

THE WAR IS ON

Most people still haven't gotten it through their heads. There is a world war being waged against the United States. There is a world war being waged against Israel. They are parts of the same war.

Most Americans sailed through July Four without recognizing the danger that is building for them. And most Jews passed the American holiday without recognizing its special significance for them. "International terrorism" is not the full substance of that world war, but it prefigures the nature of that war -- just as the Spanish civil war prefigured World War II.

There are several reasons why people don't take terrorism seriously, nor the war it represents. First of all, Americans aren't being hit over the head, as they were at Pearl Harbor. The modern anti-American strategists have more time and more resources. They intend to first isolate the United States and strangle it.

Also, Americans have become quite resistant to horror stories about "Communist conspiracies" and the like. One of Joe McCarthy's great disservices was to trivialize the Communist menace by falsely over-emphasizing the danger of internal subversion within the United States. There are still those who attempt to fight liberal and progressive causes within the United States by charging those causes with being "Communist-inspired." It is a healthy impulse for Americans to reject such nonsense; the problem is that they also tend to reject something sinister *really* taking place on the world scene.

There is no reason for us to be so self-destructively complacent. The hard facts are there in the research of such people as Robert Moss of the *London Economist*; Claire Sterling, a foreign correspondent whose *The Terror Network* has just been published; or Herbert Romerstein, an intelligence expert for Congress, whose *Soviet Support for International Terrorism* has just been published.

Earl Raab  
"The War Is On"  
page 2

Nor do these responsible authors suggest that every terrorist act or gang is a Soviet invention. There is suspicion between many of these terrorist entities and the Soviet Union. They have only one goal in common: to bring down the United States and, with it, the rest of what we call the Free World. Some of the terrorist groups have no coherent political goal beyond destroying the Western world.

But the Soviet leaders *know* what will happen after the free world is destroyed. Although conservatively wary of such anarchistic groups, the Soviet regime moved in the 1960s to "help" them. The Soviet's director for international affairs, Boris Ponomarev, wrote that many of these free-floating radical groups embraced "various types of adventurist elements ... clearly contaminated by anti-Communist prejudices." But, he pointed out, their "overall anti-imperialist (*read: anti-American*) direction is obvious," and to neglect them would be to "weaken the anti-imperialist (*read: anti-American*) struggle."

So money and arms were dispensed, agents were placed, and training camps were set up in the Soviet Union and in Soviet colonies, notably Cuba and PLO territory. By 1976, over 140 terrorist bands from nearly fifty different countries were known to be somehow linked to each other.

But, in addition, these terrorist activities were linked to the open political world. A Tricontinental Conference was held in Havana, attended by 513 delegates from almost 50 different countries, for the purpose of devising "a global revolutionary strategy to counter the global strategy of American imperialism." The connections were made. The "terrorist network" is thus a misnomer; these are not just random "kooks." There is underground terrorism in the countries of the free world; there is "guerrilla warfare" in countries of Latin America and the Middle East. The linkage is there; the cast of characters is interchangeable. The war is one.

Earl Raab  
"The War Is On"  
Page 3

The war goal is singular: isolate the United States so that it will wither on the vine as in George Orwell's *1984*. Some of the actors genuinely want to free the oppressed of the world; but they have bought into -- or have been organized into -- the wrong game. In protecting (and constantly improving) the principles of July Four, the stakes are not just the survival of the United States and of Israel -- but also the freedom and human rights of the peoples of the "third world."

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