

Report from Rio by Silvia Palacios

Not-so-strange bedfellows

Citibank has forged an alliance with Brazil's ultra-left to try to force the overthrow of pro-moratorium Sarney.

To carry out his threats to "sink" Brazil for having dared to declare a debt moratorium, Citibank president John Reed, in alliance with the *New York Times*, has taken up the slogans of the pro-terrorist ultra-left in Brazil to demand direct elections by November.

In an interview in the April 1 edition of *Veja* magazine, Reed provocatively challenges the "legitimacy" of President José Sarney: "I don't know how the United States, which has a longer history of democracy than Brazil, would react to a President-elect who was unable to take office, leaving a Vice President from another party. . . . It would be difficult. I think there would be tremendous pressure for new elections."

The *New York Times*, similarly, stated in its March 20 editorial that Sarney "is a President with no mandate for making and enforcing tough decisions. He feels continually compelled to adopt populist economic approaches."

Before banker Reed advocated direct elections on the grounds of Sarney's lack of "legitimacy," the ultra-left apparatus inside Brazil had already been preparing the terrain for the same type of demands, but the Citibank-communist alliance only became evident when they joined forces against the moratoria. Ex-President General João Figueiredo joined the alliance in questioning the legitimacy of his successor and attacking the debt moratorium. Figueiredo argues with such passion that some political cir-

cles think he will marry (politically, of course) the ex-governor of Rio de Janeiro Leonel Brizola, an ally of Willy Brandt and the Socialist International.

Brizola responded to the moratorium declaration by running to meet with U.S. ambassador and professional coup-maker, Harry Schlaudeman; they surely renewed the old deals between Brizola and the State Department socialists who protected Brizola when he was an exile in the United States under Jimmy Carter's "human rights" farce. The *New York Times* gave the green light for Brizola's direct elections campaign.

Anti-integration forces around the continent are also hopefully predicting Sarney's decline. Exemplary is the Colombian daily *El Tiempo*, politically associated with one of Project Democracy's favorite ex-presidents Alfonso López Michelsen, which editorialized March 31, "The failure of the economic policy of the current [Brazilian] government has brought to public light the danger of a return to military governments of a more or less totalitarian nature."

An important part of the destabilizing machinery inside Brazil are "liberation theologians," and adulators of Fidel Castro, Leonardo Boff, Frei Betto, and Sao Paulo's cardinal, Evaristo Arns, the controllers of the Workers Party (PT) headed by Lula and his anarcho-syndicalist labor confederation, the CUT. The Brazilian CUT (Unified Workers Central) is responsible for manipulating the current strike

wave with the acquiescence of the Brazilian agents of Project Democracy's American Institute for Free Labor Development (AIFLD).

The entire gamut of forces involved is really the modern replay of the old Bukharinite network which joined the State Department in the 1930s, under the leadership of Communist Party, U.S.A. agent and AIFLD founder Jay Lovestone.

This network attempted two coups against nationalist Brazilian president Getulio Vargas: the 1935 "Communist Putsch" and the 1938 "Integralist Group." Luis Carlos Prestes, now a member of Brizola's party, was until recently the head of the pro-Moscow Brazilian Communist Party. He reappeared in public March 30 to praise the CUT strike and Gorbachov. He was the agent deployed by the Comintern to organize the 1935 communist coup. Prestes was recruited to the Comintern by Bukharinite agent Ernest Ewert, a German and one of the direct protagonists of the coup. Ewert was also a link between Bukharin, Stalin, and Lovestone.

The integralist side served as the political training ground for those who are today the champions of "liberation theology," Dom Helder Camara, later known as the "red bishop," and synarchists such as Leonardo Boff.

The two networks have since merged into one "Nazi-Communist" one. As in the days of Vargas, the operation is oriented toward preventing the government from taking mercantilist economic measures which would finish off the power of usury and assure that Brazil becomes an economic power.

If the destabilization is successful, it will result in a civil war which would turn Brazil into a big Nicaragua. This is what Reed and company, and the "Project Democracy" networks are promoting.