

Editorial

Support Colombia's war on drugs

All governments must give their fullest support to the war on drugs declared by the President of Colombia, Belisario Betancur. This means taking the gloves off on Henry Kissinger and anyone who tolerates the continued, evil influence of Kissinger over the U.S. government and the leadership of NATO.

Colombia, under Betancur's leadership, is battling to restore and defend its national sovereignty against a bunch of the most brutal criminals anywhere in the world—mobsters who enjoy the high-level protection of Henry Kissinger and his sponsors in the international financial oligarchy.

Kissinger is in charge of the new edition of the Opium Wars which have been unleashed on Ibero-America. He says brazenly in the report of his Bipartisan Commission on Central America that the region's economy must be "restructured" according to the model of the British colonies: "Hong Kong, Singapore, and others"; that is, the Asian centers of the dope trade. Kissinger himself stated at the end of January that the proposals of his report "are applicable to all of Latin America."

Kissinger is thus an ally of Alfonso Lopez Michelsen, the former President of Colombia whose 1974-78 administration passed tax reforms and other legislation opening the way to making Colombia into a haven for the drug mob. This began while Kissinger was U.S. secretary of state. The country became one of the world's top exporters of marijuana and cocaine.

Lopez Michelsen, whose cousin Jaime Michelsen Uribe is currently hiding in Miami, Florida as a fugitive from Colombian law, personally met with Colombia's top fugitive drug traffickers in Panama last May. He then personally delivered their blackmail threats to President Betancur.

This occurred less than two weeks after the drug mafia, on April 30, had atrociously murdered the young Colombian Justice Minister, Rodrigo Lara Bonilla, who declared war on the drug mafia from the day he took office in August of 1983. Lara Bonilla received constant death threats to himself and his family throughout

his nine-month tenure in office.

In July, President Betancur revealed that he and his family have also been subjected to threats. But he insisted that his war against drugs would be unwavering.

Lopez Michelsen's protégé, Ernesto Samper Pizano, the number-one promoter of legalization of marijuana in Colombia, has written articles in the dopers' magazine *High Times*. *High Times* has, as regular contributors, such pro-terrorist elements as Chip Berlet and Dennis King, who have put into print since 1979 their hatred for Lyndon LaRouche and the international Anti-Drug Coalitions LaRouche inspired.

Dennis King is intimately linked to the "Yippies," whose magazine, *Overthrow*, published a slander article in July asserting that the Andean Labor Party, headed by co-thinkers of LaRouche in Colombia, provides a million dollars in funds weekly to Lyndon LaRouche from the drug traffic. Exactly the same type of slander was used against Lara Bonilla before he was killed, and has also recently been used against Betancur by Jaime Michelsen.

Betancur recently declared that "certain societies" have responded to his pleas for aid and collaboration with "undisguised political reticence. . . . When countries like ours, making enormous sacrifice, turn to where we are supposedly offered collaboration, equipment to reinforce our prosecution of these criminals, and so forth, we are given miserable trade conditions and they even try to impose unacceptable financial conditions."

The hypocrisy by industrialized nations with the means to eradicate the drug evil once and for all can no longer be tolerated. We urge the U.S. State Department to provide any and all aid necessary to Colombia to support its war on drugs.

We demand that those who spread the dope lobby's slanders against LaRouche and the Anti-Drug Coalitions, including the U.S. National Broadcasting Company, the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, and Kissinger's cronies in the State Department, be brought to account, as deeply complicit in the international conspiracy of narco-terrorism.