

Malaysia and Brazil putting up resistance to 1992 Earth Summit

by Marcia Merry

The prime minister of Malaysia, Dr. Mahathir Mohamad, announced on Aug. 16 that his country may boycott the Earth Summit (Eco-92), planned for Brazil next June. Mahathir scored the terrorism being waged against his people, done in the name of the "environmental situation" in Malaysia, by powerful international environmental groups. He said that attending the Earth Summit may be pointless, because, "If they have decided to oust Malaysia from the world, there is no need for us to attend."

Mahathir's statement is the latest and most outspoken against the Eco-92, which is drawing fire from leaders in Brazil and Africa as well. Summit organizers include the United Nations, government agencies in the United States and Britain and the panoply of conservationist groups. The intention is to ram through a worldwide treaty prohibiting economic development in the name of preserving the environment.

Dr. Mahathir said if the conference was used to suppress the Third World, it would be better for these nations to hold their own meeting where the developed countries would be excluded. "It is only then that we can learn what is the real situation" on the environment. He added that the developed nations were polluting the environment, and not Malaysia.

Mahathir made his remarks to newsmen in Petaling Jaya, where he came to open the annual meeting of the Malaysian College of General Practitioners. After his address he discussed with journalists, including *The Star*, a report that environmentalists had launched a global assault on Malaysia. That report, published by *The Star* on Aug. 17, was picked up from the article by Rogelio Maduro in *EIR's* Aug. 16 issue, which detailed how the greenie gangs picked Malaysia as their first target.

Beyond Malaysia, the eco-terrorists are moving on Brazil and India, in a countdown to the Earth Summit. Dr. Mahathir called the coordinated actions a new form of imperialism. He said, "The environmental groups are very well organized and rich. I am sure they are funded by certain economic lobbyists to break the laws of this country and to create problems." He told reporters that the originating countries of

the groups claim they have no control over the actions of these groups.

Cavemen to gawk at?

Dr. Mahathir spoke out strongly on the question of the living conditions of the jungle nomads, the Penans, whom the environmentalists claim as their concern. Oct. 7 has been set as an environmentalist day of action on behalf of the Penans. Mahathir said, "They want to preserve the Penans as jungle inhabitants who do not need care and supervision. They wish to see the Penans remain as museum pieces and as remnants of the cavemen for them to gawk at." The government, on the other hand, he noted, wanted to see the Penans enjoy the fruits of development like all Malaysians. Mahathir said the Penan issue was merely a new approach devised by the developed nations against Malaysia, which had already seen some development and had become bold enough to speak up.

Two days later, the Aug. 18 the Malaysian paper the *New Sunday Times* ran an editorial stating, "The Penans have become a convenient rallying point for the passions of international environmental groups. Shades of precious *fin de siècle* romanticism; visions of the noble savage stalking big game in arboreal groves, in grunting communion with the voices of the land. The same kind of claptrap that got natives all over the world sold down the river into slavery; decimated by smallpox and hopeless helplessness.

"The noble savage may play well in documentaries and glossy magazine features, but such a role not only reflects condescension and patronage, but it also often leaves out images of illness and death, of ignorance and a hanging on to the nostalgic tail-end of relevance. Should we trot out our natives as anthropological curiosities for the edification of foreign scholars or tourists?"

An assault on Brazilian sovereignty

In Brazil in early August, a number of articles have come out blasting the Eco-92 conference, penned by Gerardo Mello Mourao, a writer and poet who formerly worked for

Folha de São Paulo in Beijing. In the Aug. 4 issue of that paper, Mello Mourao warned, "It won't be easy to row against the current of that type of ecological epidemic, unleashed against our country, [which] threatens the structure of our cultural, spiritual, and political values, and against our very national sovereignty." He criticizes President Fernando Collor de Mello for staging a phony defense of Brazil's sovereignty against the International Monetary Fund, but saying nothing about the fact that "the First World's ecology leaders" met in Brussels in late July for the purpose "of determining the fate of the Amazon."

Ecology, Mello Mourao explains, "is merely the most modern form of the onslaught against the Amazon." There have been other, implicit ones, he says, such as studies done by the U.S. Hudson Institute; as well as explicit ones, "such as the one I have before me, in the minutes of the Munich conference in 1938." On this occasion, writes the Brazilian journalist, "recognizing the legitimacy of Hitler's territorial revanchism, Messrs. Chamberlain and Daladier, heads of the governments of England and France, calmly offered the Brazilian Amazon to the Führer." Hitler reportedly observed that since the Amazon was in South America, the United States would cite the Monroe Doctrine and reject a German occupation of Brazilian territory. "Chamberlain and Daladier responded that the proposal had Washington's backing," which, Mello Mourao notes "could, or could not, be true."

Mello Mourao blasts the "fraud of ecology" used as the cover for those wanting to occupy the Amazon. "The rich countries, which never saved anyone's life" now want to save Indian tribes, "the Amazon forests, the lungs of humanity, and the defense of the planet against the holes in the ozone layer." He cites an important European scientist, who said that Eco-92 is "a fraud and conspiracy by the rich nations, who want to prevent Brazil's development, the only underdeveloped country in a position, in the short term, to join the club of the First World. They invented ecological fanaticism to prevent exploration of the Amazon's prodigious mineral and vegetable wealth, and to paralyze economic expansion."

Mello Mourao recommends that supervision of next year's conference, scheduled for Rio de Janeiro, should be given to people who know how to defend Brazil's interests: the staff of Itamaraty (Foreign Ministry) and the general staff of the armed forces.

In Brasilia, on Aug. 20, *EIR* correspondent Lorenzo Carrasco gave extensive testimony to the congressional commission of inquiry on the "internationalization of the Amazon." Carrasco briefed 10 congressmen on the details of the conspiracy against the Amazon, intended to impose limited sovereignty on the country, and identified the role of George Bush and Henry Kissinger, and also that of Britain's Crown Prince Charles and the international environmentalist groups. Carrasco scored the ecologists for attempting to replace Christian principles with "pagan animism," "centered around the adoration of Gaia, Mother Earth."



Malaysian Prime Minister Dr. Mahathir Mohamad



Lorenzo Carrasco

Philip Ulanowsky

On Aug. 15 in the *Folha de São Paulo*, Mello Mourao also wrote of the "great apostasy and heresy of the century as the deification of the anti-spirit, the revocation of what is sacred, the negation of everything transcendental." He said, "Today, with the exacerbation of real or imagined ecological values, deifies nature. Just as Comte's positivism deified reason, the ecologists today deify nature." Such Rousseauvianism, with its notion of the "noble savage," degrades any notion of humanism, Mello explains. "It was thanks to humanism that our poor and prodigious planetary race got this far, building an anthropocentric culture and civilization. In our culture and our civilization . . . many things are admired, but nothing more so than man . . . that's why the oceans, the land, the insects, and the trees are at his service."

Today, however, ecologists want to remove man from his rightful place in the cosmos, Mello Mourao says, preaching an eco-centrism which says that the planet's existence is just an *oikos* possessed by nature. "We don't need either the spirit or the grace of God for salvation, only the bugs of the earth, and nature." The rights of nature become unlimited, he notes, and "the rights of man end where those of living species begin; there are those who even question . . . the legitimacy of using insecticides and antibiotics, since the cockroaches and the AIDS virus are living beings, part of nature's equilibrium."

The journalist warns that what Brazil faces today is a modern-day Pelagian heresy, "maintained by the gold from the rich countries." Progress was always defined as "man's fight against nature . . . to take away that right, by deifying ecological values, is an assault against progress, against the spirit, against the faith in the potential of man, lord of created things, lord of the planet. Before making any commitment to the lakes, the cobras, and the lizards, we have a commitment with time and eternity."