

EIR Feature

Kissinger plot set back by fall of Venezuela's CAP

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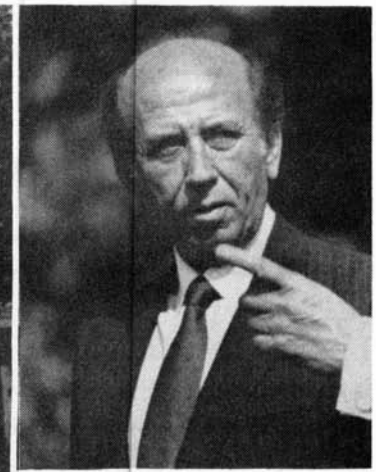
When the Venezuelan Congress voted Aug. 31 to formally end the rule of Carlos Andrés Pérez as President of their nation, a crucial player in the plot to annihilate the sovereign nation-states of Ibero-America fell. Since last May 20, when the Supreme Court ruled that Pérez must stand trial on multimillion-dollar corruption charges, and Ramón J. Velásquez was named President, "CAP," his party apparatus, and his international backers have used extraordinary and often violent means to prevent his final defeat. But he had long before lost "the mandate of heaven," and bombing, bullying, and buying up adversaries couldn't save him this time.

The seeds were sown for the fall of Carlos Andrés Pérez early in his term. In February 1989, Venezuelans revolted against the hideous economic hardships caused by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) austerity package Pérez had imposed. He responded to the rebellion with shoot-to-kill orders. Thousands were massacred; no international human rights commission has ever exposed CAP's tyranny.

Pérez believed he could get away with anything. After all, he was Washington's man in Ibero-America. He was a key negotiator for Project Democracy on the continent, and he was enforcing the bankers' dictates. Until Aug. 31, Henry Kissinger, Fidel Castro, David Rockefeller, and most of his other fervent supporters outside Venezuela believed he could get away with anything, too. Rockefeller, Kissinger, and the State Department's Luigi Einaudi backed their favorite long after the people and the constitutional structure of Venezuela had sealed his doom.

On Feb. 4, 1992, a military rebellion in Venezuela, which received loud popular support, was thwarted. The fact that CAP was hated as a corrupt traitor, who was handing Venezuela to the international banks and lining his own pockets in the process, was now hard to hide. Henry Kissinger was hired by the government to give the regime a face-lift. As head of an international advisory board, Kissinger made at least two trips to Venezuela after February, had closed-door sessions with CAP, and announced at a press conference that all was stable and everyone should invest.

In October 1992, only a month before a second military rebellion, Einaudi,



Soldiers patrol the streets of Caracas, Venezuela in March 1989, to quell riots provoked by President Carlos Andrés Pérez's austerity measures. Inset: Pérez during a visit with George Bush, April 1990.

then U.S. ambassador to the Organization of American States, backed the hated and notoriously corrupt CAP as "the standard-bearer for the possibility of democracy in Latin America." Einaudi, who for decades served as "Kissinger's Kissinger for Latin America," said that what happens in Venezuela "is absolutely critical to our collective, regional future." Any "interruption" of constitutional order there would have "an impact on the whole scene of U.S.-Latin American relations." This obvious threat did not stop the Nov. 27 attempt to oust CAP from power.

It is not surprising, therefore, that CAP insisted, after the Congress voted him out of office to stand trial for stealing millions of dollars, that his ouster was "unconstitutional," and insisted pathetically for days after that he was still President. Until the bitter end and beyond, CAP's buddies in the Inter-American Dialogue, the Socialist International, and the U.S. banking and foreign policy establishment did everything to keep this corrupt puppet in power as the model "democrat."

Another model "democrat" of the new world order, Brazilian President Fernando Collor de Mello, was impeached for corruption in September 1992. He, like CAP, held on, with enormous backing from Wall Street and the U.S. Project Democracy apparatus, until millions of protesters in the streets and the military insisted that he bow to the constitutional process, forcing him out of power, over two months after his impeachment. But in Brazil, the opportunity was lost. A corrupt President was replaced, but the personal integrity of a new President cannot save a nation. That integrity

must be applied to changing the economic structures that cause unemployment, malnutrition, and desperation.

It is not democracy that has been set back by CAP's fall, but the plot to subjugate the nations of Ibero-America. It is a plot directed against the Ibero-American military, but also against the Catholic Church, the trade unions, agricultural producers, industrialists, and all institutions that might resist the new world order. It is not democracy or dictatorship that is at issue. It is genocide, being imposed by the IMF, and its alternative is development.

Venezuela has won an important battle as a nation, as has the entire continent. But the crucial fight has just begun. Will the economic policies of free market liberalism, the policies of the IMF, which are sucking these nations dry to pay the usurious debt, continue, as after Collor's fall in Brazil? Or will Venezuelan leaders and ordinary citizens, bolstered by the political awakening that pulled down one evil and corrupt President, make the kind of economic changes that will allow their nation to survive?

In order to properly celebrate Carlos Andrés Pérez's defeat, in the following pages we print excerpts from the book *The Plot to Annihilate the Armed forces and Nations of Ibero-America*. This exposé, soon to be published in English, presents the plotters and their project. It is a manual for all who believe in defending the nation-state. We also run an exclusive interview with Air Force Gen. Francisco Visconti, one of the leaders of the Nov. 27, 1992 military uprising, whose courage contributed to the final defeat of Carlos Andrés Pérez.