Gnostics, kooks, and narco-terrorists get a bloody nose in Ibero-America

by Valerie Rush

The narco-terrorist apparatus in Spanish-speaking America was dealt several crippling blows in 1984, not the least of which was the banning of the Tradition, Family and Property (TFP) assassins’ cult from Venezuelan territory in early November. The investigations that led to proscription of the TFP have opened the door for scrutiny of other such sects, like the Gnostic Church, which operates extensively throughout the continent and whose links to the drug trade and to international terrorism have been made a matter of public record.

In Mexico, the Nazi-communist drug-trafficking machine known as the Partido de Acción Nacional, or PAN, was engaged in fierce battle by the Mexican Labor Party and elements of the ruling PRI party, as the key July 1985 elections that could well decide the fate of the nation approach.

In each instance, Executive Intelligence Review published the ground-breaking intelligence which enabled relevant authorities and political institutions in those countries to administer “bloody noses” to the narco-terrorist network that plagues the continent.

TFP: 1 down, 14 to go

Tradition, Family and Property, the secretive anti-papal cult which hides its para-military training camps in the jungles of several Ibero-American countries and which sometimes goose-steps its way through the main streets of some 15 countries where it maintains its organization worldwide, was first identified by EIR as a highly-trained assassination capability of Europe’s unregenerate monarchical pretenders, or “black nobility,” beginning two-and-a-half years ago with the publication of a series of articles.

The articles identified the pseudo-Christian TFP cult as a self-appointed army of a resurrected Inquisition which has been linked to the May 1982 assassination attempt against Pope John Paul II’s visit to Venezuela in January 1985, Venezuelan authorities’ attention was drawn to the TFP. The EIR coverage, combined with legal complaints submitted to the Venezuelan Ministry of Justice by parents of TFP members in that country, spurred the months-long investigation by the Organized Crime Division of Venezuela’s judicial police which led to a raid on TFP headquarters in July, followed by a second raid in October.

Exposés on the dangerous nature of the TFP flooded the Venezuelan press in the intervening months, much of it drawn from EIR research as well as dossiers compiled by the enraged parents’ group. Clandestine TFP training camps were reportedly uncovered in remote areas of Venezuela, with assistance from Interpol.

On Nov. 7, congressional hearings on the TFP organization yielded damning evidence by several former TFPers, one of whom admitted that a TFP audience had enthusiastically applauded the death of Paul VI, who they claimed “deserved to be in Hell.” The Caracas daily 2001 reported that Cardinal Eugenio Sales of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, personally sent Venezuelan security forces written testimony charging the TFP of plotting to kill the Pope.

On Nov. 13, the Lusinchi government of Venezuela resolved to ban TFP from operations anywhere on national territory. Fourteen more TFP centers are still in action.

Drugs, kidnapping, and terrorism

When Venezuela’s ruling AD party banned the TFP, AD Secretary-General Manuel Peñalver told the press: “We will also be examining other sects that act illegally in the country. . . .” The Gnostic Church is currently under formal investigation by the Venezuelan Congress.

The Gnostic Church has not only been intimately linked to the terrorist M-19 movement in Colombia, whose now-deceased head Jaime Bateman confessed that he was controlled by the sect through his mother, a member of the “church.” It has reportedly conspired with its Venezuelan counterparts in an assassination plot against Venezuela’s President and its justice minister. The church has also been identified as a tentacle of that global conspiracy known as Dope, Inc., which has one of its primary centers in the Eastern European country of Bulgaria.

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According to a special 55-page dossier on "Narco-Terrorism in Ibero-America," released in September by Executive Intelligence Review, Bulgaria has been "a hotbed of militant Gnosticism from the 10th century down to the present day." It is no accident, according to the dossier, that Bulgaria has long served as "a major transshipment point for drugs originating in Iran, Afghanistan and Pakistan," that the Bulgarian state trading agency Kintex has been exposed in prominent media stories internationally going as far back as 1974 as "a center of both narcotics and arms shipments," and that Bulgarian government officials have been fingered by the Vatican for their role in orchestrating the attempted assassination of Pope John Paul II.

EIR's attention was first drawn to the role of the Gnostic Church in the narco-terrorist conspiracy at the end of July, when Colombian anti-drug fighter Patricia Paredes de Londono was kidnapped on the streets of Bogota. With her reappearance in a semi-brainwashed and physically tortured state on Aug. 1, following an aggressive campaign for her release by EIR and the international Anti-Drug Coalitions, a horror story featuring the obscure Universal Christian Gnostic Church was unveiled.

EIR learned that prominent leaders of that "church"—including Gnostic "bishop" José Vicente Márquez—had been involved in Mrs. Londono's kidnapping. During her captivity, published Gnostic brainwashing techniques for the "annihilation of the ego" had been gruesomely applied.

EIR investigators also took a closer look at former Colombian President Alfonso López Michelsen, under whose government the Gnostic Church in Colombia was first made legal in 1974, and whose intimate ties to the Colombian drug mafia were made public during the same week as Mrs. Londono’s ordeal, when López admitted in a major newspaper interview to conducting unauthorized amnesty negotiations with leading mafia fugitives in Panama. EIR discovered that López headed a delegation to Bulgaria in October 1979, after his presidential term. He was received by Bulgaria's now deceased Gnostic priestess Lyudmila Zhivkova, daughter of the Bulgarian party chief Todor Zhivkov, and her husband, a Kintex official.

Not long after EIR's exposé of the Gnostic church's ties to kidnapping, drugs- and arms-trafficking, terrorism, and papal assassination conspiracies, a detailed report appeared in the Colombian weekly magazine Cromos which described the Universal Christian Gnostic Church as "an intricate network of international swindlers and counterfeiters . . . linked to the drug trade." The investigations of the Gnostics in Venezuela remain to be taken up in Colombia and elsewhere.

'The party of narcotics and terrorism'

In Mexico, a battle with implications for the whole continent is under way between nationalist forces which draw their heritage from the Mexican Revolution, and the neo-Nazi opposition PAN party, whose sizeable war-chest is swollen by profits from the illegal-drug trade, thriving once again in Mexico's northwest. Political support has also come from the outside: The U.S. State Department and Ambassador to Mexico John Gavin, circles in the Republican Party, and U.S. media such as the Wall Street Journal, New York Times, and Jack Anderson's nationally syndicated column have all shamelessly embraced the PAN as Mexico's "new democratic hope."

The Nazi-communist nature of the PAN became manifest during the course of 1984, when it consolidated a formal alliance against the government with the Mexican Communist Party, known today as the PSUM. The PAN itself comes out of the same network which controls the TFP and the Gnostic Church internationally. It incarnates the revenge of today's European feudalists who have never forgiven Mexico's republicans for their 1867 execution of Maximilian—the Hapsburg emperor imposed on Mexico to collect British, French, and Spanish debt.

Coming directly out of the Cristero Wars of 1926-29, which attempted to return Mexico to the Dark Age, the founders of the PAN were all molded by the Jesuits’ "third-way" doctrine which embraces left- and right-wing terrorism of all varieties in a war against both "laissez-faire capitalism" and "materialistic socialism." It was but a short distance from the rebellions of the Cristero movement against Mexico's potential to become a modern industrial nation, to the "leftist" student uprisings against the Echeverria government in 1968, in which PAN members played a key leadership role despite the PAN's "right-wing" profile.

"Left" and "right" extremes also come together in the drug trade, which serves as a vehicle for financing arms shipments and terrorist deployments. The now-defunct 23rd of September Communist League terrorists evolved out of "community action" experiments set up by the local PAN apparatus in Ciudad Juárez, Chihuahua, in 1966. Last November's spectacular government raids in the PAN's territory of Chihuahua yielded 10,000 tons of marijuana and several giant concentration camps where as many as 14,000 enslaved peasants harvested and packaged the weed under the watch of thugs armed with machine guns.

EIR's "Dateline Mexico" column and other articles have reported since 1983 on the investigations by the Mexican Labor Party (PLM), exposing the overt Nazi ideology of the PAN, its subversive alliance to the KGB-run communist party of Mexico, the PSUM, and its ties to drug-running and terrorism. Using this material, the PLM has campaigned for withdrawal of the PAN's status as a registered party. The information has also strengthened the hand of patriots in the ruling PRI against the insurgents.

The danger of infectious PANorrhea, a term coined by the PLM, terrified Mexican housewives and politicians alike and helped strip away the "anti-corruption" disguise in which the PAN sold itself. The Chihuahua drug busts, as much a political challenge to the PAN as a government crackdown on the drug trade, presage rough times ahead for the party of narcotics and terrorism.