

Anglo-Dutch Financial Cartel Promotes Colombia-Venezuela War

by Maximiliano Londoño Penilla

On Feb. 7, Maximiliano Londoño, president of the Lyndon LaRouche Association of Colombia, issued the following statement (it has been translated from Spanish).

In times of crisis, the tides of history change quickly. Only two months ago, on Dec. 9, seven Presidents of South America signed a historic document founding the Bank of the South to serve the common interests of the region.

South American leaders had advanced the cause of integration over the past five years, despite efforts, by those associated with British agent Dick Cheney, in particular, to turn one country against another.

The countdown to war began, however, when Venezuelan President Hugo Chávez was induced to give Venezuelan state backing to narcoterrorists in Colombia. In a Jan. 11 address to Venezuela's National Assembly, Chávez called upon governments to grant formal "belligerent" status to the world's largest cocaine cartel, the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC), and to the National Liberation Army (ELN), which he called "true armies, which occupy areas of Colombia," as well as to Bolivarian insurgent forces "respected" in Venezuela. On Jan. 17, Venezuela's National Assembly duly passed a resolution granting belligerent status, and on Jan. 20, Chávez announced that he had ordered the militarization of Venezuela's border with Colombia, purportedly to stop contraband.

Nicaragua was then drawn into the trap, with President Daniel Ortega making the stunning statement, at the Jan. 26-27 summit in Caracas of the Bolivarian Alternative for the Americas (ALBA) formed by Venezuela, Cuba, Nicaragua, Bolivia, and Dominica, that the ALBA defense pact proposed by Chávez would serve to defend countries like Nicaragua from Colombia, in their border dispute.

Meanwhile, top officials of the Bush-Cheney Administration trooped to the Colombian capital, where they issued threatening statements against Chávez. On Jan. 18, it was Adm. Michael Mullen, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff; on Jan. 20, drug czar John Walters; and immediately thereafter, Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice came to assure the Colombians of U.S. support.

Tensions are rising. Perhaps as many as 15 million Colombians poured onto the streets on Feb. 4, as part of a worldwide "No More FARC!" march.

Colombian military sources told this news service that,

although Colombia's standing army is ten times larger than Venezuela's, they believe Chávez plans to deploy his "people's army," with Air Force backing, to launch an attack on Colombia, knocking out its ports and international trade, in coordination with FARC attacks. They expect that Nicaragua would back Venezuela. EIR has no confirmation of this, but the fact that some in the Colombian military consider it a live option, indicates that the scenario is in motion.

Adding to the explosive mix, Colombian Defense Minister Juan Manuel Santos announced from Tel Aviv on Feb. 7, that Israel will refurbish and expand Colombia's kfir jet fighter fleet.—Gretchen Small

The ongoing Colombia-Venezuela conflict, which could end in an absurd military confrontation between two brother nations, is part of a British game of war, through which the Anglo-Dutch financial cartel that controls the City of London and Wall Street hopes to divert discussion away from the urgent necessity of creating a new international financial and monetary system to replace the dying International Monetary Fund (IMF) system. The idea is to use President Hugo Chávez and his relationship with the narcoterrorist Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) as an instrument for detonating a "proxy" war against the United States, in South America; a war that would sweep through the entire region. Venezuela and Cuba would be the first affected, along with Colombia.

As is typical of such British operations, Chávez himself would be dumped after having been used, and, worse yet, perhaps even assassinated, to perpetuate chaos and war in the region.

President Uribe and other heads of state in the region should seek to return Chávez to the orientation he had a few months ago, when, in association with other Presidents of the region, he promoted an agenda of economic integration for the continent, which included creating the Bank of the South as part of a new world financial architecture. For, just as U.S. statesman Lyndon H. LaRouche warned, it is the growing turbulence of the ongoing global crisis of economic and financial disintegration that is pushing the Anglo-Dutch financial cartel to seek perpetual warfare on a planetary scale, with the intention of thereby preserving its political power, by imposing a fascist dictatorship upon a world torn by war and the destruc-



Will Hugo Chávez and his relationship with the FARC be used to detonate regional war? Here Richard Grasso, then president of the New York Stock Exchange, embraces FARC leader Raúl Reyes in June 1999.

tion of sovereign nation-states. Unfortunately, due to the romantic and Jacobin ideology which grips him, President Chávez is easy prey to British manipulations.

Chávez Must Learn What Bolívar Knew

LaRouche noted on Feb. 5, that Venezuela's President "has been misled by his ignorance of reality, his ignorance of what Simón Bolívar himself came to understand about the British orchestration of regional conflicts. Because of his ignorance of history, Chávez, like Fidel Castro, is committing the error of aligning himself with British imperialist interests, against the legitimate interests of the nations of the Americas. One could say that this is an innocent ignorance on his part." LaRouche added: Chávez should admit what Bolívar recognized, at the end of his life, when he banned Jeremy Bentham, that British imperial policy was a "total catastrophe for the hemisphere."

As for Chávez's "special relations" with the FARC, LaRouche observed: "An experienced military man like Chávez should understand that it is a mistake to develop too close relationship with a diseased prostitute." LaRouche insisted that Chávez must understand that the drug trade that is destroying the Americas is a modern form of slavery. As he underscored, "The point is that this is a British scenario and gameplan, and must be identified as such. It is madness on Chávez's part, induced by both his desire to be President-for-life and by his failure to achieve that in the recent referendum . . . not to mention his regular chewing of coca leaves."

"When a guy goes out on American history and says he supports a British operation against the U.S., in that period,

where Bolívar had said, in the same general period, from Colombia, that this was a British operation run by Jeremy Bentham, which led a lot of fools in South America into being dupes of the British Empire. . . . Is Chávez being a dupe of the British Empire?" asked LaRouche.

The Jacobin ideology that guides Chávez, was concocted and deployed originally by Jeremy Bentham, England's foreign intelligence chief during the Independence period, as an instrument of warfare to guarantee both the fragmentation of the former Spanish colonies as well as their economic unviability, through the imposition of free trade (now called globalization), which torpedoed any industrialization, mechanization of agriculture, and great infrastructure projects that could have transformed the provinces newly freed from Spain into true economic powers.

No 'Republiquettes'

Bentham corresponded with and gave direct instructions to many Independence precursors and leaders, such as Francisco Miranda, Zea, and Santander, among others. He manipulated Bolívar himself, before the latter realized, nearly at the end of his life, that the British project was to Balkanize the region, producing tiny "republiquettes" dedicated to producing raw materials and unprocessed agricultural products, out of what had once been a single geographic and political entity, from Mexico to Argentina. That is, fear that Mexico, and Central and South America would follow the successful steps of the United States—which, under the leadership of George Washington, Benjamin Franklin, and Alexander Hamilton, had become an independent nation committed to industrial



Caracol TV

Colombian police and military personnel are held prisoner by the FARC in a Nazi-like concentration camp.

and scientific development—led England, applying its “balance of power” strategy, to seek the independence of the former Spanish colonies, but on the condition that they would be turned into fragmented little entities, subordinate to Britain’s free-trade and colonial policy. Instead of a country of industrialists, productive farmers, and skilled workers, our country, Colombia, continues to be basically a den of smugglers, drug traffickers, plantation owners, and usurious bankers, thanks to its adoption of British free-trade.

Now, when the existing world economic order is disintegrating precisely as LaRouche had forecast, is the time to create, as LaRouche has proposed, a new, just international monetary and financial system, which can provide plentiful and cheap credit to finance large industrial, agricultural, scientific, and infrastructural projects which every nation on the planet needs, starting with the United States itself, which faces the worst economic bankruptcy crisis in its entire history, thanks to the application of the same, evil neoliberalism that has destroyed the productive potential of the world in its entirety.

When discussion of a new world financial architecture is the order of the day, and various South American nations, led by Argentina and Venezuela itself, were promoting the creation of the Bank of the South from that perspective, Chávez, carried away by his radical Jacobinism, has acted exactly as the British have orchestrated, to sabotage this very process of regional integration which he himself helped put in motion. Instead of helping to physically unify our countries with extensive and modern rail corridors, Chávez is, in his relations with the FARC, reviving the old FARC-Wall Street alliance that expressed itself in the famous embrace of Richard Grasso, then president of the New York Stock Exchange, and the FARC’s “Raúl Reyes,” at the time that the FARC was handed Colombian territory by the misled President Andrés Pastrana.

The Uribe government, if it is smart, will not fall into the

British gameplan of fomenting war between Colombia and Venezuela, which could be triggered by any of the border incidents which do occur, and have occurred for years. Neither should President Uribe fall into the trap of calling on our U.S. “ally” to come and supposedly protect us from our neighbor. U.S. Vice President Dick Cheney, who is still trying to invade Iran and Syria after unnecessary and criminal wars against Iraq and Afghanistan, will have little difficulty in convincing the mediocre and manipulable George Bush to follow Teddy Roosevelt’s “Big Stick” tradition of sending U.S. soldiers after Chávez, while they are still looking for Osama bin Laden.

Beat Swords into Rails

No. We cannot accept a war between Colombia and Venezuela, a war that would spread across the subcontinent. We must act to prevent such a war from occurring, and to do so, a flanking maneuver must be carried out against the only interest which would benefit from this, the Anglo-Dutch financial oligarchy. Colombia, together with the rest of Ibero-America—including Venezuela—must adopt LaRouche’s perspective, of taking active part in the process of change toward a new world monetary and financial system to replace the decadent and usurious IMF.

Instead of falling for the Anglo-Dutch imperial scenario, what the Uribe government should do is launch a program of great infrastructure projects, centered around the construction of wide-gauge, high-speed railroad corridors (350 kilometers/hour) based on electrical traction and/or magnetic levitation. At least 8,000 kilometers of modern new railway would crisscross Colombia from north to south and east to west. These corridors would connect to development and infrastructure corridors which, through the Bering Strait tunnel that the Russian government is committed to building, would link up the Eurasian continent with the Americas. Among other projects, Colombia would have to build the Darién Gap Train, to serve as the port of entry for the rail corridor that would eventually extend from Alaska to the Patagonia in Argentina. The policy of Democratic Security, per se, will not survive if there is no Economic Security. The most effective way to consolidate peace in our country is to ensure that there are stable, well-paid, and productive jobs for every Colombian of working age.

In sum, if LaRouche’s policy is adopted, the British war game to create a new Opium War in the region can be defeated. At www.larouchepac.com, one can find ample documentation of LaRouche’s perspective and proposals. A synthesis of LaRouche’s approach can be found in the recent frank and fraternal dialogue that the American statesman recently held with Ecuador’s Minister Coordinator of Economic Policy, Pedro Páez, on the economic bankruptcy afflicting humanity at this time. The transcript and audio recording of that historic Jan. 30 interview, broadcast by the Ecuadoran radio station 530 AM of Quito, can also be found on the above-cited webpage [and in *EIR*, Feb. 8, 2008—ed.].