

Cuban Intelligence Behind Brazilian Press Slander of LaRouche

The following press release was issued by EIR on April 22, 2002.

A spokesman for *EIR*, whose Founding Editor is U.S. 2004 Presidential pre-candidate Lyndon LaRouche, responded sharply to slanders appearing against LaRouche in a major Brazilian daily on April 17, which claimed that he was personally involved in the recent coup d'état against Venezuela's Hugo Chávez.

"Someone is trying to orchestrate more bloodshed in Venezuela," the spokesman warned. "The lies appearing under the byline of Mario Augusto Jakobskind in *Tribuna da Imprensa*—that LaRouche supposedly met secretly in the Dominican Republic with former Venezuelan President Carlos Andrés Pérez, business leader Pedro Carmona, and trade union head Carlos Ortega, to plot the overthrow of Chávez with the help of anti-Castro Cubans—are so absurd, that one has to ask: Why are these lies appearing now?"

The spokesman explained: "The fabrication appeared in the middle of an inconclusive coup and counter-coup in Venezuela, which may quickly lead to yet another counter-counter-coup, and so on. The governments of the United States and of other countries in the hemisphere have issued notice to their employees and ordinary citizens residing in Venezuela, that a new explosion may be imminent.

"Their concern is a valid one," the representative said. "As Lyndon LaRouche recently explained, the chaos in Venezuela is the result of utter incompetence and policy blundering in Washington, under which many of the old Iran-Contra networks have again been let loose throughout the Caribbean region—including anti-Castro thugs associated with Florida Gov. Jeb Bush. This Iran-Contra legacy is a throwback to the old Filibusters, as typified by Teddy Roosevelt's uncle James Bullock, and U.S. Presidents Polk, Jackson, and van Buren before him. So the danger is very real.

"Under such circumstances, the lies about LaRouche cannot be viewed as mere idle gossip, but are the work of identifiable intelligence networks. They must be taken seriously, as posing a security threat not only to Venezuela, but to other nations in the region, such as Brazil, which may face an echo of the kind of danger now present in Venezuela."

EIR has opened an investigation into the intelligence networks involved, but already has a substantial dossier in place. "Author Jakobskind himself gave it away," the spokesman



Venezuelan President Hugo Chávez had mass support three years ago, and now has generated a mobilized mass opposition of his countrymen, primarily with his disastrous, actually pro-IMF, economic policies.

said. "In his response to a letter written by *EIR*'s Brazil office and published in *Tribuna da Imprensa* on April 19, and which refuted each of his lies, Jakobskind asserts that his information came from 'the journalist Carlos Aznárez . . . who is an experienced professional whom I have no reason to doubt.'

"Aznárez is a Basque-Argentine based in Madrid, who runs an Internet magazine, *Resumen Latino-Americano*, which publishes propaganda messages from the Colombian FARC, among other terrorists, and which has links to Mexico's EZLN [Zapatista National Liberation Army], and Cuban publications *Granma* and *Juventud Rebelde*. Aznárez is also published by the Red Basque Network, the Euskadi Information Network, and other such promoters of the terrorist Basque separatist ETA."

"But Aznárez is not the original author of the slander either," the *EIR* spokesman elaborated. "We have traced the fabrication back to Cuban intelligence itself. On Dec. 6, 2001, two pro-Chávez Deputies in Venezuela's National Assembly, Defense Commission head Maj. Francisco Ameliach and Capt. Pedro Carreno, called a press conference to reveal that they had received a dossier from unnamed 'intelligence services' which allegedly proved—with photographs, pictures, telephone taps, and a grid of travel between Miami and the Dominican Republic—that ex-President Pérez, Carmona, Ortega, 'a U.S. Congressman,' and Miami's anti-Castro Cubans, were running an operation to oust Chávez, and that Lyndon LaRouche was involved in the meetings as well. The next day, Radio Havana used the Venezuelan Deputies' story—which most likely originated in Cuba in the first place—to put out a wire which repeated the concoction."

The spokesman for LaRouche's *EIR* magazine concluded: "The lies should stop—for the peace and stability of Venezuela and the region."