

WHAT PRICE THE EX-SHAH?

For Iranians, and for most Muslims, the ex-Shah is comparable only to Hitler . . .

In an interview with the *Miami News*, November 9, 1979, Andrew Young, long a close Carter friend and political ally, compared ex-Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi to Nazi war criminal Adolf Eichmann. Saying that the United States is "protecting a thief and a butcher" Young charged that "our protecting the Shah is about like our protecting Adolf Eichmann. Nobody in Israel would have tolerated our protecting Eichmann." Shielding the Shah is "just as offensive" to Iranians, he said.

Young was slightly off the mark. For Iranians, and for most Muslims, the ex-Shah is comparable only to Hitler as viewed by the Jews. Would Americans, with a sense of decency, have gathered in the streets to shout "long live Hitler?" American media and the Zionist lobby are urging Americans to do exactly that for the Iranian Hitler. The Zionist-influenced establishment press and television are promoting widespread xenophobia and hysteria, with racist undertones, which could develop into suspicion of all Iranians and then of all Muslims and Asians. For months they had been carrying on a well-orchestrated smear campaign against the Islamic revolution in Iran. When Kissinger and company thought that American public opinion had been turned against Ayatollah Khomeini by the daily hate campaign they brought the ex-Shah

to New York on a special visa.

The ex-Shah is a despicable criminal, torturer and murderer who has brought death, terror and misery to the lives of hundreds of thousands of Iranians. For decades the entire nation of Iran was in the grip of his secret-police apparatus. The basic norms of civilization forbid giving refuge to such a notorious torturer and mass murderer. Such refuge undermines the basis of international relations.

The American public is being duped into believing that the ex-Shah's cause is an American cause. Do the American people support dictatorship, a police-state, in which thousands of people were imprisoned without knowing their "crime", where hundreds of educated men and women were tortured to death, where thousands were shot without trial? For more than two decades the Shah was running such a police state. The people and media now campaigning for the Shah on "humanitarian" grounds kept their friend's mess hidden from the American public as long as he was in power.

In 1953 the C.I.A. engineered a coup in Iran to overthrow a popular government and to restore the Shah to power. The American people were not told that their money was being used to violate international law and to set-up a blood-thirsty tyrant.

Recently published reports have established the fact that the C.I.A. was involved in organizing the SAVAK secret police used by the Shah to terrorize an entire nation. The Amer-

The American people were not told that their taxes were being used to finance torture.

ican people were not told that their taxes were being used to finance torture. Nor were they told that such actions tear to shreds the basic decencies of humanity. No one brought up the question: when you help a tyrant, overtly and covertly, to terrorize his nation, do you violate international laws of humanity, or is international law merely the name of certain procedures of protocol?

In 1963 the Shah's forces, armed and trained by Americans, massacred thousands of unarmed demonstrators. The American public was not informed of the massacre. The American people were not told that weapons made in America, soldiers trained in America, were shooting to death thousands of young people whose only fault was their protest against the Shah's dictatorship. The Shah was working closely with Israel, and the pro-Zionist lobby and the pro-Zionist press in America made sure Americans would not know what the Shah was doing.

In 1978, on September 8, the Shah's troops machine-gunned to death more than 5,000 unarmed people, including almost 600 women. The most "generous" report the American people received the next day was from the *Washington Post* which announced that 86 "anti-government demonstrators" had been killed and 205 injured

in Tehran! On September 10, 1978, President Carter telephoned the Shah to express "the hope that the movement toward political liberalization in Iran would continue" (*The Washington Post*)

How can the American people be expected to make a moral choice in a situation in which the dimensions of reality are never exposed to them?

In our August 1979 issue we editorially referred to some Republican individuals' interest in the ex-Shah and his money. Kissinger, Rockefeller, Nixon and their friends have shown a consistent interest in the "rehabilitation" of the ex-Shah. Kissinger has done well for his friend Reza Pahlavi. Why? One cannot ignore the fact publicized recently by columnist Anderson that a lot of the ex-Shah's money is in Chase Manhattan bank for which Kissinger works as consultant. In addition the ex-Shah is said to have taken out 25 billion dollars from Iran before he was forced to leave. This considerable amount is sufficient not only to finance "incidents" in Kurdistan and sabotage in Khuzestan, but also to finance a campaign within the United States to smear and distort the Islamic revolution and to build up

internal pressures here to destabilize Iran, and, if possible, dislodge Ayatollah Khomeini.

At this time a massive campaign is on to create mass hysteria in America and prepare the public for military adventures in Iran. The Iranian government used all possible diplomatic procedures to stop the admission of the Shah into America. All these attempts were rebuffed by the U.S. government. Even a request that two Iranian physicians living in the U.S. examine the Shah was rejected. After the Shah was admitted here in defiance of all basic norms of civilization, which forbid harboring or aiding and abetting a criminal, Iranian students stormed the American embassy in Tehran.

The day on which students took the embassy was the first anniversary of the massacre of November 4, 1978. (That day the Shah's elite troops had opened fire on students at Tehran University killing many. The massacre was kept hidden from the American people, except for brief T.V. coverage showing troops firing at fleeing students.) On October 21, 1979 (Face the Nation CBS) pro-Zionist hawk Senator Jackson had referred to

At this time a massive campaign is on to create mass hysteria in America and prepare the public for military adventures in Iran.

some secret moves which would cause Iran to "fall to pieces." Senator Goldwater told Iran "to go to hell" in a televised interview with ABC. In addition rumors were circulating in Iran that the U.S. embassy contained secret-service men engaged in espionage, and that automatic weapons were stocked there. The ex-Shah's announcement that he would stay on in New York, with all these additional factors, led to the explosion of Nov. 4.

The resignation of the interim Bazargan government indicates the inability of a conventional un-elected government to deal with an extraordinary revolutionary situation. The direct election of the representatives of the revolutionary masses should follow. One of the last actions of the Bazargan government was the annulment of the old treaties, which could have provided some "legality" under international law for the U.S. and the U.S.S.R. to intervene in Iran.