

ronment. To give you an idea of what this could represent in terms of the supply of agricultural products on the world market, this still unexplored area is almost the equivalent of the total area currently planted with corn, soy, and wheat in the United States.”

It is clear, that the full development of this region, should be taken up as one of Brazil’s principal missions, so that, together with the nations of South America, it can become a future granary for the world. A mission, for which the development of great infrastructure projects is fundamental. These will not only make possible future economic development and increase the economy’s general productivity, but will also serve as the motor force for a great employment plan, capable of alleviating the enormous social problems which the country faces. To fail to do so, is to play with the danger of an internal conflagration.

Who’s Who in WWF-Brazil

by Lorenzo Carrasco

In looking at World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF)-Brazil, we discover the power grouping which has domestically sustained, in large measure, the neo-liberal governments which have ruled Brazil since the infamous election of President Fernando Collor de Mello in 1990. Collor de Mello initiated the use of environmental legislation as a Trojan horse against economic development, a mechanism continued under the government of current President Fernando Henrique Cardoso.

The WWF-Brazil board of directors is presided over by José Roberto Marinho, vice-president of the O Globo Organizations, Brazil’s largest telecommunications monopoly, which operates a vast array of television, radio, newspapers, and magazines. Marinho, director general of the Roberto Marinho Foundation, also serves on the board of directors of numerous non-governmental organizations (NGOs): Conservation International, The Natural Conservancy, the Rockefeller Foundation, and Rockefeller’s Council of the Americas. In short, he is in charge of international relations for the Marinho group.

Another member of the executive board is Pedro Sirotsky, whose RBS group holds a similar media monopoly in the south of Brazil.

The vice-president of WWF-Brazil, Mario Frering, is the heir of the CAEMI mineral group of the late Augusto Azevedo Antunes, who was the front-man for the late Nelson Rockefeller’s business interests in Brazil. His brother, Guilherme Frering,



Chairman of the Board of WWF-Brazil José Roberto Marinho.

ing, is also a member of the Council of the Americas. The CAEMI group took over the Jarí project, set up by the late Daniel K. Ludwig, when it went bankrupt; Ludwig, too, was a member of the WWF’s board, and also its international fundraising arm, the 1001 Club.

Other prominent members of the WWF’s leadership in Brazil include: the banker Joseph Safra, owner of Banco Safra, and brother of Edmond Safra, assassinated last year in Monaco, who had also been a member of the WWF’s elite 1001 Club; and Roberto Paulo César de Andrade, president of the Canadian Brascan group, which represents the Bronfman family’s interests in Brazil. Brascan is the successor company to the Light company, which was one of Anglo-American intelligence’s most influential instruments in the country’s affairs in the first half of the 20th Century.

Another member of the WWF-Brazil’s leadership, Francisco Antunes Maciel Müssnich, a partner in the law firm of Barbosa, Müssnich, Aragão, which brought the lawsuit against the MSIA, is a director of the Roberto Marinho Foundation.

As the board of directors makes clear, WWF-Brazil is made up of the principal “juniors” of the power structure consolidated in Brazil after World War II under the guiding hand of Nelson Rockefeller, who structured Anglo-American intelligence networks in the Western Hemisphere at that time.

Now, this group is determined to recast the country’s institutions, on behalf of a world government structure, under which they would perpetuate themselves as an oligarchy retaining power over Brazil. This requires the creation of a new generation of politicians, with a New Age profile, who would function under conditions of an occupied nation. Here, for example, lies the relevance of the fact that the heirs of Roberto

Marinho broke old agreements with the once all-powerful Sen. Antonio Carlos Magalhaes, abandoning him to his fate in the midst of corruption scandals.

The reason for this, is that the tendency of the old political structure, for all that it keeps its agreements with the dominant international system, will tend to resist the ongoing metamorphosis, announced by President Cardoso, of non-governmental organizations into neo-government organizations, as the WWF in Brazil is seeking to do today.

A Two-Century Battle To Open the Interior

by Lorenzo Carrasco and Nilder Costa

From the last century onward, British imperialists have based their policies for Ibero-America on preventing the nations there from following the American example of industrializing the interior. To this end, the British pursued policies of controlling the mouths of all the continent's great rivers, encouraging the balkanization of Ibero-America, and maintaining Brazil as a giant slave plantation (Brazil was one of the last countries in the world to ban slavery, doing so only at the very end of the 19th Century).

In the mid-19th Century, London organized a scorched-earth war against the then-highly developed nation of Paraguay, led by the so-called Triple Alliance (Argentina-Brazil-Uruguay), which was controlled by the British Foreign Office. That war achieved the desired effect of suffocating, down to the present time, the development of what is potentially the economically richest region of the entire continent: the area defined by the Paraná and Paraguay River basins (**Figure 1**), which includes rich agricultural regions in Argentina, Uruguay, Brazil, and Paraguay, and which, properly conceived, could bring about the agro-industrial development of the entire region, including Bolivia and the interior of all South America.

The result of the sabotage by the British and their collaborators in South America is today visible everywhere: Six different rail gauges are used for the continent's railways, making their link-up next to impossible; transcontinental transportation systems are lacking; electrical energy is generated at different cycles per second in neighboring countries; and regional and border disputes are deliberately fostered, which have kept the countries of Ibero-America at each others' throats. During the 20th Century, the British have kept up the same geopolitical games that served them so well in the 19th Century, using now the cover of environmentalism, indigenism, and the fomenting of Jacobin revolts.

The 'Great Waterway'

For example: The Paraná River and its tributaries represent the principal natural line of penetration into the South American interior, starting from the Río de la Plata estuary. The Paraná River system includes the region called the Cerrado (near No. 7 on Figure 1), a strategic, virtually unexplored region of 2 million square kilometers of prairie lands, in which a number of the major river systems of the continent (the Amazon, Paraguay, San Francisco, and Paranaíba) originate. The Cerrado region, with its 150 million fertile hectares to be exploited and with no shortage of water, could be one of the world's most important breadbaskets in the 21st Century.

There is a long-standing proposal to open up this area to development by establishing an integrated waterway on the Paraná and Paraguay Rivers. In fact, the Paraná-Paraguay waterway is merely one component of a century-old project, even more ambitious, known as the "Great Waterway," first envisioned by the German scientist Alexander von Humboldt, following his 1800-04 trip to South America. The latter would join the basins of the Orinoco, Amazon, and La Plata rivers, and would integrate all the countries of South America (with the exception of Chile) in a river network 9,818 kilometers long. This project would facilitate the development of the vast interior of the continent.

The strategic significance of the economic development and population this would bring to the interior of the continent, is comparable to that of the Rhine-Danube waterway in Europe envisioned by Charlemagne, but only recently completed.

There are two critical bottlenecks in this proposed Great Waterway: the linkage of the Orinoco with the Amazon system; and the linkage of the Amazon with the de la Plata system. Thus, it is not surprising to find, that one of the principal campaigns of the World Wide Fund for Nature in South America since 1994, has been to demand the creation of a 300,000 hectare "ecological park," the so-called Pantanal Nature Park, precisely at the latter of those two bottlenecks: the headwaters of the Paraguay River in Mato Grosso do Sul, Brazil, where water management and river improvements are required, to link the two systems.

MSIA Counterattacks In the Courts

On Jan. 29, the Ibero-American Solidarity Movement (MSIA) in Brazil filed an appeal before the Rio de Janeiro state appeals court, requesting that an injunction issued against the MSIA on Jan. 17 at the instigation of the World Wide Fund for Nature's Brazilian association, WWF-Brazil,