

French nuclear tests, run almost entirely out of Britain and the British Empire colonies of Australia and New Zealand, with an assist from Her Majesty's fellow oligarchs among the Dutch, Danish, and Swedish monarchies. The entire media operation of Greenpeace, which employs a unit of 30 people, is run out of London, while the financial operations are run out of Holland. Moreover, the British elites tied into Prince Philip's World Wide Fund for Nature contributed a commercial which included a veiled death threat against Jacques Chirac, while two former British Special Air Services agents were hired by Greenpeace to swim into the Mururoa Atoll in order to sabotage the French nuclear tests!

Another British-spawned angle of attack is being directed from Spain, where a scandal is being brewed by a British-controlled newspaper to accuse the governments of Spain's President Felipe González and the previous French government of François Mitterrand of having created the GAL death squad to eliminate the Basque separatist ETA terrorists in a dirty war (see article, p. 41). The attack is obviously aimed at reconstituting an ETA network, within whose circles, other anarchist and autonomist elements could be unleashed against France.

Moreover, the historical role of Britain in creating Islamic fundamentalism has been largely documented. Today, the United Kingdom harbors and tolerates in its territory some of the more rabid expressions of fundamentalism in the world, such as the Hezb ut Tarir, which holds its annual international conferences every summer in Britain. Rabid attacks against France for its role in the Algerian conflict were launched at its August 1994 conference. Serious Islamic organizations in Britain indicate that it is the British establishment which created the Hezb ut Tarir from nothing and promoted it. And notably, the GIA takes credit for all its attacks through the London-based Arab press, including Deneche's newspaper *Al Ansar*, where his networks are believed to be based. Finally, the "Afghan" networks of non-Afghani Muslims who fought the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan, were set up by British stooge, then-U.S. Vice President George Bush, and today, these networks are wholly controlled by the British elites.

In trying to solve this extremely delicate problem of terrorism, Jacques Chirac will be walking a tightrope, and will need all the support he can get. In order to avoid the worst chaos scenario, and to act according to justice, he must support those moderate forces in Algeria which want to stop the butchery which the present Algerian government and groups like the GIA are inflicting on that nation. At the same time, he must reinforce the ties between France and the Muslim community in France which, as he recently stated on national TV, is anything "but fundamentalist" and who "will suffer the most from the activity of terrorists and fundamentalists."

The counterattack against France's enemy must be refocused against the "One," the British Empire head of the "Many" terrorist and destabilization networks.

Venezuela

London, Wall Street seek Caldera's ouster

by David Ramonet

The City of London and Wall Street are trying to overthrow Venezuelan President Rafael Caldera before February 1996, when Pope John Paul II will visit Venezuela. It is expected that the pope's visit will be the occasion for continuing the strategic and economic understanding the two reached last May, when Caldera was in Rome. London and Wall Street fear that Caldera's economic policies—especially with papal support—could serve as an alternative for other nations of the continent, in the face of the imminent disintegration of the international financial system.

In July 1994, Caldera caused a great deal of concern within the international banking community when he imposed exchange controls and explicitly rejected International Monetary Fund (IMF) policy. In January 1995, that concern turned into alarm, when Caldera publicly presented what he has done in Venezuela as an alternative to the failed "Mexico model" of Carlos Salinas de Gortari.

Throughout this period, Caldera was under intense pressure from the international banks, but he consistently rejected IMF "shock therapy" for the Venezuelan economy, and oriented instead toward a concept of social justice akin to the social doctrine of the Catholic Church. Later, in May 1995, based on an interview with Pope John Paul II, Caldera advanced a series of moves toward Ibero-American integration, beginning with certain agreements with Brazil. On repeated occasions, as for example during his visit to Peru on July 28, 1995 for the inauguration of President Alberto Fujimori, Caldera had indicated that, faced with the dire prospect of financial disintegration, Ibero-American integration shone as a unique alternative.

Caldera's visit to the Vatican in May 1995 triggered immediate countermoves from London. Caldera's policies were no longer merely upsetting the oligarchy, but now had to be stopped cold. The reverses the British oligarchy had suffered throughout the Caribbean Basin (see *EIR*, Aug. 18) now demanded that London not only oust Caldera, but also rehabilitate Carlos Andrés Pérez (known as CAP), the former Venezuelan President who had to abandon the presidency under charges of corruption in May 1993.

London and Wall Street's policy with regard to Pérez was stated on Oct. 21, 1992, when Pérez was still in office.

The Pérez government is “the standard-bearer for the possibility of democracy in Latin America,” Luigi Einaudi, George Bush’s ambassador to the Organization of American States, told a Washington seminar. Einaudi, who was in charge of reaffirming that policy then and continues to do so today, hailed Pérez in unusually personal terms as “a President with a personal charisma, history, potential of external reality . . . a projection still of vigor, of courage, of modernity, of adaptability.” What happens to Pérez in Venezuela, Einaudi went on, “is absolutely critical to our collective, regional future.” He added, threateningly, that any “interruption” of his administration would have “an impact on the whole scene of U.S.-Latin American relations.”

Einaudi, who likes to brag that “I came into the State Department with Kissinger,” has for two decades represented British policy within the State Department, where he is currently still located as senior adviser to Secretary of State Warren Christopher.

The British give the green light

On July 23, 1995, the Caracas daily *El Nacional* reprinted an article from the intelligence unit of the London *Economist*, entitled “Government Economic Policy, Without a Compass or Defined Direction.” The analysis lamented that President Caldera refuses to impose shock treatment on the economy, and in its place uses “political trickery.” Therefore, “the [Caldera] government has already lost the confidence of the international community and a good part of the national private sector; although he retains a certain level of trust on the part of the Venezuelan people, this is slowly but surely disappearing.”

The article concluded, “Although the government has a good opportunity to survive, its actions will not be effective. Further, the political situation is becoming more and more unstable. It is probable that the Congress will be less cooperative as the December elections approach, and this could lead to legislative paralysis. . . . There are already clear indications that unrest among industrialists is growing, and from one moment to the next, there could be a social explosion.”

Later that same week, British Ambassador to Caracas John Flynn met with former President Pérez at the latter’s home, where he is under house arrest. From that moment onward, CAP has received growing attention from the national and international news media, which are trying to restore him to power.

Two weeks after that, on Aug. 16, the *Wall Street Journal* published a blistering front-page article by Matt Moffett, headlined “Venezuela Suffers from Populism,” which was reprinted the same day by *El Nacional* in Caracas. Moffett picked up the evaluation of the *Economist Intelligence Unit*, adding there there was need for the revival of CAP. In particular, Moffett lamented that Caldera repudiated Salinas

de Gortari, an employee of that company of Wall Street usurers known as Dow Jones & Co., which edits the *Wall Street Journal*. The article was designed to open up the floodgates against Caldera, both domestically and abroad. That is exactly what happened, as the chronology below documents.

The sewers flow

After London and then Wall Street gave the green light, every imaginable conduit of British filth inside Venezuela, of both the left and the right, was opened up. The “constituency” inside Venezuela for such a London strategy consists principally of those who grew fat on the national misery in Venezuela under the CAP presidency. These include dozens of bankers charged under Caldera with corruption and other financial crimes, most of whom fled the country and are still at large. These bankers, including the powerful Cisneros clan, have activated their significant mass media capabilities (such as Venevision and Televen TV channels), their house journalists (such as José Vicente Rangel and Carlos Croes), and political assets (such as Lt. Col. Hugo Chávez of the São Paulo Forum’s MBR-200 party, which is organizing for the violent overthrow of Caldera).

Dirty warfare against Caldera was launched by journalist Jorge Olavarría, who in his July 25 *El Nacional* column accused Caldera of links to an alleged coverup of the fraudulent bankruptcy of Banco Andino, owned by Sen. Bernardo Celis, of the ruling Convergence coalition. First, Olavarría sought to create the opinion that Caldera “doesn’t know anything about economics,” because he didn’t follow IMF prescriptions. Then, Olavarría added the line that “Caldera is as corrupt as CAP,” implying that he should be ousted from the presidency in the same way as CAP.

According to the Venezuelan magazine *Zeta*, Jorge Olavarría is working with CAP’s front man Ignacio Quintana, who today operates as a liaison between Venezuela’s fugitive bankers and former commander Chávez. Quintana was linked to the Cisneroses’ Banco Latino, managing the special accounts of Pérez government officials. Quintana has offered the fugitive bankers the opportunity to organize a left-right coalition, to overthrow Caldera and permit their return to Venezuela.

Meanwhile, Olavarría and Quintana are in charge of “requesting President Caldera’s resignation,” according to *Zeta*, as the first step. José Vicente Rangel, who has his own presidential ambitions, personally took charge of pushing the resignation demand. At the same time, he has attempted to revive the image of Pérez as “a leader.” The campaign took off when novelist and political insider Arturo Usler Pietri (who played a central role in CAP’s fall), declared in an interview with Roberto Giusti (CAP’s former press officer) in the daily *El Universal* on Aug. 6, that Caldera’s great error was in not continuing CAP’s economic “reforms.”

Perhaps Usler did not imagine, when he issued a call

for people to present their solutions “for consideration,” including even the use of force to bring about national change, that his house would be simultaneously visited by the narco-terrorists of the São Paulo Forum, in the persons of Pablo Medina and José Lira; by neo-liberals such as Oswaldo Alvarez Paz and his friend Ramón José Medina; and the president of the National Bank Council, Edgar Dado, together with spokesmen for Chávez’s MBR-200, such as Manuel Quijada.

All of the visitors proposed unification around a campaign for a Constituent Assembly on Aug. 23. Uslar told them he did not agree with a Constituent Assembly, given that this would only work after a coup d’état or a revolution. Manuel Quijada, from the left, and Alvarez Paz, from the right, explained to Uslar that this is precisely what they had in mind.

Documentation

The chronology of a destabilization

July 23: The Caracas daily *El Nacional* reprints an article from the intelligence unit of the London *Economist*, predicting a popular uprising against the Caldera government. The article is entitled “Government Economic Policy, Without Compass or Defined Direction.”

July 25: Journalist Jorge Olavarría accuses President Caldera of corruption and suggests his overthrow, as with CAP.

July 31: British ambassador to Venezuela meets with CAP, according to *El Nacional* journalist Carlos Croes.

July 31: The COPEI party plans to hold Caldera criminally responsible for the alleged fraudulent use of bank bailout funds, according to *El Universal*’s Carmen Carrillo.

Aug. 6: CAP defends Colombian narco-President Ernesto Samper Pizano, in an interview with the news agency IPS, published in the daily *2001*.

Aug. 6: Arturo Uslar Pietri proposes “considering” the use of force against Caldera, to restore the economic program of Pérez (interview with Roberto Giusti, of the daily *El Universal*).

Aug. 10: CAP expresses alarm at the problems facing former Mexican President Carlos Salinas de Gortari, Colombian President Samper Pizano, and others of his ilk, in an interview in *El Universal*.

Aug. 11: Venezuela’s comptroller general investigates the possible criminal responsibility of the Caldera government with regard to financial assistance given the banks

which went bankrupt in 1994, according to *El Universal*.

Aug. 12: Herminio Fuenmayor, CAP’s former director of military intelligence, predicts a social revolution, headed by Lt. Col. Hugo Chávez, to overthrow Caldera, according to the magazine *Elite*.

Aug. 13: José Vicente Rangel, in his column in the daily *El Universal*, hails the “leadership” of CAP as against Caldera.

Aug. 16: The *Wall Street Journal* declares open war against Caldera, and picks up the campaign to revive CAP. The article, by Matt Moffett, is entitled “Venezuela Suffers from Populism.”

Aug. 20: José Vicente Rangel, interviewed by Roberto Giustia of *El Universal*, urges the criminal investigation of Caldera, and that CAP be left alone.

Aug. 21: State security services discover a destabilization plan, to be carried out Oct. 3-12, coordinated with a campaign to force Caldera’s resignation, according to the daily *Ultimas Noticias*.

Aug. 21: CAP repeats his defense of Samper Pizano in an interview with the Bogotá, Colombia daily *El Espectador*, which is reproduced in the Caracas daily *2001*.

Aug. 22: Jorge Olavarría demands that Caldera be held criminally responsible for the Banco Andino scandal.

Aug. 22: The daily *El Nuevo Herald* of Miami defends CAP in an article by Ricardo Reif, entitled “Pérez, Scapegoat,” which is reproduced in the Caracas daily *2001*.

Aug. 23: Neo-conservatives and members of the narco-terrorist São Paulo Forum meet in the home of Uslar Pietri, to analyze “ways out of the crisis.” Participants include José Lira and Pablo Medina of the Causa R (Radical Cause) party, and Ramón José Medina, spokesman for Oswaldo Alvarez Paz.

Aug. 25: Journalist Alfredo Peña of *El Nacional* accuses the Caldera government of mortgaging the country by trying to sell future oil and minerals. Former Finance Minister Julio Sosa Rodríguez denies it, but Peña insists.

Aug. 26: Former COPEI presidential candidate Oswaldo Alvarez Paz organizes the cattlemen of Zulia, along with vice admiral Radames Muñoz León, the former defense minister who tried to oust Caldera in December 1993.

Aug. 28: Venezuelan Cardinal Castillo Lara, who travels in jets belonging to the Cisneros family and who has lobbied in Rome in favor of their television interests, suggested in an interview with the daily *El Nacional*, that it is necessary to be neutral in the face of a possible coup against Caldera: “The church should not meddle in politics. . . . If in Venezuela, God frees us and there is a coup d’état, the church should not say that one kind of government or another is not permissible.”

Sept. 3: José Vicente Rangel interviews Arturo Uslar Pietri on his Sunday television program. Rangel proposes calling for Caldera’s resignation. Uslar says that, after Caldera, there will only be civil war.