

A proposed strategic operation against the Western Hemisphere's drug-traffic

by Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr.

These remarks were delivered to the Mexico City conference on fighting the illegal drug traffic, sponsored by EIR on March 13.

Distinguished members of this conference! I take this opportunity to communicate my great respect for the President of Mexico, and to acknowledge the debt we all owe to those hundreds of soldiers of the Republic who have already lost their lives fighting against the international drug-traffickers.

Not long after his first inauguration in 1981, President Ronald Reagan adopted the kind of policy which my associates and I had been recommending since 1978, a War on Drugs. Since the President's second inauguration, this past January, he has escalated his commitment to fighting and winning that War against Drugs. Naturally, some influential persons and institutions inside the United States, are not in sympathy with the President's War on Drugs; but, the President is stubbornly determined to win the War on Drugs, and there are many in our government who are in enthusiastic support of the President's policy.

It is clear to the governments fighting the international drug-traffickers, that the drug-traffic could never be defeated if each of our nations tried to fight this evil independently of the other nations of this Hemisphere. If the drug-traffickers' laboratories are shut down in Colombia, new laboratories open up in Brazil. If the route into Florida and Georgia is attacked heavily enough, the drug-traffickers reopen routes into California, through Belize and Mexico. If Mexico shuts down drug-routes through its territory, the drug-traffickers will use Pacific routes into the U.S. states of Washington and Oregon, through the marijuana-traffickers of Hawaii.

The greatest political threat to democracy in Venezuela, Colombia, Peru, and other countries, is the use of the billions of revenues held by the drug-traffickers to fund terrorist armies, and to bring corrupted military officers into right-wing coup plots directed by former officials of the Nazi regime of Germany. The ability of governments to resist these bloody threats is undermined by the increase of the number of officials of governments, political parties, and private institutions, who are bribed by the drug-traffickers. It is impossible to break the ominously increasing political power of the drug-

traffickers in Mexico, Colombia, Venezuela, and other countries, without capturing the billions of dollars of drug-revenues run through corrupt banking institutions.

Without help of closer cooperation between the United States, Mexico, Colombia, Venezuela, and other nations of this Hemisphere, neither the United States nor any of the other republics could defeat the monstrosly powerful complex of criminal, financial, and political forces who are behind the international drug-traffic. The purpose of my remarks today, is to outline to you a proposed war-plan, for cooperative action against the international drug-traffickers, by the governments of this Hemisphere committed to that action.

The speaker's qualifications

Before I outline that proposed war-plan itself, it is useful, and perhaps necessary, that I identify briefly my qualifications in this connection.

Since 1975, I have become an increasingly controversial public figure internationally. I became controversial, originally, because of a campaign I launched in April 1975, for reforms of the international monetary system consistent with high rates of capital-goods exports from industrialized nations essential to economic progress among the developing nations. As one of the most powerful bankers in Europe said a little over a year ago, "LaRouche's plan for monetary reform would work, but we don't like it much." Since spring 1982, I have come under increasingly violent attack by the Soviet government for my part in proposing the Strategic Defense Initiative which President Reagan announced on March 23, 1983. The most violent attacks upon me have been launched since May 1978, because of my demand that a War on Drugs be launched by all civilized nations, and because of the work of my associates in exposing the powerful financial interests of Europe, Asia, and the Americas who were collecting the major portion of the hundreds of billions of dollars gained by the international drug-traffic.

My part in the War against Drugs began during the summer of 1977, as an indirect result of my being on the same Baader-Meinhof assassination-list with two West German figures, Jürgen Ponto of the Dresdner Bank and Hans-Martin

Schleyer of the Mercedes-Benz interests. To keep me alive, my associates retained the expert services of Col. Mitchell WerBell; the specialists associated with me in our publishing activities consulted with Colonel WerBell and other specialists on the nature of the three-way connection among the drug-traffic, international terrorism, and certain wicked and politically powerful financial interests. With indispensable help from law-enforcement officials of many nations, my associates in 1978 produced the famous textbook on the war against drugs, *Dope, Inc.*

It was the publication of *Dope, Inc.* which caused the beginning of violent attacks upon me by the Heritage Foundation and by business associates of Robert Vesco, in May

The international drug-traffic has become an evil and powerful government in its own right, a financial, political, and military power greater than that of entire nations. It is a government which is making war against civilized nations, a government upon which we must declare war, a war which we must fight with the weapons of war and which we must win in the same spirit the United States fought for the unconditional defeat of Nazism.

1978. Most of the attacks upon me and my associates in the U.S., European, and Caribbean television and news media, from 1978 to the most recent weeks, are directed by persons and agencies which are proven members or political allies of the international drug-traffickers, or simply corrupt elements of political parties and governments under the control of the drug-trafficking interests.

At the same time that the drug-traffickers attack me and my associates so violently, the law-enforcement and other agencies of governments and private institutions, have recognized that the publications with which I am associated will publish the truth about the drug problem when even most of the major news media not controlled by the drug-lobby are afraid to do so. With assistance of information reported to us by law-enforcement and other agencies of concerned governments in many parts of the world, the specialists associated with my publication, *Executive Intelligence Review*, have become leading experts in the investigation of the interna-

tional drug-trafficking and its connections to finance and terrorism. Also, over the past seven years, experience has shown that investigation of the source of the lies published against me and my activities, in various parts of the world, is usually a part or a political ally of the drug-traffic. Investigation of the sources of such attacks has uncovered information concerning the drug-traffic and international terrorism which has proven helpful to law-enforcement agencies in various governments.

Also, through my own work, and that of my collaborators, in designing a proposed strategic ballistic missile defense, my attention has been drawn to existing kinds of military capabilities which represent exactly the kinds of technology we need for detecting and destroying the production, processing, and transportation of marijuana, cocaine, and opiates. The republics of the Americas possess the technology needed to locate and to confirm sites used for growing and processing these crops, to monitor routes used for transport of these drugs, and to destroy quickly and mercilessly the vulnerable major elements of these facilities and activities.

The war-plan

That indicates the nature of my expert qualifications in this subject. Now, I outline to you my proposed war-plan for our War against Drugs.

1) What we are fighting, is not only the effects of the use of these drugs on their victims. The international drug-traffic has become an evil and powerful government in its own right. It represents today a financial, political, and military power greater than that of entire nations within the Americas. It is a government which is making war against civilized nations, a government upon which we must declare war, a war which we must fight with the weapons of war, and a war which we must win in the same spirit the United States fought for the unconditional defeat of Nazism between 1941 and 1945. Law-enforcement methods, by themselves, will fail; even joint law-enforcement efforts by the nations bordering the Caribbean would fail. The nations of Central and South America will each and all either fall under bloody, Nazi-like dictatorships, or will be destroyed through more or less perpetual civil war, unless the international drug-traffic's invasion of this Hemisphere is crushed by the methods and weapons of war.

2) Law-enforcement methods must support the military side of the War on Drugs. The mandate given to law-enforcement forces deployed in support of this war, must be the principle that collaboration with the drug-traffic or with the financier or political forces of the international drug-traffickers, is treason in time of war.

A) Any person caught in trafficking of drugs, is to be classed as either a traitor in time of war, or as the foreign spy of an enemy power.

B) Any person purchasing unlawful substances,

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or advocating the legalization of traffic in such substances, or advocating leniency in anti-drug military or law-enforcement policy toward the production or trafficking in drugs, is guilty of the crime of giving aid and comfort to the enemy in time of war.

3) A treaty of alliance for conduct of war, should be established between the United States and the governments of Ibero-American states which join the War on Drugs alliance to which the President of Mexico has subscribed. Other states should be encouraged to join that military alliance.

4) Under the auspices of this treaty, provisions for actions of a joint military command should be elaborated. These provisions should define principles of common action, to the effect that necessary forms of joint military and law-enforcement action do not subvert the national sovereignty of any of the allied nations on whose territory military operations are conducted. These provisions should include the following:

A) The establishment of bilateral military task-forces, pairwise, among the allied nations;

B) The establishment of a Common Command, assigned to provide specified classes of assistance, as such may be requested by designated agencies of either any of the member states, or of the bilateral command of any two states;

C) Under the Common Command, there should be established a central anti-drug intelligence agency, operating in the mode of the intelligence and planning function of a military general staff, and providing the functions of a combat war-room;

D) Rules governing the activities of foreign nationals assigned to provide technical advice and services on the sovereign territory of members of the alliance.

5) In general, insofar as each member nation has the means to do so, military and related actions of warfare

against targets of the War on Drugs, should be conducted by assigned forces of the nation on whose territory the action occurs. It were preferred, where practicable, to provide the member nation essential supplementary equipment and support personnel, rather than have foreign technical-assistance personnel engaged in combat-functions. Insofar as possible:

A) Combat military-type functions of foreign personnel supplied should be restricted to operation of detection systems, and to operation of certain types of aircraft and anti-aircraft systems provided to supplement the capabilities of national forces; and

B) Reasonable extension of intelligence technical advice and services supplied as allied personnel to appropriate elements of field-operations.

6) Technologies appropriate to detection and confirmation of growing, processing, and transport of drugs, including satellite-based and aircraft-based systems of detection, should be supplied with assistance of the United States. As soon as the growing of a relevant crop is confirmed for any area, military airborne assault should be deployed immediately for the destruction of that crop, and military ground-forces with close air-support deployed to inspect the same area and to conduct such supplementary operations as may be required. The object is to eliminate every field of marijuana, opium, and cocaine, in the Americas, excepting those fields properly licensed by governments.

7) With aid of the same technologies, processing-centers must be detected and confirmed, and each destroyed promptly in the same manner as fields growing relevant crops.

8) Borders among the allied nations, and borders with other nations, must be virtually hermetically sealed against drug-traffic across borders. All unlogged aircraft flying across borders or across the Caribbean waters, which fail to land according to instructions, are to be shot down by military action. A thorough search of all sea, truck, rail, and other transport, including inbound container traffic, is to be effected at all borders and other points of customs-inspection. Massive concentration with aid of military forces must be made in border-crossing areas, and along relevant arteries of internal highway and water-borne transport.

9) A system of total regulation of financial institutions, to the effect of detecting deposits, outbound transfers, and inbound transfers of funds, which might be reasonably suspected of being funds secured from drug-trafficking, must be established and maintained.

10) All real-estate, business enterprises, financial institutions, and personal funds, shown to be employed in the growing, processing, transport, or sale of unlawful drugs, should be taken into military custody immediately, and confiscated in the manner of military actions in time of war. All business and ownership records of entities used by the drug-traffickers, and all persons associated with operations and ownership of such entities, should be classed either as suspects or material witnesses.

11) The primary objective of the War on Drugs, is military in nature: to destroy the enemy quasi-state, the international drug-trafficking interest, by destroying or confiscating that quasi-state's economic and financial resources, by disbanding business and political associations associated with the drug-trafficking interest, by confiscating the wealth accumulated through complicity with the drug-traffickers' operations, and by detaining, as "prisoners of war" or as traitors or spies, all persons aiding the drug-trafficking interest.

12) Special attention should be concentrated on those banks, insurance enterprises, and other business institutions which are in fact elements of an international financial cartel coordinating the flow of hundreds of billions annually of revenues from the international drug-traffic. Such entities should be classed as outlaws according to the "crimes against humanity" doctrine elaborated at the postwar Nuremberg Tribunal, and all business relations with such entities should be prohibited according to the terms of prohibition against trading with the enemy in time of war.

13) The conduct of the War on Drugs within the Americas has two general phases. The first object is to eradicate all unlicensed growing of marijuana, opium, and cocaine within the Americas, and to destroy at the same time all principal conduits within the Hemisphere for import and

British East India Company opium production;

D) The increase of production of drugs in parts of Africa.

Once all significant production of drugs in the Americas is exterminated, the War on Drugs enters a second phase, in which the war concentrates on combatting the conduiting of drugs from sources outside the Hemisphere.

14) One of the worst problems we continue to face in combatting drug-trafficking, especially since political developments of the 1977-81 period, is the increasing corruption of governmental agencies and personnel, as well as influential political factions, by politically powerful financial interests associated with either the drug-trafficking as such, or powerful financial and business interests associated with conduiting the revenues of the drug-trafficking. For this and related reasons, ordinary law-enforcement methods of combatting the drug-traffic fail. In addition to corruption of governmental agencies, the drug-traffickers are protected by the growing of powerful groups which advocate either legalization of the drug-traffic, or which campaign more or less efficiently to prevent effective forms of enforcement of laws against the usage and trafficking in drugs. Investigation has shown that the associations engaged in such advocacy are political arms of the financial interests associated with the conduiting of revenues from the drug traffic, and that they are therefore to be treated in the manner Nazi-sympathizer operations were treated in the United States during World War II.

15) The War on Drugs should include agreed provisions for allotment of confiscated billions of dollars of assets of the drug-trafficking interests to beneficial purposes of economic development, in basic economic infrastructure, agriculture, and goods-producing industry. These measures should apply the right of sovereign states to taking title of the foreign as well as domestic holdings of their nationals, respecting the lawful obligations of those nationals to the state. The fact that ill-gotten gains are transferred to accounts in foreign banks, or real-estate holdings in foreign nations, does not place those holdings beyond reach of recovery by the state of that national.

On the issue of the international drug-traffic, all honorable governments of Central and South America share a common purpose and avowed common interest with the government of the United States. By fighting this necessary war, as allies, we may reasonably hope to improve greatly the cooperation among the allies, in many important matters beyond the immediate issue of this war itself. Whenever allies join, as comrades-in-arms, to fight a great evil, this often proves itself the best way to promote a sense of common interest and common purpose in other matters. Many difficulties among the states of this Hemisphere, which have resisted cooperative efforts at solution, should begin to become solvable, as we experience the comradeship of the War on Drugs.

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distribution of drugs from major drug producing regions of other parts of the world. These other areas are, in present order of rank:

A) The Southeast Asia Golden Triangle, still the major and growing source of opium and its derivatives;

B) The Golden Crescent, which is a much-smaller producer than the Golden Triangle, but which has growing importance as a channel for conduiting Golden-Triangle opium into the Mediterranean drug-conduits;

C) The recently rapid revival of opium production in southern India and Sri Lanka, a revival of the old

'A perverse power above governments'

On March 13, Executive Intelligence Review held an international seminar in Mexico City on how to defeat the drug trade and its companion, narco-terrorism. The seminar was keynoted by the presentation of the foregoing "strategic multinational war plan against drugs" for the Americas, prepared by EIR founder Lyndon H. LaRouche.

Robyn Quijano, EIR's Latin America editor and also the editor of the recently released Spanish-language version of the book *Dope, Inc.*, addressed the phenomenon of Nazi-Communism lying behind the international drug networks, using the case study of Colombian dope king Carlos Lehder as exemplary. Rome correspondent Leonardo Servadio spoke of the role of the European black oligarchy in deploying the drug trade against the modern nation-state and, in particular, against Augustinian currents within the Catholic Church. The other major presentation at the seminar was given by EIR counterintelligence editor Jeffrey Steinberg, who told the audience of primarily diplomats, security specialists and government officials

erate assault by the oligarchies of the West and of the U.S.S.R. upon the republics of the United States and Ibero-America.

The following is a translation of a page-one article written by Efrain Salazar and carried by the Mexican daily *El Sol de Mexico* on March 18, 1985.

The international drug trade has become a powerful and perverse government unto itself. It represents a greater financial, political, and military power than that of several American nations, against which mere law-enforcement methods will fail, Mr. Jeffrey Steinberg asserted yesterday during a press conference in a hotel in the center of the capital city.

He added that the major threat to democracy in Venezuela, Colombia, Peru, and other countries is that the drug traffickers are using their billions of dollars of profits (\$12 billion from 1982 to the present time) to pay for terrorist armies and to attract corrupt military men into right-wing coup conspiracies.

Mr. Jeffrey Steinberg, counterintelligence director for

Executive Intelligence Review, revealed that there exists worldwide "a three-fold connection between the drug trade, international terrorism, and certain perverse financial interests with political power," and proposed an alliance between the United States and the countries of Latin America to "declare war on the drug trade, which must be carried out with the weapons of war."

He declared his respect for President Miguel de la Madrid, whose government has stuck to its battle against the international drug trade, and acknowledged "the debt we have with those hundreds of soldiers of Mexico who have given up their lives fighting against the international drug traffickers."

In the press conference, mention was made of the book *Narcotráfico, S.A. (Dope Inc.)*, [commissioned] by Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr., in which concrete charges are made against political and financial personalities from across the continent. Participating in the conference was EIR's Director of [Mexican] Political Affairs Hector Apolar, and Carlos Mendez and Lucia López de Mendez, formerly correspondents in Venezuela who were kidnapped by those who wanted to prevent the circulation of the book *Narcotráfico, S.A.*

They insisted that the economic power of the international drug mafias enables them to speculate with the economies of the Latin American countries and "to easily blackmail them."

They warned that "it is impossible to break the growing political power of the drug traffickers in Mexico, Colombia, Venezuela, and other countries, without seizing the thousands and millions of dollars from the processing and sale of drugs that are laundered through corrupt banking institutions."

They asserted that the charges of *Executive Intelligence Review* regarding the relations of former Colombian President Alfonso López Michelsen with international drug traffickers caused the downfall of that politician who—the speakers charged—at the time was the contact chosen by the Colombian mafia to propose to President Belisario Betancur that he decree "an unconditional pardon for the crimes committed by the drug traffickers, an amnesty," in exchange for which they would reinvest the illicit profits previous "washed" in banks like First Interamericas Bank. . . .

And, in a document signed by Lyndon H. LaRouche, they presented a "battle plan of 15 points" for "the war on drugs," in which it is stated that the drug trade "is a government at war against civilized nations, a government against which we must declare war, a war which we must conduct with the weapons of war," since "police methods by themselves will fail."

They pointed out, for example, that the Colombian mafia uses Mexico as its trafficking route to the United States, and that if these routes are shut down, "the drug traffickers will open others."

Finally, they declared that the FBI is the most corrupt police institution in the hemisphere, some of whose agents support organized crime.