

chaos on March 15. Documents outlined plans to kill government officials, blow up the headquarters of the political police, and unleash looters in cities across the country.

On March 19, Chávez called a press conference to complain that the British government had invited him to London, but the invitation had now been cancelled after the Venezuelan government protested.

Chávez and his MRB-200 are an integral part of the Cali Cartel's narco-terrorist operation in the region. On March 15, Colombian security officials announced that they had documented Chávez's personal role in coordinating the founding of a so-called "Greater Colombian Revolutionary Alliance" with Colombia's National Liberation Army (ELN). Indeed, the March issue of the ELN's magazine, *Dignidad*, featured an article, "The Bolivarian Ideal," dedicated to Chávez, whom they portrayed as a model leader for the continent.

Formed by Castro and Liberation Theology activists, the ELN dominates the Colombian-Venezuelan contraband trade, and charges "taxes" to protect cocaine shipments across the border. British ties to the ELN extend back at least to 1984, when Armand Hammer, the Anglo-Soviet Trust agent who founded Occidental Petroleum, negotiated a deal with the ELN, in which three multinational companies operating in Colombia would pay the ELN \$200,000 a month, not to attack their oil installations. Hammer told the *Wall Street Journal* in July 1985: "We are giving jobs to the ELN. We give them work as suppliers."

Cuba: Chávez and his MBR-200, like the ELN, are members of the São Paulo Forum, the continent-wide political/military organization founded by the Cuban Communist Party after the fall of the Berlin Wall. The steering committee of the Forum includes, with the Cuban CP, several of the hemisphere's most violent narco-terrorist armies. Many of them share Cuba's involvement in the region's drug trade.

Chávez has toured various Ibero-American countries, organizing military officers into the Forum. Fidel Castro accorded Chávez a hero's welcome when he visited Havana on Dec. 14, 1994. Castro received Chávez at the airport, as if a head of state. Said Castro, "It's never been more appropriate to come to this airport than it is for me to receive a visitor such as Lt. Col. Hugo Chávez. I hope I will have many more such opportunities to greet figures as important as he." Replied Chávez, "It is an honor which, in truth, I don't believe we merit yet. . . . I hope that we will soon be worthy."

Britain has stepped up its long-standing ties with the Castro regime in recent months. Most prominent, was the five-day visit of senior Conservative Party leader Baroness Young to Cuba in February 1995, her second visit in 18 months. She was accompanied by a 40-person trade delegation, and herself heads a newly founded "Cuba Initiative," a British group seeking to increase business in Cuba. She met twice with Castro, and told reporters that for Britain, Cuba was a "very important market in the Caribbean."

'Human rights' cartel targets the military

by Gretchen Small

It has become commonly accepted wisdom that, in the post-Cold War world, threats to the sovereign existence of the Ibero-American nations have been eliminated, and therefore the military must be reduced in size, limited in its sphere of activities, and its structure reshaped for new "globalist" missions. A strong military, participating in national decision-making, has been defined as a threat to democratic government.

Such lies have played a critical role in allowing the near-takeover of large areas of Ibero-America by the drug traffickers and their terrorist partners. That was the goal of the policy from the outset. The so-called human rights and anti-military lobbies are actually part of the dope cartel, assigned the task of preventing the States of the region, through their armed forces, to defend themselves from Dope, Inc.'s assault.

The campaign to demilitarize Ibero-America was set into motion by Anglophile policy centers such as the Inter-American Dialogue, the leading lobby for legalization of narcotics in the Western Hemisphere. It was adopted as policy by the Bush administration. On such grounds, for example, Bush refused in April 1990 to allow the sale of Cobra helicopters to the Colombian military and police, under the pretext that they were too "lethal," involving "firepower in excess of anything [we] believe is appropriate."

Coordinator: the Inter-American Dialogue

The foot-soldiers for the war against the military are the so-called "human rights lobby," the plethora of non-governmental organizations (NGOs), run by the United Nations and often by the British, which are an integral part of the drug-legalization lobby. The unity of these operations—human rights, drug legalization, and demilitarization—is illustrated by the remarkable interlock among the Inter-American Dialogue, Human Rights Watch/Americas, speculator George Soros, and the Drug Policy Foundation.

Start with the Inter-American Dialogue (IAD), the bankers' lobby founded in 1982, which united leading Anglophiles of the U.S. establishment with their hangers-on from Ibero-America. In 1986, the IAD threw its political weight behind the drug legalization drive. Legalization should be taken up, because "waging war on drugs costs money. More

important, it will inevitably result in the loss of . . . foreign exchange that the drug trade provides [which] amounts are substantial for strapped economies carrying large burdens of external debt," their 1986 report declared.

The same report announced the creation of a taskforce to draw up plans for reshaping the military in Ibero-America, in coordination with the U.S. State Department and other U.S. agencies. Shortly thereafter, the State Department's Luigi Einaudi pulled together the network of U.S. and Ibero-American academics which produced the infamous "Bush Manual" against the military, published in 1990 under the title *The Military and Democracy: The Future of Civil-Military Relations in Latin America*. (See EIR's book *The Plot to Annihilate the Armed Forces and the Nations of Ibero-America*.)

The conclusions of the IAD military task force were announced in 1988, along with another call for drug legalization. "An effort must be undertaken to change military thinking about internal security and subversion. The military cannot consider itself the ultimate guardian of national values, or insist that national security embraces all aspects of policy," the IAD demanded.

Soros's children

Co-vice chairman of the IAD when it issued its call for drug legalization, who later became co-chairman, is Peter Bell, also chairman of Human Rights Watch/Americas (HRW). HRW and the British Foreign Office's Amnesty International are the two most important human rights cartels.

In the Americas, HRW has repeatedly come to the defense of both terrorists and the drug cartels. In early 1992, Americas Watch issued a book, *Peru under Fire*, which sought to mobilize governments to cut Peru off from all assistance, in a desperate attempt to head off the Lima government's preparations for all-out war to defeat the terrorists. The book lies that Shining Path "does not appear to be directly involved in the drug trade"; defends the capture of police and military personnel, and the bombing of factories and energy sources by the terrorists as "legitimate wartime conduct"; and concludes that the State, not the terrorists, was responsible for the 23,000 deaths which were inflicted upon Peru in 12 years of terrorist war.

As for Colombia, in October 1990, Americas Watch issued a report which attacked the Colombian government for its war against drugs, charged that this was a cover for security forces to carry out human rights violations, and demanded that the United States cut all military aid to the government.

The report was central to a combined terror-negotiations operation then launched by Pablo Escobar's Medellín Cartel. In September 1990, the Medellín Cartel had kidnapped a number of Colombian journalists, holding them as hostages to pressure the government to accept a negotiated deal with the traffickers. On Nov. 8, the "Extraditables," as the cartel

chiefs dubbed themselves, sent an open letter to the politician representing the kidnapped journalists, asserting that the journalists had been taken as a protest against human rights violations by security forces. They would be released, the drug czars suggested, were "all the communications media of the country . . . to provide space to the human rights organizations, so that they can denounce all the violations of these rights. We wish that this opportunity be given very particularly, to Americas Watch."

In an interview with the daily *El Espectador* on Nov. 14, 1990, the author of the Americas Watch report, Juan Méndez, called for "the most total disarmament possible" of Colombia. While claiming that HRW did not call for the outright abolition of national armed forces, "we do celebrate the decision of Costa Rica in 1948 to dissolve its armed forces." A representative of the terrorists then used Americas Watch's report to demand that the Attorney General open an investigation against the Army. Later in November, a group of "legitimate" politicians, dubbing themselves "the Notables," led by former President Alfonso López Michelsen, sent a memorandum to Colombian President César Gaviria, outlining surrender terms which would be acceptable to the Medellín Cartel. Point number 4 was that the traffickers would only agree to be confined in one place, where their lives would be protected, suggesting as one possibility, that their confinement be overseen by either Americas Watch or the International Red Cross.

Bell's HRW, in turn, receives financing from George Soros, the speculator sponsored by the British royal family retainers, the Rothschilds. Soros not only provided start-up capital, but serves on the coordinating committee of HRW/Americas, with Bell. Soros has used his financial power to pressure Peru, in particular, to dismantle its military. On Sept. 28, 1993, Soros Fund Management placed a full-page ad in the *New York Times*, which threatened that foreign investors would shun Peru, until "military influence in the government is really firmly finished. . . . In Latin America, whenever the army, as an institution, is part of the country's power structure, all investments are discounted because that introduces an element of instability."

Soros has become the drug legalization lobby's largest benefactor. He began financing the Drug Policy Foundation, the leading drug legalization lobby in the United States, in 1992. In 1994, DPF spokesmen announced that Soros would increase that funding massively, pledging to provide \$10.5 million over the next three years, through Soros's Open Society Fund. Defending that decision, Open Society Fund President Aryeh Neier stated, "Soros doesn't think the drug war makes any sense from an economic standpoint. . . . We want persons involved in the drug culture, who are currently treated as objects of state action, to regain control over their own lives."

Neier's job, prior to presiding over the Open Society Fund, was executive director of HRW/Americas.