

## Multinational force violates OAS charter

by Ana M. Phau

Military officers from a number of countries in Ibero-America are now being trained at Fort Benning, Georgia, to operate as a multinational military force in Central America under the sponsorship of the Organization of American States. This action, the first ever of its kind, is in violation of the Charter of the OAS, but corresponds to Washington's long-standing policy of using such supranational forces to impose limited sovereignty and debt collection throughout the Third World.

This illegal training operation is occurring as a national uproar has exploded in Venezuela over what Venezuelan nationalist Air Force Gen. Francisco Visconti Osorio, leader of the Nov. 27 civil-military insurrection against President Carlos Andrés Pérez, told *EIR* in an exclusive interview published in our last issue: that Washington's official policy is the demilitarization of Ibero-America and the establishment

of a supranational OAS military force. This policy, charged Visconti, is supported by the Venezuelan government and Foreign Minister Gen. Fernando Ochoa Antich, in particular.

Documents obtained by *EIR* show that in September 1991, the Nicaraguan government requested OAS assistance in training its army to remove mines left over from the Sandinista-Contra war. In response, OAS Secretary General João Baena Soares asked the Inter-American Defense Board (IDB), by charter an independent *advisory* body to the OAS, to draw up a plan for the operation, and to put together a list of qualified military officers from each of the area's countries who would be trained to carry it out. Since then, Honduras, Costa Rica, El Salvador, and Guatemala have requested similar assistance.

Although most countries went along with the illegal proposal, three delegations, including that of Mexico, protested strongly. "The Inter-American Defense Board has no authority to carry out this kind of operation, since its consultative character does not allow for operational or logistical activities," read an official Mexican government document. Mexico will not participate because its view is that "the IDB has no authority to carry out this kind of operation; nor does the OAS secretary general have the authority to ask for it."

The creation of such multilateral military forces under the OAS and the IDB is expected to be "legalized" *ex post facto* in June, when the OAS General Assembly meets in Managua, Nicaragua. It is known that the U.S. government,



*These Salvadoran soldiers undergoing combat training at Ft. Benning, Georgia in 1982, would have deployed under their national command at home. Today, U.S. policy is to obliterate national militaries and replace them with illegal, supranational forces.*

with support from the Argentine and Venezuelan governments, and hardly any opposition, will move to reform the OAS Charter and formalize the IDB as a supranational OAS military force. Back in April 1991, U.S. ambassador to the OAS Luigi Einaudi was explicit: "It is clearly time that we translate the democratic solidarity that we have achieved in the hemisphere into a new definition and role for the military," adding that the concept of sovereignty had to be modified, even if this "sends many people away reeling, looking for the protective veil of non-intervention."

Significantly, the OAS Central American operation has been blacked out of the U.S. and Ibero-American press, clearly because its patrons are nervous about a nationalist backlash against it. For example, William Perry, Kissinger's pal and Georgetown University Latin American "expert," warned the U.S. House Foreign Affairs Committee on Feb. 3 about the danger of "the emergence of new messianic ultranationalist political forces below the nominally democratic surface" in Ibero-America.

### Visconti widely covered

What Kissinger et al. fear is the kind of uproar going on in Venezuela over the recent remarks of General Visconti, which over the first two weeks of February were covered by at least seven Venezuelan newspapers. "Imperialism's Plan to Convert Ibero-America's Armies into Police Forces, Charges Visconti," was the banner headline of *Ultimas Noticias* on Feb. 16. "Nationalist Resistance Is Growing in Latin America," was the headline in the widely read daily *El Carabobo* on Feb. 11. *El Universal*, *El Nacional*, and other newspapers have also covered Visconti's charges.

The policy battle began on Feb. 3 when the Venezuelan daily *El Nuevo País* published an interview with Visconti where he accused Venezuelan Foreign Minister Fernando Ochoa Antich of supporting a supranational plan to eliminate the military in Ibero-America. In the interview, Visconti attacked President Pérez for serving as a toady for the International Monetary Fund and this plot.

By Feb. 5, Ochoa Antich had to publicly deny the existence of such a plan. Meanwhile, *EIR* issued a press release on the Visconti interview in Lima on Jan. 29, quoting the general that the ongoing campaign to destroy the armed forces of Ibero-America "is very delicate . . . because sovereignty in our countries will be limited. . . . Even more delicate is the following: with the reduction of our armed forces . . . the budgets of our armed forces will go to finance the supranational armed forces led by the OAS."

A six-page bulletin documenting the existence of the plot, starting with the plans drawn up in 1982 to transform the U.N. into the center of the "new world order," was then issued by Visconti in response to Ochoa's denial of such a plan. Visconti there calls for a full investigation of his government's sell-out policy. The Pérez government has yet to respond.

## New world order's crimes in Armenia

by Hovhannes Galajian

*This article was received by fax from Armenia on Feb. 17, after 25 days during which it was impossible to make a telephone connection with Yerevan due to the electricity blackout. It has been translated from Russian. The full original title is "Consequences of the Criminal Policy of the Apologists of the New World Order, in the Transcaucasus: the Destruction of Armenia's Economy." The author is with the Union of Constitutional Rights of Armenia.*

The winter of 1992-1993 has turned out to be extraordinarily grave in Armenia. The reason is an almost total transport and energy blockade.

It is not surprising, that all transport and energy arteries have been cut from the Azerbaijani side, since that state is waging an expansionist war against Armenia, with the goal of annexation of parts of its territory and annihilation or deportation of the population of these territories. Supply lines that cross the territory of Georgia, meanwhile, do not function reliably, because of the inter-ethnic and civil wars there. It is extremely difficult to use supply routes that cross Turkey, in view of the unacceptable conditionalities demanded by that country, which amount to acquiescence to Azerbaijan's expansionist ambitions.

As for the import of fuels and raw materials from Iran, this is quite problematic because of the intense pressure from the U.S. on Armenian authorities; the aim of this Transcaucasus policy of the apologists of the new world order is, on the one hand, the isolation of Iran and Europe from each other by means of ruining Iran's economy, and also the creation of a constant factor of instability in countries which might serve in the future as a link between Iran and Europe—Armenia and Georgia. On the other hand, this policy helps isolate Russia from the Middle East region.

In addition, these forces are abetting the buildup of Turkey's position in the region and the integration of the Turkic states of the Middle East and Western Asia into a single economic and political system, which could lead in the future to the emergence of a gigantic Turkic empire from the Mediterranean Sea to the Great Wall of China. This would create a permanent hotbed of tension and the danger of military conflicts for powers such as Russia and China, as well as for the European Community.

The prospect of such a course of events could only suit those forces who are behind the insane idea of a new world