

cross-border partnerships for law enforcement and drug prevention cooperation. . . .

C. Finally—we have the promising U.S.-Mexican Merida Initiative. However, this vital program is underfunded and slow to be implemented. Significant cross-border law enforcement and justice system cooperation remains inadequate.

9. Summary

A. Much is at stake for future U.S. economic and national security policy from 2009 through 2017. A stable, economically healthy, and law-based Mexican neighbor is fundamental to U.S. expectations of prosperity and peace within North America. The drug menace and drug addiction is central to much of the U.S. criminal and social malignancy that has put more than 2 million Americans behind bars, clogged our courts, and placed enormous burdens on our health system.

B. Now is the time, during the opening months of a new U.S. Administration, to jointly commit to a fully resourced major partnership as political equals of the Mexican government. We must jointly and respectfully cooperate to address the broad challenges our two nations face. Specifically, we must support the Government of Mexico's efforts to confront the ultra-violent drug cartels. We must do so in ways that are acceptable to the Mexican polity and that take into account Mexican sensitivities to sovereignty. The United States Government cannot impose a solution. The political will is present in Mexico to make the tough decisions that are required to confront a severe menace to the rule of law and the authority of the Mexican state. Where our assistance can be helpful, we must provide it. The challenge is so complex that it will require sustained commitment and attention at the highest levels of our two governments. We cannot afford to fail.

Nation of Colombia Nearly Disappeared By Negotiating with Narcoterrorists

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Emerging out of the environment of intimidation and terror caused by decapitations and other atrocities perpetrated by Mexico's drug traffickers, is a proposal for that nation's government to negotiate with the narcos, supposedly to reduce the violence and "humanize" the conflict. Arising at the same time is the idea of legalizing the drug trade as the final solution to the thus far "fruitless" war on drugs.

This is a bloody farce, and not a debate of ideas at all. Behind all this criminal paraphernalia is narco-financier George Soros and his imperial British masters, who sponsor certain renowned Harvard academics who, not accidentally, also favor drug legalization. In their zeal to turn millions of people into drug addicts, these criminals have even discovered so-called medicinal and nutritional properties of illegal drugs. If drugs are legalized—in effect lowering their price—the market will expand. The creative mental capacities of those turned into addicts will be destroyed, and this

mental genocide will yield profits, just as did the Opium Wars launched by the British Empire against the Chinese people. Once more, this strategy of British cultural warfare is being applied, only this time, against Mexico and the United States, in particular.

Colombia has a lesson to teach the United States, Mexico, and all nations in general: do not negotiate with the drug trade. The only choice is to confront and defeat it. To consolidate this victory, the monetarist economic policies embedded in so-called free-trade agreements must be abandoned. The only efficient antidote to the drug trade is industrial development, the mechanization of agriculture, and the physical integration of nations through great corridors of development and infrastructure.

Thus, the proposal to legalize drugs and negotiate with the narcos, pushed by financier pirate Soros on behalf of Anglo-Dutch financial circles, should not only be rejected, but denounced as a new Opium War through



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Following the hand-over of Colombian territory to the narcoterrorist FARC by President Andrés Pastrana, New York Stock Exchange president Richard Grasso met with FARC boss Raúl Reyes in his jungle base in 1999, where they were photographed in the obscene embrace, known since as the “Grasso Abrazo.”

which they hope to prop up the collapsed international financial system, destroying the United States and Mexico in particular along the way.

Colombia negotiated and capitulated to the narco-terrorists’ demands, and in that process nearly disappeared as a sovereign nation-state. Wall Street and the City of London supervised and coordinated this process of surrender to the narcoterrorists. President Andrés Pastrana handed over national territory to the FARC (Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia), which was demilitarized, supposedly to initiate the “peace process.” Then, in June of 1999, the president of the New York Stock Exchange, Richard Grasso, traveled to the Colombian jungles of Caguán, the surrendered territory, to meet with FARC leader Raúl Reyes, and they were photographed in a scandalous embrace that became known ever afterwards as the “Grasso Abrazo.”

When then-Presidential candidate Alvaro Uribe promised in 2001-02 to use a firm hand in battling the drug trade, the immense majority of Colombians supported him, to the point of changing the Constitution to permit re-election after his first four-year term.

Under the pretext of pacifying the country, the governments of, in particular, Alfonso López Michelsen (1974-78), César Gaviria Trujillo (1990-94), Ernesto Samper Pizano (1994-98), and Andrés Pastrana Arango (1998-2002) both directly and indirectly promoted and carried out political negotiations and agreements with the drug lords, while at the same time dismantling the nation’s precarious physical economy. The institutions and legitimacy of the country—already weakened by the narcoterrorists’ cruel assaults—began to crumble.

Colombia has still not recovered from the combined devastating effects of free-trade policies and tolerance of the drug trade. The infamous and feared Cali and Medellín Cartels—run by the Rodríguez Orejuela brothers and Pablo Escobar respectively—were dismantled, but have been replaced de facto by new cartels which operate on a lower profile. The production and trade of marijuana, coca, opium, and their respective derivatives, has not decreased.

It is true that the drug cartels can no longer boast of controlling the Executive branch, beginning with the President and his ministers, as was once the case. However, the mistaken policy of laying the economy open to free-trade policies has devastated Colombia’s incipient agriculture and industry, such that—despite the Uribe government’s best intentions and actions to dismantle narcoterrorism—the Colombian state is still facing that thousand-headed Hydra.

As is clear in the case of Mexico, as NAFTA’s (North American Free Trade Agreement) policy of eliminating protective tariffs advanced, so too did the scope and magnitude of the drug trade, replacing agricultural and industrial activities as they disappeared, due to the national economy’s inability to compete with cheaper imports from foreign markets.

The Godfather in Action

Former President Alfonso López Michelsen, also known as the Godfather of the Colombian drug trade, imposed the first economic opening through his Finance Minister Rodrigo Botero Montoya, whose lowering of tariffs led, in particular, to the bankruptcy of many agricultural activities. Marijuana replaced cotton and other agricultural products, thus creating the so-called *bonanza marimbera*. López Michelsen established what came to be known as the “sinister window” at the Central Bank, which basically institutionalized the acceptance of dollar deposits “no questions asked,” with the result that the Central Bank itself became the drug trade’s premier money launderer.

Later, during the Belisario Betancur government (1982-1986), in the midst of the most brutal of the offensives of druglord Pablo Escobar, and just a few days after the 1984 assassination of then-Justice Minister Rodrigo Lara Bonilla, ex-president López Michelsen traveled to Panama to meet with all the top leadership of Colombia’s drug trade. In his capacity as messenger of the drug mafia, López reported to President Betancur and to the nation that the druglords were supposedly ready to lay down their arms and even to pay off the country’s foreign debt, in exchange for a pledge of no extradition to the United States. Otherwise, he warned, they would launch bloody warfare to wipe out what remained of the country’s institutions.

Thanks, in part, to the widely circulated denunciations by Lyndon LaRouche’s associates in Colombia, López Michelsen failed to re-capture the Presidency in 1987, as he had hoped. Nor was he successful in pulling off the blackmail of the drug traffickers with whom he met in Panama in 1985.

President César Gaviria Trujillo, through his Finance Minister Rudolf Hommes, once more bankrupted Colombia’s precarious economy, by imposing the so-called “economic opening” (drastic reduction of tariffs on imports). Hectares under cultivation fell from



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Thanks to the “negotiations”—i.e., capitulation to the drug cartels—by past Presidents Pastrana (left) and Alfonso López Michelson, Colombia has been nearly destroyed as a nation. Right: Colombian police and military personnel held prisoner by the FARC in a Nazi-like concentration camp.



4 to 3 million. Gaviria formally eliminated the exchange controls that existed in the country at the time; and Colombia’s fragile industrial sector (primarily textiles, leather, and food processing) was practically annihilated.

Supposedly to eliminate the narcoterrorist wave, Gaviria forged a pact with Pablo Escobar and the other drug lords, according to which, they would surrender to authorities and do their time—not to exceed seven to eight years. Escobar was allowed to build his own prison, from which he continued to coordinate his criminal activities. It was later discovered that several people who had been summoned before him were assassinated at *The Cathedral*, as Escobar’s five star “prison” was known. The criminal extravagances at *The Cathedral* were such, that Escobar eventually became paranoid that he could be stripped of some of his privileges, and decided to engineer his own escape. With the help of the United States government, the Colombian police conducted a diligent search for Escobar, and were able to locate his hideout. The mafioso was eventually killed in a shoot-out.

As part of his agreements with the drug mob, Ga-

viria convened a Constituent Assembly, with delegates named by the narcos themselves, to write a new Constitution, on the pretext of consolidating a peace agreement with the M-19 terrorists, who had accepted a government amnesty offer. The 1991 Gaviria Constitution formally eliminated extradition as a weapon against the narcoterrorists and other criminals. Subsequently, the Congress succeeded in restoring the Colombian-U.S. Extradition Treaty.

This same César Gaviria is currently one of the co-directors of the Latin American Commission on Drugs and Democracy, financed by mega-speculator and drug legalization advocate George Soros. Former Mexican President Ernesto Zedillo and Fernando Henrique Cardoso of Brazil are also co-directors of this Soros outfit, which hopes to intervene in the United Nations March 2009 meeting, scheduled to evaluate the last decade of the war on drugs, to force a shift toward a more “humanitarian” strategy, by which they mean legalization of illicit drugs.

Former President Ernesto Samper Pizano is a true prophet of narcoterrorism. When he began his political career as director of Colombia’s National Association of Financial Institutions (ANIF) in 1978, Samper organized a world summit in Bogota, which pulled together all the legalizers of the planet, where it was predicted that if drugs were not legalized—starting with marijuana—then the most violent drug war against Colombian society would be launched to convince people of the “virtues” of drug legalization. Things occurred just as Samper predicted: thousands of police and soldiers, hundreds of political figures, judges, magistrates, presidential candidates, and others, were murdered by the cartels.

At the time, Samper argued that it would be very difficult to get all the nations of the world to reach a consensus on the legalization of drugs, but that what could happen is that one country—for example, Colombia, after being subjected to a horrific narcoterrorist offensive—could unilaterally opt for legalization, creating a breach in the world juridical order that would lead to the eventual legalization of drugs worldwide. Today, after having supposedly demonstrated the futility of the war on drugs, Soros—on behalf of the Anglo-Dutch Liberal financial system—seeks to convince the world community gathered at the UN meeting in March, that the alleged panacea is drug legalization.

In view of his stated principles and practices, it came

as no surprise that the narcos would buy the Colombian presidency for Samper. Millions of dollars entered the coffers of the Samper for President campaign, and Samper was later absolved by the Chamber of Representatives in a hearing in which he shamelessly admitted that drug money had financed his campaign, but that it had been done behind his back.

Meanwhile, to soften up the Mexican population, it is being subjected to the same torture that the Colombian people lived through under the dominion of the narcoterrorists. Mexico and the United States are thus warned of the tragic implications of being tolerant toward narcoterror. Soros must be confronted and defeated, along with his Anglo-Dutch imperial puppet-masters who seek to destroy our people with modern-day opium wars.

Quo Vadis, Domine?

It is said that when the Apostle Peter fled Rome during the persecution of the Christians by the Emperor Nero, he asked Jesus, “Where are you going, Lord?” To which Jesus replied, “I am going to be crucified in Rome a second time, because my disciples are abandoning me.” In response, Peter decided to return to Rome to continue his organizing, knowing that he faced the threat of crucifixion himself, which in fact occurred.

With that brave act to defend the truth, nascent Christianity was consolidated. What would have happened had Peter chosen instead to ingratiate himself with the enemies of the human race, or had simply fled, without facing the problem? This is the dilemma that the drug trade poses for us today: Do we legalize it to “humanize the conflict,” or do we confront it at its source? As Lyndon LaRouche has explained, one must enable and create the conditions of physical economy so that human beings can reach the full potential of that creative spark with which God has endowed us. Soros and his Anglo-Dutch imperial bosses fear that explosion of human creativity, and therefore seek to stupefy and erase it with their Opium Wars. We can and must defeat this evil.

The horrors that countries such as Afghanistan, Colombia, and others have suffered, under the Opium Wars imposed by the Anglo-Dutch imperialists, do not have to become the fate of Mexico and the United States, in particular. We can learn from Colombia’s tragic lessons: There is no substitute for victory.