

## Anglo-American racists use Indians to destroy Mexico

by Carlos Wesley

According to most of the American news media, the terrorist offensive launched on New Year's Day by the Zapatista National Liberation Army (EZLN) in the southern Mexican state of Chiapas, on the border with Guatemala, was a spontaneous uprising by poor "indigenous peasants," upset by the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) and the lack of free elections.

Don't believe it.

As *EIR* founding editor Lyndon LaRouche remarked in a Jan. 5 radio interview: "This is *not* an indigenous movement. This is, together with the Guatemala insurrection, organized from *outside*." LaRouche said that "the people who are doing the organizing of this Zapatista bloody side-show are *foreign* (chiefly) anthropologists and missionaries. These are *intelligence officers* of foreign intelligence services in the United States and elsewhere."

### 'Shining Path North'

The uprising confirms *EIR*'s repeated warnings that the barbaric warfare of Peru's Pol Pot-style narco-terrorist gang, Shining Path (Sendero Luminoso) would be brought north into Mexico. "Shining Path North" represents a new phase in the ongoing plan of the Anglo-American oligarchy to halve Mexico's population and to split the Mexican nation-state into "ethnic" enclaves, as in former Yugoslavia.

As *EIR* has documented every step of the way for the past 13 years (see below), it was these anthropologists from the Harvard Chiapas Project who put together the recent uprising, along with Marxist liberation theologians headed by Samuel Ruiz, the "red bishop" of the diocese of San Cristóbal de las Casas in Chiapas, and the PRD party of opposition

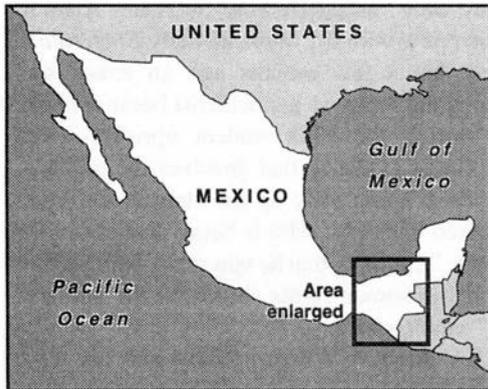
Mexican presidential candidate Cuauhtémoc Cárdenas, which is affiliated with the São Paulo Forum, founded by Cuba's Fidel Castro.

In fact, Cárdenas, who was quick to defend the EZLN's bloody actions, could be the big winner of the insurrection. According to the Jan. 4 *Wall Street Journal*, the uprising is a setback for ruling party candidate Donaldo Colosio, and "will provide fuel for the sputtering campaign of leftist presidential candidate Cárdenas."

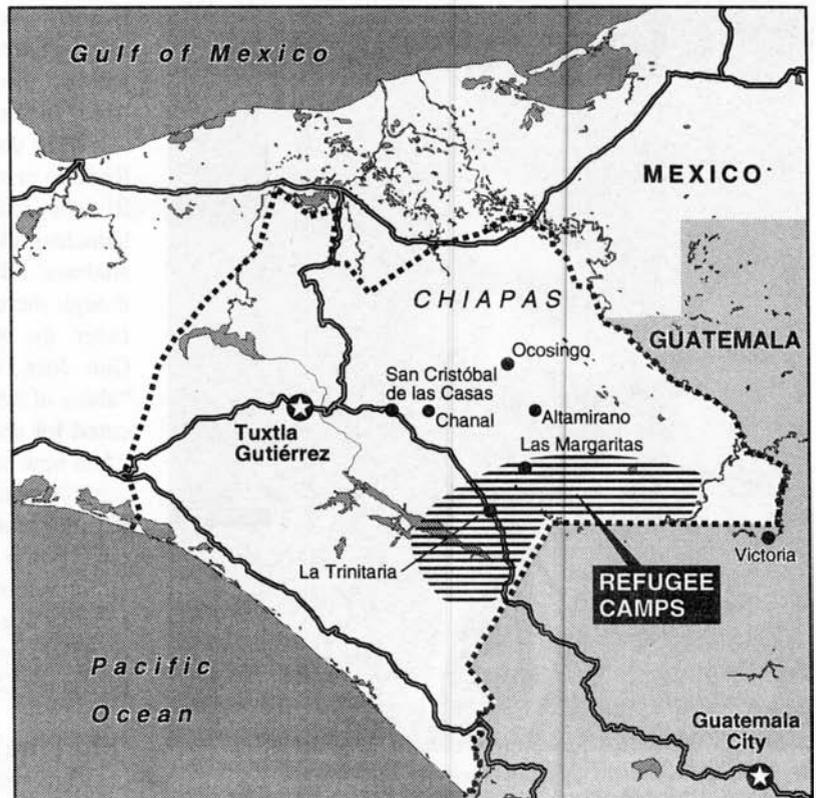
Another key player was the Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity (URNG) guerrilla grouping of 1992 Nobel Peace Prize winner Rigoberta Menchú, a close collaborator and confidante of Mexican President Carlos Salinas de Gortari. The URNG in all likelihood lent battle-hardened terrorist cadre for the Chiapas offensive, according to the Guatemalan Army.

Menchú reiterated the ethnic bantustan perspective last month in Colombia, where she sought to mediate an accord between the family of drug lord Pablo Escobar and the government. "Colombia is a country with a very complex situation, in which there are a number of actors: guerrillas, drug traffickers, paramilitary groups," said Menchú. "For a peace process, it is necessary that none of them be left out." Only where "multiracial and pluricultural" conditions are established, she said, "can Indian nations co-exist with other nations within the same state." She threatened, "I hope we don't have to end up like the ex-Yugoslavia."

The EZLN fielded anywhere between 600 to 1,000 armed combatants. Early on New Year's Day they captured the city of San Cristóbal de las Casas, and the municipalities of Ococingo, Las Margaritas, and Altamirano. They also took



The map shows southern Mexican state of Chiapas (indicated by broken line), and major cities targeted by the terrorists, including sites of refugee camps for tens of thousand of Guatemalans.



over Ox Chuc, La Trinitaria, and other settlements in southern Chiapas. This is the area in which are located most of the camps where the more than 40,000 Guatemalan refugees in Mexico live, including members of Menchú's URNG guerrillas.

The assaults were carried out with military precision, employing AK-47s, R-15s, and very sophisticated communications equipment, even cellular telephones. On the eve of the offensive, the EZLN stole 1,500 kg of dynamite from Pemex, the government's oil company.

They murdered a half-dozen policemen, some by summary execution. They kidnapped a former governor, Gen. Abasalón Castellanos, and as late as Jan. 6, they were still holding him and another 100 civilians hostages in Guadalupe Tepeyac, a community right on the Guatemalan border.

Like their cousins in Peru's Shining Path, throughout the offensive the EZLN systematically destroyed infrastructure, waterworks, electrical systems, schools, and hospitals in Chiapas, one of the poorest states in Mexico. This scorched-earth policy would ensure that the poor Indians whom EZLN claims to defend, would be relegated to the Stone Age, fit only to be lab specimens for study by Harvard anthropologists.

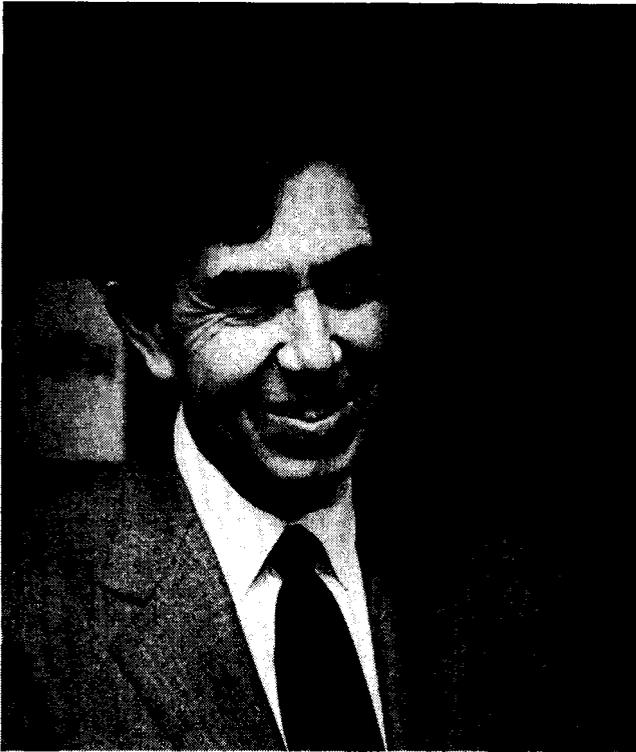
And just as with Shining Path, the EZLN is a narco-terrorist gang. Peru's daily *Expreso* reported on Jan. 6 that the EZLN was backed by drug traffickers who seek to preserve and expand their poppy fields in Chiapas, a major source of the heroin entering the U.S. drug market.

There are indications that the bloody events of Chiapas could be replicated in the states of Guerrero, Yucatán, Michoacán, and Oaxaca in Mexico's south, and even as far north as San Luis Potosí. But the danger extends beyond the threat of dismemberment to Mexico. In Bolivia, the Confederation of Peasant Workers proclaimed its "moral support" for the uprising, and warned that they were considering staging "a rebellion similar to that being carried out by our Aztec and Mayan brothers in Mexico." Atencio López, an Indian by profession, whose operations are funded by international organizations such as Survival International and the World Bank, threatened: "What you are seeing today in Chiapas, could well happen tomorrow in Costa Rica or Panama," reported Reuters on Jan. 5. Similar warnings came from Ecuador and, almost simultaneous with the Chiapas uprising, Guajiro Indian inmates in a Venezuelan prison battled a rival gang in a riot that left at least 122 prisoners dead.

### Target: the Army

A key target of EZLN from the start was the Mexican Army. Its first communiqué ordered the "trials" and liquidation of police and members of the Mexican Army, which it declared "a basic pillar of the dictatorship which we suffer."

But from the initial stages of the outbreak, the Army was not allowed to deploy to stop the EZLN. It was the EZLN that went after the Army, by mounting a fierce attack on Jan. 2, against a military base in Rancho Nuevo, on the outskirts



*Mexican opposition presidential candidate Cuauhtémoc Cárdenas, who rushed to the defense of the Zapatistas, could emerge as the big winner of the insurrection.*

of San Cristóbal. The battle lasted well into Monday, and left five soldiers and 24 insurgents killed, according to official figures. Even after that attack the Army was ordered to respond only when attacked. That decision was taken by the Salinas government, clearly shaken by strong domestic and international pressure from the pro-terrorist human rights lobby. Nicaragua's Sandinistas, El Salvador's FMLN, Menchú, and others urged Salinas to "negotiate a peaceful solution," all the while the EZLN continued its wanton violence. In a thinly veiled threat, Donna Lee Van Cott, of the pro-drug legalization Inter-American Dialogue—an influential organization of bankers and other policymakers leading U.S. efforts to destroy Ibero-American armed forces, and to bring to power across the continent the parties of the São Paulo Forum—told Reuters that the Army had better be kept in check, if the Mexicans are interested "in keeping NAFTA on track and keeping foreign investment pouring into Mexico."

The Army's restraint proved costly. Some unconfirmed reports claim that as many as 150 soldiers may have lost their lives. (The official death toll is much lower.) It should be noted that Mexico's Army, from the lowest soldier, on up to the highest levels of the officer corps, is overwhelmingly Indian and *mestizo*.

When the Army was finally allowed to launch aerial bombardments against subversive strongholds and began pouring troops and tanks into the area, Bishop Ruiz, Cárdenas, the

British intelligence-owned Amnesty International, the George Soros-funded Americas Watch, and most of the international media screamed that the massive deployment violated "Indian" rights.

What do they want? asked Defense Secretary Antonio Riviello in an interview with the Mexican daily *El Heraldo*. Riviello recalled that a few months ago an attack was launched, charging the Army as genocidalist because of the students killed during the 1968 student uprising—even though there is filmed evidence that absolves the military. Later, the *New York Times* took up the cudgels for jailed Gen. José Francisco Gallardo, who is being disciplined for "abuse of authority," claiming that he was really being persecuted for denouncing human rights abuses by the military. "And now this," said Riviello.

If former CIA director William Colby had his way, Riviello would be out of a job and the EZLN would have taken power. "Mexico doesn't need an Army," Colby said in an interview with *El Financiero* a number of years ago. If security was threatened, according to Colby, the U.S. Army could always come in—very convenient in the case of oil-producing Chiapas.

### **'Shut the border and watch them scream'**

That's precisely the plan. As early as Aug. 11, 1980, *El Heraldo* ran a front-page article by correspondent Leopoldo Mendivil under the eight-column banner headline, "Brzezinski Tries to Destabilize Mexico: LaRouche." The article noted that "The National Security Council, directed by Zbigniew Brzezinski, has attempted to carry out a policy of destabilizing Mexico to achieve the 'Iranization' of this country, which could lead at some point to a military occupation, especially of Mexico's oil-producing areas." He reported on Rockefeller agronomist William Paddock's plan to rapidly reduce Mexico's population, and shut the border, and to Brzezinski's attempts to keep Mexico in a state of "perpetual underdevelopment." As Brzezinski himself stated: "the U.S. will not allow another Japan to arise on its southern border."

### **White chiefs and dead Indians**

There are "indigenous" forces in the EZLN, but they are not in charge. A Jan. 5 government communiqué says the EZLN has two levels: "a) a professional leadership, expert in conducting acts of violence and terrorism, well educated, both Mexican and foreigners, with powerful weapons and with sophisticated communication equipment; and b) Indians and peasants, many of them 14 or 15 years old, poorly educated and poorly trained, armed with machetes, shotguns, or lower-caliber weapons."

"They told me, 'Let's go to war,' and they dragged me," said one captured peasant quoted by *Excelsior*. Most had never heard of NAFTA, and some said they were told their land would be taken away or they faced death if they didn't join. An estimated 30% of the terrorists were from Guatemala.

la, El Salvador, or other Central American countries. According to *Excelsior*, people in Chiapas said that “starting two years ago, [guerrilla] training began on both the Guatemalan and Chiapas side of the border, given by American instructors.”

Commander “Marcos,” the EZLN spokesman and apparent leader of the assault on San Cristóbal, is described as a “blond with green eyes” who speaks several languages. Arnaldo Braguti, an Italian sociologist who witnessed the attack, said the leader of the assault on San Cristóbal “was white, he wasn’t at all indigenous. . . . He spoke perfect Spanish, but also spoke English to some of the tourists,” Braguti told Reuters.

Behind “Marcos” is the German priest Carlos Lender-Foll, who was recruited by Bishop Ruiz, writes Juan Bustillos Orozco in the most recent issue of *Impacto* magazine. Lender-Foll “cohabits with a Canadian woman, Janina Archinbaum, with whom he shares the leadership of a network of cells that extends throughout the diocese of San Cristóbal.”

Last September, Jesuit priest Mardonio Morales told *Proceso* magazine that starting in the 1970s, Bishop Ruiz tolerated, if not encouraged, the infiltration in the Christian “base communities” in the Lacandon jungle, of Maoist proselytizers under the leadership of Adolfo Oribe, currently an official in the Salinas administration. Like Pol Pot, head of the genocidalist Cambodian Khmer Rouge regime, and his Peruvian counterpart, Shining Path founder Abimael Guzmán, Oribe spent years in Paris studying at the Sorbonne, where he was a disciple of the deconstructionist Louis Althusser.

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## Documentation

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### More than a decade ago, we warned you

*From 1976 forward, EIR founder Lyndon LaRouche led a fight internationally in support of Mexico’s sovereignty and its right to develop into an industrial and scientific giant. In the course of that fight, LaRouche and EIR identified so-called radical indigenism and the very networks now leading the insurgency in southern Mexico, as the leading instrument of subversion wielded by the enemies of Mexico. The record shows:*

**Jan. 22, 1980:** *EIR* warned, in an article on “The ‘Iranization’ of the Mexican Republic,” that policymakers in Washington, D.C. were spinning out scenarios for a U.S. military occupation of Mexico’s rich oil fields, under the

cover of protecting them from a projected terrorist upsurge along the Mexican-Guatemalan border. Such talk was heard from top Mexico hands at Georgetown University’s Center for Strategic and International Studies and associates of the left-wing Institute for Policy Studies alike. Singled out by *EIR* was an article in *Gallery* magazine penned by IPS founder Karl Hess, which suggested a scenario in which the U.S. President decides to “encourage . . . terrorist activities by Marxist anti-American guerrillas” in oil fields in the south of Mexico, in order to create conditions for U.S. intervention.

**June 1980:** *EIR* issued a Special Consulting Report, “Chiapas and the Destabilization of Mexico,” detailing the powerful channels of foreign influence organizing conflict in Chiapas, “less than 100 miles from Mexico’s biggest oil fields.” We singled out the role of liberation theology, U.S. and French anthropology networks, and “the international ‘human rights’/ethnocide lobby” in setting up Chiapas as a focal point for the destabilization of Mexico.

Identified as one of the leaders of the project was the bishop of San Cristóbal de las Casas, Samuel Ruiz, a top liberation theologian then organizing peasant and Indian revolts with foreign “radical anthropologists.” *EIR* documented how “Chiapas has been the target of one of the most intensive anthropological investigations of any region on the globe.” Between 1957 and 1977, anthropologists working with Harvard University’s Chiapas Project alone—and other foreign institutes had projects in the area as well—had produced 27 books, 21 doctoral dissertations, 33 undergraduate theses, two novels, and a film on the region.

**July 1, 1980:** *EIR* dedicated its cover story to “Aztec Fundamentalism and the Ayatollahs of Mexico,” warning that radical networks organizing unrest in Chiapas, were serving as the shock troops for the New York Council of Foreign Relations and others who sought to “Iranize” Mexico, that is, induce a Khomeini-like revolution to stop all industrial and scientific development.

Here, LaRouche warned that toleration by Mexican nationalists of the “pagan cult of Aztec fundamentalism,” and their “wrong-headed prejudices” against the Augustinian Catholic roots of Mexican republicanism, blinded them to the “Indian card” being developed against them. The goal of the Iranization project is to accomplish “William Paddock’s proposal to approximately halve the population of Mexico by the end of this present century,” LaRouche warned. “A Mexico which tolerates admiration of Aztec culture is a Mexico which will be destroyed because it has lost connections to the moral fitness to survive.”

**Dec. 10, 1980:** An *EIR* exposé by Timothy Rush on “The New Initiatives Under Way to ‘Iranize’ the Mexican Nation” identified plans by anthropologists to create “Indian nations” as an instrument of destruction against “the development capabilities of modern nation-states in Latin America.” Rush pointed, as danger signs, to the promotion in the international press of Aztec culture, including human