

LaRouche shapes security debate in Ibero-America

by Gretchen Small

Policymakers for the U.S. security establishment were instructed last year, via the *Joint Force Quarterly*, that they must read a “Lyndon LaRouche” book, *The Plot to Annihilate the Armed Forces and Nations of Ibero-America*, if they wished to understand the thinking of the officer corps of Ibero-America’s military.

The Plot (published in English and Spanish) was reviewed as part of a special package on “The Security of the Americas,” that appeared in the Spring 1996 issue of *Joint Force Quarterly*, the magazine of the National Defense University’s Institute for National Strategic Studies. The *Quarterly* warned that it would be a mistake to dismiss the book as “yet another odd conspiracy theory . . . by ‘U.S. economist and former political prisoner’ Lyndon H. LaRouche,” because the book “has sold thousands of copies in Latin America and the Mexican military has printed a special edition of more than 500 copies” (sic—the Mexican Defense Ministry printed 5,000 copies in 1994). “It is reportedly on the required reading list at several regional military academies and staff colleges. Students of Latin American affairs will ignore this book to their own detriment,” the review explained. “The book currently is commanding a growing following within the militaries of Latin America. Thus, it should be studied as an insight into one of the influences on members of the armed forces within our hemisphere.”

Speaking on behalf of pro-British policymaking circles, the *Quarterly*’s concern was to discredit that influence, but there was nothing inaccurate in its identification of LaRouche’s influence. LaRouche does command a growing following in many sectors in Ibero-America, the military included. In fact, LaRouche has been a strategic factor in Ibero-America since 1982, when his influence exploded in the region, around his now-prophetic identification of the common strategic issue underlying the great debt crisis of that year, and Great Britain’s war with Argentina over the Malvinas Islands. In a widely circulated document, entitled *Operation Juárez*, LaRouche argued, in 1982, that the British-centered international financial oligarchy had set out to use the global economic crisis to eliminate the sovereign nation-state, and with it, civilization. He proposed a counter-strategy, by which

Ibero-America could turn the crisis to its advantage, defeat the global enemy, and develop as an industrial superpower in the process.

Many, who in 1982 decried LaRouche’s warnings as “extremist,” now recognize in the shards of their national sovereignty, the truth of his strategic evaluation. LaRouche’s persistence in the face of the universal stampede of obeisance to the “god of globalization,” has earned him renown in military circles in Ibero-America as “Mr. Nation-State,” and he has become the intellectual leader of those “old-fashioned” nationalists who refuse to join the consensus of the day, at the expense of their nations.

Why now?

Rarely, until now, has LaRouche’s role in Ibero-America been addressed publicly outside of the region, despite the fact that it is well-known to any analyst who knows anything about Ibero-America today. Last year, however, the decision was taken by the policy circles committed to establishing a Western Hemisphere Free Trade Accord (an accord conceived from the outset as an economic *and* political-military supranational structure), that LaRouche’s influence in the military constitutes such a critical obstacle to the regional governance plans, that it had to be taken head-on.

The second summit of the defense ministers of the Americas, scheduled for October 1996 in Bariloche, Argentina, was chosen as a target date for advancing the military component of the WHFTA schemes, and, therefore, also a target for crushing the LaRouche factor.

The Spring 1996 *Joint Force Quarterly* package on the Americas, with its review of *The Plot* that attempted to rebut the LaRouche nation-state thesis, began the public anti-LaRouche offensive. The strategic impact of *The Plot*’s thesis was identified by Luigi Einaudi, the top Kissingerian strategist for Ibero-America at the State Department, who, in his article for the package, railed against the Ibero-American military for refusing to accept the formation of a supranational military force in the region. Einaudi blamed “conspiratorial hypotheses” of a plan against their nations, for building resistance to the plans.

Then, on Aug. 14, newspapers throughout Ibero-America reported that U.S. Gen. Lawson Magruder, Commander of the U.S. Army South, which operates out of the U.S. Southern Command in Panama, also named LaRouche publicly as the evil genius spreading such “conspiratorial hypotheses.”

Magruder made his remarks in Bolivia, where he paid an unexpected visit, two weeks after *EIR* Brazil correspondent Lorenzo Carrasco had addressed hundreds of Bolivian military officers, students, and businessmen on the world strategic crisis, during a week-long visit to La Paz and Santa Cruz. Carrasco reported that in *every* meeting, military or otherwise, just as *Joint Force Quarterly* feared, people pulled out their well-worn copies of *The Plot*, and asked their questions about what the book calls the “Bush plan” to

eliminate the nation-state, by eliminating national militaries, promoting indigenism and narco-terrorism, legalizing the drug trade, etc.

Only one major item was reported on Magruder's trip around the continent. According to the Spanish news agency EFE, "General Magruder said that there is no 'Bush Plan' for the gradual elimination of the armed forces of Latin America, it has never existed as official policy; this has been claimed only by an American political figure, Lyndon LaRouche, but it hasn't been supported by the President of the United States, Bill Clinton."

Did the tactic of taking on LaRouche's ideas succeed? Certainly, the stubborn refusal to approve the supranational plans continued at the Bariloche summit. It was held as planned in October, but Mexico sent only observers; several national delegations issued denunciations of mooted plans for a regional military force; and no major initiatives in any area were adopted, not even a firm date nor host for a follow-up summit.

Narco-terrorists begin screeching, too

The second, related, security issue in which LaRouche dominated the strategic debate in the Americas in 1996, came in the battle over the threat of narco-terrorism, and its organized expression today in the Americas, centered in the Cuban Communist Party-founded São Paulo Forum.

In his first major statement of his Presidential campaign, *The Blunder in U.S. National Security Policy*, issued in October 1995, LaRouche had warned the U.S. national security establishment against its foolhardy insistence that U.S. global security should be premised on the British Crown's "democracy and free market" policies, taking as his first example of that folly, Ibero-America.

His *Blunder* document was published in full by *EIR*'s Spanish biweekly, *Resumen Ejecutivo* (Nov. 15, 1995), as was also, shortly thereafter, a two-part study, commissioned by LaRouche, on the operations of the "New International Terrorism" in the Americas, detailing the extensive operations of the São Paulo Forum and the Shining Path-linked Revolutionary Communist Party, with documentation of how both narco-terrorist organizations are tied to London.

LaRouche dismissed as insane, verging on virtual reality, the lie ritually asserted in some U.S. security circles as dogma, that "the guerrilla insurgencies . . . have in most cases ended" in the Americas. LaRouche warned: "The new terrorist capabilities now being mobilized within the region, are far more numerous and dangerous than those of past experience." Narco-terrorism not only exists, but it is deployed as an instrument of the broader *irregular warfare* being waged against the nations of the Americas; as in the case of the Zapatista National Liberation Army (EZLN), with the "aim to conquer and destroy the Republic of Mexico."

As 1996 closed, the São Paulo Forum, in this case through the EZLN, has joined in the public campaign against

LaRouche's influence in the Ibero-American military, seeking to get official action against those who agree with LaRouche's evaluation, and set up LaRouche's friends in the region for narco-terrorist hits in the process.

On Dec. 1, David Fernández, S.J., the head of the Miguel Agustín Pro Juárez Center for Human Rights in Mexico and an admitted former guerrilla, gave an interview to the widely read Sunday edition of the Mexican daily *Reforma*: In reckless disregard for the truth, he claimed that the well-known friends of LaRouche, the Ibero-American Solidarity Movement (MSIA), and its leader Marvilia Carrasco, were behind a campaign of death threats against him and the Jesuit order in Mexico. The Pro Juárez Center is one of the most active Mexican groups using a "human rights" cover to defend the Zapatistas.

As evidence for this lie, Fernández singled out the Mexican military's use of LaRouche material. He told *Reforma*: "Today, in the Army, the book of Lyndon LaRouche, which is called specifically *Shining Path North*, has been printed as an Army publication for the education of the troops. There, an interesting link which must be investigated, begins to emerge. We have information that this has become an important text in the education and training of new military generations."

Fernández didn't have his facts straight. The Mexican military did reprint an edition of *The Plot*, but the "book" to which Fernández referred, is *EIR*'s Jan. 21, 1994 *Feature*, "Defend Mexico from Britain's Shining Path North," which documented the long-standing ties between the Zapatistas, and allied narco-terrorists in Mexico, and the murderous Shining Path of Peru.

The call for an investigation of LaRouche's influence in the Mexican military, has all the hallmarks of a decision taken overseas, at the level of the financiers who control the EZLN. Before his interview, on Nov. 19, Human Rights Watch/Americas, had granted a generous award to Father Fernández and his Pro Juárez Center, on the grounds that he required "an umbrella of protection" against the alleged operations against him. HRW/Americas brought Fernández to Washington to receive his award, and plan his defense.

HRW is not only heavily financed by the British Crown's speculator, George Soros, but Soros himself serves on the board of HRW/Americas. Like HRW and Soros, Fernández's Pro Juárez Center is active in the campaign for drug legalization.

The outgoing U.S. ambassador to Mexico, former chairman of the American Stock Exchange James Jones, immediately jumped onto the case, despite the fact that U.S. anti-drug officials have publicly pointed to Soros as the money-bags behind the U.S. legalization campaign. According to the Dec. 2 *Boston Globe*, Jones solicited an unprecedented meeting with Fernández, pledging that he would press the Mexican government to investigate the alleged threats, and offering to help obtain political asylum for those who sought it.