

How the NGOs run terrorism to destroy the Colombian nation

by Valerie Rush

The supranational bodies known as the non-governmental organizations (NGOs) have launched open warfare against the nation-states, with every intention of destroying their sovereign institutions of government and, most importantly, their capacity to defend themselves. This strategy is already far advanced in Colombia, where the ruling political institutions have repeatedly capitulated to the exigencies of “international political correctness,” and where the so-called human rights NGOs have now openly revealed themselves to be the foreign allies of the narco-terrorists, by publishing an extensive and detailed hit-list of that country’s most prominent anti-subversive military leaders.

Under the title *State Terrorism in Colombia*, a collection of some 10 NGOs—ranging from the World Council of Churches Commission on International Affairs to the World Organization against Torture—have published a book containing over 350 profiles of Colombian military and police officials allegedly involved in human rights violations. According to military sources inside Colombia, many of the personal details used in the profiles were provided to the editors of the book by former Colombian Attorney General Alfonso Gómez Méndez and his wife Patricia Lara.

Gómez Méndez, who served in the latter part of the Virgilio Barco administration (1986-90), used his office as a virtual branch of the human rights NGOs, conducting hundreds of “investigations” of the Armed Forces and National Police in the name of seeking out human rights abusers. During the most critical period of Colombia’s anti-drug and anti-terrorism offensive, the Armed Forces were repeatedly hampered by Gómez Méndez’s pro-terrorist maneuvers. It was his office which paved the way for imposing a civilian for the first time in the role of military prosecutor, and eventually at the head of the Defense Ministry as well, thereby eroding the unity and effectiveness of the country’s defense forces.

It was also his office which gained international notoriety by conducting a witchhunt against Gen. Jesús Armando Arias Cabrales, the military hero who ended the bloody M-19 siege of the Colombian Justice Palace in November 1985. By assassinating half the Supreme Court magistrates, terrorizing the rest, and setting fire to the nation’s legal archives, the mafia-financed siege succeeded in emasculating the Colombian judicial system and nearly won the surrender of the

Betancur presidency. It was largely due to General Arias Cabrales’s swift military operation that the M-19’s terrorist blackmail efforts were defeated. And yet General Arias Cabrales was accused by the Attorney General’s office of “abuse of authority” and “excess use of force” in ending the siege, and his dishonorable discharge from the military was demanded.

Lest one think that Gómez Méndez was a well-meaning, if misguided, prosecutor, consider his wife’s pedigree. Journalist Patricia Lara is the author of an adulatory book about the M-19’s “idealistic” leadership; she was detained by the U.S. immigration service in 1986 for suspected ties to terrorism, and was accused by the U.S. State Department at the time of suspected links to the Cuban secret police as well. She has also been accused by military sources inside Colombia of having been a former lover of M-19 founder Jaime Bateman and of being a Cuban spy.

The case of Carmen del Chucuri

Perhaps the most scandalous case in which the NGOs reveal their true allegiances is that of the tiny village in Santander province known as Carmen del Chucuri. Around 1966, the National Liberation Army (ELN)—a combination of Castroite and Marxist Theology of Liberation fanatics—decided to establish its center of operations in Chucuri. Through unspeakable acts of brutality and terrorism, the unprotected inhabitants were forced to collaborate with the ELN. They attended obligatory indoctrination sessions, handed over cows, sheep, and portions of their crops, and provided the terrorists with information as well as with their forced votes for their candidates.

When Army Capt. Germán Pataquiva García was sent to Carmen del Chucuri in 1987, he quickly discovered that this so-called ELN bastion was but a terrorized village. In a recent interview with *EIR*, Captain Pataquiva said, “We got the ELN out of Carmen del Chucuri without firing a shot.” He ordered his men to help the farmers sow their fields, build infrastructure, and make friends. “I told [the farmers]: I’m not asking you to collaborate with the Army. I only ask that you not collaborate with the ELN.”

Captain Pataquiva revealed that he was repeatedly saved from ELN ambushes through tips he received from the villagers. Fearful of losing its stronghold, the ELN retaliated by

PATAQUIVA GARCIA, Germán Nicolás

Ejército / Capitán
Código Militar No. 8033959 / Arma: Infantería

Desde 1987, opera un grupo paramilitar en la región chucureña de San comprendida entre los municipios de San Vicente y El Carmen. Este que patrulla la región con tropas del Ejército, es responsable del asesinato de 149 campesinos entre junio de 1987 y abril de 1990. La mayoría de crímenes fueron cometidos en acciones conjuntas con efectivos militares oficiales. Pataquiva, ha sido reiteradamente señalado por campesinos de la región, como uno de los principales integrantes del grupo paramilitar y de numerosos crímenes. Los juzgados 7, 21 y 22 de Instrucción Criminal juzgados de Orden Público han investigado algunos de estos crímenes. El oficial Pataquiva fue llamado a declarar en 1992. La Procuraduría General de la Nación inició una acción disciplinaria por los hechos y formuló pliegos de cargos contra el oficial Pataquiva en noviembre de 1992.

Subteniente
Teniente

1981
1984 (D. 2944 de 30-XI-84)



CIFUENTES ORDÓÑEZ, Ricardo Emilio

Ejército / Brigadier General
Código Militar No. 6316928 / Arma: Ingenieros

En 1990, en el Departamento de Córdoba, opera una fuerte y extensa estructura paramilitar financiada por ganaderos y terratenientes de la región, narcotraficantes y la XI Brigada. Según se ha establecido, esa organización fue creada en años anteriores por el ex oficial Luis Antonio Meneses Báez, alias "Ariel Otero", bajo los auspicios del oficial superior Daniel García Echeverry. La organización paramilitar opera bajo diferentes nombres: Movimiento Obrero Estudiantil Nacional Socialista (MOENS); Juventud Obrera Estudiantil Nacional Socialista (JOENS); "Los Magníficos"; "Ojo por Ojo"; y "Autodefensas de la Costa Atlántica". Con sede en Montería (Córdoba), e integrada por miembros de los servicios de inteligencia del Ejército, posee varias propiedades rurales donde permanecen concentrados sus paramilitares. Estos reciben pagos como civiles al servicio de las Fuerzas Militares. Existen elementos de prueba que señalan que el oficial Cifuentes Ordóñez protegió y auspició ese grupo paramilitar en 1990, cuando se desempeñaba como comandante de la XI Brigada. En declaraciones públicas, retornadas por algunos medios de comunicación, reconoció expresamente apoyar a estos grupos de "autodefensas". Sin embargo el oficial Cifuentes Ordóñez no ha sido investigado.

Profiles of Capt. Germán Pataquiva García and Brig. Gen. Ricardo Emilio Cifuentes Ordóñez, as they appear in the NGOs' terrorist hit-list, State Terrorism in Colombia.

assassinating the town's mayor, but the town fought back and elected the murdered mayor's brother to replace him. The ELN dynamited bridges connecting the town to the outside world, and mined the fields with *quiebrapatas*, mines which caused maximum damage and left many farmers—including many children—maimed and mutilated.

Realizing that their intimidation tactics were not working, the ELN launched a legal offensive, inundating the courts with "witnesses" who claimed that Captain Pataquiva and others had created a "paramilitary" death squad that was committing human rights abuses against the population. The charges of the ELN's "witnesses" received coverage by the human rights NGOs inside and outside the country, and, in 1992, a judge ordered a National Police raid to arrest the mayor and other town leaders for alleged participation in Captain Pataquiva's "death squad." Among the "witnesses" who targeted the mayor and the others was the town priest, Bernardo Marín Gómez, a longstanding member of the ELN who was instrumental in running weapons to ELN command units, and his assistant Orlando Rueda Arguello.

The inhabitants of Carmen del Chucuri denounced this ELN operation, and their charges were published in several newspapers, which the courts—again under ELN instigation—attempted to silence with an injunction. One newspaper, *La Prensa*, editorialized its refusal to comply with the injunction, insisting that it could not "in all conscience" retract what it had published, since "we had gone to the area to gather testimony, defying the ELN's reign of terror there." In April 1993, the same judge who had ordered the injunction handed down a 10-day jail sentence for the director of *La Prensa*, Juan Carlos Pastrana. And yet, days later, the federal prosecutor's office issued an arrest warrant for the priest of

Carmen del Chucuri on charges of terrorism. His aide had already been captured by the army, also on charges of terrorism and sedition.

Presenting lies as truth

Despite clear-cut evidence of the ELN's legal maneuvers, such NGOs as Amnesty International and the entities behind the book *State Terrorism in Colombia* have taken and retailed the ELN's lies as truth (see graphic above). Every military officer who had been involved in politically rescuing Carmen del Chucuri from its ELN captors is now facing investigation and/or judicial proceedings for alleged human rights violations.

In February 1993, a delegation from the Committee of Guerrilla Victims (VIDA) travelled to Washington to present the Human Rights Commission of the Organization of American States (OAS) with a video revealing the other side of the story: the human rights violations, the terrorism, the mutilations and assassinations carried out by the ELN and its fellow narco-terrorists in the FARC. VIDA director Fernando Vargas charged that the Colombian judicial system was completely infiltrated by these terrorists and, as such, was actively responsible for sabotaging efforts to put an end to "guerrilla slavery."

As of this writing, the OAS Human Rights Commission has issued no response to VIDA's documentation and the NGOs continue to present Captain Pataquiva and others like him as perpetrators of "state terrorism." Could it be that the OAS, the United Nations and other such supranational entities want to see a communist dictatorship ruling Colombia, now that communism has been defeated in eastern Europe?