

London subjects S. America to Jacobin 'Chávez Project'

by Dennis Small and Gretchen Small

Over the course of 1999 to date, the world's media have been brimming with commentary characterizing Hugo Chávez Frías, the former Army lieutenant colonel who was elected President of Venezuela in late 1998, as a "new breed" of political leader in the Americas, who is bringing a "fresh approach" to the continent's persistent problems of economic and social development. He is battling corruption, he is at war against the entrenched elites, he is a man of the people, one repeatedly hears.

Sounds good. But it isn't true.

The Chávez phenomenon, radical rhetoric and all, is actually a re-run of the age-old British strategy of deploying enraged and violent mobs to destroy the institutions of the nation-state, and to get their economic policy of usury implemented without resistance. This time around, the British have added a new twist: drugs.

Chávez himself presents his movement as a modern version of the 18th-century Jacobin French Revolution—a revolution that was concocted and financed by London's bankers at the time. Chávez also proclaims that his main Venezuelan role model is Ezequiel Zamora—the 19th-century military leader who was used by London to launch the bloody Federal War, and to destroy the country's nation-building faction which opposed usury. Today's international financial elite are using Hugo Chávez, and his popularity among Venezuelan citizens, for the same job.

Michel Camdessus, the Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund (IMF), explained to a January 1998 Paris conference of Transparency International that the kinds of reforms which the IMF is demanding of nations, require the equivalent of a French Revolution in order to be implemented:

"If you permit me to paraphrase the words of the Duc de

Liancourt, Master of Robes to Louis XVI [later guillotined], on July 14, 1789, I would say: 'It's not progress, Sire, it's a revolution!' Such reforms will require a vast change in domestic business practice, corporate culture, and government behavior. . . . Like all revolutions, this one will be successful only with the unrelenting and ultimately irresistible pressure of civil society."

An IMF official confided to *EIR* the more specific import of his boss's remarks: "The French Revolution is a perfect example of a structural adjustment crisis."

As for Chávez, British Ambassador to Venezuela Richard Wilkinson told a select gathering of British businessmen in October 1998, just two months before Chávez's election: "His popularity and his legitimacy . . . [are] indispensable conditions for the hard measures which the next President will have to adopt."

Chávez's mission

Just what are these "hard measures," the tasks that London has set for Chávez? As we document in the sections that follow:

First, he is to bring Venezuela fully on board to IMF policies of economic looting and globalization. Chávez has complied by pronouncing himself an ardent supporter of British Prime Minister Tony Blair's "Third Way" doctrine, and implementing every aspect of IMF policy demanded of him.

Second, Chávez is to unleash his *enragé* followers and (illegally) convoke a Constituent Assembly to thoroughly rewrite the Venezuelan Constitution, and shred every existing national institution and political force that might get in the way. It is to be modelled on Colombia's 1991 *Constituyente*—which was bought and paid for by the drug cartels.



The victory parade of Venezuela's new President Hugo Chávez, late last year. He rubs shoulders with the high and mighty in London, and embraces the coca-running guerrillas in the jungles of Colombia, shaking hands with Fidel Castro in between. In short, he is London's perfect model for "new French Revolutions" to destroy the nation-states of Ibero-America.

Third, Chávez is to use his Jacobin movement to build an alliance with the FARC and ELN narco-terrorist insurgency in neighboring Colombia—known in that country as the “Third Cartel”—which is well along the way to establishing an independent, internationally recognized coca republic in the south of Colombia.

Fourth, Chávez is being groomed—both directly by the British and by their long-standing associate, Fidel Castro—to be the new leader of “the revolution” throughout Ibero-America. As a charismatic military leader, Chávez’s special assignment is to finish off the task of dismantling the institution of the national armed forces across the continent, a long-sought London objective which *EIR* laid bare in 1993, with a best-seller, *The Plot to Annihilate the Armed Forces and the Nations of Ibero-America*, in Spanish, English, and Portuguese. Inside Venezuela, Chávez is proceeding in this task by politicizing the Armed Forces and transforming them into his personal political party, thereby turning them into defenders of the *government*, rather than non-partisan defenders of the *state*, which is their constitutional task.

One of the more perverse ironies of the Chávez case, is that he first made a name for himself on Feb. 4, 1992, by heading a military coup d’état against the hated government of Carlos Andrés Pérez, one of George Bush’s tightest allies among Ibero-American heads of state. Although the coup failed, Chávez became a national hero overnight—and understandably so, given Pérez’s bloody efforts to shove IMF poli-

cies down the throats of the population.

Chávez went to jail as a result of the failed coup . . . and emerged two years later a changed man. As Lyndon LaRouche noted: “Col. Hugo Chávez’s opinions underwent a miraculous metamorphosis, during his brief vacation spent in a prison cell.” The transformation—from loose cannon to manipulated asset—apparently had to do with a combination of nasty personal circumstances he was forced to endure while in jail, and the coordinated ministrations of agents of Venezuela’s wealthy and powerful Cisneros family, who from that time forward became increasingly close advisers—some would say his controllers—to Chávez.

Be that as it may, Chávez came out of jail to Fidel Castro’s waiting embrace. In a high-profile pilgrimage to Havana in 1994, Chávez was anointed by Castro as the new Che Guevara, the dynamic young leader of the continental revolution. Chávez promptly set to work strengthening his ties with the parties and movements affiliated with the Cuban-run São Paulo Forum across Ibero-America.

While visiting Argentina the next year in the company of his new mentor, the Argentine nazi-communist windbag Norberto Ceresole (see accompanying profile), Chávez took up his assigned role as spokesman for narco-terrorist insurgencies with gusto. He praised the FARC/ELN construction of a coca republic in Colombia: “There is a state within the state, where the Colombian state has no presence, where the laws that are obeyed are not the laws of the Colombian state,

and the Armed Forces that patrol there are not the Colombian Armed Forces.” And he similarly endorsed the Zapatista revolt in Chiapas, Mexico: “From the first day, we expressed our solidarity . . . with the Indian revolt of Chiapas. We believe that this phenomenon has similarities with ours. . . . We believe that the Chiapas matter was a legitimate rebellion.”

London and Wall Street

Besides Castro, the British were also there to greet Chávez when he emerged from jail. Since at least that time, Chávez has been groomed, protected, and promoted directly by the British Embassy in Caracas. Throughout most of that time, Chávez could not get a U.S. visa, even when he had an invita-

British bankers owned French Revolution *enragés*

When most people think of the French Revolution, the image of the storming of the Bastille by the people of Paris leaps to their mind. In point of fact, the *sans-culottes* who marched on the Bastille were led by a banker brandishing a pike, were paid with House of Orléans (British) money, fought with arms handed out to them at the Duke of Orléans’s Palais Royal, and were called into action by the British agent Georges Jacques Danton. Aside from displaying the heads of a few prison guards on pikes and releasing a few criminals, the major objective of the Bastille march was to reverse the impending forced resignation of Swiss financier Jacques Necker from the post of French Finance Minister, and prevent what Swiss creditors feared would be French national bankruptcy.

If anything, the march on the Bastille represented a counter-revolution against the French-American Alliance, which, together with the League of Armed Neutrality against Britain—organized by Benjamin Franklin and John Adams—had assured the 1781 victory of the American colonists over Great Britain. The Marquis de Lafayette and American revolutionary Thomas Paine, in the late 1780s, were in France working with the ministers of the French Bourbon monarchy, to bring about a constitutional monarchy in France and implant the ideas of the American Revolution to French soil.

The House of Orléans was the chosen channel for British operations to ensure that the American Revolution would be stopped short of the European Atlantic coast. For years, Orléans had been subsidized by the Barings financial moguls of London. The Duke had further secured for himself the post of Grand Master of the Freemasonic Lodge of the Nine Sisters, an offshoot of Scottish Rite Freemasonry, from which he organized an anti-Bourbon and anti-American coterie of *enragés* and Jacobins, that is, terrorists. It was this gang that later organized the Reign of Terror, which guillotined King Louis XVI, along with many others. It was this gang that systematically used the people of Paris, the *sans-culottes*, to carry out the system-

atic extermination of anyone deemed an enemy of the Terror state. One of the victims of this Terror carried out by the foremost agent of the Duke of Orléans, Danton, was chemist Antoine Lavoisier, who had collaborated with Lafayette to supply the ammunition that would ensure the American victory. The Danton “judge” who condemned Lavoisier to death, declared simply: “The Revolution has no need of science.”

The American revolutionary Thomas Paine, whose writings had inspired the American colonists and who was the chief propagandist of the American-French alliance, was imprisoned by the Jacobin Terror.

‘I am the anger’

Enragé Jean-Paul Marat was one of the most flamboyant deployables of this British bankers’ gang. Marat was the head of Danton’s Committee of Surveillance, authorized to search all houses for reactionaries and aristocrats. Marat rationalized this mob rule, thus: “Learn that my reputation with the people rests not upon my ideas, but upon my boldness, upon the impetuous outbursts of my soul, upon my cries of rage, of despair, and of fury against the rascals who impede the action of the Revolution. I am the anger, the just anger of the people and that is why they listen to me and believe in me. When a man lacks everything, he has the right to take what others have in superfluity. Rather than starve, he is justified in cutting another’s throat, and devouring his palpitating flesh.” Marat himself frequented the House of Orléans, and also was able to slip away to London whenever he came under suspicion.

The Terror nearly succeeded in destroying France. The British money and the House of Orléans combined, not only to carry out mass murder within France, but also provoked war against Britain and its imperial allies on the continent, an alliance that now threatened France from without. The British method is the same today, as then: destabilize a country via an agent and Jacobin fifth column, then provoke it into a war in a weakened condition, and thus smash it.

France was ultimately able to survive only after Lazare Carnot reorganized the French Army in 1794 and established the Ecole Polytechnique, which revived France’s scientific capabilities and greatness.—Linda de Hoyos

tion in hand from the New York branch of London's favorite bank, J.P. Morgan. It was not until the final phase of the 1998 Presidential campaign that Britain's loyal U.S. networks, led by Vice President Al Gore's minions, joined the "Chávez Project" prominently, and he was assured that the United States would welcome him, should he be elected.

The British sponsorship of Chávez is of a piece with London's defiant promotion, during the same time period, of the drug cartel's Colombian President, Ernesto Samper Pizano, stymying efforts from within the Clinton administration to isolate Samper by decertifying his government as non-cooperative in the war on drugs. As the House of Lords set up a "Samper Pizano defense committee" (led by the son of the notoriously imperial racist Field Marshal Gen. Montgomery), Britain orchestrated a virulent campaign demanding that the United States never again initiate any "unilateral" action whatsoever against the drug trade in the Americas. Samper Pizano survived, and Colombia now faces disintegration.

Elected in December 1998, Chávez's first measures were to extend Venezuela's support to Colombia's narco-terrorists.

In mid-June 1999, Chávez travelled to Wall Street to seal that side of the deal, offering Venezuela up for looting to hundreds of gathered financiers. Revealing how desperate Venezuela is for cash to avoid bankruptcy, Chávez announced significant new measures, which include:

- Issuance of dollar-denominated government domestic bonds, much like the infamous Mexican Tesobonos, which led to that country's debt explosion in late 1994.
- Dollar accounts will now be permitted inside Venezuela, and banks will be permitted to extend dollar loans.
- The privatization of the state's aluminum, electrical, gas, and petrochemical industries will proceed, and private foreign capital is sought for the state oil industry.

After Chávez's performance, Venezuelan financier Gustavo Cisneros publicly praised Chávez for having made "commitments" to the gatherings of "very important businessmen." He will now have to fulfill these promises, Cisneros smirked: to honor the debt, to welcome foreign investment, and to provide the legal framework to protect private investment.

A few weeks earlier, on May 21, Chávez had given the closing address to the London *Economist's* ninth annual Roundtable, held in Venezuela for the fifth year in a row. Chávez could not find sufficient words to express how "truly honored" he was, to address a gathering sponsored by the financial powers of the City of London. Urging conference participants to consider Venezuela as "their house," he assured them that his national project "is not one of obsolete, archaic nationalism," but is "outward-looking." He held up the nickel and gold mines already exploited by British and Canadian companies as examples of the investment possibilities opening up.

Interspersed among dissociated quotes from Zarathustra, Galileo, Albert Camus, Vivian Forrester, and Descartes, Chávez waxed eloquent about "the unforgettable days that we

spent in London"; of how, in the "hot, hot" phase which Venezuela will soon be entering with the new Constituent Assembly, his government looks to "countries which have experience. Just look: England, the United Kingdom. Talk about experience!" He concluded with a fervent call to the vultures assembled by the *Economist*: "You are welcome here. Do not leave. Stay. . . . A country is being reborn here, and this country is opening up, and it is at your orders."

Chávez abets 'Third Cartel' in Colombia

by Juan Avila

During its four months in power, the Venezuelan government of Hugo Chávez has consolidated a de facto alliance with Colombia's narco-guerrillas, an alliance which began long before Chávez became President of Venezuela, but which now poses a highly dangerous threat since it has become enshrined as state policy. Although the rhetoric is full of fine-sounding phrases about peace, dialogue, and social change, the reality of the alliance is alarming: The "Third Cartel" of drug trafficking in Colombia—that is, the FARC/ELN narco-terrorists—politically, diplomatically, and even logistically supports the Venezuelan government, in its drive to secure the status of a "belligerent force" in the Colombian conflict, the better to fragment that Colombia and establish an independent narco-republic in the south of that country.

Most recently, Chávez made a public statement, expressing his hope to travel to the FARC-controlled demilitarized zone (DMZ) in Colombia, to meet with FARC chieftain Manuel Marulanda ("Tirofijo," or "Sureshot"), and "preferably to meet together with President Pastrana" of Colombia. Apparently, the trip was supposed to take place immediately following the heads-of-state summit in Cartagena in late May; but opposition from important sectors in Colombia, and the crisis triggered when Defense Minister and the high military command resigned in protest, prevented the Venezuelan President's rendezvous with the FARC—at least for now.

Some Venezuelan officials who did go to meet with the FARC one week after the summit included Sen. Pablo Medina, from the Venezuelan PPT (Patria Para Todos) party which is part of the ruling Polo Patriótico movement, and Congressman Rafael Uzcategui, also from the PPT. Medina is one of the most important leaders of the pro-terrorist São Paulo Forum. Although President Chávez denied that Medina went as his official mouthpiece, his visit clearly represented an advance in coordination between the FARC and Chávez: Medina met for five days with the narco-guerrilla leaders, had a lengthy interview with Marulanda himself, and returned