

## Londoño delivers message in Washington

Maximiliano Londoño, president of the Ibero-American Solidarity Movement of Colombia, began a week of meetings in Washington on Feb. 12 with U.S. congressional offices and other public and private agencies, to discuss the drug problem and urge the Clinton administration to decertify the Samper government of Colombia.

Londoño, a well known anti-drug activist and frequent contributor to *EIR*, issued the following statement outlining the concerns he will be discussing in his meetings:

“Despite the mountains of evidence proving his links to the Cali Cartel, and despite the nearly universal calls for his resignation by Colombians of all political persuasions, Ernesto Samper Pizano today continues to cling to the office of the Presidency of Colombia. Throughout his two decades of service to the drug mafia, Samper has believed he could act with impunity, and today he thinks he can still get away with it, because of backing from powerful circles in the United States and elsewhere who are ‘narco-tolerant’ because they themselves favor drug legalization.

“In the United States, this includes the Inter-American Dialogue, an organization whose stated policy since 1986 has been to work for ‘the selective legalization of drugs’; spokesmen for money-laundering and other speculative financial interests, such as George Soros, William Buckley of *National Review*, and Nobel Prize-winner Milton Friedman; and political circles associated with George Bush and Henry Kissinger, who today advocate ‘certifying’ the Samper administration while looking the other way on the drug problem.

“The United States and Colombia must make waging a serious war on drugs a total priority. Drugs are destroying both nations, and there can be no compromise on this issue: As in all wars, there is either victory or defeat. Just as with Hitler, so too with drugs, there can be no middle ground. We must mobilize for war, and we must win.

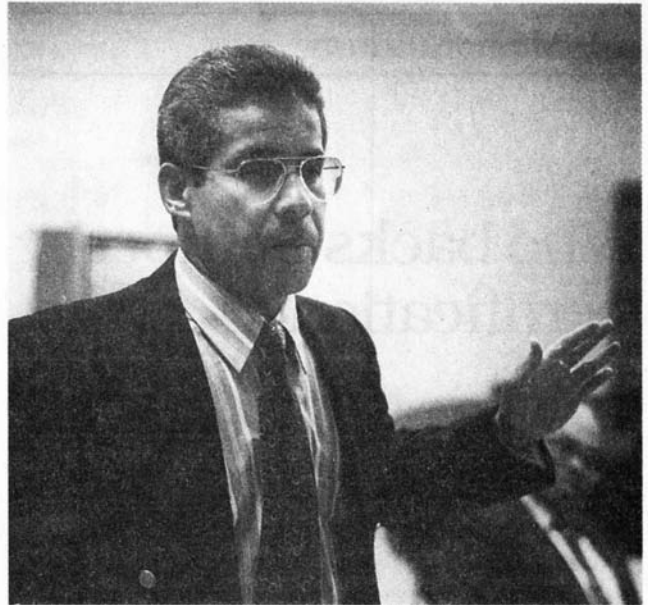
### Steps to be taken

“Our two nations must coordinate efforts in this battle, while fully respecting each other’s national sovereignty, and take the following decisive steps.

“Colombia:

“1. Samper must be forced to resign from the Presidency of Colombia, and tried for his complicity with the drug mafia.

“2. The illegal 1991 Constitution must be revoked. It was bought and paid for with Cali Cartel money. As Bugsy Siegel might have put it, ‘This is the best constitution that dirty money can buy.’



*Maximiliano Londoño, head of the Ibero-American Solidarity Movement in Colombia, who is in Washington to urge the United States to decertify Colombia.*

“3. Re-establish the extradition of drug criminals sought by the United States and other countries, for crimes committed in those countries. This will help stop drug traffickers such as José Santacruz Londoño and Pablo Escobar from using our prisons as revolving doors.

“4. Cooperate fully with the intent of President Clinton’s initiatives to stop drug money-laundering, including Presidential Decision Directive 42 and Executive Order 12978.

“United States:

“1. Decertify the Samper regime. Samper is trying to use certification as leverage to remain in office, along with his Cali Cartel partners.

“2. Stop the international campaign of defamation against the Colombian Armed Forces and National Police, which are bearing the brunt of the war on drugs. With the excuse of protecting ‘human rights’ and defending ‘democracy,’ non-governmental organizations such as Amnesty International and Americas Watch are in fact helping the drug mob in their campaign to destroy Colombia’s vital institutions.

“3. Seriously go after the drug-money-laundering banks and other financial institutions in the United States as well, as required by PDD-42. This includes prominent banks and other financial institutions otherwise considered ‘above suspicion.’

“4. Stop imposing neo-liberal, free trade economic policies on Colombia and other Ibero-American nations, because it is a proven fact that they lead to economic destruction, the growth of the drug trade, and to massive corruption—as the case of the Salinas brothers in Mexico proves on all three counts.”