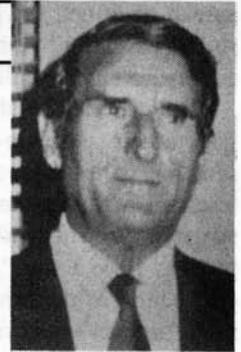


Interview: Col. Mohamed Alí Seineldín



'Without God and Fatherland, life is worthless'

The following interview was granted to EIR correspondents Gretchen Small and Dennis Small by Col. Mohamed Alí Seineldín on Aug. 14, from Caseros Prison, Pavilion 14.

EIR: In your Aug. 8 testimony before the court, you locate the military and political developments that have led to the trial against you and the other so-called *carapintadas* [painted faces] within the New Yalta and the "New Order" projects of the international financial centers. What are the global objectives—economic, political, and cultural—of that new order?

Seineldín: In a nutshell, the objectives are the following: On the cultural level, to "modernize" the Apostolic Roman Catholic religion, and mix it with other religions, but especially with the thousands of sects proliferating throughout the world, thus losing its character as the only repository of Revealed Truth.

On the economic level, to increase financial indebtedness as a means of ensuring dependency; to facilitate the growth of the narco-economy in place of the productive economy, to the point of achieving its absolute integration into the international system of finance.

And politically, to subordinate policy to the economic decisions which will define the new order.

EIR: You have spoken of a plan to dismantle Ibero-America's armed forces, a plan you learned of directly when you were in Panama. Can you explain this to us? Does it have something to do with what is occurring in countries like Colombia or El Salvador?

Seineldín: It would take a long time to explain, but I will summarize it in as few words as possible:

The idea is to use the Armed Forces in the anti-drug fight in "a context of international cooperation," that is, dependent on the United States Southern Command. For this, the Armed Forces must be reduced to a "national gendarmerie."

This would lead, on the political level, to a limitation of national sovereignty, an unconstitutional measure. Militarily, you get a limitation of the national Armed Forces—another unconstitutional measure—by creating a regional security bloc among various countries.

The anti-drug fight would be regulated by the U.S. forces

ensconced in our country, which would determine, through their access to satellite intelligence, where to attack, with the result that:

a) The definitive and total eradication of the drug trade would be avoided, as in Bolivia, yielding instead to its *control and regulation*;

b) The Latin American Medellín and Cali cocaine cartels would be pursued, and not the marijuana cartels, which are based on U.S. capital investment; and

c) Drug production would be regulated, to avoid price fluctuations.

Should any problems among countries surface, the forces of the U.S. Southern Command would intervene.

As an example, look at Colombia where the traditional bulwarks of the state—Church, Armed Forces, businesses, unions, etc.—are replaced by the guerrilla, the drug trade, and the political oligarchy, so-called "Colombianization."

EIR: Some Brazilian military sectors are speaking of a threat, perhaps a military threat, to national sovereignty using the pretext of "internationalization of the Amazon." Does this appear likely to you? Need Brazil fear such a possibility?

Seineldín: The Amazon, aside from being the "lungs of the world," contains within it immense mineral and energy wealth. It is for this reason that the major financial centers are making plans to take it over, in a swap for the foreign debt. Thus, they will prevent its exploitation by Brazil's citizens, its rightful owners through the legacy of God and their ancestors. They will also install "ecological units" for its control and care, which is nothing but the covert and "intelligent" deployment of foreign forces to the country, an assault against national sovereignty. Thus, Brazil, and especially its Armed Forces, should be very alert to this possibility.

Suffice it to say that this possibility affects all the Ibero-American republics.

EIR: You criticized a "Regional Defense" project, based on the Argentine Navy, the Brazilian Army, and the Chilean Air Force, as contrary to sovereignty. What, in your view, is the correct way to address the issue of regional security?

Seineldín: The correct way to address regional security is



EIRNS/Martin Simon

A rally in Los Angeles in support of Argentina during the Malvinas War against Great Britain, April 1982. Colonel Seineldín describes Britain as "the very nerve center of all imperialist maneuvers throughout the world."

through the long-desired Ibero-American Association—our forefathers' plan—that is, through our unity within that body to resolve common problems, but *without abandoning national sovereignty*. Without a doubt, a correct continental and regional security approach would emerge from such a political structure.

EIR: The book *The Military and Democracy*, conceived and financed by the U.S. government, attacks a certain Ibero-American military sector which believes it has a national mission to defend the values of "the Christian West . . . and to safeguard and guarantee the development process." This tendency is dubbed "messianic," "fundamentalist," "authoritarian," "ethical-religious," and "patriarchal." Are they referring to you? [*The Military and Democracy* was reviewed in *EIR*, Jan. 11.]

Seineldín: Yes. Just as your question states it, in the book *The Military and Democracy*, the natural and traditional mission of the Latin American armed forces—that is, "to provide for the common defense and at the same time to collaborate in national development"—is replaced by a regional or international one, which seeks only to achieve the weakening of the armed forces, which in turn leads to the weakening of national sovereignty. Those who oppose this arbitrary policy are labeled "messianic," "fundamentalist," and so forth, just as has occurred in our case.

EIR: In your testimony, you mentioned several times that the Catholic Church is under attack by international financial centers. At the same time, you describe yourself as "nationalist and Catholic." What is the importance of Catholicism for Ibero-America today? Do you identify with the declarations of Pope John Paul II in *Centesimus Annus*?

Seineldín: We Latin Americans can neither renounce nor abandon our origin and tradition. The Catholic Church is the lifeblood which nourishes the lives of the American people. To separate ourselves from it is, simply, to seek our peoples' self-destruction. I identify totally with Pope John Paul II's encyclical *Centesimus Annus* where the only path to follow is defined in detail.

EIR: You lived in Panama for four years. What was your mission there? What opinion do you have of the Noriega case? What do you think of the U.S. invasion of Panama?

Seineldín: My mission in Panama was strictly military. On the orders of General Noriega, I founded the Military College, the Superior War College, the Center of Military and Political Studies, and I especially dedicated the majority of my time to resolving the hypothesis of conflict between the drug trade and terrorism.

Many have asked me about General Noriega and my answer is always the same: "He is an outstanding patriot and an excellent Latin American soldier."



Argentina's "Cruz" air squadron prepares to leave on a mission during the Malvinas War. Today, a plan is afoot to dismantle the armed forces of all the nations of Ibero-America.

The "Panama case" is a clear indication of the intent of the current United States government: to completely eliminate any attempt to defend national sovereignty, especially if supported by national armed forces. While I pursued my military activities, I observed the concern of many United States authorities, and to learn their true intentions, I spoke with many U.S. military commanders, in hopes of avoiding what finally occurred: the invasion of Panama, a true disaster, a total injustice, and aberrant genocide. I still bear great sadness and pain in my heart over that fateful act, inconceivable in the civilized world in which we purport to live.

EIR: In your testimony, you argued that as of 1976, when the military junta took power, a speculative financial system began to dominate. What was your connection to the 1976 events? What do you think of the economic policy of the military government between 1976 and 1983?

Seineldín: In 1976, I and my military comrades came out clearly against the Process of National Reorganization. We were certain that we were headed into a "trap" mounted by international financial centers. That happened, and from that date until 1983, we saw a change from a system of production and development (physical economy) to that of financial speculation. Of course, that latter system is today consolidated in the Argentine Republic.

The Process of National Reorganization "opened the

door" to the New Order, which today leads us with our hands behind our necks, heads bowed and crawling on our knees.

EIR: Nine years later, what is your evaluation of the Malvinas War?

Seineldín: On the Malvinas, the evaluation I would offer today is that the decision to recover the islands was correct. Beyond the question of the military defeat, on April 2, 1982, we hit at the very nerve center of all imperialist maneuvers throughout the world: Great Britain. The military government's poor capabilities and lack of foresight prevented the political exploitation of this development, but today, the spirit of that deed is still latent and present.

EIR: You warned that "blood would flow" if certain problems afflicting Argentine society are not resolved. What concrete steps must be taken to prevent this? Are there other countries in similar conditions?

Seineldín: The concrete steps that need to be taken to prevent another bloodbath are *halting* the Menem government's barbarity in continuing to weaken and disarm the Armed Forces, and security, police, and prison forces. (These as a whole form the security and development forces.)

EIR: It is said that you are a political prisoner, that you are not in prison for committing a crime, but for political reasons. Do you think that is the case? Are there such prisoners in other Ibero-American countries? In Europe? In the United States?

Seineldín: Yes, I consider myself a political prisoner, just as there are so many others in other countries who are fighting for their peoples' independence, among whom I would mention Lyndon LaRouche, Gen. Manuel Noriega, and others.

EIR: What are the prison conditions for you and your men?

Seineldín: With my men, I share a prison with common prisoners. We live behind bars, we comply with the prison's rules without privileges of any kind; we are strictly guarded. But we endure this proudly because we have offered this sacrifice to the *National Fatherlands* and to the *Great Latin American Fatherland*.

EIR: What is your message to the youth of Argentina, and to the rest of Ibero-America?

Seineldín: Our cry of "God and Fatherland . . . or Death" says it all. Without the values of God and Fatherland, man's life is worthless. This is the meaning of "or Death." Argentine and Ibero-American youth must cling to these values and *never* abandon them, since without them there will be nothingness . . . darkness . . . emptiness "or Death."

EIR: Any last comment or message for the readers of *EIR*?

Seineldín: That I have never seen a magazine express itself with such truth. They must continue reading it.