

Report from Rio by Silvia Palacios

New military club head slams globalism

Brazil's military nationalists challenge the new world order, and its devotees inside the country.

On June 26, Gen. Helio Ibiapina Lima (ret.) assumed the presidency of Brazil's traditional Military Club, which incorporates both active and reserve officers from the country's three Armed Forces. In his acceptance speech, the general committed himself to mobilizing the institution around the principle of national sovereignty, and against the plans for Brazil promoted by the advocates of a colonialist new world order, a euphemism for one-world oligarchism.

His speech, conveniently ignored by the national press, was a denunciation of various aspects of this one-worldist assault. First, he referred to the policy of the Anglo-American globalists in seeking to dismantle the armed forces of Ibero-America, and particularly of Brazil, "strategies that seek the weakening of the armed forces, such as low salaries, obsolescent weapons and equipment, degrading of their missions, and constant attempts to set them against the society they serve."

In an unusual break from protocol, General Ibiapina named the two globalist entities with the greatest influence on the continent: the Inter-American Dialogue and the São Paulo Forum: "The arguments of the detractors center around pernicious and detrimental doctrines of limited sovereignty, shared defense, globalization of the economy, and so many others. We know that these doctrines and their advocates are in the service of the policy of the Big Seven, whose objective is to prevent Third World countries from developing, an objec-

tive reinforced by the activities of the Inter-American Dialogue and Forums like that of São Paulo."

Naming the Inter-American Dialogue in his speech was a message clearly directed to Brazilian President Fernando Henrique Cardoso, who has been a member of the Dialogue since its founding in 1982.

General Ibiapina also gave voice to the discontent that has been growing inside the Brazilian Armed Forces, both over the reopening of the cases of the "political disappeared," dating back to the military regimes of the 1970s, and over the Yanomami Indian reserve, which was created directly at the behest of the British monarchy. The general described the creation of the reserve as "a threat to territorial integrity . . . a monstrous political error that is becoming an inadmissible enclave [and which] should have been sufficient reason to impeach [former President Fernando] Collor de Mello."

Finally, General Ibiapina issued a warning about the threat posed to the nation by the actions of the terrorist Landless Movement (MST).

Despite various press commentaries which attempted to minimize the influence of the Military Club, Brazilians would do well not to forget that the Military Club still retains fresh memories of the decisive role that institution has played at historic moments in the fight for national sovereignty, such as when the state oil company, Petrobras, was created.

The fact is, that the recent election of General Ibiapina was a clear vote

against the military establishment, which has accommodated itself to the British free-market and globalist program of President Henrique Cardoso. This was the conclusion of Rear Adm. Sergio Tasso de Aquino, one of the three contenders for the presidency of the Military Club, who, although he did not win, garnered a significant vote. Referring to the combined vote for Ibiapina and himself against the "official" candidate, Tasso declared: "The votes of opposition to the sad situation in our country, to generalized injustice and impunity, to a lack of ethical and moral sensitivity in managing the public domain . . . to repeated insults to the nation's sovereignty, the integrity of national patrimony, and the dignity of the Armed Forces, totalled 3,645, that is, 69% of the total vote. The government, and especially the military ministers, would do well to be attentive to this fact."

Admiral Tasso's father, former Military Club President Gen. Tasso de Aquino, published a commentary just prior to the May 29 election, which set the tone for General Ibiapina's own remarks. He attacked Brazil's devotees of the new world order, which he described as "a product of the depraved minds of George Bush, Robert McNamara, and Henry Kissinger, an international villain . . . praised in Brazil when he should have stones thrown at him."

Despite the fact that his son lost the election, General Tasso said that both he and his son would continue to fight, because "the situation in Brazil is calamitous. . . . We are being governed by the flower of the radical left. . . . They are handing over our mineral wealth and our material, cultural, and moral patrimony." Both he and his son, General Tasso said, would continue to raise the banner of national sovereignty and defense of the dignity of the Armed Forces.