

Editorial

Stop the Colombian drug pushers

At 4 p.m. on Nov. 22, Patricia Chang Rojas, a Peruvian citizen who is a member of that country's Anti-Drug Coalition (ADC), was assaulted and drugged in downtown Bogotá, Colombia, robbed, and left—amnesic and disheveled—on a streetcorner. Miss Chang, on her way to a laundromat, recalls being grabbed from behind, having something placed over her nose, and her legs being grabbed. The next thing she recalls is being in a telephone booth over an hour later, more than a mile from the laundromat, calling the ADC office.

A spokesman for the Colombian ADC, which had invited Miss Chang to Bogotá to discuss joint efforts to eradicate the \$250 billion per year international narcotics traffic, charged the drug-running mafia with responsibility for the assault. The spokesman noted that Colombian President Belisario Betancur was also under attack because of his campaign to rid the country of the drug trade.

Ever since their inception in the late 1970s at the suggestion of *EIR* founder Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr., the international Anti-Drug Coalitions have been subjected to threats and assaults, in an campaign to terrorize the ADCs everywhere into inactivity. The recent events in Colombia show how much is at stake for the drug traffickers.

- On Oct. 12, a man telephoned a death threat to ADC vice-president Maximiliano Londoño against Patricia Londoño and Fausto Charris. Charris is the president of the ADC in Colombia, and Patricia Londoño is editor of the ADC publication *Guerra a las Drogas* (*War on Drugs*).

- That afternoon, Patricia Londoño was robbed of money, keys, and identification papers while traveling on a bus. Mrs. Londoño found herself in a disassociated state far from her expected stop. Doctors who examined her suspected the use of Scopolamine, an easily administered drug which produces short-term unconsciousness and amnesia.

- On Oct. 19, the Colombian government announced that, with the help of the U.S. DEA, it had uncovered and stopped a plot to assassinate Justice

Minister Rodrigo Lara Bonilla, which involved both Colombian and U.S. drug traffickers. Lara Bonilla went before the Congress the next day to make clear the plot was in response to his effective anti-drug measures, including arrest warrants against some of Colombia's leading drug traffickers.

- The Londoños' home was robbed on Oct. 20. The robbers were described as speaking with the accent of Colombia's coastal region, the stronghold of the drug mafia. One of them fit the description of a man previously seen in the vicinity of ADC offices and the home of Fausto Charris.

- Jaime Betancur Cuartas, the brother of Colombian president Belisario Betancur, was kidnapped Nov. 23. The National Liberation Army (ELN) guerrillas, who have claimed responsibility, have so far rejected President Betancur's offer of amnesty to terrorist groups, an attempt to pacify the country.

What is at stake is more than \$250 billion a year. The fast turnover of funds from the drug trade is now the British and Swiss banks' only means of pulling enough money out of the developing sector to pay the huge international debt. National sovereignty—the right of nations to expand and develop their populations—stands in the way of International Monetary Fund and World Bank looting.

We urge readers to join with the Anti-Drug Coalitions' campaign to barrage the government of Colombia with telegrams demanding adequate protection for the members of that nation's ADC, whose primary weapons are their exposure of the threat the drug trade poses to the what remains of the world's productive economy, the courage to name the names of the dope traffic's highest-level controllers and financiers, and a strategy of always fighting on an international scale.

Moreover, Americans must politically "lynch" the U.S. Congress which just passed a bill to bail out the IMF which, as we documented last week at length, pushes illegal drugs. It is no coincidence that the Swiss bankers behind the IMF also control the Nazi International—Dope, Inc.'s brutal enforcers.