

The European supporters of Ibero-America's narco-terrorists

by an EIR Investigative Team

With the aid of liberals of the Trilateral Commission, the Willy Brandt wing of the Socialist International, and several of the European Communist Parties, an extensive support apparatus has been established in Europe for Colombia's M-19 guerrillas and M-19's sister narco-terrorist organizations in Ibero-America.

In view of M-19's atrocity against the Colombian nation in the storming of the Judicial Palace in Bogota on Nov. 6, this is certainly a lobby in favor of mass murder. But it is not only that. Given the well-documented ties of M-19, Peru's Sendero Luminoso (Shining Path) et al. to the international narcotics-trafficking mafia, this potpourri of "human rights" and "solidarity" organizations must be held morally and criminally accountable, each time youths in Paris, Madrid, Frankfurt, London, New York, and elsewhere, die from use of cocaine, heroin, or other dangerous drugs.

EIR's Investigative Team has determined that the support apparatus in Europe for narco-terrorism in the Andes, works on three levels.

On the most visible level are those liberal media—with the Bogota correspondent of the Trilateral Commission-linked *Le Monde* of France in the lead—that have been supporting M-19 in print since Nov. 6, and who have been conducting a propaganda campaign to portray President Belisario Betancur of Colombia as a "butcher," under the control of "fascists" in the army.

On a second level, engaging in political activism on behalf of the narco-terrorists, is a "solidarity" apparatus that involves "human rights" organizations allied to London's Amnesty International; "anthropology" and "ethnology" organizations under the umbrella of the Nazi International-linked Society for Endangered Peoples based in Göttingen, West Germany; "religious" organizations, particularly Jesuit, Dominican, and Evangelical-Protestant, that subscribe to the "theology of liberation" doctrine condemned by Pope John Paul II; and a network of "Colombia Committees" in many cities of Western Europe. Within this "solidarity" network, we find allies of the late Henri Curiel, the Egyptian Communist who controlled a global terror apparatus, particularly in the Middle East and Europe, that was utilized effi-

ciently, for years, by the Soviet intelligence services.

This leads us directly to the third level, the narco-terrorists themselves. In various European capitals, with Madrid as the European center, members of the "International Commission of M-19" oversee the activities of M-19 in Europe: Eduardo Rodriguez in Madrid, responsible for all of Europe, Rodrigo Restrepo in Paris, responsible for France, and Anna Salcedo in Zurich. Avert Bustamante, head of the International Commission for M-19 globally, and usually based in Central America, is a regular visitor to Europe. Europe is also a meeting point of the terrorists and the drug mafia: As an M-19 activist in Geneva stressed in a discussion Nov. 9: "There is a certain link of the guerrillas with drugs, to buy arms. We use drug money to buy arms, no one hides it, what else can we do?" And, since the Nov. 6 terror outrage in Bogota, the narco-terror threat in Europe has taken on a deadly new dimension, with the first-ever surfacing of "committees of solidarity" with Peru's Sendero Luminoso murderers.

Some questions for Willy Brandt

While the Nov. 6 Bogota terror outrage is bringing the European terror apparatus to the surface, this apparatus did not suddenly emerge out of nowhere. In reconstructing how the underlying infrastructure was put together over the past year, EIR, not surprisingly, soon came to the door of the head of the Socialist International, Willy Brandt, former West German chancellor and Moscow's favorite Western politician.

It was in approximately October-November 1984 that a rash of articles began to be published sympathetic to M-19 and/or Peru's Sendero. In the "mainstream" European press, for example, the Hamburg weekly *Die Zeit*, whose editor, Theo Sommer, has been a member of the Trilateral Commission, ran a piece by correspondent **Michael Stührenburg**, portraying the M-19 as a "social democratic"-tinged legitimate opposition group to the Betancur government; the article was soon republished by *Vorwärts*, the weekly of the Social Democratic Party (SPD) in the Federal Republic of Germany, and by *Révolution*, the weekly of the French Com-

munist Party, which had heretofore refrained from weekly of the French Communist Party, which had heretofore refrained from praising M-19, in deference to Moscow's nominal policy of support for another narco-terrorist group in Colombia, the FARC. Soon thereafter, on Nov. 23, 1984, the West German daily *Süddeutsche Zeitung* also ran a sympathetic account of M-19.

Similarly, Sendero Luminoso, M-19's narco-trafficking partner in the Andes, began to get a good press. *El-Badil*, a Paris weekly sponsored by former Algerian President and Nazi collaborator **Ahmed Ben Bella**, ran an interview glorifying Sendero in an October 1984 edition. On Nov. 22, Agence France Presse in Paris conducted the first-ever interview to be aired with members of a clandestine Sendero cell in Paris.

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Why this sudden flurry of activity favoring the Andean narco-traffickers?

Coincidentally or not, Herr Brandt, in the company of his adviser on Socialist International affairs, **Klaus Lindenburg**, made a well-publicized eight-nation tour of Ibero-America during October 1984, generally expressing support for whatever anti-American movement he could find. Brandt's trip, as reported by *EIR* at the time, was aimed at creating massive problems for the United States south of its borders in the weeks leading up to, and then beyond, the November U.S. elections; it was becoming more and more certain, at that moment, that Moscow favorite Walter Mondale would be crushingly defeated.

In Peru, on Oct. 9, Brandt gave a press conference which shocked many seasoned observers in Lima and elsewhere on the continent. On this occasion, he made a differentiation between "some cases of terrorism [which] are part of international movements," as against others, which "belong to [specific] regions because of different causes." The phenomena in Peru, he asserted, fit into the latter category: "According to the personal impression that I have, it would be wrong

to say that what is happening in this country forms part of an international terrorist movement."

Quite a "personal impression," given that, only weeks earlier, Sendero had committed some of the bloodiest atrocities in continental history, and given that Sendero's connection to "international terrorist movements" is one of the worst-kept secrets of modern times!

Brandt began, at the time, to put himself forward, in some capacity, as a mediator between Sendero and the Peruvian government, an offer that itself conveyed a legitimacy to Sendero that it had never had before.

So, one year later, it is not surprising to find the "Brandt wing" of the Socialist International—in Spain, in France, in West Germany, in Britain—fronting for M-19 and friends, in contradiction to the nominal Socialist International policy of backing the regimes of Colombia's Betancur and Peru's García.

The extreme case of M. Charles VanHecke

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The speaker was Rodrigo Restrepo, director of the French branch of the International Commission of M-19, during a private discussion on Nov. 12.

No sooner had the ashes from the devastation caused by M-19 cooled in Bogota, than M. VanHecke had gone into action.

On Nov. 8, his news dispatch from Bogota, featured a box-insert interview with reputed M-19 chief Luis Otero, nicknamed "Lucho," that had been conducted four days before the storming of the Judicial Palace, in a bar somewhere in Bogota. The interview portrayed "Lucho" as a committed social-reformer, angered at the failure of the Betancur government to achieve "agrarian reform."

On Nov. 12, the headline on VanHecke's article was, "The M-19 Explains Itself." This time, the dispatch was based on a "clandestine press conference" by seven leaders of M-19, to which only a "select few" international journalists was invited: quite a coup for M. VanHecke, and quite indicative of some of his connections. In the account, he described M-19 leader "Alfonso" acting "amiably" toward the journalists, and reserved his bile for President Betancur. He went so far as to attack Colombian government charges of M-19 links with drug-traffickers as a "diversion," to take attention away from alleged involvement of members of Betancur's own entourage in drugs.

In three in-between dispatches, in the Nov. 9 and Nov. 10-11 weekend *Le Monde* editions, VanHecke was savage, charging Betancur with having "ordered the butchery," and under the increasing control of "fascist" elements in the army. The account of the events of Nov. 6-7 in Bogota were invert-

ed, to make it seem that Betancur was the culprit for the destruction in Colombia's capital.

While the standard wisdom is that *Le Monde's* correspondents maintain a freedom to dispatch columns as they wish, without editorial interference, it is nonetheless important to stress that the editor-in-chief of the paper, **André Fontaine**, has been, for much of the past 10 years, a member of the Trilateral Commission. *Le Monde* is widely read in Europe, both in France and in the diplomatic corps at large, and in French-speaking areas in Africa, Asia, and elsewhere.

VanHecke was not alone. A Spanish insider told *EIR* on Nov. 18 that a "political uproar" had broken out in Spain, over the barrage of interviews appearing on Spanish national television with emissaries or sympathizers of M-19. The chief culprits in this narco-terrorist media campaign, *EIR's* informant indicated, are national TV head **José María Calvino Iglesias** and a wide array, within national TV, of sympathizers and/or members of the Spanish Communist Party

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or the "left-wing faction of the Spanish Socialist Party opposed to [Prime Minister] Felipe González." On Nov. 9, the Spanish daily *ABC* attacked pro-M-19 TV correspondent **Rosa María Mateo**, who had interviewed an M-19 spokesman, for having "convinced us that pulling out a gun and shooting people is a worthy thing to do."

Similar patterns are manifest elsewhere in Europe: Viewers of West Germany's ARD and ZDF national television stations have received a good dose of sympathy for M-19 since the Nov. 6 events transpired.

Of the 'Network Curiel'

According to M-19 sources, key points of M-19 "support activity" in Europe include Madrid, Paris, London, Geneva, Zurich, and various cities of West Germany, particularly Frankfurt, Hanover, and Berlin.

Six official "support committees" are known to exist in Europe. These include:

London: The Colombia Committee, housed in the offices of the "Committee Against Repression in Latin America" (CARILA), an umbrella organization for Ibero-American "human rights" groups. At the same phone number, London 359-2270, one finds the **Colombia Solidarity Committee**, whose organizer, **Juan Rincón**, maintains regular liaison with M-19. One also finds there the **Latin America Resource Center**. The Colombia Committee is organizing an "international observers' committee," made up of individuals from organizations around the world, which is planning a mission to Colombia in January 1986. The Colombia Committee collaborates with such Fabian/KGB-linked "human rights" and "ethnography" organizations as Amnesty International, the Minority Rights Group, Survival International, and the "human rights commissions" of both houses of the British parliament. Its sponsor in the House of Lords is **Liberal Lord Avebury**, who has also become active in the "human rights" campaign in Guatemala, a political front for the narco-terrorist groups there. There is also cooperation with British Labour Party parliamentarians, especially one **Jeremy Corbin**.

Paris: The Colombian Committee on Human Rights exists at 16 Rue Oberkampf, Paris 75011, phone number, 48070154, at which number M-19 International Commission head for Paris **Rodrigo Restrepo** may also be reached. This group's most intimate collaborating institution is the **France-Colombia Committee**, headed by one **Philippe Texier**, married to a Colombian, **Anita Texier**. The France-Colombia Committee is a sub-unit of the organization **France-Amérique Latine**, which has ties to now-unofficial adviser to French President Mitterrand, **Régis Debray**.

The France-Colombia Committee directly interfaces top levels of the old Henri Curiel network, a terror and terror-support apparatus with worldwide dimensions, particularly in Europe, North Africa, and the Middle East. One France-Colombia Committee leader, **Maurice Barth**, of the **Dominican St.-Jacques Convent** in Paris, is head of **The Association of Friends of Henri Curiel**. The increasing focus on Andean/Ibero-American groups among these circles (Texier, for example, has recently surfaced on an international Guatemala "human rights" commission) may, in fact, signal the increasing extension of the Curiel network into Ibero-America. The France-Colombia Committee became the center of a political controversy in France, after it advertised itself on French national television, following the volcano eruption in Colombia, as the best conduit of funds for relief for volcano victims; the **Parti Ouvrier Européen**, the party supporting the policies of Lyndon LaRouche in France, circulated a national dossier warning that this money would only be diverted to support terrorism.

Paris is also a hotbed of "Americanist" anthropology-ethnography terrorist-sympathizers, centered, in significant part, at the University of Paris's **Institut des Hautes Etudes**

pour Amérique Latine (IHEAL), cited by both M-19's Restrepo and French police sources as a major base for M-19 support in Europe. The human rights apparatus also extends into the religious community, including Dominican Barth; **Father Xavier de Montperont of the Comité Episcopat France-Amérique Latine (CEFAL)**, and the Protestant **Centre Ecumenique du Tiers Monde**.

Another terror-support nest in Paris is that centered around the aforementioned Michael Stührenburg, who traveled to Colombia in summer-autumn 1984 to meet clandestinely with M-19, and who wrote a syndicated article "to answer the campaign, originating in Colombia, claiming that M-19 are cruel Marxist bandits," according to his own account. One of Stührenburg's close personal associates in Paris is **Dominique Vidal**, foreign editor of the French Communist Party's *Révolution* magazine. Vidal's personal specialty is the Mid-

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dle East region; the French CP's Middle East bureau is coextensive with the Curiel network.

According to Curiel operative Barth, the **International Bureau of the French Socialist Party** is also providing behind-the-scenes support for his group's efforts.

The various M-19 sympathizers in Paris are preparing major demonstrations for the weekend of Nov. 23-24, against the Betancur government.

Geneva and Zurich, Switzerland: In Geneva, there exists the **Comité Colombien** at 11 Rue des Minotaures, 1205 Geneva, phone number 218198. The main two activists in this Comité are **Luce Marina Coppetti** (204614) and **Ricardo Espinosa** (582166). In Zurich, there is the **Dialogue North-South (DINS)**, P.O. Box 238,

in these two Swiss organizations report that they cooperate closely with Swiss Socialist parliamentarians, including the **International Bureau of the Swiss Socialist Party**, and former Swiss parliamentarian **Jean Ziegler**. Ziegler, most recently a sociology professor at the University of Geneva,

has professed admiration for Lausanne's François Genoud, the banker of the Nazi International. There is also a plethora of "theology of liberation" groups in Switzerland, including anti-Betancur Jesuit nests in Geneva, Zurich, and Fribourg, and Dominican and Protestant-Evangelical activists elsewhere.

Federal Republic of Germany: The Colombia Seminar is the meeting point for joint German-Colombian "solidarity groups" across Germany, mostly centered around university complexes, including in Frankfurt, West Berlin, Hannover, Göttingen, Munich, and Cologne. Organization coordinator is **Luis Escobar** (Frankfurt phone number 708507). The Colombia Seminar had a secret meeting in Frankfurt during the Nov. 8-10 weekend, to plan actions against Betancur. Attendees included two "Andean ethnographers" associated with the Society for Endangered Peoples in Göttingen. One was **Thomas Meyer** of Frankfurt. It included **Professors Rossbach and Metschlak** of the University of Hanover Sociology Department. According to West German security experts, the nationwide network of the Colombia Seminar interfaces the mass base of the West German Green Party, and the **Evangelical Church's** university student groups.

M-19's structure, and some Sendero friends

EIR investigations indicate that the present European Division head of the International Commission of M-19, is **Eduardo Rodriguez**, based in Madrid. This name may be an adopted name, as he "uses several identities," according to one of his close friends. In the immediate days following the Nov. 6-7 events, Rodriguez was visited in Madrid, by **Avert Bustamante**, reputed head of M-19's International Commission. Madrid has also become home base for some of Colombia's more notorious mafia drug-traffickers, and the city is key in the physical transshipment of coca paste to other parts of Europe.

Rodrigo Restrepo, based in Paris, is International Commission head for France. In Zurich, it is **Anna Salcedo**, who travels throughout Europe.

The newest developments point to increasing integration of the M-19 and Sendero support apparatus. Both Anna Salcedo and Restrepo associate Michael Stührenburg are circulating verbal slanders against Peruvian President García. Salcedo warned, in a Nov. 12 discussion, that Lima, Peru could soon be hit by the same kind of action that hit Bogota. Stührenburg said that García had no right to assume leadership for Ibero-America as a whole, especially as "I don't know how secure he is. The army is not in accord with everything he is doing."

The sudden spate of open activity, by hardcore terrorist networks, in favor of Sendero Luminoso, in Paris (see next section) suggests that a new phase of narco-terrorist activity is opening in Europe.