

Ross Hartinger: The Armenian Connection?

Faculty seminar

By Robert Bodrog-Goodland

It happened last Tuesday morning, just before 8 a.m. Three armed terrorists stormed the Turkish embassy in downtown Ottawa, killing a lone security guard, and beginning what was to be a four-hour ordeal for police and five hostages. The gunmen finally surrendered, realizing the futility of the situation. Their target — the Turkish ambassador managed to escape during the initial seige and found shelter out of the line of gunfire. But the story goes deeper

than that. In August 1982, Armenian terrorists assassinated the Turkish military attache in his car — again in Ottawa. That August, Ross Hartinger, noted sports writer and columnist for the *Gem* was in Ontario, alleged to be on "vacation", and was actually in Ottawa on the very day the assassination occurred.

1983 and 1984 were dormant years for the Armenians in Canada, and it wasn't until last Tuesday's resurgence that they were heard from again.

Ironically enough, at the very moment the seizure was taking place, Hartinger was flying home on a 737 from the capital, after supposedly covering the AUA final for the *Gem* and CIMN. This was also Ross's first trip to Ottawa since the August incident in 82.

Mere coincidence? I think not.

After an extensive investigation involving a complex network of sources and informants, I managed to obtain the negatives of startling photographs which docu-

ment the planning of the embassy operation, code named: OPERATION BLACK BIRD.

The photos clearly show our own Roscoe working out the final phases of the plan, right down to the minutest detail. This clearly indicates that Hartinger is not, a native Islander as he says but rather a full-fledged Armenian terrorist, probably trained somewhere in the Middle East by the KGB.

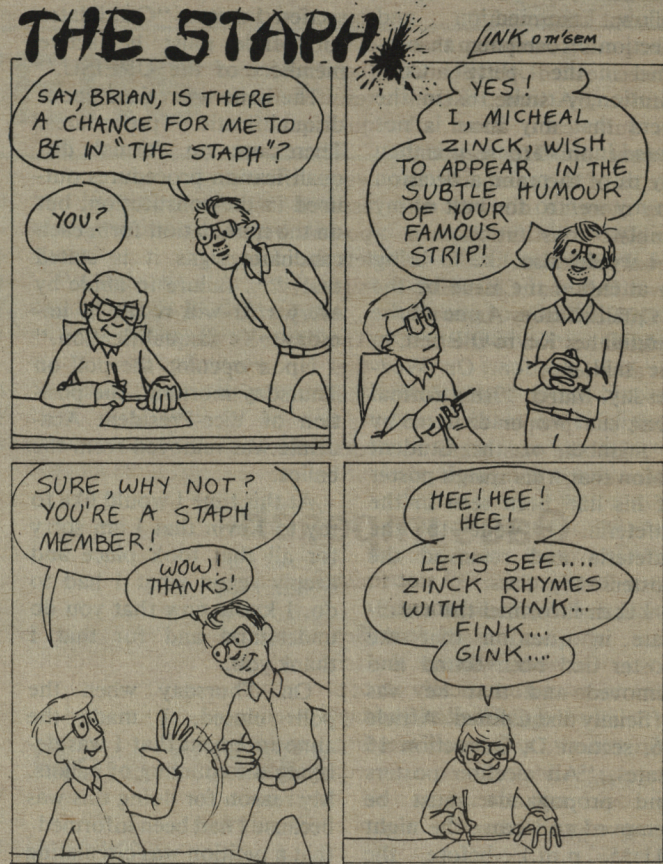
The photos were immediately turned over to the RCMP, who issued a Canada-wide warrant for Hartinger's arrest for questioning in connection with the Ottawa incident.

But as this goes to print, no one has seen or heard from Hartinger since last Tuesday evening, around the time the warrant was issued.

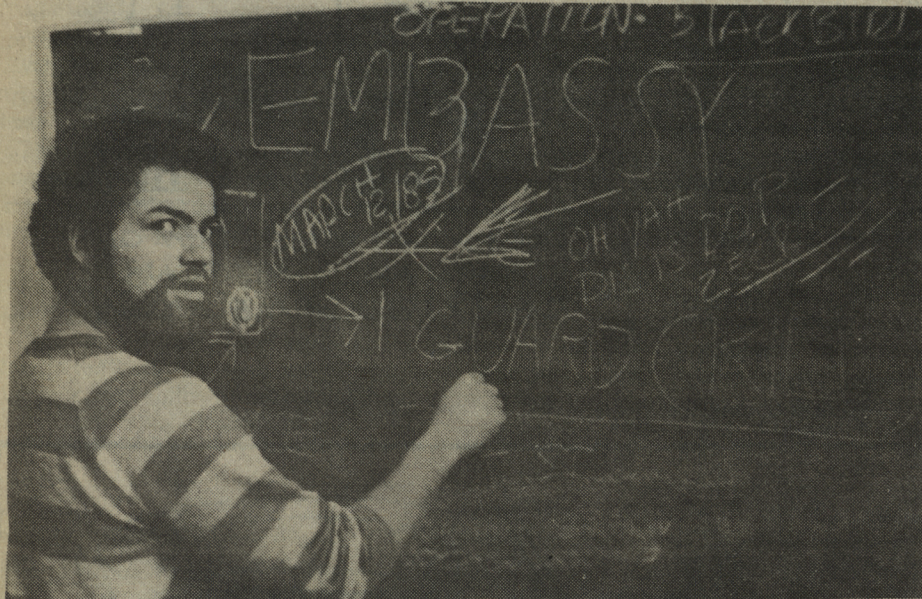
What does all this mean? Is Ross the Armenian connection? And if so, why is he using Prince Edward Island as a base? There are still a multitude of questions which remain unanswered, but once fact is clearly evident: You never really know your co-workers, do you?

There will be a seminar entitled "The Elders of the Island" given by Dr. Mary O'Brien, visiting research professor at UPEI, on Friday March 22.

The seminar will begin at 3:30 in the Faculty Lounge, Main Building. A happy hour follows at 4:30.



The suspect. (Photo: Bodrog-Goodland)



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 TERRY DUNSFORD 9:30 — 12:30

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