

Letters to the Editor

Editor's note: The article entitled "Khomeini and the Big Lie", published in the May/June 1980 issue of *International Perspectives* and reprinted in the August 5 edition of the *Globe and Mail*, sparked a heated exchange of letters between author Sidney Freifeld and the Iranian Chargé d'Affaires. The two letters below are reprinted from the *Globe and Mail*.

Iran's revolution

The article by Sydney (sic) A. Freifeld *Khomeini's Pet Weapon: The Big Lie* has offered nothing but distortion, fabrication and insults. The writer, not having been able to analyse events properly, has made some baseless accusations without offering proof. Therefore, there are some facts to be cleared:

1. It is unrealistic to ignore the undeniable destructive role of U.S. imperialism, international Zionism and racism in Third World countries toward liberation movements. The political histories of these countries are full of stories and instances of oppression and domination by imperialist powers.

2. The Islamic Revolution of Iran, due to its independent nature, has kicked out and destroyed the U.S. and Zionist interests and influences within the country.

3. In addition to its many interferences before the revolution, the United States, aiming to regain its power in Iran and consequently

to strengthen it in the region, has continued to plot and conspire against our popular, genuine Islamic Revolution. Hundreds of documents found in the former U.S. Embassy in Tehran are solid evidence of hostile action taken by the United States. These documents revealed many facts. Among them are:

a. The so-called fundamentalist group (Forghan) had had relations with the U.S. Embassy on a regular basis and got advice from it.

b. The United States had been trying to disrupt the general elections and had contacted and paid their local elements in this regard. The purpose was to create chaos and anarchy within the country to that the ground would be ready for a 1953-style coup:

c. The United State collaborated and organized its elements (Savak and pro-shah agents) to provoke and mislead several tribes in Kurdistan and other regions.

d. Regarding U.S. military aggression, the so-called 'rescue mission' was designed to make a coup in Iran. Even North American newspapers reported many times that the United States intended to do the job inside Tehran with the help of the 5th column of 3,000 Iranians. It seems that Mr. Freifeld does not even recall the reports of his own city papers.

4. That the attack on the Al-Aqsa Mosque in Quds (Jerusalem) by Zionist elements and the attack on the Grand Mosque in Mecca were the result of U.S. and Zionist plots cannot be denied.

5. In conclusion, I wish to warn spiteful writers as well as the paper not to continue their fabrications and distortions about Iran because you are creating an atmosphere of hostility among the people of many countries. Be aware that though this may seem useful in the short run, it will definitely be damaging and harmful in the long run.

Truth cannot be hidden forever even by a huge propaganda machine such as yours—in the end, it will finally prevail. You owe the truth to your people—not distorted accounts to fill them with revenge and hatred toward another nation.

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Freifeld's reply

If his letter to the *Globe and Mail* (Iran's revolution, Aug. 25) is any criterion, Ayatollah Khomeini and the Iranian Revolution are not well served by their representative in this country, Mr. S.M.H. Adeli, Chargé d'Affaires of the Iranian Embassy in Ottawa.

The Iranian revolution needs to be understood in the West in all of its aspects. Its complex currents require not only objective analysis but to be viewed through Iranian and not simply Western perspectives.

Mr. Adeli does not help at all by simply repeating the Ayatollah's lies which I cited in the article reproduced from *International Perspectives* by the *Globe and Mail* on August 5. Those lies are on the record and my purpose in bringing them up was to seek some light on the Ayatollah's motivation.

Khomeini attributed last November's incredible attack on the Grand Mosque in Mecca to 'American imperialists' and 'Zionists', and Mr. Adeli now repeats that charge, knowing it to be false.

The Saudis beheaded 64 persons on January 9 for that attack, one of the most potentially volatile terror-