

FBI Plugs Another Underground Gopher Hole

But Terrorist Bombs Keep Ticking Away

By Ron Ridenour

The Bay Area's second terrorist band was eliminated last week, according to government law enforcement sources (only ten more to go).

Yet revolutionary informants contend that the capturing of the alleged Emiliano Zapata Unit was nothing but a set-up to liquidate legitimate and effective above-ground radical supporters of the armed underground, namely the New Dawn Party.

An affidavit filed with US Magistrate Richard Goldsmith in San Francisco, Feb. 13, by FBI agent Richard Weaver claims that New Dawn Party student-member and feminist Judy Stevenson informed on fellow party members. The next day FBI agents along with local SWAT team members arrested three women and three male members of the Berkeley based revolutionary group for possession of 150 pounds of illegal explosives.

Stevenson claims that the group she recently joined bombed five Bay Area Safeway markets and a Bank of America branch in the last six months and that the New Dawn Party and the Zapata Unit are one and the same.

In the following three days, three more members were arrested, two of them in connection with a "revolutionary roust" of an alleged heroin dealer. They were charged with assault with a deadly weapon and firing at an inhabited house.

All nine are being held in San Francisco and Marin County jails in lieu of \$100,000 bail each.

In an interview with the two remaining members of the New Dawn Party, the Vanguard learned that most radicals believe those arrested were set-up by FBI agents and aided by a leading member-infiltrator, Gregg Adornetto, or Alfonso Rico Garcia as he was known by radicals.

"I think the underground will come down hard now, especially on informants," Russ, one of two remaining members said. He and Brent are young, new probationary members in the three-tiered "party" of some 12 to 15 members.

"True," the 25-year-old wavering voice said in response to a question about why the Zapata Unit has communicated nothing since the arrests more than a week ago. If it has not been wiped out, "there has been no response. But the government has ways of suppressing news. For instance, it was three days before the government said that Larry Kisinger and Diana Harmon were arrested for the alleged assault."

Russ said he and Brent would continue to operate the New Dawn bookstore which carries revolutionary literature including communiques from the

underground. They have not heard anything from other New Dawn members, if any exist.

Russ believes that there will be more arrests coming soon because the "law is harassing people. They follow people and tap phones. This phone is tapped," he said, as we conversed on it. "I know because when one of the arrested persons and I talked on the phone, it went haywire whenever Alfonso's name was mentioned. We couldn't hear what we were saying."

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Alfonso Garcia is expected to turn state's evidence against the radicals. He is a former prisoner who was considered to be doctrinaire and sexist by fellow radicals, who strangely tolerated his living apart from the collective despite New Dawn's theory that the key to preventing government infiltration was by living together, including sharing sexual partners.

The government, according to one FBI source, is gleeful to be "rid of some significant terrorists." The government believes that these arrests eliminate the first band of revolutionary terrorists since the death and capture of Symbionese Liberation Army members.

These nine arrests follow the spectacular bombing of one wing of the Hearst Castle in San Simeon, California, two weeks before. The New World Liberation Front took credit for this \$1 million bombing and demanded that Randolph Hearst, father of Patty, donate \$250,000 to the William and Emily Harris defense fund. Government forces have often linked the NWLF and the newer Zapata Unit.

These recent arrests raise anew the question of how widespread is the underground movement in the United States and what do the fighters want.

"Tonight we bombed Safeway (in San Jose, California). Safeway will submit to our just demands or face further violence. We can and will strike any time and any place we choose," blasted the Emiliano Zapata Unit, Jan. 27.

This terrorist group surfaced in the San Francisco Bay Area last year vowing to destroy Safeway if it did not yield to the popular farmworkers boycott, institute a 25 percent decrease in food prices, and end layoffs.

The head of a recently created anti-terrorist unit in the California Attorney General's office spoke about this unique United States underground phenomenon. "After ten years of experimentation in urban guerrilla warfare and carefully observing major nationalist movements abroad, our own terrorists feel that conditions are ripe in this country to

support urban guerrilla terrorist cells on a protracted basis. I expect the number of bombings by terrorists to double in 1976 over those in 1975."

By the California Attorney General's count, there were 72 terrorist bombings in 1975, three times the number in California in 1974. California is the center of political bombings, registering more than all other states combined.

FBI Director Clarence Kelly also warns that terrorism is on the rise dramatically, yet his figures are conservative, according to California guerrilla watchers. The FBI reports that 89 terrorist political bombings occurred in 1975, mostly committed by the left underground, double the amount in 1974. Eleven persons were killed and 72 were injured in these bombings which also caused \$2.7 million in property damage. These casualties represented one-fifth the total of the nearly 2000 U.S. bombings. Figures vary according to the recorder, with the FBI tending to be more skeptical than the local police, but all agree that a mounting war against the capitalist economy and government is established.

The FBI has recorded some 700 incidents of guerrilla-type violence in the United States in the 1970s. These acts range from ambush murder and sniper attacks to bombings, bank robberies and arson. An undetermined number of persons, perhaps 50 to 80, have died from these acts of warfare. Although political violence is not new in America, organized political violence conducted by an underground is.

The first such group was the Weather Underground, which evolved from the Students for a Democratic Society in 1969. Frustrated and angered by the police killings in Chicago of Black Panthers Fred Hampton and Mark Clark and by the continuing war in Vietnam, the group of 50 to 100 concluded that peaceful tactics were not successful and thus more violent methods must be tried.

As of last fall, when the last known WUO bombings occurred, the white, middle-class, women-led organization claimed responsibility for 27 bombings. Its targets have included the Capitol, the Pentagon, the State Department, corrections offices, police stations and multinational corporations. Total property damage: around \$10 million. The WUO, as most underground groups today, deliberately avoids causing injuries.

Since the Weather Underground took the struggle to overturn the system in a new direction, dozens of small units and cells have taken up the call.

The Black Liberation Army, split from the Black Panther Party in 1970 and soon went underground. This group chose police officers as

their prime targets. Many of its members were killed by police and many others were jailed. The BLA is responsible for eight police deaths. This group is quiet today, or defunct.

In the Los Angeles area, some Chicanos, angered at the police killing of Los Angeles Times reporter Ruben Salazar and two youths during a 1970 demonstration, launched the Chicano Liberation Front and within a year took credit for 28 bombings. Government officials believe it has since merged with the New World Liberation Front.

The New World Liberation Front, operating in the Bay Area, is by far the most active guerrilla group today. It is currently battling with the San Francisco Board of Supervisors over health care in local jails, and warning landlords to repair broken down low rental dwellings.

The underground Armed Forces of Puerto Rico's National Liberation (FALN), seeking independence for Puerto Rico, conducted a thunderous one-day cluster of nine bombings in three cities last October. The group also bombed the historic Fraunces Tavern in Manhattan's financial district in 1974. Four people were killed and 50 injured in what one government official described as "a masterful selection of a target. It was in the heart of the 'imperialist' establishment district, and only the rich were killed." The FALN was criticized for the killings by other left groups and has since avoided injuring people.

Other operating guerrilla groups today include the Fresno, California based Rainbow Underground; the Denver, Colorado area Continental Revolutionary Army; the George Jackson Brigade, located in Seattle and believed connected to the Weather Underground by local intelligence police; the California prison bred Black Guerrilla Family (also associated with the former Symbionese Liberation Army); and the Red Guerrilla Family in the Bay Area. This latter group recently claimed the bombing of the Iranian Consulate in San Francisco protesting the repression of the Shah of Iran. Police believe other groups exist which act without names or communication, other than the bomb.

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One of the aspirations of some in the underground is to "coordinate their attacks in tactical support of above-ground mass organizing actions such as strikes, demonstrations, and food and job riots," according to Larry Kisinger for the

New Dawn Party, before he was arrested.

The underground also wants the "People's forces to come together as soon as possible under one central command." Future strategy and acts may include picking a national target (utility companies, Safeway stores, or oil companies) and rendering it profitless, thereby hoping to link up with workers who dislike management; freeing political prisoners; and kidnappings.

The underground may now be preparing for dramatic acts of destruction as July 4 and the bicentennial approach, because corporations are taking advantage of the "buy-centennial" and have also spent an estimated \$50 million so far on bicentennial projects such as TV specials, historical restorations and exhibits, all with the sanction of the Ford Administration.

Bernardine Dohrn, leader of the WUO, recently described the bicentennial as a "packaged cultural snack brought to you by the Ford Administration. ... The rulers have set the time for the party. Let us provide the fireworks."

Beside the tactical goals of these underground self-styled revolutionaries, their long-range desires include the abolition of private property, the elimination of poverty, imperialism, racism, sexism and all forms of

exploitation. Of the two to three million people in this country who assert some sort of radical leanings, perhaps two to five hundred, maximum, are armed underground revolutionaries. Most radicals and revolutionaries, all who share common goals, dismiss the underground as romantics fighting not windmills but in the wrong place and at the wrong time.

Will the underground topple the government? Above-ground radicals sneer at the suggestion. California Attorney General Evelle Younger also responded to that question.

"They can bomb buildings and they can kill people and do outrageous things, but there isn't the slightest doubt in my mind that they don't really represent a threat to the continued stability of the US Government. It is not a cancer that can destroy our nation, it is a small infection that can only be dangerous if it continues untreated."

Younger's assistant in charge of terrorist activities concurred. But, he added, "As long as we have multinational corporations and they have investments abroad, we're going to find support here for terrorist groups abroad."

The underground apparently has the will to fight on and by whatever means. The stage has been set. Act 1 has begun. How Act 11 will unfold is a mystery but it is certain that Act 11 will be bloody.



H A R D TIMES

DESPITE GOVERNMENT CLAIMS to the contrary, the recession is as serious as ever, particularly for the hard-core unemployed. The Official percentage of unemployed in Los Angeles today is 9.9 percent. Actual figures — including those workers not eligible for benefits — are probably double that. This means 322,500 out of a total workforce of 3,231,000. Many of these people are reaching the end of the line now. Many are about to exhaust their unemployment extended benefits. The State Employment Office said 17,895 people received their last checks in January, and the monthly figure of those using up their benefits has been climbing since last September. What comes after that last check? Odd jobs at exploitation wages, eviction, and general hard times. (Photos by Mark Jones).

