

World Cup soccer tainted by mafia, Kissinger, as '78 scandal widens

by Mark Sonnenblick

The story began nearly eight years ago, and is still unfolding:

- On June 9, 1978 a suitcase containing \$250,000 in cash was dispatched to Lima from Bogota by Gilberto Rodríguez Orejuela, a cocaine mafia chieftain now jailed in Madrid pending extradition to the United States.

- On June 21, 1978, Henry Kissinger sat with Gen. Jorge Videla, sentenced in December 1985 to life imprisonment, and the other members of the Argentine junta, cheering as the crack Peruvian soccer team miraculously turned itself into a sieve, allowing Argentina to score 6 goals to 0 for Peru. That inexplicably oversized victory enabled Argentina to become the World Champion and created a climate of euphoria which enabled the corrupt and butchering junta to remain in power several years longer.

- A few days later, the Argentine Peronist magazine *Línea* accused the regime of having bribed the Peruvian team in return for dropping its defenses. Peruvian defensive player Manzo confessed there had been an "extra-football" deal, but was soon shut up.

No receipts signed by Peruvian players, nor Kissinger pawprints on the \$250,000, have been discovered so far. But *EIR* found enough evidence to merit further investigation and to raise serious questions about today's Roman circuses known as sports championships.

The Bogota suitcase would have remained a secret had not a lawyer involved with it been appointed mayor of Bogota last Dec. 11. The scandal which resulted was sufficient to force Diego Pardo Koppel to resign on Jan. 10. This particular suitcase never made it to Lima. Avianca accidentally put it on a flight to New York, where it was discovered by U.S. Customs. Diego Pardo later admitted that he was hired by Gilberto Rodríguez for testimony before Judge Irving R. Kauffman in support of Rodríguez's efforts to retrieve his money. On the basis of Pardo's testimony, Judge Kauffman, now chairman of President Reagan's Commission on Organized Crime, ruled in 1981 that the mafia had a better claim to the \$250,000 than the Colombian government. That judgment was overturned in 1983 after the mafia refused to bring the supposed owner of the suitcase, one José A. Fonseca, to New York for deposition, on the grounds of the Fifth Amendment.

In his comical efforts to explain his conduct, Bogota mayor Pardo wrote to *El Tiempo* on Dec. 18 that Gilberto Rodríguez "model 79" was a respectable banker. He also asserted that he had been persuaded to help Rodríguez by "a top political leader," whom he refused to name. Pardo had been appointed Colombia's superintendent of foreign exchange control in 1977 by President Alfonso López Michelsen, a Kissinger favorite. This winter, as the scandal grew against the mayor, López Michelsen's influential radio chain drummed over and over the line expounded by the ex-President's son, that Pardo should only be criticized "under judicial norms, not on moral precepts."

Kissinger's revenge on Peru

Henry A. Kissinger made Lima, Peru, his only stop on the way to Buenos Aires on June 20, 1978. He held a private meeting at the airport with U.S. ambassador Harry Schlaudemann, his protégé and most adept specialist in covert operations. It was the first time Kissinger had stepped foot in Peru since, on Feb. 18, 1976, the then secretary of state had been forced to sit through a long indictment of the evils of his foreign policies delivered by General Miguel Angel de la Flor, Peru's nationalist foreign minister. Kissinger was so enraged being mortified by Peru that he terrified Peru by proclaiming a "special relationship" with Brazil two days later, his aide Luigi Einaudi later confided.

Now, it was Kissinger's turn to laugh as Argentina ravaged the Peru's national champions 6-0. Argentina went into the crucial game needing to win by more than 4 goals to break its tie with Brazil and go to the finals, an easy match against Holland. Kissinger's heart must have dropped as Peruvian Juan José Muñante bounced the ball off the Argentine goalpost after 90 seconds of play. Though Muñante kept fighting for goals, he found no support from his dispirited teammates. Argentina, which had scored no more than 2 goals in previous cup matches, came out with 6. Brazilian coach Claudio Coutinho, whose efforts came to naught by this foul play, called a press conference to accuse Peru of having made a deal to throw the game.

Peruvians believed the same. The returning team had to land at a provincial airport to avoid a lynch mob waiting for

it in Lima. Some suspected that President Francisco Morales Bermúdez had an arrangement. Morales Bermúdez was indebted to Kissinger for facilitating the 1975 military coup which had ousted Gen. Juan Velasco Alvarado and put him in power.

Though happy, Kissinger was not surprised. On arrival at the Buenos Aires airport that morning, Kissinger pontificated with a diabolical smile which few understood. "I don't know much about football, but Argentina will be the champion." Once again the soothsayer was showing off his great wisdom, just as he did when he predicted to Italian Premier Aldo Moro and Pakistani Prime Minister Ali Bhutto that they would meet violent deaths for opposing his policies.

Kissinger gloated, "I also think this World Cup has projected a good image of Argentina toward the world. Your country has made tremendous progress." After the streets of Buenos Aires filled with euphoric masses celebrating the triumph, President Jorge Videla proclaimed, "Our visitors will no doubt be honest witnesses to their countries of our true reality, without the intentional deformation of an international campaign of falsehoods. . . . Sport was, this time, the road to extract, like never seen before, the sentiment of national union and common hopes of peace, union and fraternity."

The special agency created to prepare for the World Cup

spent \$520 million, not counting airports and other infrastructure, in game preparations. Most of that money was never accounted for. Gen. Omar Actis, an army construction expert known for honesty, was assassinated 48 hours before he was to head the agency, and a bomb exploded at the house of a finance official who had challenged the expenditures at the exact moment Argentina scored its fourth goal against Peru.

The mastermind of "Operation Argentina Champion '78" was Navy junta member Adm. Emilio Massera, with whom Kissinger held a 50-minute secret meeting on June 24, 1978, UPI reported. Massera was later exposed in Italy as the key Argentine in the Propaganda 2 (P-2) Freemasonic lodge terrorism and banking scandal. Massera was sentenced to life imprisonment last Dec. 9, for having supervised the torture center at the Navy Mechanics School, located in the shadow of the stadium where Kissinger sat next to him cheering Argentina's final victory. After all the evidence was in, he was convicted on numerous counts of homicide, kidnapping, torture and theft, which took place before, during and after the World Cup.

Kissinger had sat in the junta's box with Massera, President Jorge Videla, Brigadier Orlando Agosti, and Treasury Minister José Martínez de Hoz. Videla was also sentenced on Dec. 9 for even more brutal crimes in the 1976-81 "dirty



AP/Wide World

Look who came for soccer! Henry Kissinger arriving at World Cup Match in 1978 with Argentinian President Gen. Jorge Rafael Videla (l.) and Navy Chief Adm. Emilio Eduardo Massera (r.). Videla and other members of the Argentine junta are now behind bars; Kissinger's still on the loose.

war" than Massera and given perpetual reclusion, with hard labor and solitary confinement. Agosti, the air force junta member, was sentenced to only four-and-a-half years, since the air force under his command had fewer proven cases of barbarism.

Kissinger's best friend in Argentina, the Oxford and Harvard-educated de Hoz, has miraculously avoided being jailed, although more than one judge has put out a warrant for his arrest for "economic sabotage," under charges that at least \$5 billion of the \$35 billion in foreign debt with which he saddled Argentina during his five years in office is fraudulent. Although he is still on the loose, de Hoz's properties are under judicial embargo. De Hoz was not tried in the "dirty war" which covered up the multiple economic crimes of the "Patria Financiera" he represented, despite the facts that hit lists naming victims were found in his office.

Kissinger helped Warner Communications of Atlanta invest the lucre earned from promoting pornography and the rock-drug-sex counterculture to import soccer star Pele from Brasil to play for its New York Cosmos in 1975, and to make Trilateral Commission member Jimmy Carter President the next year. After Warner hired rock star Mick Jagger as "international consultant" to the Cosmos in 1978, the press corps found Mick and Henry loitering in the locker room after games. "It's difficult to resist not coming to the games," Jagger told *The New York Times*.

Argentina '78; Mexico '86

The World Cup finals will be played in Mexico City in June. Once again, Kissinger has his hands on the ball. In May 1983, he got himself appointed chairman of the U.S. World Cup Organizing Committee, ostensibly to get the games held in the United States. Aside from having President Reagan kick a soccer ball around the White House lawn, Kissinger did nothing.

After all, Kissinger's Mexican allies wanted to host the games for the same reasons as Videla and de Hoz. They became the winners of the contest Mexican President Miguel de la Madrid held among his entourage in 1982-83 seeking ideas on the best way "to entertain" the Mexican people while applying International Monetary Fund austerity. The narcotics and money-laundering mafia associated with former President Miguel Alemán and with Kissinger proposed hosting the World Cup. With the help of Kissinger and FIFA mobster Guillermo Cañedo, they got the federation to break its own rules.

So, while the Mexican population is beginning to suffer severe malnutrition and almost all productive projects have been canceled, several hundred million dollars are being lavished on putting on a World Cup extravaganza in June.

At the players' entrance to Mexico City's Aztec Stadium, there stands a 10-foot-high altar with an inscription which embodies Henry A. Kissinger's Aztec religious beliefs: "GOD AND FOOTBALL, SPIRIT AND WILL."

Spain: a referendum for 'decoupling'

by Leonardo Servadio

Politically, it is a big year for Spain. It has just joined the European Community; it will hold European Parliament elections in June; next October, the national political elections are coming up. But first, this spring, possibly in March, the Spanish people will have to vote for or against being part of NATO.

It is an absurd referendum. Twice already, the Spanish parliament has expressed an absolute majority, including the government and most of the opposition, with the only exception of the Communists, in favor of NATO. In 1981 Spain decided to join NATO. In 1982, the Socialist Party swept the national elections with the promise to hold a referendum on NATO and an electoral platform opposed to NATO. Then, Socialist Prime Minister Felipe González changed his mind, and is now apparently campaigning in favor of NATO, but he sticks to the idea of holding a popular referendum, the exact date of which should be announced in February, in connection with a parliamentary debate on foreign policy.

'Overcoming dependence on the U.S.A.'

Prime Minister González is playing a key role in the Trilateral Commission's game of "decoupling" Europe from its strategic alliance with the United States. "Anti-Americanism is very much an issue. NATO, conceived as a European security alliance, would not trouble Spaniards," wrote W. Pfaff in the *International Herald Tribune* of Jan. 8, expressing the essence of the Trilateral policy. That point has been made by Felipe González over and over: "Europe should overcome its dependence on the U.S. in security matters," declared González at the International Conference on the Future of European Unity in Madrid on Dec. 16. And the theme of European and, in particular, Spanish, independence from the United States is used extensively by González in the statements he makes in favor of NATO: "Yes to NATO but in our own way," says González.

To prove how independent from the United States he considers the role of Spain, González stated in mid-December that if the United States did not leave the military bases it holds on the Spanish territory of its own accord, he would unilaterally shut them down. Also in December, the Spanish government published a study indicating that it wanted the United States to leave its air force bases in Spain, although,