
Interview: Dr. Jorge Quadro

Fighting drugs and satanism in Argentina: the PROLATIN story

Dr. Jorge Quadro, president of the Argentine Catholic League for a Latin American Campaign for Aid to the Drug Dependent (PROLATIN), was interviewed by EIR's Cynthia Rush on Dec. 31, 1988.

Formed within the past year, PROLATIN has adopted an aggressive policy of combating Argentina's growing drug trade, and "getting things done" in imaginative ways, even without a large budget or resources, because it is morally necessary to do so. Guided by Pope John Paul II's thinking that the drug plague is a new form of slavery, PROLATIN is distinguished from organizations focusing solely on "rehabilitation." It is willing to expose the role of powerful political factions and institutions such as the International Monetary Fund in promoting the expansion of the drug trade. For this, it has earned the enmity of both the left as well as liberal banking circles, although it enjoys the firm backing and gratitude of the community and parents whose children are victimized by the drug mafia.

EIR: Doctor Quadro, can you tell me a little about when the League was formed, for what specific purpose, and what work it is currently carrying out in Argentina?

Quadro: Our organization became active this year, although it had been in the process of formation earlier, based on the work and information of Mr. Lyndon LaRouche's group, with which we agreed. We made our appearance this year, and rapidly got a response from the Argentine Interior Ministry. . . .

Our organization stands as the first of its kind, since it addresses the broad spectrum of how the drug phenomenon is produced, its causes and effects, its impact on the international order, its economic power, the interests that operate in its orbit of influence and which give it presence in the international arena, the vehicles it uses, the influences it develops down to the level of the individual consumer, and the growing spread of drugs in the neighborhoods, schools, etc. And, if possible, how to stop it.

EIR: Since its founding this year, what has been the League's

most important or effective work until now?

Quadro: We have been working in the preventive, legal, and informational areas, to which we give much importance. We have tried to attack the causes, such that the Argentine government at mid-year, or slightly earlier, incorporated into the statements it has endorsed a denunciation not only of the drug trade, but of the drug-banks. . . . We are also fighting for legislation that has been sitting in the Congress for two years.

As the Catholic League, and although I depart a bit from your question, it is appropriate to clarify that our actions are not on orders of the Church hierarchy, but rather, that we take up the line framed by Vatican Council II, in the Opening Pastoral Letter of the Catholic Church to the Laity, which clearly urges us to personally and actively carry out the Gospel. In this sense, our organization is made up of Catholics committed by the Baptism to the Holy Mother Apostolic and Roman Catholic Church.

Through this [work] we can thus emphasize the role that John Paul II has been carrying out as leader of the Church. There are few world statesmen who clearly concern themselves with this problem, among whom is Lyndon LaRouche.

EIR: Regarding your mention of legislation, are there currently in Argentina strong laws that prohibit consumption? What is the situation with government or police budgets to fight the drug trade?

Quadro: Current law in Argentina is bad, since the interpretation of the law offered by the judges permits consumption in a somewhat elliptical form, and the legislation has evolved to include individuals who have several grams [of marijuana] in their possession, with the consideration that those grams are for their "personal" consumption and not for trafficking. For example, from three grams, it has passed to 14, 15, 17, 25 grams, split up in envelopes!

Two years ago, an excellent bill was being discussed in the Congress but has since suffered several changes in committee. Nonetheless, the direction of that bill, should it ever be applied, is quite good—not only because it punishes the

consumer with sentences that would force him to be rehabilitated in prison, but also because it carries severe penalties for the drug trafficker. One very good thing is the seizure of real estate in areas where drugs are consumed.

Regarding the budget, a Division of Dangerous Drugs of the Federal Police was created in 1987, raising the budget. We believe, considering the merits of the material we possess and the nearly weekly meetings with the Interior Ministry, that while we may not have achieved a change in policy or budget increase, we have created a genuine interest in fighting this plague. To achieve this, we have taken certain courses of action.

We proposed that members of the police with solid Catholic upbringing could guarantee the incorruptibility of police procedures. This led us to carry out some operations in the provinces, authorized by the corresponding ministry. . . .

The operations carried out by PROLATIN, at some of which I was present in my capacity as president, as was the League's spiritual adviser and chaplain, Luis Jardín, began to take place in mid-October.

The first operation took place in San Martín, against a trafficker whose father was a renowned Peronist politician in the zone. The second operation was carried out by asking mothers to call in and give us information so that, we could . . . rapidly resolve some problems of controlling drug trafficking. . . . Among the places about which we received the most complaints were two coffee shops with the same owners, called Stilo and Olipse, in Boulougne, San Isidro. . . . We carried out that operation in mid-November.

Thus we took some five individuals prisoner, one of them being René Ernesto Tolava, and his brother Hugo Humberto Tolava. One of the Tolava brothers had an extensive police blotter because of his operations in the Montonero organization [a 1970s terrorist split-off from the Peronist movement]. He was placed under arrest during the *Proceso* [the period of the 1976-83 military junta] because of his Marxist terrorist actions. It is interesting to note that the electricity for the coffee shop was supplied by the offices of the MAS, a Marxist political party which operated nearby. More than 20-30 minors, including some under 13 years of age, were arrested in a joint operation that PROLATIN carried out with the federal police and Buenos Aires provincial police.

EIR: I presume that this kind of operation has the backing of the community. You were talking about parents, but what has been the broader reaction of people?

Quadro: The reaction of the neighbors was always good, because a disgrace was removed from their neighborhood. The students in their school uniforms would go in the afternoons. . . . One of those coffee shops operated at night on weekends. Apparently this business was so productive that it was extended to the other days of the week through a 24-hour coffee shop. . . .

In the afternoon hours it was common to see students buy

drugs and drug themselves within just a few meters of the Boulougne police station. This police inactivity began to change after the operation we carried out. That is to say, the efforts of PROLATIN and of this small group of Catholic federal police officers who form part of our League, enable us to strike surprise blows anywhere in the country, and primarily in places where they would seem to enjoy a suspicious impunity.

This is what we want to create . . . even as Argentina finds itself subjected to the tyranny or to the dictatorship of the International Monetary Fund, which as we know is the main agent of narco-terrorism on the continent. Given the few resources we have, we believe that our use of a surprise strike force has made criminals feel less sure of themselves.

EIR: In our publications, we have documented the involvement of the Soviet Union and its various satellites in the drug trade. For example, in Latin America, we see the case of the Cubans. While at this moment in Argentina, there is no narco-terrorist apparatus like that which exists in Colombia or in Peru, what you have told me regarding groups like the MAS or former Montoneros suggests that a similar phenomena could be forming. What do you think?

Quadro: We are absolutely convinced that an economy which is not ordered on ethical and moral principles, that is, a new economic order which respects man, will necessarily lead to slavery. This slavery can come, as I said earlier, through indebtedness to the narco-banks, or through the unscrupulous activities of philosophically materialist individuals, like the Marxists, who are not going to hesitate to use methods for gathering funds which violate any moral or ethical principle.

It wouldn't surprise us if those parties which are now supposedly function within the democratic framework raise their funds by means of the consumption and sale of drugs and drug trafficking, creating young addicts who will potentially vote for them.

Argentina's statistics are relatively poor and contradictory. Statistical studies done by PROLATIN of youths from 13 to 24 years of age reveal that 50% of these youth have either tried or are regularly using drugs. These are truly alarming figures. We believe in this context that the campaign of Marxism in our country, Marxism modeled on the philosophy of [Italian Communist ideologue] Antonio Gramsci—that is, the Gramscian cultural revolution which seeks to attack, pervert, or subvert culture—would pull Argentina away from Catholicism to drive it into a materialist culture and into consumption of all of these things.

EIR: You know that here in the United States and in the countries of Europe, a drug-trafficking support apparatus has been developed. I refer to rock music, to pornography, to all cultural degradation to which youth are especially subject. Is a similar apparatus forming in Argentina?

Quadro: The perversion of culture can today be seen clearly. This began several years ago, and of course, it is expressed, among other things, in music. There exist here various rock bands which praise drugs. The youth, faced with an uncertain future, sees a future—or rather, an escape—in this music and in this culture.

What is certain is that these groups are not limited merely to spreading drugs, but promoting a true Satan worship. There have been bands here which have carried out simulated rapes of the Virgin Mary, of our Holy Mother, on stage, and others who perform Satanic rituals, sacrificing chickens on stage. Among these bands it is worth mentioning *Los Violadores* (The Rapists). We arrested this band in San Miguel, in an operation carried out Nov. 16 against a coffee shop called Latex. We arrested . . . nearly 400 people, including the entire band.

Describing this cultural phenomenon of our youth from 13 to 30 years of age . . . demonstrates the urgency of showing Argentine parents and families how their children entertain themselves, by means of a culture which offers, not diversion but degradation and slavery, and how they grow increasingly distant from the essential values, not of country but of Man. That is, they are being bestialized. . . .

Aside from the Marxist groups, one must stress the economic reality of current finance capital, controlled as we have charged, by the International Monetary Fund in complicity with the narco-banks. We believe that as long as banking secrecy exists, there is going to be narco-terrorism, because drug banking will continue to exist and, of course, the rock culture, the worship of Satan, will continue to exist, because these things are impossible to separate from one another.

EIR: I understand that Father Jardín has been a target of attacks by these leftist groups, who have accused him of being a “destabilizer of democracy.” What is behind these attacks?

Quadro: Father Jardín carried out a noteworthy mission of peace and reconciliation among Argentines, around the recent military events [of Dec. 4-5, 1988] in which Col. Mohamed Alf Seineldín attempted to rescue the Argentine army from the dissolution into which certain international factions appear to be driving the Latin American armies. . . .

Father Jardín approached and helped the dialogue and the rapprochement of Argentines in a very difficult situation. This has not only provoked attacks from the extreme left, but also from publications and magazines which identify him as a man involved in fighting the drug trade. He has also been attacked from the so-called liberal sectors, that is, from sectors linked to Argentine finance capital. . . .

There are two important facts. On the one side, while Colonel Seineldín—as the officer above suspicion that he is and as the Malvinas hero that he is—limited his actions to the restoration of San Martín’s army, some leftist politicians called on the population to arm itself and to go to the barracks.

It is suspicious that congressman Oscar Allende [of the Intransigent Party] was there, and at his side, in an act of overt interference into Argentina’s internal problems, was the United States ambassador.

Oscar Allende specifically—and there are videocassettes showing this, exhorted people to mobilize. Of course, no one listened to him; but Marxist and leftist activists did go to provoke incidents at the gates of Villa Martelli, where Colonel Seineldín was located.

These are the ultra-leftists who, through their publications, have been waging a rather intense campaign against padre Jardín. Some magazines have dedicated two or three consecutive issues to attacks on him. They have targeted him because what Marxism can’t tolerate is that we Catholics have avoided civil war among Argentines. So Marxism has really exposed itself.

EIR: Could you briefly comment on the possibility of closer collaboration between countries like the United States and the Latin American countries in the fight against the drug trade? For example, as a non-governmental body, do you have contact with other groups outside of Argentina?

Quadro: Yes. We have contact with you, with the people of Lyndon LaRouche in the United States. We are in contact with the Lincoln Foundation, which is in the Embassy of the United States here. We are opening up contact with other organizations, and at the Latin American level, with different Catholic groups. This is at the level of contact and some exchange of information. We hope, over the next year to present a proposal, upon which I am currently working, to a seminar of the Strategic Schools of the Brazilian and Argentine joint chiefs of staff, through which I propose joint military action, without presenting the budget as an excuse.

In this fight, if we had the means, the end would come more rapidly. But as Catholics, not having the resources cannot mean avoiding the commitment to fight. We have, in this, the example given by the Argentine Armed Forces in the Malvinas conflict where, with the resources at their disposal, they faced the British Empire, which as we know, is one of the major centers of the drug trade.

EIR: Is there anything else you would like to comment on that would be of interest to our readers?

Quadro: Yes. . . . We believe that the center of the campaign should be the prevention of this terrible scourge. And prevention includes the economic standpoint, where the speculative economy must be replaced by a productive one; the cultural standpoint, where a Marxist and Gramscian—and frequently Satanic—materialist culture is replaced by a culture oriented toward God. If these aspects of the fight are not consolidated, then the future of humanity is truly endangered, because economy and culture are going to be in the hands of evil. And this is nothing less than a fight of good against evil.