

## Seineldín: 'a job for men of courage'

*The following are excerpts of the message sent by Col. Mohamed Alí Seineldín to the founding conference of the Movement of National Identity and Ibero-American Integration (Mineii).*

Dear brothers in Christ, comrades of the Fatherland, companions in battle, and friends of my bosom:

This is Col. Mohamed Alí Seineldín speaking to you.

Today, Oct. 3, 1992, under the protection of Saint Teresa of the Child Jesus, a group of distinguished men and women are meeting in this honorable assembly to declare themselves a part of this founding event of our Movement for National Identity and Ibero-American Integration.

Seeking to revive the patriotic will in these moments of genuine and anguishing crisis and confusion, we reaffirm that: the national movement is the vital force of the Nation, concretized in the testimony of honest individuals who, through constant effort, uphold the Argentine flag.

The Movement for National Identity must be for the Fatherland, what the soul is to man. Without it, the body, materialized as political action, cannot sustain itself or live; for it preserves the body from those deviations and appetites which corrupt it. . . .

Compatriots, this challenge we face today, to rescue the vital force of the Nation and of the Fatherland, forces us to consider certain laws which I propose as principles, which must never fail to guide our actions:

First law: this rebirth of the national spirit should be inspired by the Symbol of the Cross, upon which Man-God was crucified and which we could interpret thusly:

- The vertical bar expresses the alliance of God with each one of us as individuals.

- The horizontal bar represents the place occupied by our brothers. Looking at it from the front, the *left part*, coinciding with the wound Christ received from the spear, embraces the brothers who suffer pain: the elderly, the infirm, the orphans, the impoverished, the oppressed, and the marginalized. Thus there are material needs which we must make the center of gravity of our efforts. The *right part* represents those who, while not suffering material needs, are often deprived of something worse than these physical wants: *spirituality*. . . .

- The crosspoint of the two bars represents the Father-

land, whose master is God, and we, its simple administrators. . . .

The Sign of the Cross does not distinguish among creeds nor beliefs, but extends its arms magnanimously to all the inhabitants of our soil. . . .

Second law: the consolidation and development of our conscience as a Nation and of a sense of sovereignty, should be the takeoff point for the project to define, to make viable, the recovery, development, and well-being of the Fatherland. . . .

Third law: our nation should integrate with all the brother nations of Ibero-America and of the world, as members of a neighborhood, that is, without losing one's own identity and the sovereignty of one's home.

That is how our forefathers conceived of the Greater Fatherland, naturally integrated by a common heritage of culture, religion, history, and tradition. When this great enterprise began to fail, patriots of the nature of Gen. Don José de San Martín and a group of soldiers and illustrious citizens launched their great emancipatory exploit, for the purpose of preventing the disintegration of the continent.

Unfortunately, the harmful Anglo-Saxon policies of the period, seconded by local personalities, managed to break up the San Martín project, fragmenting the continent into isolated republics and bringing them thusly into a situation of crisis and dependency.

Continuing with this great swindle, today they offer us fictitious regional and world integration, since the very identity of each nation is no longer respected; they give us integration based on simple commercial interchanges which do not respond to the genuine interests of each nation but rather to the interests of the ever-powerful, who by weakening the states hope to subjugate them. . . .

### 'If we fail, we will be dominated'

Ladies and gentlemen, we are only a few years away from the year 2000, and the new face of the Revolution has already implanted itself in the Argentine Republic, promoted by international financial imperialism: the new world order which, in utopian fashion, hopes to rule the next millennium. . . .

Comrades, the Patron Virgin, our forefathers, history, and Argentine men and women of good will are watching us. In our hands lies the power to give life to this movement, which reflects the National Soul, in its fight to rescue the Fatherland. If we fail, "the year 2000 will find us dominated."

Know that the task we begin today is not easy, but as the father of our country said, "It is for men and women of courage that such enterprises were made."

Finally, I remind you all that, without God and the Fatherland, there is the void, there is nothing, there is the abyss, there is darkness, there is death.

Therefore, friends of my bosom, I call on you to accompany me in this cry of hope: Long Live the Fatherland!