

## Report from Rio by Geraldo Lino

### The 'technological apartheid' treatment

*The Anglo-Americans are determined to prevent Brazil from developing independent technological capabilities.*

The last few weeks have seen an escalation of pressures aimed at ensuring that Brazil is firmly locked into the regime of "technological apartheid" (denial of advanced technology), an essential part of the strategy applied by the backers of the "new world order" against the developing nations of the South. These pressures are concentrated on three sectors: recognition of foreign patents, nuclear research, and military industries.

In the latter area, the proponents of the new order are preparing to score their first important point, with the imminent transfer to British Aerospace of stock control over Engesa, the producer of armored vehicles. According to Brazilian Army sources, British Aerospace intends to confine the production of armored vehicles in its new concern to the assembly of Land Rover jeeps. The Aug. 13 daily *O Estado de São Paulo* reported that finalizing the deal will depend on the Army's meeting British Aerospace's demand that it commit itself to purchasing 700 Land Rovers.

The patent issue, particularly in the chemical-pharmaceutical sector, was the primary item on Vice President Dan Quayle's agenda during his stopoff in Brazil July 31-Aug. 1. He was accompanied by a delegation of businessmen which included David Rockefeller. In meetings with government officials, politicians, and businessmen, Quayle emphasized that new U.S. investment in Brazil is contingent on the government adopting a series of "reforms," among which is recognition of foreign pharmaceutical

patents, a demand embedded in the new Industrial Property Code sent to the Congress by the government.

Alan Bromley, the White House's special adviser on science and technology, transmitted the same message to Brazilian Vice President Itamar Franco on Aug. 12, during the latter's visit to Washington. In a tone which the newspaper *Folha de São Paulo* described as "an ultimatum," Bromley told Itamar Franco that if the Industrial Property Code were not approved by the Brazilian Congress, the U.S. would not renew the scientific and technological cooperation treaty that expired last May.

The nuclear sector, which is totally dependent on federal funding, is meanwhile faced with the double threat represented by the budgetary diet to which it has been subjected by the Collor government, and by the fact that it is about to be opened up to International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) monitoring as part of the mutual inspection agreement it signed with Argentina in November 1990 and ratified at the June summit of Ibero-American Presidents.

According to the Aug. 11 issue of *Jornal do Commercio*, through July, the nuclear sector received less than 20% of its 1991 budget allocation, which had been set at \$85 million and was then reduced by Congress to \$46 million. The project for uranium enrichment through the use of laser beams, developed by the Aerospace Technical Center, received only \$500,000, which, according to an Air Force official, is barely enough to pay

researchers' salaries and administrative costs.

The signing of the Safeguard Agreement with the IAEA, scheduled for Sept. 18, is really tantamount to signing the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, according to a document made available to *EIR* by military intelligence officials. The document warns that the agreement implies that "Brazil must submit all of its nuclear installations to international inspection, including the Autonomous Program which obtained no foreign financing for its successful implementation," which fact constitutes "a serious violation of national sovereignty."

To create a climate favorable to the signing of the agreement, the Collor government let it be known that the Strategic Affairs Secretariat had spent 99% of a secret \$65 million allocation on nuclear activities, as revealed in a series of reports in *Jornal do Brasil*. The Aug. 14 issue of *Veja* magazine, owned by Inter-American Dialogue member Roberto Civita, reported that the funds had been used for the purchase of several ultracentrifuges for uranium enrichment at the Navy-run Aramar Experimental Center. Well-known opponents of the nuclear program, such as physicist Luiz Pinguelli Rosa, or Gerard White of the Wisconsin Project on Nuclear Arms Control, claimed that the centrifuges would be used to produce uranium for Brazil's first atomic bomb.

Maneuvers of this type prove that Brazil is high on the list of the new world order's next targets. The authors of the document obtained by *EIR* also understand this fact. Its final paragraph warns that the agreement with the IAEA "could set a dangerous precedent for other types of international inspections, perhaps in the Amazon region, to protect human rights of the 'forest peoples' or prevent the destruction of 'humanity's lungs.'"