

## U.S. proposes to send troops to Brazil

*EIR* has learned from high-level diplomatic sources that the Pentagon has a contingency plan to send military engineers to the desert regions of Brazil's impoverished northeast, to drill wells for water. It appears, according to these sources, that "the United States wants to repeat in Brazil the experience of humanitarian imperialism they began in Somalia."

The proposal, which was presented to Brazilian authorities and which evidently was firmly rejected, denotes an ominous intent, above all because it occurred simultaneously with the U.S. military maneuvers in Guyana.

Noteworthy in this context is the publication in the May 26 edition of the Brazilian magazine *Istoe*, of a report on secret U.S. military plans to invade Brazil's northeast during the Second World War, on the supposition that Brazil might ally itself with Germany.

government, which brought U.S. relations with Brazil to their lowest point ever. Christopher's enthusiasm over Cardoso's new appointment was expressed in a personal telephone call of congratulations, the first time this has ever occurred in U.S.-Brazil relations.

But the key to Senator Cardoso's success with the Clinton administration is not his self-proclaimed intellectual endowments, but rather the fact of his having been a founding member in 1982, together with other prominents of the Anglo-American Establishment, of the Inter-American Dialogue, a "think-tank" created for the purpose of supplanting traditional bilateral relations between the United States and the rest of the sovereign nation-states of the hemisphere, with a supranational agenda. The Dialogue is an offspring of Project Democracy, launched by the Anglo-American establishment in response to the dramatic deterioration of hemispheric relations due to the crisis of the foreign debt and the pro-British stance taken by the U.S. government during the Malvinas War.

The Dialogue's "innovation" since its founding, is its proposal for a new order based on limited sovereignty, the radical free trade of neo-liberal economics, and the dismantling of the Armed Forces as a panacea for all political problems in the region. In particular, repeated attacks against the Armed Forces have taken the form of what has come to be known as the McNamara Plan, in reference to former U.S. Defense Secretary and Dialogue notable Robert McNamara,

who presented the World Bank and International Monetary Fund with a 1991 proposal for conditioning loans to debtor nations upon their reduction of military budgets.

In October 1991, Senator Cardoso, together with other Dialogue members such as McNamara and Roberto Civita, as well as other Brazilians such as Fabio Feldman, Maria Tereza Padua, and Jaime Lerne, signed the World Resources Institute document entitled "Pact for a New World," which links preservation of the environment to demands for population control and dismantling of Ibero-America's armed forces. "Disproportionate military budgets, which are no longer necessary for national security in the post-Cold War era, should be partially converted into budgets for environmental, economic, and human security. In fact, once it were determined that environmental problems pose a greater threat to the security of the next generation, it would be necessary for military expenditures to be allocated to confront that threat," the document concludes.

Cardoso's relationship with the Inter-American Dialogue is so close that its bulletin *Dialogue* of April 1993 states that "the Latin American members currently 'on loan' to their governments include Brazilian Foreign Affairs Minister Fernando Henrique Cardoso." This takes on even greater significance in view of the fact that the Inter-American Dialogue has become the principal mediator of hemispheric relations for the Clinton administration, placing itself above all concerns of national sovereignty.

### Institutional crisis imminent

The decision of the military leadership to return to the institutional role it has always played in Brazilian history places it on a collision course with Fernando Henrique Cardoso, who as we have shown is one of the fiercest opponents of the Brazilian Armed Forces and one of the country's leading advocates of the new world order.

As foreign minister, Cardoso began the process of Brazil's legal submission to the new world order, putting forward the argument that Brazil could eventually be accepted as a Permanent Member of the U.N. Security Council. This was the item under discussion between Cardoso and Britain's Foreign Office chief Douglas Hurd, to whom Cardoso offered to revive a "special relation" between their two countries, in the geopolitical mold of the 19th century. This apparent Anglo-American backing was presented by Cardoso to U.N. Secretary General Boutros Boutros-Ghali during a May 20 meeting in Washington, just hours before being nominated finance minister. Boutros-Ghali personally favors the idea of expanding the Security Council.

With the continuation of a policy of economic opening, draconian austerity, and the so-called "modernization project" already announced by Cardoso, a resurgence of the institutional crisis that was only *postponed* by Collor's dramatic fall from power is predictable in the not-too-distant future.