

"whose presence in the organization is dictated not only by geography and the realities of coexistence, but by the historic solidarity of its people with the cause of Latin American emancipation." Peru seeks, however, "to exclude from the inter-American system every kind of imperialist practice which divides, rather than unites, and threatens the basic principles which inspired the authors of its charter."

The viability of the OAS as an organization has been questioned since the United States backed Great Britain in the Malvinas crisis in 1982, and because of conflicts between the United States and its southern neighbors over the debt crisis since then.

The Bogota daily *El Espectador* charged in its editorial on Dec. 4, that the United States was the main party responsible for destroying the OAS, because, "in moments as difficult as the Malvinas War . . . the obvious desertion of the U.S. government not only violated Hemispheric solidarity, but also invalidated the Monroe Doctrine and its well-known thesis of 'America for Americans.'"

While the OAS barely emerged intact from Cartagena, efforts to consolidate integration of the continent in a defense pact against the British economics being imposed by the IMF, were more successful.

"Our country is prepared to take up a new continental fight," stated Panamanian Foreign Minister Jorge Abadia Arias at the ongoing session in Cartagena. Abadia rocked the meeting with the announcement that Peruvian President Alan García's anti-usury initiative has been fully embraced and adopted by the President of Panama, Eric Arturo del Valle. "Throughout Panama will resound the voice of a protesting and wrathful America, a single voice that not even the most powerful will be able to ignore." Echoing García's call for a continental summit, Abadia called all of Ibero-America to a meeting in Panama as quickly as possible. In the meanwhile, said Abadia, we will be "forging" genuine cooperation for the economic and social development of our peoples.

War on drugs

Another key agenda item was the war on drugs. The OAS agreed to have the first American summit on drug traffic in Rio on April 22-26. Peruvian Foreign Minister Wagner supported the call for a continental accord, named for Rodrigo Lara Bonilla, Colombian justice minister who declared total war on the drug mafia and was assassinated by the high command of Dope. Inc., on April 31, 1984. The accord would unite nations in the war on drugs, to eliminate the drug trade, which he defined as "a social contaminant which bases itself on the corruption and degradation of our youth."

Simultaneously, Pope John Paul II, speaking to a delegation of former Latin American Presidents, called drug traffic, "a terrible road for so many youth who are presented with a dark and inadequate future." He said that this terrible plague makes necessary a regional and continental cooperation plan to fight the drug traffic.

Sweden

Revolt against Palme intensifies

by Kerstin Tegin-Gaddy

Barely two months after the Swedish elections, which saw the narrowly won re-election of socialist Olof Palme as prime minister, with the help of the Communist parliamentary group, increasing criticism of Palme's pro-Soviet policy is now emerging.

What has drawn the most attention is the Swedish "officers' revolt" against Palme's inauguration speech before the parliament, which claimed that Sweden has now "created respect for its borders." Naval Commander Hans von Hofsten publicly accused Palme of lying outright, since it was widely known that the prime minister had received a detailed report from Supreme Commander Lennart Ljung on repeated Soviet submarine incursions just before his inauguration speech.

The allegations from Captain von Hofsten soon received major support from other naval officers. Twelve high-ranking officers issued a statement published in the daily *Svenska Dagbladet* Nov. 10, that they thought Palme was more concerned with "normalizing" relations with the Soviet Union than with halting submarine incursions into Swedish waters. Moscow has invited Palme to visit next year—a maneuver which he does not wish jeopardized under any circumstances.

The majority of the Swedish population is convinced that not enough is being done to stop the Soviet submarine violations, and that politicians in general, and Palme and the Socialists in particular, are "too soft on the Russians." This was conclusively illustrated in November, when the state-controlled television network broadcast a film by communist Maj Wechsleman, titled *Submarine: A Certainty Verging on Probability*. The film, shown at prime time, purported to prove that there never had been any submarines in Swedish waters, and that claims to the contrary were fabrications of the Swedish military hawks. Wechsleman went so far as to try to attempt to discredit the famous 1981 "whisky on the rocks" incident. Her film denied that the Soviet "Whisky Class" submarine, which had run aground in the restricted zone outside Karlskrona naval base, was there illegally or for espionage purposes. The maligned submarine, according to Wechsleman, was an "antique" and had run afoul because of a navigation error.

Wechselman's film was received with general outrage. Calls poured in to the television station and the newspaper editorial boardrooms denouncing it as Soviet propaganda, and saying that she ought to buy a one-way ticket to Moscow.

Scandinavian countries worried

In both Denmark and Norway, there has been open criticism of Palme and his undermining of the traditional Swedish policy of "armed neutrality." At a recent meeting of Nordic Council foreign ministers, Danish Foreign Minister Uffe Elleman-Jensen criticized Olof Palme in very harsh terms. He expressed his discontent that Sweden, under Palme's leadership, only supports one side—the Soviet Union—and that Palme's activities in favor of every Soviet disarmament proposal damages Nordic cooperation and is a direct threat to the Nordic balance. Elleman-Jensen received full backing on this issue from the foreign ministers of Norway and Iceland.

But what Scandinavia's NATO members have been most critical of is Sweden's proposal for a nuclear-free zone in Scandinavia. In preparation for a Nov. 22 meeting of Nordic parliamentarians in Copenhagen, the Norwegian foreign ministry released a 286-page report, the result of one year of work by the most prominent security experts in the nation. The report stated flatly that Norway could not accept any agreement for a nuclear-free zone in Scandinavia that was at odds with NATO's strategy for the northern flank. In non-diplomatic terms, this means that Norway—which will accept nuclear weapons on its territory in case of war—will not agree to the nuclear-free-zone proposal that is being peddled by Palme's Soviet-backed Independent Commission on Disarmament and Security Issues ("Palme Commission"). The release of this report during the week of Nov. 18 ensured the failure of the meeting, which was boycotted by Norway's Prime Minister Kaare Willoch and Foreign Minister Sven Stray. Palme, who was the main speaker, far from finding support for his ideas, found even his Danish hosts very critical.

This disaffection with Sweden's policies under Palme is now being openly debated in the Norwegian press. The conservative newspaper *Aftenposten* has run a series of articles headlined "Can We Trust Swedish Neutrality?" by its defense expert Olav Tryggve Storvik, who wrote: "We can see beginning signs of concern in Norway regarding the credibility of Swedish neutrality. . . . Formerly, we in Norway believed that it was most unlikely that Sweden could be used as a staging area for Soviet troops or that Soviet aircraft would take the short cut over Sweden to hit targets in Norway." Storvik continued that there are now great doubts in Norway about the strength of the Swedish military, in particular its air force, which at one time was the strongest in Europe.

In an interview with the Swedish daily *Dagens Nyheter*, Norway's Vice Defense Minister Oddmund Hammerstad stated that what is of greatest concern about the Swedish

strategic situation, is perhaps not Sweden's military strength per se, but rather the political climate in the country. "Sweden has had a soft line regarding the Soviet Union, and has been trying to tone down what has happened [regarding the submarine incursions], and therefore we are more worried about the foreign policy of Sweden, than the deficiencies of Swedish defense."

'A storm next door'

The concern of Sweden's neighbors about Palme's appeasement policies has extended itself beyond the daily press. Norwegian Conservative Riksdag member, Ingvald Godal, has released a new book, *A Storm Is Brewing Next Door*, which details the parallel of Sweden's betrayal of Finland during the Russo-Finnish "winter war" of 1940. As a result, today Finland is completely vulnerable to Soviet pressure, above all through the treaty of friendship and cooperation known as the VSB Pact. The book emphasizes that today, as in the '30s and '40s, it is in Stockholm that the fate of Scandinavia is determined. If Sweden should demilitarize or be drawn into the Soviet sphere of influence because of its foreign policy decisions, then not only will Sweden and Finland be lost, but also Denmark and Norway.

Godal has proposed that Sweden and Norway sign a defense pact similar to the Finnish-Russian VSB Pact, which would prohibit Swedish territory from being used by an enemy of Norway, or vice versa. This would neither violate Norwegian membership in NATO, nor Swedish neutrality, according to Godal.

Meanwhile Social Democrat Palme has launched his expected counterattack against his military detractors, accusing the military of "lacking in judgment" and being "false." The Social Democratic newspaper *Aftonbladet* has attempted to whip up opposition to the military by referring to them as a "junta." At the same time, Soviet Central Committee member Georgii Arbatov, a member of the Palme Commission and head of Moscow's U.S.A! and Canada Institute, vituperated that the prime minister's military critics "are friends of NATO, they are agents of extremism," in an interview in *Aftonbladet*.

This quality of attack by Palme does little to dispel the doubts expressed both at home and abroad, and Palme may well accuse his domestic opposition of being agents of NATO or the CIA, or members of the European Labor Party—the only party in Sweden to openly propose that Sweden join NATO. The fact that Palme will use heavy-handed means to eliminate his opponents, has recently become a matter of debate even inside his own Social Democratic Party. In the Social Democratic theoretical journal *Tiden*, party official Jan Lindhagen accused Palme of being "power crazy." The allegation that Palme is running both the party and the country like a dictator, is also coming from a Social Democratic opposition group that is forming around the newspaper *Arbetet* in Malmoe.