

World Social Forum: A Jacobin Roadshow

by Silvia Palacios

On March 11, “Subcommander Marcos,” flanked by leaders of the Zapatista National Liberation Army (EZLN), arrived in the Mexican capital after a ten-day march from Chiapas in the southernmost tip of the country. The march culminated in a mass rally at the Zócalo, the city’s main plaza, which pulled in more than 100,000 people. Such a mobilization would not have been even remotely possible, if Mexican President Vicente Fox had not permitted the Zapatistas to emerge from their limbo with the blessing of the U.S. State Department, which is encouraging a policy of “dialogue” with terrorist and narco-terrorist groups across the Ibero-American continent. This process, sponsored in Mexico by Foreign Minister Jorge Castañeda, benefits the networks of the São Paulo Forum and the worldwide web of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) which protects Marcos’s indigenist-separatist movement.

These new developments also benefit the international drug trade—in particular, the Colombian Revolutionary Armed Forces (FARC), the largest cocaine cartel in the world. Castañeda’s step-brother, Andrés Rozenthal, was recently sent by the Fox government to Colombia, again with the full backing of the U.S. State Department, to negotiate with the FARC. The State Department, both of the Bush Administration and of Clinton’s before it, continues to support the FARC’s march to power, by endorsing the appeasement policy of the sell-out Andrés Pastrana government in Colombia.

The intervention of international forces into internal affairs was so scandalous in the case of the Zapatista march in Mexico that even the press couldn’t hide it. For example, the Brazilian daily *Folha de São Paulo* reported in its March 12 edition that “some [Zapatista] sympathizers complained that Marcos’s bodyguards—French and Italian anarchists—prevented the population from approaching [him].”

In fact, these developments in Mexico are the second high-profile intervention of a *world force*, represented by the so-called World Social Forum (WSF) of Pôrto Alegre, Brazil, which, fed by the misery caused by globalism, has set itself up as an itinerant Jacobin roadshow, with the capability to intervene above the jurisdiction of the sovereign nation-state.

The WSF has attracted to it, from around the continent, a modern-day version of the Flagellant hordes of the 14th

Century, a truly fascist “Mindless Movement,” created and led by the international financial oligarchy for the purpose of eliminating the nation-state, and destroying any idea of man as a thinking individual. In a manner that has no proper historical parallel since the New Dark Age of the 14th Century, this “Mindless Movement” is taking shape as a social movement whose essence is to enthrone the irrational *vox populi* of outraged masses, and to hurl itself against scientific truth.

Who Brought Them Together?

The visible political head in Ibero-America of this “Mindless Movement” is Venezuelan President Hugo Chávez, with his strategic alliance with the narco-terrorist FARC cartel in Colombia. Chávez is neither the intellectual author of the project nor its true controller; but, he is one of the most explicit defenders of the irrational *vox populi* on the continental political scene, and he uses his influence as head of state to put substantial resources behind this project.

That is why Marcos’s march garnered a lot of international support, with the prominent backing of what we might call “the French Connection,” made up of such notables as Danielle Mitterrand, the “black widow” of separatist causes; José Bové, French agricultural activist; and Bernard Cassen, director of *Le Monde Diplomatique*. Behind the scenes, one finds Anglo-French magnate Teddy Goldsmith, who is said in private to be the mentor of the international anarchist movement that emerged during the World Trade Organization meeting in Seattle, in November 1999, and which formed itself into a worldwide movement at the first meeting of the WSF, in the Brazilian city of Pôrto Alegre in late January 2001.

Luciana Gerno, state congressman from Rio Grande do Sul and daughter of Pôrto Alegre Mayor Tarso Gerno, headed the delegation of the Brazilian Workers Party (PT), which received Marcos in Mexico City.

The Pôrto Alegre conference and the developments in Mexico, will enable this “French Connection” to put the São Paulo Forum, created by Fidel Castro in 1990, on an international stage. This is especially the case, given that the Forum is a creation of the Gnostic Calvinist French networks that financed the purchase of the boat *Granma*, through the de Menil-Schlumberger family of Houston, Texas. *Granma* was used to transport the Cuban guerrillas of the Sierra Maestra at the launching of the 1959 Cuban revolution. These same forces are the ones that sponsored, with the help of sections of the Society of Jesus, the guerrilla insurgencies of Central America, as well as prominent São Paulo Forum figures, such as its “chaplain,” Brazilian Cardinal Paulo Evaristo Arns, who was generously helped by the De Menil Foundation.

These are also the forces that several decades ago launched Cuba’s revolutionary “Tricontinental” project, which cost the lives of many youth who had joined Frenchman Régis Debray’s “revolutionary foci” theories.

But the scope of what these international networks are now organizing goes far beyond any of these earlier opera-

tions. Such action is dictated by the rapidity with which the international financial system is disintegrating.

The 'Zapatista International'

The Pôrto Alegre newspaper *Zero Hora* reported on March 15 that the mayor of Pôrto Alegre is planning to welcome "Subcommander Marcos" to Brazil. Marcos's interest in travelling to that Brazilian city surfaced after the WSF January meeting there. "Subcommander Marcos's plan to come to Brazil, and to Pôrto Alegre, his first international trip, greatly honors us," stated Luiz Tadeo Rego, chief of staff to the Mayor. "He will be welcomed like any other international dignitary or political leader." Bernard Cassen facilitated the Marcos-Pôrto Alegre get-together, by calling the Mayor to inform him of Marcos's interest. "A visit by Marcos would confirm the leading role Pôrto Alegre plays in the world movement against neo-liberalism," Cassen declared from Paris. "Marcos hopes to found a political organization, that will not be a party."

One of the results of the WSF meeting in Pôrto Alegre was to give concrete form to the international campaign headed by Teddy Goldsmith and his French puppet José Bové, coordinated by the pro-terrorist "Via Camponesa" organization in Brazil which unites sections of the PT, the Landless Movement (MST), and various NGOs, especially those which most aggressively oppose scientifically based modern agriculture.

This relationship is key, as seen by the trip taken in late February to France by José Hermeto Hoffman, an honorary member of the MST and Agriculture Secretary of the state of Rio Grande do Sul. Hoffman was invited to give testimony at a court in Montpellier, France, in defense of José Bové, who is being tried for setting fire to and destroying a plantation of genetically modified rice.

The Financial Controllers

However, behind any appearances of anti-globalist militancy, are more powerful players, who are orchestrating the merger of these new Jacobin movements for their own purposes. One such player is the family of global raw materials speculator, the late Sir James Goldsmith, whose brother Teddy is one of the pioneer financiers of the ecology movement in Europe and currently director of the magazine, *The Ecologist*. Teddy was a member of the board of Ecoropa and, alongside other continental magnates of note, has since 1994 promoted the lunatic idea of creating a "Eurotopia," that is, balkanizing Europe by carving it into 75 mini-states.

Beginning in the late 1980s, the Goldsmith brothers dedicated themselves to financing a series of NGOs, foundations, and pilot programs, all of which were devoted to encouraging "organic, or natural, agriculture." In 1991, the British newspaper the *Independent* reported that "food millionaire" James Goldsmith "is going to finance the formation of a green agricultural alliance, and will donate \$1.8 billion for the creation

of SAFE (Sustainable Agriculture Food and Environment), which would join together small producers, organic farmers, and environmentalist organizations." Goldsmith proceeded to finance and promote political figures at his convenience, as well as campaigns that seek to ban even government or private research into genetically treated seeds.

In France, one of the militants of the Goldsmith family is José Bové, who has no connection to farming, but is a product of the pro-terrorist New Left, including receiving training in Libya. In Europe, in 1995, he began his career as an activist of environmentalist causes, joining Greenpeace and the group Rainbow Warriors, in protests against nuclear energy.

James Goldsmith lived for many years in Mexico, where he bought up a chunk of tropical forest to carry out a pilot project of environmental conservation. In public and in private, Teddy Goldsmith boasted that "one of our men in Mexico is Gustavo Esteva." He also declared, in the mid-1980s, that in the future, Mexico would split into three parts, each one operating with its own currency, and establishing a "sub-national" relationship. This was before the emergence of the Zapatistas, who are today fully committed to his cause of dismembering the Mexican nation-state. Later, "his man" Esteva, a radical Maoist, became an official adviser to the Zapatistas and a collaborator of the magazine *The Ecologist*, in whose pages "Subcommander Marcos" has been portrayed as "a kind of leader of the future."

At the same time, the Goldsmith brothers have maintained a special interest in Brazil. This was publicly revealed when they dedicated their efforts to turning the rich and strategic Amazon region into a target of attack by the Anglo-American establishment, under the New World Order that the first George Bush U.S. Presidential Administration and British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher attempted to impose on the world, in coordination with French President François Mitterrand.

In 1989, in the midst of the assault opened against Brazil by the highest levels of the British oligarchy, Sir James Goldsmith met with Thatcher "to examine the possibility that Great Britain take the initiative in convoking an extraordinary General Assembly of the United Nations, to address the Amazon question," as reported in the May 7, 1989 Brazilian newspaper *Jornal do Brasil*.

In 1991, the magazine *Istoe-Senhor* interviewed James Goldsmith, in recognition of the prominent role his family has played in environmentalist causes. He was asked what kind of financing could groups or individuals involved in green causes of conservation and "natural" agriculture expect from him. James was emphatic: "We don't seek to disburse resources in support of all and nothing at the same time. I have experience in these matters, and as a result, I will judge actions by results, and not by good publicity." Thus, these representatives of the global financial oligarchy know just how useful it is to their separatist and eco-fascist project, to promenade their "native acquisitions" around the world.