

# Gnostics run cover for terrorist penetration of Venezuela

by Valerie Rush

The issue of the narco-terrorist threat to national sovereignty exploded in Venezuela, in the last days of its presidential campaign leading to Dec. 4 general elections. A months-long propaganda and organizing drive by Venezuelan Labor Party (PLV) candidate for President Alejandro Peña Esclusa, to turn the national limelight on the Soviet-sponsored, narco-guerrilla subversion of the strategically critical Andean region, and on the political and financial patrons of that subversion, has finally awakened leading layers in Venezuela to the danger, all the way up to the presidency itself.

The PLV exposés have, in particular, honed in on the satanic Gnostic sect, whose influence extends both through political networks in the region and through control of the interconnected terrorist movements that are wreaking havoc in Ibero-America, such as the Colombian M-19. A key figure inside Venezuela, whose subversive activities have been highlighted in a series of nationwide ads and interviews put out by the PLV's Peña, is congressman and Gnostic "bishop" Walter Márquez, who maintains political links to the presidential candidate of the ruling AD party, Carlos Andrés Pérez, also known as CAP.

## Role of the military

On Nov. 25, Venezuelan President Jaime Lusinchi told a military audience that he feared imminent narco-terrorist penetration of Venezuelan borders, under the sponsorship of forces both within and outside the country, who were determined to "internationalize the subversive process" now ripping apart neighboring Colombia and Peru. He placed his total confidence in Venezuela's National Armed Forces (FAN) to contain and combat the drug trafficking-terrorist combination which he described as "grotesque, inconceivable, and demoniacal," and warned against those who are lending themselves—wittingly or merely as "useful idiots"—to the plot against Venezuela's democratic institutions.

In this last reference, Lusinchi was implicitly indicting CAP and Márquez, both of whom have played an up-front role in the latest anti-military scandal shaking Venezuela's

institutions. The scenario began on Oct. 29, when Venezuelan security forces sustained an armed confrontation with suspected terrorists in the border municipality of El Amparo, killing 14 of them. Although the zone's cattlemen have been the repeated targets of cross-border kidnaping sorties by Colombian terrorists, making the military's charges of an encounter with guerrillas more than probable, a motley crew of leftist and opposition politicians immediately raised a national hue and cry over the incident, claiming the dead were "innocent fishermen," and accusing the military of "dirty war" tactics.

The government ordered an immediate investigation of the incident, simultaneously ordering the detention of the two surviving "fishermen" for interrogation. Lo and behold, the two had been sequestered by none other than Congressman Walter Márquez. When ordered by the Venezuelan courts to surrender the two terrorists, Márquez used his parliamentary immunity to flout the law, delivering the two instead to the residence of the Mexican ambassador in Caracas, where they applied for political asylum. Unjust laws were made to be broken, said the self-proclaimed socialist congressman.

Carlos Andrés Pérez, who first made a fool of himself by claiming that the dead terrorists were his own campaign workers, later changed his story to coincide with Márquez's. His next political *faux pas* was to claim insider knowledge that the "unjust" detention orders against the two survivors had been revoked, only to learn that the judge had reconfirmed the arrest warrants, with the public backing of President Lusinchi.

Said the President in his Nov. 25 speech, "Some gentlemen have presented themselves to the public as virtual Robin Hoods, bearers of the truth, without realizing that their behavior places them outside the law." Lusinchi insisted that El Amparo was no bucolic fishing village, as Márquez, CAP, and others would have it, but a battleground: "Although it is difficult to say so, this is a war zone, despite the fact that some candidates don't wish to believe it, who perhaps because of intellectual errors would serve as useful idiots.' "

## The Gnostic serpent

In an interview published on Nov. 26 by the *Diario Católico* of San Cristóbal, Venezuela, Márquez responded to PLV charges on his Gnostic affiliations by insisting, "I am a Christian, not a guerrilla." And yet, Márquez's position in the upper hierarchy of the Universal Christian Gnostic Church suggests otherwise. A closer look at the Gnostic "church" goes a long way toward explaining who Márquez really is.

In a Nov. 28, 1983 interview in the Peruvian magazine *Caretas*, the then leader of the Colombian M-19 narco-terrorists, Jaime Bateman, explained what made his movement tick: "Look, the bottom line is that my mother is Gnostic. She was responsible for the organization of gnosis in Santa Marta [Colombia], and every Saturday, they made a chain to protect us, the organization. . . . Those they make a chain for are made immortal. . . . Their leadership regularly sent us congratulations." Bateman's chain of protection failed him in 1984, when he met his demise in an airplane crash.

Gnosticism was not a matter of Bateman's individual preference, but rather is an essential part of the internal ideology and recruitment mechanism of the M-19 today. Current M-19 leader Carlos Pizarro Leon-Gómez declared in his book, *Guerra a la Guerra (War on War)*, which came out in July of this year, that "Bateman was like the chief warlock. . . . Look, for example, at the anguish and the effort made for us by the mothers of Corinto, the number of candles they lit for us. . . . This doesn't have a name, and that force is the chain of love of which Bateman spoke."

Gnosticism is not only responsible for swelling the ranks of the narco-terrorist armies with ignorant, superstitious, lumpenized youth, but has made a major assault on the very foundations of the Judeo-Christian tradition. As Peña wrote in a Nov. 21 political statement, "Gnosticism is not only explicitly based on perverse sexual rites, but the founder of the Universal Christian Gnostic Church, the late Colombian Samael Aun Weor, openly confesses it. In his book, *The Perfect Marriage*, (Venezuela: 9th edition), he asserts, 'All religion has a sexual origin. . . . The Four Gospels can only be understood with the key of Sexual Magic and the Perfect Marriage. . . . There exists an intimate relationship between the Word and sexual forces. The Word of the Great Master Jesus has been Christified by drinking the Wine of Light of the Alchemist in the Chalice of Sexuality.' Can this be called Christianity?" asks Peña.

Peña continues, "In the cited interview in *Diario Católico*, Márquez claims to believe in the Virgin, but he doesn't say which. However, his patriarch Samael explains: 'There exist two serpents: that which rises through the marrow and that which descends. . . . The serpent rising through the marrow is the Virgin. The serpent descending from the coccyx toward the atomic hells of Nature is the Holy Mary of Black Magic and Witchcraft. Here you have two Marys: the White and the Black.' (*The Perfect Marriage*, p. 119)"

Although these statements can easily be dismissed as the

ravings of a psychopath, Gnosticism cannot be taken lightly, for its ranks are growing in Colombia, Venezuela, Mexico, and other countries. Its initiation rites, as described by "Master Samael" in his book *Keys to the Mental Dynamic*, are classic recipes for brainwashing through what he calls "annihilation of the personality." His book is dedicated to Colombian Gnostics José Vicente Márquez and Julio Medina Vizcaino, who helped found the Venezuelan chapter of the Universal Christian Gnostic Church, together with none other than Congressman Walter Márquez.

Once the ideological roots of the narco-terrorist enemy are laid bare, it is not difficult to understand the role of a Walter Márquez in orchestrating his two-pronged assault on both the Armed Forces and the Catholic Church, two major obstacles to the advance of the narco-guerrillas in the Andean region as a whole. The bigger question that is raised, is why the likes of Carlos Andrés Pérez, possibly the next President of Venezuela, would be found in such close proximity to Márquez. Could his close friendship with former Colombian President Alfonso López Michelsen, known as the political "godfather" of the devil-worshipping drug mafia in that country, have anything to do with it?

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## Documentation

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*The following are excerpts from the Nov. 25 speech given by President Jaime Lusinchi to the Tachira Army Garrison:*

In the sister Republic [of Colombia], there exists—and we deeply lament this—a subversive process in which the guerrilla and the drug trade are especially involved. It is a process in which Venezuela cannot intervene, but against which we must remain on the alert, precisely because it is a neighboring country which is affected. . . . Some sectors participating in this internal confrontation in Colombia do not seem to understand that Venezuela is interested in the political and social peace of its neighbor. And since they don't understand it, they are trying to internationalize that fight, making our country one of its immediate objectives, which we cannot permit.

Given this situation, it is up to the Armed Forces to avoid the transfer and contamination of the subversive process in Colombia into our country. The FAN should remain alert not only against subversion, but also against the drug trade, whose tentacles could corrupt the Venezuelan social body. It is undeniable that it exists, and this I should say with all conviction because I am not inventing anything, there is a grotesque, inconceivable and demoniacal alliance between subversion and the drug trade, which would bring serious consequences to our country should it penetrate our borders.