singh, President of the "Khalistan" Government in Exile has stated that he has been asked by Sardar Mehtab Singh of the "Khalistan Organisation" (K.L.O) to announce in writing that whoever brings the head of the Indian Prime Minister Mrs. Indira Gandhi will be paid one lakh Pounds by him.

....



Khalistan National Organisation (KNO) U.K.

34 Fulmead Road,
Reading, Berks.

BCW-862-43-1025X
XXXXXX
XXXXXX

Tel: 01-741 3025
Telex: 262284 Ref 818
Cables: KHALSA LOND

Our Ref:

Your Ref:

Date: 7th June 1984

Handwritten:
Bhai Jai Manjinder
Akhil Sarv
"no paid
for."

Handwritten:
and address
not transfer
file

Handwritten:
Sikhs
at Amritsar

PRESS STATEMENT

At a meeting of Khalistan National Organisation U.K. and Khalistan Liberation of Organisation (KLO), the KLO has offered £50,000 reward to anyone who brings Prime Minister Mrs. Indira Gandhi and her son Rajiv Gandhi dead or alive at Golden Temple, Amritsar.
Handwritten: anyone who brings Prime Minister Mrs Indira Gandhi and her son Rajiv Gandhi dead or alive at Golden Temple Amritsar

This is in direct response to the mass murder of innocent Sikhs and their Leader Sant Jarnail Singh Bhindranwale at the Golden Temple.
Handwritten: This is in direct response to the mass murder of innocent Sikhs and their Leader Sant Jarnail Singh Bhindranwale at the Golden Temple

Every Sikh's heart is bleeding and blood boiling. The Hindus did not understand the sentiments of Sikh Nation when they invaded their holiest shrine and other 38 sacred temples as if they were a "foreign country".
Handwritten: Every Sikh's heart is bleeding and blood boiling. The Hindus did not understand the sentiments of Sikh Nation when they invaded their holiest shrine and other 38 sacred temples as if they were a "foreign country"

Sant Bhindranwale had warned that an attack on Golden Temple would be a war on the Sikhs. This war has now started and every member of the world's 15 million Sikh community will sacrifice his life until the aspirations of a sovereign Sikh Republic of Khalistan is achieved.
Handwritten: Sant Bhindranwale had warned that an attack on Golden Temple would be a war on the Sikhs. This war has now started and every member of the world's 15 million Sikh community will sacrifice his life until the aspirations of a sovereign Sikh Republic of Khalistan is achieved.

Signed.....
MEHTAB SINGH (Chairman)

12 TALBOT ROAD/LONDON W2 5LH/15th March 1965

The Rt. Hon. Margaret Thatcher, MP,
Prime Minister,
10 Downing Street,
LONDON SW1.

DUPLICATE

DEAR PRIME MINISTER:

I take this liberty of impinging upon your time as the report published in The Daily Telegraph today, which no doubt you have seen but of which I enclose a copy for ready reference, is more than disturbing. It appears following very closely a lead story in the Bombay newsmagazine, BLITZ, on 9th March, a copy of which is enclosed for your information. There appears to be a concerted effort to alienate, not only me, but the Sikhs as a people. And that frightens me.

I have been reassured by the stand of Her Majesty's Government in respect of my domicile as well as my activities/statements in this country. I would like to assure you again that I do not, as I never have, believed in violence. I have never instigated violence. I hold that violence does not, as it cannot, solve any disputes. I see no reason for changing my belief in my ripe old age. However, it is difficult for me to accept that I have become such an important person as to affect, either way, the relations between Her Majesty's Government and the Government of India, both politically as well as economically. I should be most grateful if you could confirm whether that is true.

Mr Rusi Karanji, the Editor of Blitz, is an accomplished fellow-traveller. It would not surprise me in the least if the story published on the 9th originated in Moscow and not in Paris. On the one hand it discredits me (or attempts to do so) in the eyes of the world including Her Majesty's Government and the Sikh community, and on the other it drives a wedge between the settlers and the authorities in their country of domicile. What more, it further divides the Sikhs sowing seeds of dissention and disruption. This will, and I am sure you are more than aware of it, in due course create local tensions and cause disharmony affecting the peace as well as race relations.

I hope when you meet Mr Rajiv Gandhi in Delhi you will explain to him the reality of the situation and ask him either to confirm or to deny the Blitz-tale. Should he confirm it, I hope you will counsel that the battle ought to be fought in the Courts and not on the pages of publications.

I take this opportunity of sending you my best wishes for a successful tour of Asia next month.

Yours very sincerely,

Press Statement issued by Dr. Jagjit Singh Chohan on 7.10.84 from
London.

We the peace loving and loyal citizens of Great Britain, are extremely shocked to read the distorted version of the news of the dispute, which took place yesterday afternoon in Gravesend. First of all we want to make it absolutely clear that the other party, (known as Darshan Dasis) who quarelled with the Sikhs, cannot be called as Sikhs. It does not mean that any person with a turban and beard would be a Sikh. These persons under the garb of the Sikh form want to hit Sikhism, below the belt. They are another version of the Nirankaris, who are responsible for initiating the present crisis of the Sikhs in India and abroad. These so called, Darshan Dasis (led by Darshan Das, who is a Hindu Brahmin) are based in Birmingham, are operating here with the connivance of the Indian intelligence. They are busy misguiding the innocent and simple Sikhs by indoctrinising them with the distorted version of Sikhism. They borrow the Sikh symbols, just to confuse the basic and fundamental principles of the Sikh faith.

Interestingly, these people are getting enormous resources from the Indian government in their grand designs of diluting the Sikh faith. Thus we earnestly urge upon you, not to mention them as Sikhs. In addition to this through you, we appeal to the Her Majesty's Government, to put a ban on the activities of such imposters, so that their provocative propaganda against Sikhism may be stopped forthwith.

We want to make it absolutely clear that as a matter of policy, we do not want to indulge in any violent activity in U.K. and other foreign countries. These are definite and strict instructions to our people that they have to avoid clashes and conflicts, even if there are provocations from the other side. We know it for definite that the Indian intelligence is very active over here. Directly and indirectly they are trying to provoke the simple and innocent Sikhs, so that their image of being very disciplined and loyal citizens, is completely tarnished.

Jagjit Singh

On behalf of
Five Member Committee
Council of Khalistan.

Reference

Received from BBC

Quote by Dr Jagjit Singh Chauhan

Broadcast on BBC 9.00 news 31 October in
Michael Sullivan report.

"Let anybody who has done any sacrilege
to the holy place of the Sikhs, he must
never allow to live. And I am afraid
very soon you will see that somebody
somewhere, will kill Mrs Gandhi, her
whole family."

Report

Transmitted on.....

1'30"

Date..... 31st October 1984

Time..... 6 p.m.

L.....

Dr. Jayjit Singh (Chohan)

Short Title.....

Sue Lawley: Outside the Indian Embassy in London today some Sikhs were celebrating the death of Mrs. Gandhi, they said Mrs. Gandhi had to suffer just as the Sikhs suffered. They drank Champagne and they claimed their joy was a natural reaction. Nearly half the Indians in Britain are Sikhs, but they're not all sympathetic to the extremists' cause. Here's Bill Hamilton.

Bill Hamilton: Though they represent only a tiny minority of the population of India, the Sikhs are by far the largest of the Indian groupings in Britain. There are 300,000 of them, nearly half living and working in London. The other major centres of Sikh influence are all in the Midlands, in Birmingham, Coventry, Wolverhampton and Leicester. Most of the others are more evenly spread, with substantial communities in Nottingham and Derby, Manchester, Liverpool and Bradford in the North, and about 7,000 in Scotland, mainly in Glasgow and Edinburgh. Astute and hard-working, many Sikhs have built up highly successful businesses here, mainly in the cash and carry, clothing and hotel trades. But in an uncharacteristic show of anger, 30,000 of them converged on London last June to demonstrate their fury at the Indian Government's storming of the Golden Temple. Many wore yellow bands around their turbans, a sign they were willing to go to India and die for their cause, the setting up of an independent Sikh State called Kalistan. They even set up a government in exile, under their leader Dr. Jayjit Singh.

His reaction today to Mrs. Gandhi's assassination:

Dr. Singh: It was her due, she deserved it, and I said it on 13th June in this room to the whole press, that anybody who has invaded the sacred place of the Sikhs, has never been allowed to live a life. I don't think any Sikh was just..going to give..just lying down. I mean, something had to happen, but I am surprised it happened after five months.

B. Hamilton: The voices of militancy and moderation. But on one

thing almost all British Sikhs agree, the storming of the Golden Temple was an unforgivable act, and one which one day had to be avenged. "

...ooOoo...

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TO IMMEDIATE NEW DELHI
TELEGRAM NUMBER 802 OF 6 NOVEMBER
MIPT: CHAUHAN

1. THE FOLLOWING ARE EXCERPTS OF TRANSCRIPT OF AN INTERVIEW ON RADIO LONDON AT 1628 GMT ON 31 OCTOBER.

REPORTER: CAN YOU TALK ABOUT YOUR ORGANISATION FIRST? EXACTLY HOW MANY ARE THERE OF YOU IN BRITAIN?

DR CHAUHAN: ALMOST HALF-A-MILLION PEOPLE ARE LIVING IN ENGLAND.

REPORTER: WHO ARE SIKHS?

DR CHAUHAN: YES.

REPORTER: AND HOW MUCH CREDENCE DO YOU FEEL YOU HAVE?

DR CHAUHAN: WE HAVE GOT COMPLETE UNITY, AND ALL THE SIKH ORGANISATION IS SUPPORTING US.

REPORTER: BUT ISN'T IT BASICALLY YOU AS A DRIVING FORCE, AND A SMALL HANDFUL OF HELPERS? IN OTHER WORDS, YOU DON'T REALLY AMOUNT TO VERY MUCH, OR REPRESENT THE VAST MAJORITY OF SIKHS HERE IN ENGLAND?

DR CHAUHAN: WE REPRESENT AT THIS TIME ALMOST 98 PER CENT OF THE SIKHS LIVING IN ENGLAND.

REPORTER: HOW STRONG ARE THE TIES WITH THE SIKHS IN THE PUNJAB?

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DR CHAUHAN: WE ARE CONTINUOUSLY IN COMMUNICATION WITH OUR ORGANISATION BACK HOME.

REPORTER: WHEN DID YOU FIRST HEAR ABOUT THE ASSASSINATION OF MRS GANDHI?

DR CHAUHAN: EARLY MORNING.

REPORTER: THAT WAS ON THE NEWS BULLETINS, WAS IT?

DR CHAUHAN: NO (EXCLAMATION MARK). I GOT IT FROM NEW YORK, BY TELEPHONE CALL, FROM ANOTHER OFFICE IN NEW YORK.

REPORTER: IS YOUR ORGANISATION IN ANY WAY INVOLVED IN THIS ASSASSINATION?

DR CHAUHAN: NO, IT IS NOT INVOLVED IN ANY WAY. BUT THE ORGANISATION IN INDIA WHICH IS ALMOST AN INDEPENDENT COMMAND -- THEY MUST HAVE PLANNED IT.

REPORTER: YOU THINK IT WAS DELIBERATELY PLANNED?

DR CHAUHAN: IT HAD TO BE.

REPORTER: WAS THAT PLANNING DONE IN INDIA, OR WAS IT DONE HERE IN LONDON, OR NEW YORK?

DR CHAUHAN: NO, IT MUST HAVE BEEN PLANNED THERE, LOCALLY, BY THE COMMAND.

REPORTER: AND DID YOU KNOW ABOUT IT IN ADVANCE?

DR CHAUHAN: I TOLD IT ON THIRTEENTH OF JUNE 1984, RIGHT IN LONDON, AND I SAID, THIS THING IS GOING TO HAPPEN. THAT IS WHY I'M NOT SURPRISED, BECAUSE THE HISTORY OF THE SIKHS IS THAT ANYONE, HOWSOEVER STRONG HE MAY BE, WHO HAS DONE ANY

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SACRILEGE TO THE HOLY PLACE OF THE SIKHS HAS NEVER BEEN ALLOWED TO LIVE LIFE IN THIS WORLD -- THAT IS THE WHOLE HISTORY.

REPORTER: AND YET, THE FIVE HIGH PRIESTS OF THE GOLDEN TEMPLE IN AMRITSAR ITSELF HAVE TODAY CONDEMNED THE KILLING OF MRS GANDHI.

DR CHAUHAN: THEY ARE TIMID, AND THEY DON'T REPRESENT THE REAL SENTIMENTS OF THE SIKHS. THEY ALREADY HAVE BEEN CONDEMNED BY THE VAST MAJORITY OF THE SIKHS, HERE, LIVING IN UK, AND ALSO IN INDIA.

REPORTER: DO I TAKE IT FROM THIS CONVERSATION THAT YOU APPROVE OF POLITICAL ASSASSINATION?

DR CHAUHAN: NO. THERE'S NO QUESTION OF APPROVING. ONCE YOU SOW SOMETHING YOU HAVE TO REAP IT.

REPORTER: WELL, LET ME TURN THAT QUESTION ROUND ANOTHER WAY. DO YOU CONDEMN POLITICAL ASSASSINATION?

DR CHAUHAN: I, MYSELF, AM A PACIFIST -- I DON'T BELIEVE IN VIOLENCE -- BUT I ALSO BELIEVE THAT ONE SHOULD NOT DO ANY AGGRESSION, BUT ONE SHOULD REACT TO THE AGGRESSIVE. AND I THINK THE SIKHS HAVE REACTED VERY RIGHTLY TO WHAT MRS GANDHI HAD DONE TO THOSE INNOCENT PEOPLE. AND EVEN TO THE LAST MOMENT SHE WAS NOT ASHAMED OF THAT ACT.

REPORTER: WE WERE HEARING EARLIER A REPORT FROM SOUTHALL WHERE TODAY FIREWORKS WERE BEING LET OFF IN THE STREETS, CHAMPAGNE WAS BEING OPENED, AND PEOPLE WERE CELEBRATING THE DEATH OF MRS GANDHI. CAN YOU SERIOUSLY CONDONE THOSE ACTIONS?

DR CHAUHAN: YES. I ALREADY HAD ADVISED ALMOST ALL THE COMMUNITY

IN THIS EARLY MORNING -- THEY JUST CALLED ME -- AND I TOLD THEM TO CONVEY MY MESSAGE TO ALL THE PEOPLE IN ENGLAND, ESPECIALLY THE SIKHS AND YOUNG PEOPLE THAT THEY SHOULD NOT CELEBRATE THAT, BUT INSTEAD OF THAT THEY SHOULD PRAY, SIT HOME, RECITE THE HOLY AND THANK THE LORD. AND JUST THEY SHOULD GATHER MORE STRENGTH SO THAT THEY CAN GET MORE JUSTICE IN INDIA.

REPORTER: SO YOU DON'T APPROVE OF WHAT WAS HAPPENING IN SOUTHALL TODAY WITH THE CHAMPAGNE CORKS AND THE FIREWORKS?

DR CHAUHAN: NO. I AM SAD ACTUALLY AT THIS DEATH, BUT AT THE SAME TIME I CAN'T CONDEMN IT, BECAUSE THIS WAS DUE. AND I COULD FORESEE IT SIX MONTHS AGO.
END OF TEXT

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TO IMMEDIATE NEW DELHI

TELEGRAM NUMBER 803 OF 6 NOVEMBER.

MIPT: CHAUHAN

1. THE FOLLOWING IS THE TRANSCRIPT OF AN INTERVIEW ON RADIO LONDON 'RUSH HOUR' PROGRAMME, 31 OCTOBER.

DR CHAUHAN: THE REACTION I HAVE BEEN GETTING, CALLS FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD, FROM ALL ORGANISATIONS OF THE SIKHS AND THEY REALLY FEEL THAT THE JUSTICE HAS BEEN DONE TO MRS GANDHI. WHAT SHE HAD DONE TO THE SIKHS ON 6 JUNE, SHE HAS BEEN PUNISHED FOR THAT.

REPORTER: MRS GANDHI IS NOW GRAVELY ILL AND YOU SAY YOU SUPPORT THE ATTEMPTED ASSASSINATION.

DR CHAUHAN: THERE IS NO QUESTION OF SUPPORTING OR OPPOSING IT. THE QUESTION IS AS I TOLD ON 3 JUNE TO THE BBC INTERVIEW THAT YOU REMEMBER AND I HAD SAID THAT ANYONE WHO HAS EVER TRIED TO DO SACRILEGE TO THIS HOLY PLACE OF THE SIKHS HAS NEVER BEEN ALLOWED TO LIVE A LIFE AND AT THAT TIME MY STATEMENT WAS NOT TAKEN SERIOUSLY BUT NOW YOU HAVE SEEN THE RESULTS. I TOLD YOU IT WAS A NATURAL CONSEQUENCE WHICH HAS FOLLOWED.

REPORTER: DO YOU KNOW WHETHER SIKHS WERE RESPONSIBLE OR NOT FOR THIS ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT?

DR CHAUHAN: 'NO (INDISTINCT) ... SIKHS SHOULD BE RESPONSIBLE, THEY ARE RESPONSIBLE AND WE TAKE THE RESPONSIBILITY. THERE IS

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NO PROBLEM ABOUT THAT.

REPORTER: NOW YOU WERE TELLING ME THAT YOU GOT THE NEWS OF THIS ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT VERY EARLY THIS MORNING BEFORE EVEN MANY OF US HERE AT THE BBC. HOW DID YOU GET THE NEWS OF IT?

DR CHAUHAN: WE GOT IT FROM THE UNDERGROUND HEADQUARTERS OF OUR MILITARY COMMAND SOMEWHERE IN THAT REGION.

REPORTER: DID YOU GET WORD THAT THIS ATTEMPT WAS GOING TO BE MADE BEFORE THE SHOTS WERE FIRED?

DR CHAUHAN: NO. ACTUALLY NOT. AND ONLY AS SOON AS IT HAPPENED AND THE THING HAD SUCCEEDED. SOMEBODY PHONED ME FROM THE HIGH COMMAND.

REPORTER: WHAT REACTION WILL THERE BE NOW? MRS GANDHI IS NOT YET DEAD. DO YOU THINK THAT A FURTHER ATTEMPT WILL BE MADE ON HER LIFE ASSUMING THAT SHE SURVIVES?

DR CHAUHAN: NO. THERE IS NO QUESTION. I DON'T THINK SHE WILL SURVIVE BUT I TELL YOU THE SIKHS WILL TAKE THE REVENGE UNLESS AND UNTIL ALL THESE WHO ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR THESE BARBARIC ACTIONS OF KILLING THOUSANDS OF INNOCENT WOMEN AND CHILDREN THEY REPENT AND THEY JUST TRY TO CALM DOWN THE SIKHS, THE SIKHS WILL NOT SIT IN PEACE.

REPORTER: DO YOU THINK THIS EXTENSION OF VIOLENCE IS GOING TO DO THE DEMOCRATIC PROCESS IN INDIA ANY GOOD AT ALL? -

DR CHAUHAN: ACTUALLY, THERE WILL BE NO DEMOCRATIC PROCESS AND THERE IS NO DEMOCRATIC PROCESS. AS YOU HAVE SEEN IN PUNJAB NO FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS ARE ALLOWED TO VISIT. NOBODY IS ALLOWED TO GO TO THE COURT. WHERE IS THE RULE OF LAW? WHERE IS THE DEMOCRACY? THIS IS ALL FARCE IN INDIA AND MRS GANDHI HAS BEEN FEEDING THE WORLD WITH ALL THIS WRONG INFORMATION. AND PEOPLE

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HAS BEEN TRYING TO PLEASE HER BY SAYING 'HELLO, HELLO' AND GOOD TO HER. SHE HAS BEEN DOING ALL UNDEMOCRATIC THINGS. THERE WAS NEVER REAL DEMOCRACY IN INDIA. END OF TEXT.

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TELEGRAM NUMBER 778 OF 2 NOVEMBER

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YOUR TELNO 867: UK SIKH REACTION TO MRS GANDHI'S MURDER

1. MIPT: FOLLOWING ARE TEXTS OF REMARKS MADE BY CHAUHAN, BROADCAST ON VARIOUS TV NEWS PROGRAMME ON 31 OCTOBER.
2. BBC TV NEWS AT 1800:
QUOTE 'IT WAS HER (MRS GANDHI'S) DUE, SHE DESERVED IT, AND I SAID IT ON 13TH JUNE IN THIS ROOM TO THE WHOLE PRESS, THAT ANYBODY WHO HAS INVADED THE SACRED PLACE OF THE SIKHS, HAS NEVER BEEN ALLOWED TO LIVE A LIFE. I DON'T THINK ANY SIKH WAS JUST ... GOING TO GIVE ... UST LYING DOWN. I MEAN, SOMETHING HAD TO HAPPEN, BUT I AM SURPRISED IT HAPPENED AFTER FIVE MONTHS.' UNQUOTE.
3. BBC TV NEWS AT 2100: (REBROADCAST OF CHAUHAN'S STATEMENT IN JUNE)
QUOTE 'LET ANYBODY WHO HAS DONE ANY SACRILEGE TO THE HOLY PLACE OF THE SIKHS, HE MUST NEVER ALLOW TO LIVE. AND I AM AFRAID VERY SOON YOU WILL SEE THAT SOMEBODY SOMEWHERE, WILL KILL MRS GANDHI, HER WHOLE FAMILY.' UNQUOTE.
4. CHANNEL 4 TV NEWS AT 1900. FOLLOWING IS BRIEF INTERVIEW WITH CHAUHAN:
CHAUHAN: SIKHS WILL NEVER FORGET IT, WHAT HAS BEEN DONE TO THEM AND IT IS STILL NOT OVER, IT IS ONLY THE BEGINNING...
INTERVIEWER: SO WHO ELSE IS A TARGET? IS MRS GANDHI'S SON A

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TARGET FOR EXAMPLE?

CHAUHAN: ... I WANT TO SPECIFICALLY SAY THAT HE'S DEFINITELY
A TARGET AND HE SHOULD BE CAREFUL, I TELL YOU.

INTERVIEWER: WHAT ABOUT THE PRESIDENT WHO IS HIMSELF A SIKH?

CHAUHAN: I THINK THE PRESIDENT MAY NOT BE THE IMMEDIATE AIM
BUT IF HE APOLOGISES, IF HE SATISFIES THE SIKHS THAT HE WAS NOT
RESPONSIBLE FOR ORDERING THIS ATTACK, GOES TO ? CALCUTTA
(? INDISTINCT) AND APOLOGISES FROM THE WHOLE NATION, PERHAPS HE
MAY BE EXCUSED.

INTERVIEWER: WHAT WILL IT ACTUALLY TAKE TO END THE VIOLENCE?

CHAUHAN: CREATION OF KHALISTAN BY VERY PEACEFUL MEANS AND
GIVING SIKHS THEIR DUE. THAT IS THE ONLY SOLUTION, THERE IS
NOTHING LESS THAN THAT WHICH THE SIKHS WILL ACCEPT.

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TELEGRAM NUMBER 789 OF 3 NOV

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FOR PRIME MINISTER'S PARTY TO SEE BEFORE DEPARTURE.

1. YOU SHOULD BE AWARE THAT REUTERS AND ASSOCIATED PRESS CARRIED THE FOLLOWING REPORTS AT 031725Z AND 031738Z RESPECTIVELY.
2. BEGINS.

THE EXILED HEAD OF THE SECESSIONIST SIKH REPUBLIC SAID TODAY THAT ASSASSINATED INDIAN LEADER INDIRA GANDHI DESERVED TO DIE AND HER SON AND SUCCESSOR RAJIV WOULD SUFFER THE SAME FATE.

JAGJIT SINGH CHAUHAN, PRESIDENT OF THE SELF-STYLED REPUBLIC OF KHALISTAN, TOLD A LONDON NEWS CONFERENCE: WE WILL NOT PRAY FOR HER ...SHE EARNED IT.

HE SAID RAJIV GANDHI WAS AN ACCOMPLICE TO THE STORMING BY INDIAN TROOPS IN JUNE ON HIS MOTHERS ORDERS OF THE GOLDEN TEMPLE, THE SIKHS HOLIEST SHRINE.

BUT HE STRESSED THAT HE WAS NOT INCITING SIKHS TO ASSASSINATE THE NEW INDIAN LEADER. I AM NOT INSTIGATING PEOPLE ... I AM SIMPLY TELLING YOU A HISTORICAL FACT.

HE SAID: SIKHS WILL NOT ALLOW TO LIVE THOSE WHO COMMIT SACRILEGE AGAINST THEIR HOLY PLACES. SIKHS WILL NEVER REST UNLESS AND UNTIL THEY TAKE REVENGE, AND THEY ALWAYS HAVE DONE. IT IS THE HISTORY OF THE SIKHS.

REFERRING TO COMMUNAL VIOLENCE THAT FOLLOWED MRS GANDHIS MURDER BY TWO SIKH BODYGUARDS, CHAUHAN SAID HINDUS WERE EXTERMINATING SIKHS AND HE ACCUSE RAJIV OF BEING PARTY TO THIS.

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TELEGRAM NUMBER 784 OF 2 NOVEMBER

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MIPT: UK SIKH REACTION TO MRS GANDHI'S DEATH: INDIAN HIGH
COMMISSION NOTE

1. TEXT OF GUARDIAN ARTICLE ON 1 NOVEMBER IS AS FOLLOWS:

BEGINS:

SECURITY OFFICIALS IN BRITAIN AND INDIA ARE TAKING SERIOUSLY THE WARNING OF A TERRORIST CAMPAIGN AIMED AT THE NEW PRIME MINISTER, MR RAJIV GANDHI, TO BE UNDERTAKEN BY AN UNDERGROUND GROUP CALLING THEMSELVES THE KHALISTAN COMMANDO FORCES.

THE WARNING WAS ISSUED IN LONDON BY THE SIKH GROUP'S EXILED LEADER, DR JAGJIT SINGH CHAUHAN, WHO SAID HE HAD BEEN IN DIRECT CONTACT WITH KCF HEADQUARTERS IN INDIA. THE REACTION IN NEW DELHI, AFTER EXCERPTS FROM THE STATEMENT HAD BEEN BROADCAST ON THE BBC WORLD SERVICE, IS THAT THE SECURITY SERVICES REGARD THE DANGER AS REAL, RATHER THAN AN EMPTY THREAT.

DR CHAUHAN DECLARED THAT 'A FEELING OF ELATION IS SWEEPING THROUGH THE SIKH COMMUNITY IN BRITAIN' AFTER THE NEWS OF THE ASSASSINATION. HE ADDED: 'MRS GANDHI HAD TO SUFFER JUST AS THE SIKHS SUFFERED.'

THE KEY SENTENCES IN THE KCF STATEMENT ARE: 'ALL THOSE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE MASSACRE OF THOUSANDS OF INNOCENT WOMEN AND CHILDREN DURING THE ASSAULT ON THE GOLDEN TEMPLE WILL BE TAKEN CARE OF BY THE KHALISTAN COMMANDO FORCES. ALL THOSE OFFICERS RESPONSIBLE FOR MURDERING YOUNG SIKH PEOPLE COLD-BLOODEDLY IN THE VILLAGES SHOULD ALSO BE READY TO FACE THE CONSEQUENCES OF

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THEIR ACTIONS.'

DR CHAUHAN LEADS A GROUP CLAIMING TO HAVE FORMED THE GOVERNMENT-
IN-EXILE OF WHAT THEY CALL THE SIKH REPUBLIC OF KHALISTAN, WITH
HIMSELF AS PRESIDENT-DESIGNATE. REFERRING TO THE INDIAN ARMY
ACTION TO TAKE OVER THE TEMPLE AT AMRITSAR IN JUNE, WHICH WAS
ORDERED BY MRS GANDHI, HE SAID THE NEW CAMPAIGN MARKS THE START
OF A MOVEMENT TO 'WIPE OUT' THOSE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE BLOODBATH
AT THE GOLDEN TEMPLE. ENDS
2. SEE MIFT.

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PG SEVEN

PRESENTER:

AND THAT REPORT WAS RECORDED A FEW MINUTES
AGO BEFORE FIRST NEWS CAME THROUGH THAT MRS
GANDHI HAD DIED. THOSE REPORTS THOUGH ARE
STILL UNCONFIRMED.

ALSO IN LBC RADIO INTERVIEW ON WEDNESDAY, 31ST OCTOBER
AMONGST OTHERS INTERVIEWED DR. CHOCHAN SPOKE THE FOLLOWING
PARAGRAPH:

DR. J JAGJIT SINGH CHOCHAN:

I GOT SO MANY TELEPHONE CALLS THIS MORNING AND I HAVE
ADVISED ALL THE SIKHS AND AGAIN I, THROUGH YOU, PASS
THIS MESSAGE TO THEM THAT THEY SHOULD THANK THE LORD,
AND PRAY AT THEIR HOMES, NOT BE JUBILANT, AND THEY SHOULD
THINK MORE SERIOUSLY FOR THE NEXT MOVE WHICH WE HAVE TO
DO TO CREATE OUR INDEPENDENT STATE OF KHALISTAN.

END

HS
DANCE IN
STREETS

Telegraph Reporter
Sikhs in Southall, Middlesex, celebrated the news of Mrs Gandhi's death by lighting fireworks, handing Asian sweets to passers-by, and singing and dancing in impromptu street celebrations.

As the word of the assassination spread a crowd gathered around the Southall Sikh Temple, in Havelock Road. Twice a 50-strong demonstration snaked off through the London suburb's narrow streets, past the array of Indian supermarkets and grocers' shops.

Some Sikhs chanted a warning to the President of India: "Zail Singh, you are next."

A week ago the Sikhs of Southall were in sombre mood, refusing to celebrate the religious festival of Diwali because of the "desecration" of the Golden Temple at Amritsar when it was stormed by Indian troops.

But yesterday Mrs Mohinder Dev, 55, of Heston, who was marching with her three young children, said: "We are celebrating instead today. This is our Diwali."

Police guard

Police stood on guard outside the Hindu temple, 400 yards from the Sikhs' meeting place.

While most Asians greeted the marchers warmly with smiles and occasionally clenched fist salutes, there were occasional hisses and jeers.

Outside the Maharaja Super Stores, a group of Mrs Gandhi's Congress party supporters gathered in a mood of shock.

"It is terribly sad," said Kalhan Darshan Lal, 52, owner of the supermarket. "It shows there is a new violent trend in India."

He said community leaders would be working hard to try to prevent trouble, but "the provocation will be there."

Mr Jaswanand Singh Thekedar 37, who came to Britain two years ago after fleeing from India, where he was a leader of the banned Dakhalsa party who are campaigning for a Sikh state, said: "There will be more violence. It is the only way to freedom."

He had the readiest answer to criticism of rejoicing over a murder. "Well, you celebrated the death of Hitler, didn't you?" he said.

Plea for calm

The Indian High Commissioner, Mr Prakash Mehrotra, led Indian community leaders in appealing to their 600,000 fellow countrymen living in Britain to remain calm in the wake of the assassination of Mrs Gandhi.

Mr Mehrotra added that several prominent Sikh leaders had contacted him during the day to send their condolences and reinforced his appeal for calm.

Mr Harcharan Singh, of the Supreme Council of Sikhs UK, described the assassination as the "act of a coward" but added that he was not surprised by it.

Mr Mohinder Bedi, convenor of the Federation of Asian leaders, made his own "passionate and humble" appeal for calm.

"There may be provocation here and there but I do not want the Sikh or Hindu communities to get involved with the British law because law and order in this country must be upheld despite what is happening in the Punjab or New Delhi."

Home Office talks

Mr Bedi had an emergency meeting with Mr David Waddington, Minister of State at the Home Office.

Mr Kirpal Singh Sihra, Chancellor of the Sikh Commonwealth, representing Sikhs in 59 countries, spoke of his sadness at the assassination.

"Mrs Gandhi's assassination is a symptom of the deep frustration not only of the 15 million Sikhs living in India but of the many other national groups within India."

"Peaceful solution must be found and will be found. Perhaps Mrs Gandhi's death will focus attention on the need for such a solution."

Dr Jagjit Singh the exiled Sikh leader who has led a campaign from Britain for an independent state of Khalistan in the Punjab, said yesterday, that his prediction of Mrs Gandhi's death had come true and said her son, Rajiv, would suffer the same fate.

But, while calling for the struggle for independence to continue in the Punjab, he appealed to Britain's Sikhs to keep violence off the streets of Britain.

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SAD

Gandhi's son is PM after murder

SAD

By CHRIS MYANT

INDIRA GANDHI'S son Rajiv took over as Prime Minister of India yesterday within hours of his mother's assassination by Sikh members of her heavily armed police bodyguard.

As darkness fell in the Indian capital Delhi, crowds poured out of the city's vast slums to express their anger and grief at the murder of the country's dominant political figure for the past two decades.

Coming just two months or so before general elections and with the ruling Congress Party increasingly beleaguered and split, her murder plunged the country of 700 million into crisis.

Her son was politically inactive until the death four years ago of his brother Sanjay, then seen as Mrs. Gandhi's successor. The degree to which he will hold the policies of his mother is not known.

Though increasingly adopting repressive and right-wing policies at home, Mrs. Gandhi was the current chair of the Non-Aligned Movement and a powerful, progressive figure internationally on the Third World and United Nations stages.

In particular she has pursued a policy of close friendship with the Soviet Union. Government and Congress Party sources this year accused the CIA of trying to get her removed.

Several cities throughout the country were brought to a virtual halt yesterday by masses of mourners taking to the streets.

But in the Sikh state of the Punjab in India's north-west the army was put on the alert and sealed the border with neighbouring Pakistan.

In the Sikh holy city of Amritsar, site of the Golden Temple stormed by the army in June on Mrs. Gandhi's orders, the five Sikh high priests condemned the killing and called on all Sikhs to maintain communal harmony.

The temple had been taken over by hundreds of armed followers of Sikh nationalist leader Jarnail Singh Bhindranwale, initially a protege of Mrs. Gandhi's local supporters.

When the Delhi government refused to make any concessions toward the Sikh demands for a

separate Sikh state and constitutional recognition of the Sikhs as a separate religion, Bhindranwale turned to communal violence.

Mrs. Gandhi was shot at close range by two Sikh members of the Delhi Armed Special Constabulary — Besant Singh and Satwant Singh. One of them was reported to have been a member of the Prime Ministerial bodyguard for eight years.

The other had only returned from two months away on leave in the Punjab on Monday. He apparently spent his time in the Sikh Gurdaspur district of the state where supporters of Bhindranwale have a strong following.

Rajiv's takeover continues an almost unbroken tradition of family leadership of the party which took India to independence in 1947 under Mrs. Gandhi's father Jawarhalal Nehru.

His father had been the leader of the party earlier in the century, but since the '30s the leadership has been held by Nehru, Mrs. Gandhi and now Rajiv with a break of only two years in the mid '60s.

His younger brother Sanjay was the clear heir apparent until he died while stunt flying a light plane over the Indian capital in 1980. Rajiv then gave up his job as an Air India pilot and entered the Delhi parliament the following year.

As tributes flowed into Delhi from around the world, Soviet leader Konstantin Chernenko sent a personal telegram to the new Prime Minister.

"In these sorrowful days the Soviet leadership once again stresses the invariable desire of the Soviet Union to strengthen friendly relations with the republic of India," Mr. Chernenko said in his message.

In Britain, progressive Indian community and workers leaders condemned the murder and called for calm. Some Sikh nationalists welcomed the killing. Speaking as the head of the Sikh "Government of Kalistan in Exile," Dr. Jagjit Singh Chowhan said more deaths would follow.

BACKLASH

TEMPLES BURNED BY GANDHI'S AVENGEERS

ERCE rioting flared across India last night after Premier Mrs Indira Gandhi was shot dead by her own Sikh bodyguards.

Mrs Gandhi, who had ruled the nation for a total of 15 years, was gunned down as she left her bungalow in New Delhi. Within hours of her murder her younger son Rajiv was sworn in as Prime Minister.

He went on radio to appeal for calm. But among the Hindu and Sikh communities last night his plea fell on deaf ears.

Sikh-owned shops and temples were attacked, looted and burned. In cities throughout India Sikhs were driven by violent mobs to seek protection from the army and police.

Riots flared in Delhi—where Mrs. Gandhi was shot—and in Calcutta, Bombay, Lucknow and Madras.

IN BRITAIN police were alerted for fear of trouble in Indian communities in London, the Midlands and the North.

Injured

Many Sikhs were out celebrating. Dr. Jagjit Singh, president in exile of the self-styled Republic of Khalistan, said: "Mrs. Gandhi earned her death—it was long overdue."

In London's Southall district Sikhs were letting off fireworks, breaking open bottles of champagne and handing out sweets to passers-by.

In India mobs were on

By NICHOLAS DAVIES

the streets. Hindu youths screaming "Revenge, revenge!" rampaged through Bombay, stoning Sikhs and burning Sikh temples.

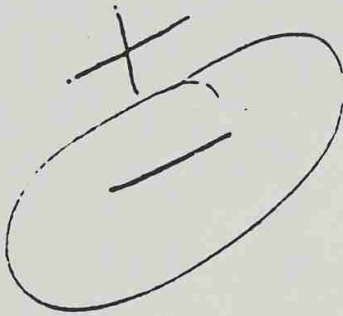
Police in Calcutta reported that many people had been taken to hospitals. Police were called out to guard hospitals treating Sikhs to stop the Hindu mobs from storming the wards.

In many cities all traffic came to a halt as drivers left their cars to listen to radios.

Police made hourly appeals for calm. But the violence went on.

Tributes flowed from world leaders. But there was no remorse in Britain's Sikh communities.

One Sikh in Southall said bluntly: "We had a fundamental right to execute Mrs Gandhi. This was the only way justice could be done."



Golden Temple of doom

THE LIFE of Mrs Gandhi was in danger the moment the Indian army began storming the Sikhs Golden Temple in Amritsar on June 1.

For months militant Sikhs had been massing weapons, ammunition and food in the shrine.

More than 2,500 men

inside the walls were determined to force Mrs Gandhi to grant independence to the Punjab so that the Sikhs could have a their own separate state from the Hindus.

The Queen is shocked

THE Queen said that she was profoundly shocked by Mrs Gandhi's death.

In a message to Indian President Zail Singh, she said: "The world and the Commonwealth has lost one of its most distinguished leaders." The Queen sent a private message of sympathy to Mrs Gandhi's son Rajiv.

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DIE TOO, SAYS SIKH

FSE 015/1

By DAVID MILLWARD

DR JAGJIT SINGH, London-based militant Sikh, defended yesterday remarks he made predicting the death of Mrs Gandhi which led the Director of Public Prosecutions to consider whether there were grounds for prosecuting him for incitement.

SAD

He also repeated a prediction that Mrs Gandhi's son Rajiv would suffer a similar fate.

Mrs Thatcher was reported to have disclosed over the weekend that action was not taken against Dr Singh because evidence was not found to warrant it.

PW

~~CHANDIAN~~

SIKH ASSASSINATOR

Soon after the Indian Army stormed the Sikhs' Golden Temple in Amritsar because it was sheltering terrorists Dr Singh, 57, called a Press conference at which he said the death of Mrs Gandhi was inevitable.

'Fact of history'

"What I said was that nobody who had ever done anything sacriligious to a holy place of the Sikhs had ever been allowed to live in this world," Dr Singh said yesterday.

"As Mrs Gandhi had invaded the Golden Temple, she would not be allowed to live. That is a fact of history.

Dr Singh claimed that Mr Rajiv Gandhi, the new Prime Minister of India, could avoid the same fate by apologising for the desecration of the temple and by negotiating with militant Sikhs for the establishment of Khalistan, an independent Sikh state in Punjab.

Mr Harcharan Singh, general secretary of the Council of Sikhs in Britain, who according to a news agency report published in THE DAILY TELEGRAPH was quoted as describing Mrs Gandhi's assassination as the "act of a coward," said yesterday he was misreported.

He added: "The killing of Mrs Gandhi was on the cards from the day her troops stormed the Golden Temple, the holiest shrine of the Sikhs, and murdered thousands of innocent children, women, and men. She had to pay for this unpardonable crime."

CONFIDENTIAL

PROSECUTION OF DR CHAUHAN

Dr Chauhan achieved public prominence last year when in June he announced that he had set up "a Government in exile" in London. He is the self-proclaimed President of the "Republic of Khalistan", and he said that the "Government in exile" would press for the creation of an independent Sikh state (Khalistan) in the Punjab.

2. Indian Government concern about Dr Chauhan's activities here was precipitated by the press statement attributed to his organisation (the Khalistan National Organisation) in June last year (flagged A). This alleged press release, signed in the name of one Mehtab Singh, stated that the organisation had offered a £50,000 reward for Mrs Gandhi or her son Rajiv, dead or alive. This was followed by an article in a British Indian language newspaper, the Daily Jang (flagged B), which stated that Dr Chauhan had offered a reward for the head of Mrs Gandhi. Following this, on 12 June, Dr Chauhan was interviewed on the BBC Radio 4 programme "World at One" (transcript flagged C). In this interview he predicted that Mrs Gandhi and her family would be beheaded by Sikhs.

3. Dr Chauhan has continued to receive publicity, particularly at the time of Mrs Gandhi's assassination. Since the time of the Daily Jang article the Metropolitan Police have carefully examined the public remarks of Dr Chauhan, and the remarks attributed to him, in press articles etc. So far, however, their conclusion, arrived at after due consultation with the Director of Public Prosecutions and the Attorney General, has been that none of the remarks of which they are aware provides sufficient grounds for prosecution of Dr Chauhan.

4. The most serious charges that have been considered in relation to Dr Chauhan's statements all relate to the possibility of his being involved with, or his statements resulting in serious offences being committed outside this country. They are as follows:

a) incitement to murder. Section 4 of the Offences Against the Person Act, 1861 makes it an offence to (in this country) "solicit, encourage, persuade or endeavour to persuade or propose to any person to murder any person whether he be a subject of Her Majesty or not, or whether he be within the Queen's dominions or not". It is thus an offence to incite another person to commit a murder abroad;

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b) conspiracy to commit murder abroad. Murder abroad is an offence indictable in this country if it is committed by a British citizen. In addition it is an offence under the Criminal Law Act 1977 for any person to conspire here to commit murder abroad, even if the murder, if actually committed abroad, would not be indictable in this country. Thus, although it is not an offence in English law for aliens to commit murder abroad, it is an offence for them, as well as for British citizens, to conspire here to do so;

c) The Internationally Protected Person Act 1978 implements the United Nations Convention on the prevention and punishment of crimes against internationally protected persons. It makes it an offence for a person, in the United Kingdom or elsewhere, whether a citizen of the United Kingdom or not, to attempt to commit or aid, abet, counsel or procure a number of offences - including murder, manslaughter, culpable homicide and kidnapping - against a protected person within the meaning of the Act (broadly, a head of state, or head of government or a diplomat).

5. The principal difficulty which the police have experienced is that Dr Chauhan is very careful not to say that he wishes violence to occur; he merely predicts that it will occur. The view of the police and the Director of Public Prosecutions is that Dr Chauhan's remarks, even at their worst, do not amount to solicitation or persuasion to murder and that in any case it is most unlikely that it would ever be possible to prove (short of a full admission) the necessary intent on the basis of the statements so far made by Dr Chauhan. A similar problem arises with the charges of conspiracy to murder. As regards the Internationally Protected Persons Act 1978, this would have applied to Mrs Gandhi only if she were outside India at the time that she was assassinated. Consideration has been given to the possibility of prosecution for two other serious offences:

d) under Section 5 of the Public Order Act 1936 it is an offence to use threatening, abusive or insulting words or behaviour in public, with intent to provoke a breach of the peace or by which a breach of the peace is likely to be occasioned;

e) Under Section 5A of the Public Order Act 1936 (inserted by Section 70 of the Race Relations Act 1976) a person commits an offence if:

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a) he publishes or distributes written matter which is threatening, abusive or insulting;

or

b) he uses in any public place or at any public meeting words which are threatening, abusive or insulting.

in a case where, having regard to all the circumstances, hatred is likely to be stirred up against any racial group in Great Britain by the matter or words in question.

However, so far Dr Chauhan has been careful to emphasise that he does not envisage or wish to see action being taken in this country which would be in breach of British laws and the conclusion of the prosecuting authorities has been that there are no grounds for a prosecution of Dr Chauhan for these or any other offences.

6. The police and ourselves remain on the look out for any further evidence which might provide a basis for prosecution of Dr Chauhan. The police, (though they do not make this public) have discussions with Dr Chauhan from time to time. They take the opportunity of such meetings to remind him of his responsibility to ensure that his activities remain within the law.

Home Office
50 Queen Anne's Gate

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English translation of an article which appeared in Des-Pardes issue no 821 dated 8.3.1985 on page 3; columns 1-2.

RAJIV GANDHI WILL REACH PARIS ON JUNE 6

6 JUNE WILL BE CELEBRATED AS A 'BLACK DAY' ANNOUNCEMENT BY AKALI DAL

SIKHS FROM EUROPE AND ENGLAND WILL DEMONSTRATE IN PARIS

New Delhi: According to the Foreign Ministry here Rajiv Gandhi will go on his first foreign tour on 6 June, 1985. He will spend 4 days there on the invitation of President Mitterand of France.

It may be a coincidence that last year on 6 June Indian Government destroyed Akal Takht on the holy land of Amritsar and murdered Sant Jarnail Singh Bhindrawala.

On 11 June he will go to Algeria for one day. Then he will go to Washington. On his return he will spend two days in Cairo the capital of Egypt. On June 18 he will address the International Labour Organisation in Geneva.

In Paris and Washington there will be speeches during Festival of India. Britain is not on his tour list. This may be because Rajiv Govt. thinks there are too many people in the U.K. ready to speak and shout for Sikhs. Also there is no programme to go to Soviet Russia.

According to information reaching Des-Pardes from Europe and America there will be large scale demonstrations against him both in Paris and Washington.

In Paris there are about 5,000 Sikhs. But Sikhs from Norway, Germany and Holland are reaching Paris in an organised way. All the Gurudwaras in the U.K. will be pressurised to hire coaches for Paris. If the Gurudwaras made arrangements for coaches about 10,000 sikhs with their wives and children will spend the weekend of 8-9 June in Paris. Some are working on the idea of chartering aerocrafts.

France was particularly involved in the spy scandal. It was, therefore, thought that the trip might be cancelled due to this. But Rajiv made a statement that spying was for technical machinery and not for Policy etc.

According to one news story 5 persons under arrest during the spy scandal have opted to change their earlier statements as these were obtained under extreme duress. According to Press Trust of India all were produced before a local Magistrate and their remand has been increased to 6 March. According to the news agency among the persons who have wished to change their statements include Press Secretary Mr. S. Sanka, Press Secretary of Giani Zail Singh and two officers from Mrs. Gandhi's office.

CONSPIRACY TO KILL RAJIV GANDHI IN PARIS?

New Delhi (Special Correspondant): A conspiracy is being hatched by Khalistanis to kill Rajiv Gandhi during his trip to Paris this year. Rajiv has to go to Paris to inaugrate the Festival of India. There is also programme to go to Geneva, Algeri and Cairo. Blitz has exposed this based on information received on telephone from Paris. According to the report if the Khalistanis are not successful in Paris in this assignment then they will try to complete it in the other capitals where Rajiv going. For this purpose Khalistanis have prepared murder squads for each capital. This person, who did not give his name and address, claimed that he is a Patriotic Sikh who lives in England. He claims to have infiltrated in the Khalistani ranks to find out their secret plans. Only to give this message he had to come to Paris from London because he feared it will be dangerous to give this news from London. You will recall that only after 3 hours of Mrs. Indira Gandhi's murder on 31 October 1984, the so called President of Khalistan Government Jagjit Singh Chauhan claimed that the murder was carried out by his men and he warned that other members of her family will be killed in the same way.

The message received by Blitz from Paris is like this ' Chauhan and his Cabinet have decided to send sikh terrorists to Paris, Geneva, Cairo and Algeri to murder Rajiv Gandhi. It is also possible that murder squads will also be sent to Bhutan and America where Rajiv is going later. Person telephoning said that this decision was taken at the Talbot Road Headquarter of Dr. Chauhan. On asking if he has informe the Indian High Commission in London- he replied ' for him to do this from London is full of dangers'. He claimed C.I.A. always keeps an eye on this High Commission. All information from this building of High Commission reaches Dr. Chauhan one way or the other. The person on the telephone claimed that it is possible that some staff of the High Commission might be taking out information and documents in the same way as documents were being removed from the Secretariat of the Prime Minister. The person claimed that he comes from a particular place in Punjab but this should not be published. He did not give his name and address. His English was in Punjabi style. His manner suggested that he was excited and worried. When asked as to why he telephoned only the Blitz- the person on the telephone said that he regularly reads Blitz in London and also because it was only Blitz which had been warning about the dangers to the life of Indira Gandhi even before the Army Action in Amritsar. He also said he buys Blitz from a particular shop in Southall. This person also said " these plans to murder Rajiv Gandhi are in the middle stages. Though this news was given to some newspapers in London but they did not print anything about this.

This person told that officers from Scotland Yard visited Talbot Road office some days back and some Americans also came to meet Dr. Chauhan. He claimed there are a lot of activities now a days at Talbot Road office. According to him this conspirac is being hatched as the Festival of India in Paris will be open to public during the inauguration ceremony. For this if someone disguises himself properly it will be possible for a future murderer to cheat the security forces who will not doubt his bonafides. He could reach close to the Prime Minister.

According to this person if the job could not be completed in Paris it will be attempted to complete it in Egypt or Algeria. According to information available there is close co-operation between Pakistani and Khalistani Intelligence and it will be difficult for them to use Muslim Fundamentalists in Cairo for this purpose. According to Blitz this information may be not be completely true but the objectives of Khalistanis in London are well known and are not secret. Dr. Jagjit Singh Chauhan had said after the murder of Mrs. Indira Gandhi that the work is not finished as yet. Keeping all these things in mind the people responsible for the security of the Prime Minister are actively working to provide adequate security. We have learnt that the Indian Government is pressuring the British and French Government to arrest all the Khalistanis. The Government is demanding to keep an eye for all suspicious persons arriving from London, America, Canada and West Germany and all coming to the festival should be searched and enquired. Pressure is being put on the French Government that if Jagjit Singh Chauhan or other Khalistanis came to Paris these should be arrested and handed over to the Indian Govt. We have learnt that the Indian Govt. is taking this very seriously and advance teams are being sent to those places where Rajiv Gandhi will be going to assess the situation.

Prime Minister in 1947, and his independence in 1947, and his father Motilal, had been one of the country's outstanding nationalist leaders. "As a child," she said not so long ago, "all my games were political games. I was Joan of Arc, perpetually being burned at the stake."

Her father, who had worked closely with Mahatma Gandhi and led his country for 17 years, was a philosopher and thinker. Mrs Gandhi, by contrast, was a woman of action who relied keenly on political instinct rather than deep thoughts.

She sought, despite an innate shyness and a certain

1967; at her death, she was 66 years old.

Her international reputation reached its peak in March last year, when she took her place, in succession to Dr Fidel Castro of Cuba, as chairman of the Non-aligned Movement. Her ostensible aim had been to steer the movement on a course between the super-powers. If she also appeared, on India's behalf, to favour closer relations with the Soviet Union, it was because the Russians tended to go along with her view of the importance of India.

its strongholds in West Bengal and Andhra Pradesh. These clashes were followed by violence in the north-eastern state of Assam, when about 3,000 people died in mainly racial incidents.

In the Punjab, despite Congress rule, the opposition party of Sikh Akali Dal stepped up its demands for religious and political autonomy. This movement reached its climax in June, when, on Mrs Gandhi's orders, the Indian army stormed the Sikh shrine of the Golden Temple at Amritsar. Possibly thou-

later at Oxford (she went after failing prelims times), disappointed by her. During her year in Britain, in the late 1950s, she struck Nehru's friend the British labour minister as "shy and mousy."

Her marriage in 1942 to Mr Feroze Gandhi, he demonstrated that India was no mere appendage to her father, Feroze (no relation to Mahatma Gandhi) a lower middle-class Indira's marriage to

'Human qualities'

COMMISSION

SOMBRELY dressed in Indian mourning clothes, a black Nehru cap, black achkan jacket and tightly-fitting white lung pyjamas, the Indian High Commissioner in London Mr Prakash Mehrotra paid tribute yesterday to Mrs Gandhi.

She was his friend as well as his prime minister. Their families, both prominent in the country's independence movement, have been close since before either was born.

"In my official words to my countrymen here in the United Kingdom, I have spoken of her courage and strength," he said. "But she had very great human qualities and very feminine ones as well."

Mr Mehrotra emphasised Mrs Gandhi's commitment to a united India in his statement to Indians in the United Kingdom.

"On this very sad occasion, we can do no better honour to our departed Prime Minister than to stand up as one people with one voice," he said. "I do not have the slightest doubt that the people of India will emerge from this situation with a determination to keep the country strong."

Mr Mehrotra, who was told of the murder at 5.30 am yesterday by an Indian correspondent in London, was speaking at a press conference attended by Sikh members of his staff. He said that he had received phone calls of sympathy from Sikh leaders in Britain and that the priest of one London temple had called at the High Commission to pay his respects.

Mrs Thatcher was one of the first to sign a book of condolences, opened between two half-mast Indian flags under portraits of Mrs Gandhi's father, Mr Nehru, and fellow-victim of an assassin, Mahatma Gandhi.

Terror warning

SECURITY

SECURITY officials in Britain and India are taking seriously the warning of a terrorist campaign aimed at the new Prime Minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, to be undertaken by an underground group calling themselves the Kalistan Commando Forces.

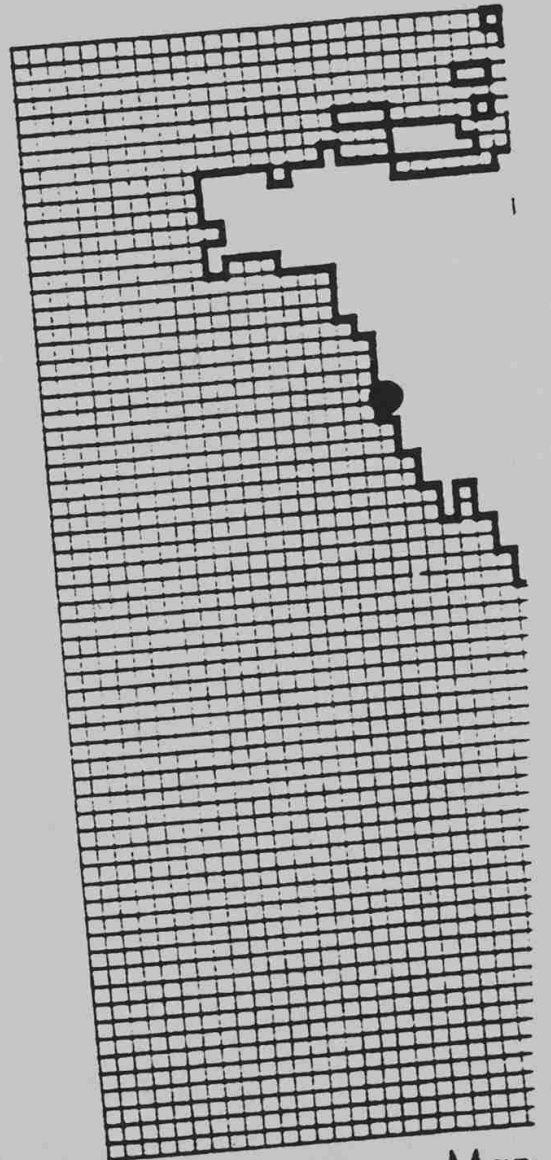
The warning was issued in London by the Sikh group's exiled leader, Dr Jagjit Singh Chohan, who said he had been in direct contact with KCF headquarters in India. The reaction in New Delhi, after excerpts from the statement had been broadcast on the BBC World Service, is that the security services regard the danger as real, rather than an empty threat.

Dr Chohan declared that "a feeling of elation is sweeping through the Sikh community in Britain" after the news of the assassination. He added: "Mrs Gandhi had to suffer just as the Sikhs suffered."

The key sentences in the KCF statement are: "All those responsible for the massacre of thousands of innocent women and children during the assault on the Golden Temple will be taken care of by the Kalistan Commando Forces. All those officers responsible for murdering young Sikh people cold-bloodedly in the villages should also be ready to face the consequences of their actions."

Dr Chohan leads a group claiming to have formed the government-in-exile of what they call the Sikh Republic of Kalistan, with himself as president-designate. Referring to the Indian army action to take over the temple at Amritsar in June, which was ordered by Mrs Gandhi, he said the new campaign marks the start of a movement to "wipe out" those responsible for the bloodbath at the Golden Temple.

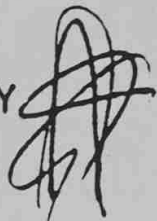
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COMMUNICATIONS RECEIVED FROM UNDERGROUND HEAD QUARTERS OF KHALISTAN MILITARY
COMMAND.



"ALL THOSE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE MASSACRE OF THOUSANDS OF INNOCENT WOMEN AND CHILDREN, DURING THE INVASION OF GOLDEN TEMPLE IN AMRITSAR, WILL BE TAKEN CARE OF BY THE KHALISTAN COMMANDO FORCES. ALL THOSE OFFICERS WHO ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR MURDERING THOUSANDS OF YOUNG PEOPLE IN THE VILLAGES AND ARRESTING 'AMRIT DHARI' SIKHS WITHOUT ANY CAUSE SHOULD ALSO BE READY TO FACE THE CONSEQUENCES OF THEIR WRONG ACTIONS."

I AS THE PRESIDENT OF REPUBLIC OF KHALISTAN WARN ALL THOSE RULING KHALISTAN TERRITORIES, ILLEGALLY, NOT TO BEHAVE LIKE BARBARIANS BUT LIKE CIVILISED PEOPLE AND RESTORE THE RULE OF LAW IN THE STATE, OTHERWISE VERY SOON, THE GOVERNMENT OF REPUBLIC OF KHALISTAN WILL TAKE CARE OF THEM AND THEY WILL BE PUNISHED FOR THEIR HINEOUS CRIMES, ACCORDING TO THE REVOLUTIONARY LAWS OF REPUBLIC OF KHALISTAN...

Chauhan gang hatches...

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Plot to kill PM in Paris



JAGJIT CHAUHAN

• BLITZ Special

PARIS: LONDON-BASED TERRORISTS espousing the cause of the so-called "Khalistan" plan to despatch a "murder squad" to Paris to assassinate Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi when he visits France, this June, to inaugurate the Festival of India programme. The Khalistanis also plan to despatch similar squads to Geneva, Algiers and Cairo, where Rajiv will be proceeding this summer, in case of a slipup in Paris.

This shattering alert was conveyed to a BLITZ stringer in Paris by an anonymous phone-caller describing himself as "a patriotic Sikh worker in London". The informer, who asserted he had considerable knowledge of the activities of the "Khalistanis" in the UK, was calling not from London, but Paris itself.

BBC that the four murder had been the handiwork of his group, and went on to threaten the lives of Mrs. Gandhi's family members as well.

The message received by BLITZ in the informer's words, ran as follows: "Chauhan and his 'Cabinet' have decided to despatch Sikh terrorists to Paris, Geneva, Cairo and Algiers to assassinate Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi. The possibility of sending death squads to Bhutan and the United States (where, too, the PM will be going this summer) was also considered".

Decision taken at 'Khalistan House'

The caller said he had crossed the Channel just to transmit this message, as he had been too scared to do so from London. It may be recalled that barely three hours after the gunning down of Mrs Indira Gandhi, on October 31 last year, the self-styled "President of Khalistan", Jagjit Singh Chauhan, boasted on

According to the caller, the decision was taken at Chauhan's Headquarters in London's Talbert Road. Asked if he had informed the Indian High Commission in London of the impending threat, he reiterated his

EVEN while RAJIV GANDHI affectionately greets the Indian people for investing him for the second time with political authority to lead the States as well as the Centre, the foes of India abroad are plotting the Prime Minister's assassination...

9th MARCH 1985

115-155 105

FATAL BLOW SET FOR FESTIVAL!

Contd. from front page

stand, that it was too risky for him to do anything in London. Besides, he asserted, the Commission was watched and bugged by the US Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), and that any information conveyed to the mission would eventually reach Chauhan.

The caller also named the Punjab town from which he hailed, then begged that it not be mentioned under any circumstances. He gave no name or address, but spoke the familiar Punjabi-English Occasional incoherence betrayed his fear and agitated mental condition.

Why SOS to BLITZ?

When asked why he had contacted BLITZ particularly, the anonymous caller said he was a regular BLITZ reader in London, and had been motivated by the fact that it was this weekly which had repeatedly warned of a threat to Mrs. Gandhi's life months before the storming of the Golden Temple.

He referred convincingly to specific back issues of this journal, particularly to BLITZ of March 31, July 7 and July 14, 1984, which carried repeated warnings of an attempt on Mrs

Gandhi's life. He also mentioned the bookshelves and stores in London, and particularly South-alk, where BLITZ is sold.

The caller also clarified, that information about the plot to kill Rajiv, in its very initial stages, had been given to certain London-based newsmen as well, in January, but no part of it had appeared in the Indian press.

Festival in Paris: 'open function'

The informer mentioned that Scotland Yard agents had visited Chauhan at his Talbert Road HQ a little over a week ago. A few

Americans had also visited him, he said, adding that "Khalistan House is like a bee-hive, very busy these days." He said that in the reckoning of the Khalistanis, the Festival of India which Rajiv is slated to inaugurate in Paris this June, would be an "open function".

In other words, no clean-shaven Indians, or non-Indian mercenaries engaged for the evil deed, would normally attract anything beyond the most cursory attention from the

security forces. So, it would be possible for them to get close enough to the PM.

The caller believed, however, that the death squads would consist of clean-shaven Sikh terrorists who would take the "Amrit Chakka" oath before leaving London on their mission. Since the PM is also visiting Egypt and Algiers, the Khalistanis will renew their bids there, should their Paris attempt fail.

As, according to the informer, they are in constant touch and have close links with the Pakistani intelligence in London, it should not be impossible for them to enlist the aid of Islamic fundamentalist gunmen in Cairo.

Chauhan's threats of more actions'

At that point of the call, the line went dead.

While it is obviously not possible to vouch for the credentials of the caller, the fact remains that Chauhan and his terrorists have themselves made no secret of their intentions. Chauhan, it may be remembered, has made several public announcements to this effect, including one on the BBC network.

Of particular importance is Chauhan's broadcast immediately after Mrs. Gandhi's death on

In these circumstances, the call should at least alert Indian intelligence agencies concerned with the PM's security, as also those of the governments which will be playing host to him, to take every conceivable measure to ensure his personal safety.

New Delhi must, meanwhile, firmly demand that the French and British governments round up all suspected Sikh and Pak terrorists, and that Paris watch, screen, and check all incoming suspects from London, the US, Canada and FRG. Entry to the Festival should also be subjected to high-security scrutiny.

If Chauhan and his known terrorists visit Paris, the French government must be prevailed upon to detain them and turn them over to India—an imperative of friendly diplomacy which the British government has blankly refused to observe—even after his public owning of responsibility for Mrs. Gandhi's assassination.

The recent past indicates that it would be foolish to take the possibility lightly. For a start, an advance team of security experts should be sent to all stations to be visited by the Prime Minister, to make necessary arrangements for his safety. But the real threat to be countered will be at the Festival of India, where assassins can so easily mingle with innocents.



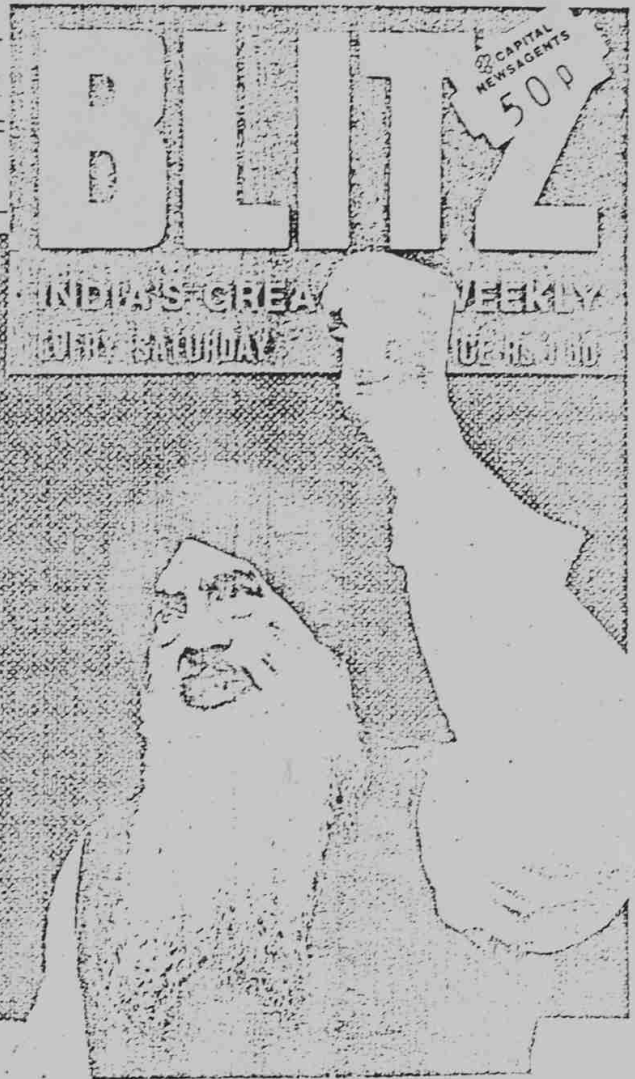
ZAIL SINGH KARASIMHA RAO P. C. SETHI

... victims of manipulation!

Dictated notings for

SEQUEL TO EXPOSURE OF RAJIV MURDER PLOT...

Chauhan's threat to sue BLITZ



By BLITZ Special Correspondents

LONDON & BOMBAY: AT FIRST they tried "persuading" us, but that failed. Then they sent us gun-and-bomb threats, but that, too, failed.

So now, believe it or not, Jagjit Singh Chauhan and his "Khalistan" circus have sent BLITZ what purports to be a legal notice, demanding that "we cease our orchestrated campaign...through the medium of BLITZ to smear him (Chauhan) in the public eye!"

If you think that's unbelievable, try this one: the self-styled President of so-called "Khalistan", a state proposed to be built on the ruins of the Indian Republic, threatens us with "legal proceedings both in India as well as in the English Courts".

The solicitors claiming to act on Chauhan's behalf inform us, that the only way we can escape the indignity of being dragged into India as well as English courts is to "carry a full retraction and apology" for our "orchestra-

ted campaign" against Chauhan's pipe-dream cause, and, among other things, to pay Chauhan's legal costs "on an indemnity basis".

The 'pacifist' terrorist!

But here's the best of it: Jagjit Singh Chauhan, CIA agent, terrorist, and self-admitted accessory to the murder of Mrs. Indira Gandhi, now denies—yes, ACTUALLY DENIES, that he ever advocated violence against anyone, let alone against Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, as charged by BLITZ (March 9, 1985).

According to the letter sent to us by his solicitors, "Singh & Choudry" of London, "the reality is that our client has condemned violence privately and publicly on a number of occasions...he is, indeed, a pacifist and has stated so categorically".

Do you think anyone could better that? Here is a man—or at least, his minions—who claims pacifism as a credo after insistently, publicly and repeatedly taking credit for the assassination of Mrs. Indira Gandhi, after inciting her murder on the multimillion listener British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) network, and gloating over her death on the same network just hours after her murder.

Lie nailed—from his own mouth!

We would have been inclined to dismiss the whole "legal" approach, including the self-appointed solicitors, as an April Fool prank, but for the fact that we consider Chauhan—and make no bones about saying so—a fool twelve months of the year round.

"Members of our Khalistan Liberation Army assassinated Mrs. Gandhi. I was involved, but it was our local command inside India who took care of the details. Rajiv Gandhi is our next target"

—Jagjit Singh Chauhan in interview to *Executive Intelligence Review*, New York, November 13, 1984.

Since we are aware that it will be virtually impossible for readers to believe that this Clown King of the "Khalistan" terrorists and murderers now actually swears by non-violence, we reproduce below, the facsimile of the letter sent to us by Messrs. Singh & Choudry, whoever they might be, and also reproduce the full text further on.

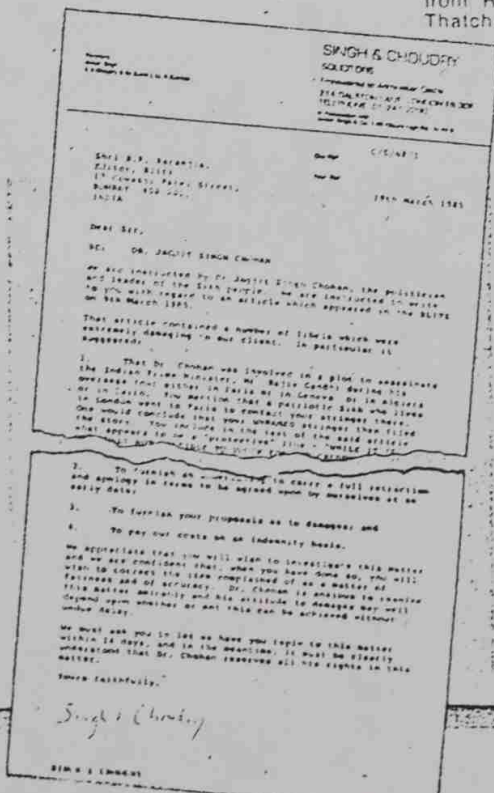
It may be recalled, that following our exposure of the plot to assassinate Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi during his visit to France this June, to inaugurate the Festival of India in Paris, Jagjit Singh Chauhan, self-styled

"President of Khalistan", summoned a press conference, to which, for once, he made a specific point of inviting Indian correspondents, declared that "I do not, and I never have, believed in violence. I have never instigated violence". (*PTI & Express News Service, London, March 27*) Chauhan also displayed letters he had dashed off to various leaders from Rajiv Gandhi to Margaret Thatcher, restating his new-

'I was involved in Mrs. G's murder': CHAUHAN

found philosophy. We say categorically, that Jagjit Singh Chauhan is not only a fool, but also an unmitigated liar. We reproduce just one single quote of his to expose his brazen lie. Barely 48 hours after Mrs. Gandhi's murder, Chauhan gave an interview to an American journal published from New York, a very revealing interview, indeed.

Neither the journal, nor its publisher (who, incidentally, is also the author of the article in which Chauhan's interview figures), are, by any stretch of imagination, to be considered insignificant. The journal is the influential *"Executive Intelligence Review"* (EIR), and the publisher-author, Lyndon La Roache Jr.



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Pakistan's 'Certificate' for BLITZ

Contd. from Front Page

La Roache Jr. is a significant American personality. He is leader of the National Democratic Party Committee, associated with the pro-Reagan faction of the US Democratic Party, and his signed article is based primarily on his telephonic interview with Chauhan on November 2, 1984. Here is what Chauhan told him:

"Members of our Khalistan Liberation Army assassinated Mrs. Gandhi. I was involved, but it was our local command inside India who took care of the details. Rajiv Gandhi is our next target (EIR, November 13, 1984)

Actually, while that statement destroys him through his own mouth, Chauhan made a mess of his newly acquired pacifism even at his March 27 press conference. Denying that he had claimed credit for the death of Mrs. Gandhi, Chauhan asserted he had only said "her death was a historic inevitability following her role in ordering the Golden Temple operation of June 1984".

Pathetic—and cowardly!

At this point, a Pakistani press correspondent, displaying a sharpness that his Indian colleagues missed, asked Chauhan if, since Rajiv Gandhi had been involved in his mother's decision, Rajiv's death too, was not a "historic inevitability". Chauhan totally exposed himself, by answering in the affirmative. (Times of India, March 28)

So much for the pathetic—and indeed, cowardly—antics of this King Clown of "Khalistan". We can only say that we find his legal "threat", such as it purports to be, hilarious in the extreme. The idea of a man wanted in India on the most serious of all charges, suing us in an Indian court is too much to visualise for even the most fertile of all imaginations.

Here is a person, openly avowed to the disintegration of the Indian Union, seeking to use the legal system of that very same Union, against an Indian publication defending that integrity. As for his "threat" to move English courts, Chauhan may not have noticed a minor shift in Indo-British relations that occurred in 1947, which places us outside the purview of British courts.

UK arms barons jittery

More important, however, is the question of why Chauhan, who earlier spewed blood and thunder in his rhetoric, has now taken to whining about his non-violent credentials. WHY? Because the King Clown is now really afraid that Mrs. Thatcher's government might extradite him, in which case virtually no government in the world would want to touch him!

The question that follows this one, logically, is, whether

Thatcher's outfit is capable of such a change of heart after backing him to the hilt all these years, permitting him to establish his "Khalistan House" in London and issuing him travel papers and documents, even when he was stripped off the same by the Indian government?

The answer to that one may be found in the editorial of BLITZ (February 23, 1985), where we pointed out that the "British arms industry is jittery over India's unspoken threat of a 'freeze' on future weapons deals (with the UK) as a sign of Delhi's displeasure against London's encouragement of the Khalistani caboodle".

We went on to point out reports that "British arms barons have

started squealing to Thatcher (Indian Express, Feb. 4 1985)", and that this panic had set in "after Delhi told British Defence Secretary Michael Heseltine, that he could unpack his tooth brush and stay at home, as he was not welcome here".

Why they picked on BLITZ...

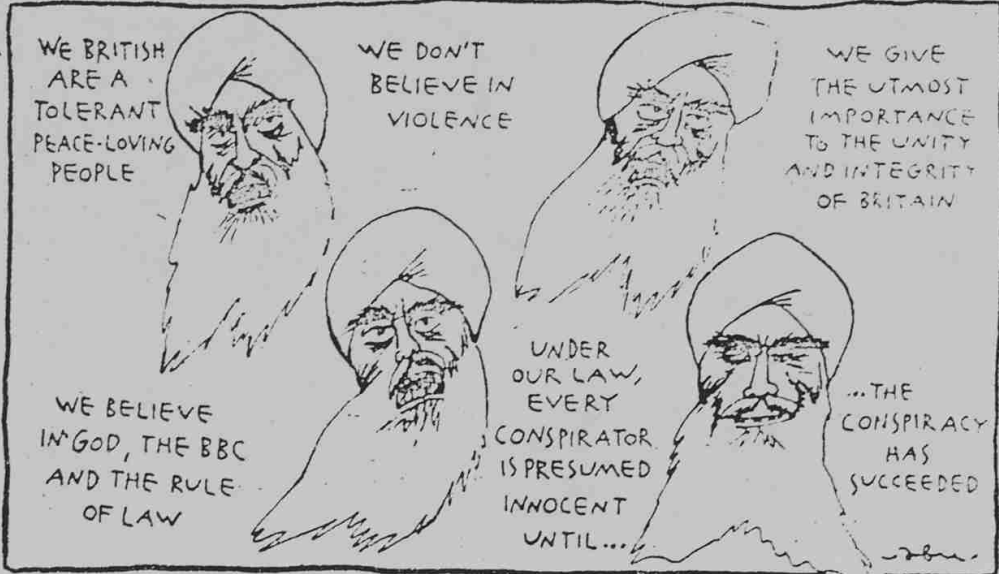
As we predicted, a "Bully the Bullies" approach has yielded far more dividends than the old soft-soap line could. The British arms lobby is now apparently scared to the point where it might try and prevail on Thatcher to toss out her favourite terrorist—and the clout of the arms lobby in the US and UK is no state secret.

That, then, would explain why Chauhan has abandoned his sound and fury in order to secure sanctuary and funding, why he has switched over from the roar of assassination to the 'miaow' of appeasement. It is clear that the arms lobby must really be biting Thatcher in the leg to get rid of him and save their billion-dollar deals. For our part, we treat this latest Chauhan prank as a certificate to BLITZ's record in fighting against the terrorists of the so-called "Khalistan".

It also explains why Chauhan, whose *chamchas* earlier flooded us with pamphlets and other paraphernalia glorifying their violent exploits and bloodshed and promising to perpetrate such acts even further, have suddenly

decided to pick on the one journal that has systematically and relentlessly recorded for the Indian public, every single one of his crimes against this nation, every single connection and link of his band of bloodthirsty assassins.

We are not amused, much less impressed. Politeness does not prevent us from telling Chauhan were he can stuff this and any other "legal" notices that he chooses to send us. Nothing would thrill us more than the thought of the King Clown returning to India to appear against us in Indian courts. We pray for him, that he will be able to make it, not only to India, but from the airport to the courts, before an enraged public gets its hands on him.



THE following is the text of the letter sent to us by Messrs. "Singh & Choudry, Solicitors, Empowered to Administer Oaths, 21 A Dalston Lane, London E8 3DF, In Association with Awtar Singh & Co. 146 Kilburn High rd., N.W.6."

We reproduce here verbatim the notice, in their own deplorable English:

Shri R. K. Karanjia
Editor, Blitz
17 Cowesji Patel Street,
Bombay-400 001,
India.

Dear Sir,
Re: Dr. Jagjit Singh Chohan.

We are instructed by Dr. Jagjit Singh Chohan, the politician and leader of the Sikh people. We are instructed to write to you with regard to an article which appeared in the BLITZ on 9th March, 1985.

That article contained a number of libels which were extremely damaging to our client. In particular it suggested:

1) That Dr. Chohan was involved in a plot to assassinate the Indian Prime Minister, Mr. Rajiv Gandhi during his overseas tour either in Paris or in Geneva or in Algiers or in Cairo. You mention that a patriotic Sikh who lives in London went to Paris to contact your stringer there. One would conclude that your UNNAMED stringer then filed the story. You include in the text of the said article what appears to be a "protective" line—"WHILE IT IS OBVIOUSLY NOT POSSIBLE TO VOUCH FOR THE CREDENTIALS OF THE CALLER, THE FACT REMAINS THAT CHAUHAN AND HIS TERRORISTS HAVE THEMSELVES MADE NO SECRET OF THEIR INTENTIONS". You know full well that these allegations are not true and that it is unjust to associate Dr. Chohan with terrorism and to accuse him of despatching Sikh "murder squad" and of plotting assassinations at his "headquarters" in London. The whole tone of the article of which we complain, indeed is calculated to damage our client by associating him, in a false context, with terrorism. The reality is, that our client has condemned violence privately and publicly on a number of occasions and such reports can be found both in the local as well as the national press. He is, indeed, a pacifist and has stated so categorically.

2. Our client denies making any statements to the BBC which would have incited or instigated murders. You will, no doubt, care to obtain the recordings of the

relevant interviews you refer to from the BBC and upon re-running the tape, you will ascertain the truth of our client's statements.

Our client has the strongest suspicion that this article is one part of an orchestrated campaign by you through the medium of BLITZ to smear him in the public eye by feeding misinformation about him, about the Sikh cause and about the activities of our client. The well-known stance of Indian press against Khalistan movement reinforces those suspicions.

Our client has been advised that he is entitled to substantial damages for libel for this publication and that he should bring proceedings both in India as well as in the English Courts. In the circumstances, Dr. Chohan required you:

1. TO furnish an immediate undertaking on your behalf and on the behalf of BLITZ that the same or similar libels shall not be repeated.
2. TO furnish an undertaking to carry a full retraction and apology in terms to be agreed upon by ourselves at an early date.
3. TO furnish your proposals as to damages; and
4. TO pay our costs on an indemnity basis.

We appreciate that you will wish to investigate this matter and we are confident that, when you have done so, you will wish to correct the item complained of as a matter of fairness and accuracy. Dr. Chohan is anxious to resolve this matter amicably and his attitude to damages may well depend upon whether or not this can be achieved without undue delay.

We must ask you to let us have your reply to this matter within 14 days, and in the meantime, it must be clearly understood that Dr. Chohan reserves all his rights in this matter.

Yours Faithfully,
Sd/-
Singh & Choudry.

Ulhas 'mafia' fleeing

ULHASNAGAR: The reign of terror unleashed by the local Mafia entered a temporary period of lull after the police, in a major crackdown on the night of March 28, recovered arms, including revolvers, swords, gupis and a hand-grenade from the houses of anti-social elements headed by the local Mafia don Gopal Rajwani—who, incidentally, was "unavailable" when his house was raided, and is now "absconding".

The raid—which was conducted only after the BJP-launched campaign against the increasing violence entered its fifth day—was once again a case of the police reacting late.

Consider the enormity of the dilatory moves by the police. P.I. Rajesh attached to the Shahad Police Station, in a press release asked the agitating BJP members to name the goondas.

Again, in an earlier incident, Gopal was arrested following a complaint of assault by a business man, but was

released within moments of his arrest even though he had reportedly brandished a revolver, and the case required of him to be detained in police custody.

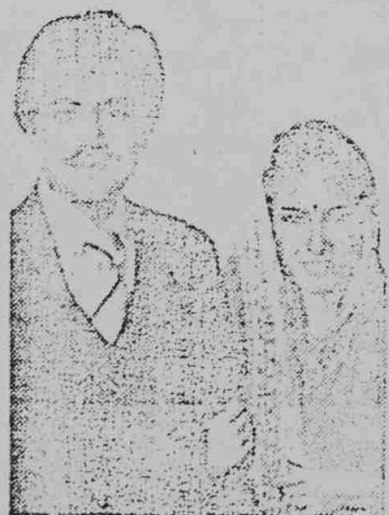
Another pointer to police incompetence, ignorance or plain connivance was Police Commissioner Tyagi's reply to a joint delegation of the Congress (I) and the BJP, that the police had no criminal file on Gopal Rajwani. No file on a three-time NSA detainee, who was also tried and later acquitted for the murder of BLITZman A.V. Narayan!

The gang is also blessed with political patronage. A resolution by the Election Committee of the BJP demanded the dismissal of Nankul Patil, Minister of State for Sports and Civil Supplies, alleging that he had been aiding the gangsters.

Patil, according to the resolution, had for years been recommending parole of NSA prisoners, and Gopal was one of them.

Interestingly, the gang, now aspiring for political status, will contest the municipal polls on Kamgar Agadhi tickets. With political power in their hands the future of Ulhasnagar can well be imagined.

When you get married, you are thrilled, anxious and perhaps nervous.



For all your health problems consult or write your case in confidence.

CONSULTATION :
10 A.M. to 1 P.M. &
5 P.M. to 8 P.M.
SUNDAY :
10 A.M. to 1 P.M.

SABLOK CLINIC
NETAJI SUBHASH MARG, DARYA GANJ,
(Near Delhi Gate) NEW DELHI-110002 PH: 278787



KHALISTAN NEWS SERVICE

KHALISTAN HOUSE 12 TALBOT ROAD LONDON W2 5LH (01)-281.3859

PRESS STATEMENT

The report in BLITZ of 9th March is a total fabrication. I stand for the sovereign identity of the Sikh nation which the Indian Government finds inconvenient. Therefore I am branded a terrorist. Nehru, Gandhi, Patel and other leaders of the Indian National Congress, at one time or another during the struggle against the British, carried that label. Sheikh Mujib-ur-Rehman of Bangladesh suffered similar fate. These labels don't really mean much. It is well known that I am a pacifist and I disapprove of violence. I want to place on record a categorical denial that there is any plot hatched in Khalistan House to assassinate Mr Gandhi during his tour or at any other time or for that matter to assassinate anybody else.

Turning to the text of the article itself, one can see quite clearly that Mr Karanjia no longer finds it necessary to be bound by facts. He does not even name his Paris correspondent. My information is that he has none to name. He goes on to say that the credibility of the "caller" cannot be vouched for. Yet, on dubious information, he builds a lead story which is more than damaging. He implies that the Indian High Commission in London is bugged by the CIA and that the CIA is working hand-in-glove with me. Mr Karanjia cites interviews on the BBC expressing my commitment to violence and murder. He reasons that even if his "caller" is not creditworthy, I have already declared my commitment. I have no links with the CIA and, strangely enough, the British Broadcasting Corporation, after a thorough search, have failed to come up with one single tape that could even mildly substantiate the BLITZ-tale. What has been said therein is libel and appropriate steps are being taken to seek legal redress. The question, however, remains. Why this article?

Whether or not my stand for a sovereign Sikh nation finds acceptance is a totally different question. What is at issue here is my personal integrity. But then, there have been smear-campaigns before and I have a lurking suspicion that there will be more in the future. None of them could be orchestrated from Paris - there are no interests involved. But Moscow or Delhi could be the origin.

If Moscow is the origin, then the BLITZ-tale would minimise the Soviet complicity in the assassination of Mrs Indira Gandhi; it will divert the attention from the disappearance of Soviet Diplomats in India; it will rob the Satwant Singh trial of limelight, it will help brand every Sikh, however peaceful and disinterested he or she might be, as a potential terrorist and create unrest in the communities of their domicile. It will also show that I am a trigger-happy man and will compel the Prime Minister of India to have second thoughts about the whole Western stance. Of course, all this could only be advantageous to India turning a little more red.

On the other hand if the origin is Delhi, then, considering the itinerary of Mrs Thatcher, it will cause the British Government some embarrassment. A minor incident created by the Indian Intelligence would render credibility to BLITZ-tale in retrospect and could form a prelude to extradition proceedings for me irrespective of what they might achieve. It would appear that the Government of India, frustrated in persuading the British Government to deport me, has started the necessary "fabrication" to move the Courts. The other side of the coin is that Mr Gandhi's

Administration could use the tale as a leverage with the Sikh leaders recently let out from Indian prisons to publicly disown me, not only as a political person, but also as a follower of the faith thereby creating a vacuum in which allegiances could be manipulated.

Where could all this lead? Precisely nowhere.

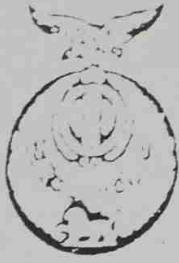
Mr Gandhi sends a delegation to the Middle East to attempt a solution there. He goes to the Punjab himself to attempt a solution there. Yet, the problem to which a solution is attempted is not defined. In the world of today, it is not possible to isolate any conflicts from the over-all rivalry between the super-powers. In the Middle East the pattern of allegiance is changing once again. A war is a natural requirement for such a situation. In India the struggle for power between the Central Government on the one hand and the State Governments on the other creates the necessity of finding escape goats. I just happen to be the most easily accessible and convenient one. To create the correct environment for me to emerge as the escape goat, there is a need for BLITZ-tale and for the reports that found space in THE DAILY TELEGRAPH. While people read these stories, they do not enquire about the Soviet intentions in India.

I am confident that efforts to remove me from the scene, even if they were to succeed, will not solve the problem of the Punjab nor abate the struggle for a sovereign Sikh nation. Mr Gandhi has released some of the Sikh leaders from Indian prisons in the hope of establishing a dialogue with them. Reports are that he has not succeeded. The reason, of course, is that violence can only breed violence. And the violence to which the Sikhs have been subjected, it is more than evident, has turned even moderates like Sant Longowal into hard-liners. It is not unexpected that at some future date the Government of India would make me responsible for that change of attitude. The fact remains that it is the aggression against the Sikh nation that needs to be vacated and I find that the Sikh leadership even in India is in no mood to approve a sell-off. They may be divided amongst themselves but they will present a united front to any and every outsider.

Baseless sensationalism might mislead some people some of the time. It cannot mislead all of them all the time. And it definitely does not assist, in any manner, the search for solutions to problems.

London:
March 26, 1985

JAGJIT SINGH CHOHAN



Republic of Khalistan

Office of The President

12 Talbot Road London, W. 2 England, U.K.
Tel: 01 221 3859.

20th March, 1985

DUPLICATE

Mr Rajiv Gandhi, M.P.,
Prime Minister,
1 Safdarjung Road,
NEW DELHI. India.

DEAR MR PRIME MINISTER:

I have no doubt that you have seen the story published in BLITZ on 9th March 1985. As you will notice, Mr Karanjia is not in a position to vouch for the credibility of his caller nor, it would appear, he is in a position to disclose the identity of his stringer in Paris. Yet, he implicates me in a heinous plot.

I would like to take this opportunity of placing it on record and at the same time assuring you that I have no intention of causing you even a minor injury let alone of killing you.

I am sure that you are aware that my "terrorism", in the true tradition of the late Mr Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi, is aimed at securing recognition for the sovereignty of the Sikh nation. The day your forces vacate aggression against us, there will be no cause of contention.

Yours very sincerely,

Jagjit Singh
JAGJIT SINGH CHOHAN

12 TALBOT ROAD/LONDON W2 5LH

18th March, 1985.

The Rt Hon Leon Brittan, Q.C., M.P.,
HM Secretary of State, Home Office,
50 Queen Anne's Gate,
LONDON SW1H 9AT.

DEAR MR BRITTAN:

I am sure the enclosed BLITZ-TALE has been brought to your notice already but, if not, it would be a ready reference. Whatever might be my political beliefs, I am a pacifist; I have never advocated violence of any kind let alone murder; and I would like to inform you that there is no truth whatsoever in the allegations made by the Bombay newsmagazine on 9th March 1985. Please permit me the opportunity of placing on record that there is no plot being hatched at Khalistan House to assassinate the Indian Prime Minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, or anybody else and that I am not aware of any such plot.

As you will, no doubt, see from the text, Mr Rusi Karanja, the Editor, has attempted to 'protect' himself from libel by including a line disclaiming any responsibility for the veracity of his source. In my submission, no self-respecting journalist could ever build a banner-head story on such information, especially if it was such a serious matter as murder.

Whatever the motives of Mr Karanja, two alternatives strike me and I am willing to accept there could be many other scenarios. If the story emanated from New Delhi, and I am convinced that it did not originate in Paris as claimed, then it suggests that there is a campaign afoot now to create conditions and an atmosphere in which my extradition from the United Kingdom could be demanded. I have full faith in the English Courts but I am also painfully aware that such a scenario could cause, internationally, disaffection between the Sikhs and the local communities while dividing the Sikhs themselves apart from discrediting me.

On the other hand, if the story emanated from Moscow (Mr Karanja is an accomplished fellow-traveller) the purpose would be to scare the Indian Prime Minister in staying put at home. A breach between the West and India could be only advantageous to the possibility of further expansion of the Soviet Empire into South Asia.

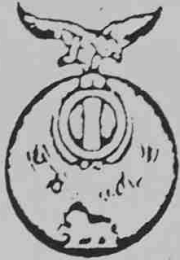
Perhaps my suspicions are groundless but I thought it fit to bring the matter to your personal notice.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

JAGJIT SINGH CHOHAN

ENCL



Republic of Khalistan

Office of The President

12 Talbot Road

London, W. 2

England, U.K.

Tel: 01-221-3859.

21st March, 1985

Shri Balram Jakhar
Speaker of the Lok Sabha
Lok Sabha Secretariat
Sansad Marg
NEW DELHI 100 001.

India.

DUPLICATE

DEAR SHRI JAKHAR:

I have no doubt that you have seen the report in BLITZ of 9th March in which it is alleged that I have been plotting to assassinate your Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, at one of his stops during the forthcoming visit to Europe, Algeria and Egypt. I have also been informed that some questions about the veracity of the said report had been asked in both the Houses of Parliament by the Treasury Benchers as well as Members of the Opposition.

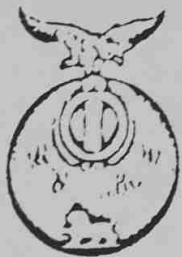
I would like to convey to you and through you I would like to convey to all the Members of the Lok Sabha of India that there is not a shred of truth in what Shri Karanjia has permitted to be published in BLITZ. He has shown that he is not a responsible journalist, that he is a seeker after sensationalism with no regard for the truth, and that he has once again been tempted to join forces with the brigade of fellow-travellers.

There has never been a plot hatched at Khalistan House to murder Shri Rajiv Gandhi at any time or, for that matter, to murder anybody else anywhere. Even though I have often been branded as a "terrorist" as the text of the article reveals, it is well known that my brand of "terrorism" is limited to the struggle for the recognition of the Sikh sovereign nation. To that end I am ready to meet with anybody anywhere anytime.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

JAGJIT SINGH CHOHAN



Republic of Khalistan

Office of The President

12 Talbot Road London, W. 2 England, U.K.
Tel: 01-221-3859.

21st March, 1985

President Gyani Zail Singh
Rashtrapati Bhavan
NEW DELHI 100 001.
India.

DUPLICATE

DEAR GYANIJI:

I am not quite sure whether you read BLITZ hence I am sending a copy of the lead story that appeared in the journal on 9th March. The text, I submit, needs no elaboration. There is no question that the allegations and insinuations couched in the text are fabricated and constitute libel. Appropriate action is being issued to seek legal redress.

In the meantime, I would like the opportunity of assuring you as the First Citizen of India as well as a member of the faith, and through you I would like to assure the government and the people of India that I have no intention whatsoever of killing your Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi at any time nor do I intend to assist in his murder nor do I feel inclined to be concerned with any plot or even thought of causing him injuries. May he live long. And may he, in the Almighty's wisdom, see his way to have the aggression against the Sikh nation vacated. It is not for me to repeat to you that the true Khalsa - which I hope you will agree I deserve to be - does not resort to unfair means or tactics even against an enemy. I do not count Shri Gandhi in that category. If anybody does, you do, know that the terrorism attributed to me is nothing but my steadfast non-violent stand in respect of the sovereignty of the Sikh nation. That I am not ready to bargain away and for which I shall travel and meet anybody anywhere anytime.

There has never been a plot hatched at Khalistan House to murder Shri Gandhi or, for that matter, anybody else. I request you to kindly assure him personally and the nation generally that I have no hand or part in any conspiracy to kill him and did not play any role in the historic inevitability of his mother's assassination for whom, in her life time, I had respect and for whom I now have a prayer.

Wahe Guru ka Khalsa
Wahe Guru ki Fateh:

Yours very sincerely,

JAGJIT SINGH CHOHAN

ENCL.



Republic of Khalistan

Office of The President

12 Talbot Road London, W. 2 England, U.K.
Tel: 01-221-3859.

20th March 1985

Shri R. Venkatraman
Vice President of India
Chairman, Rajya Sabha
Rajya Sabha Secretariat
Sansad Marg
NEW DELHI 100 001.

India.

DEAR SHRI VENKATRAMAN:

I have no doubt that you have seen the report in BLITZ of 9th March in which it is alleged that I have been plotting to assassinate your Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, at one of the stops during his forthcoming visit to Europe, Algeria and Egypt. I have also been informed that some questions about the veracity of the said report have been asked in both the Houses of Parliament by the Treasury Benchers as well as Members of the Opposition.

I would like to convey to you and through you I would like to convey to all the Members of the Rajya Sabha of India that there is not a shred of truth in what Shri Karanjia has permitted to be published in BLITZ. He has shown that he is not a responsible journalist, that he is a seeker after sensationalism with no regard for the truth, and that he has once again been tempted to join forces with the brigade of fellow-travellers.

There has never been a plot hatched at Khalistan House to murder Shri Rajiv Gandhi at any time or, for that matter, to murder anybody else anywhere. Even though I have often been branded as a "terrorist" as the text of the article reveals, it is well known that my brand of "terrorism" is limited to the struggle for the recognition of the Sikh sovereign nation. To that end I am ready to meet with anybody anywhere anytime.

With regards,

Yours very sincerely,

JAGJIT SINGH CHOHAN