

Synarchists Promote Andean-Wide Violence

by Valerie Rush

Mutual accusations and a threatened break in relations between the neighboring Andean countries of Colombia and Venezuela, are but one of a number of showdown scenarios that have erupted in Ibero-America in the first weeks of 2005. These developments confirm Lyndon LaRouche's assessment that the fascist agenda of the Synarchist International is to orchestrate chaos and warfare across the continent, the better to impose imperial control.

This agenda was outlined at last year's Defense Ministers of the Americas summit in Quito, Ecuador, where U.S. Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld insisted that growing areas of "ungovernability" on the continent would necessitate multilateral interventions across national borders, thereby justifying the neo-imperialist concept of "limited sovereignty." The outbreak of classic left-right confrontations in one country after another, and now between countries as well, is designed to invoke the so-called "Rumsfeld Corollary" to the Cheney Doctrine of pre-emptive warfare. Notably, Bush's new Secretary of State, Condoleezza Rice, waded into the Colombia-Venezuela brawl during her confirmation hearings before the U.S. Senate, demanding, in a startling breach of diplomatic protocol, that Venezuela stop being a "negative" influence on the continent and siding with Colombia.

Chávez, a Pawn in the Game

The crisis was first ignited when Venezuelan President Hugo Chávez charged Colombia's government with "kidnapping" Rodrigo Granda, the so-called "foreign minister" of the narco-terrorist FARC cartel, on Venezuelan soil, by bribing a handful of Venezuelan National Guardsmen to grab the fugitive on the streets of Caracas and spirit him across the border, where Colombian authorities were waiting to arrest him. Granda, bearing Venezuelan citizenship papers that had been inexplicably granted him by the Chávez government, was attending a meeting of pro-terrorist organizations under the sponsorship of Chávez, at the time of his capture. Chávez's reaction to Granda's capture was to scream that Colombia had violated Venezuelan sovereignty, and that the Bush Administration was behind the incident.

Colombia's government responded by charging that Venezuela's providing refuge to a wanted terrorist like Granda constituted a de facto violation of *Colombia's* sovereignty. Furthermore, argued Colombian Defense Minister

Jorge Uribe, the money paid for Granda's capture was neither a bribe nor a bounty, but long-pledged award money for "information leading to the capture" of the suspect.

There is little doubt that the Bush Administration gave the Colombians the green light for the cross-border operation, as reflected in the prompt statements of support for Colombia by the U.S. Ambassador in Bogotá, and by Rice's remarks. Colombia's government is totally dependent on U.S. aid in its life-and-death battle against narco-terrorism, and would hardly venture such a move without a prior nod. But the Bush Administration's motivation is *not* to seriously hurt the FARC cartel—their notorious alliance with Wall Street remains untouched, and undiscussed, in Washington—but rather to set a precedent for the Rumsfeld Corollary.

An enraged Chávez demanded an apology and admission of culpability on the part of the Colombian authorities, and wanted that apology delivered in a face-to-face meeting with Colombian President Uribe. Uribe's answer was to propose to "address the issue" in a multinational setting, which Chávez rejected out of hand.

With charges and countercharges flying thick and fast, and the population on both sides of the border being revved up for a fight, Brazilian President Lula da Silva offered his services to facilitate a diplomatic solution, during a meeting with Colombia's Uribe on Jan. 19. Lula's offer was soon followed by similar offers from Peru, Mexico, Chile, and from Spain's visiting Prime Minister Rodríguez Zapatero. A mediated dialogue between Colombia and Venezuela seemed in the offing as, in response to demands of "proof" from the Chávez government, Colombian authorities presented their Venezuelan counterparts with a list of the names and addresses of some ten FARC terrorists in Venezuela.

And then, Condi Rice stirred the pot, triggering a new fit by the *Chavistas*. At a mass rally of tens of thousands of Chávez followers on Jan. 23, the Venezuelan demagogue accused the United States of being behind Colombia's actions, and once again demanded a Colombian "apology" for violating Venezuela's borders. "I am not going to have open relations with a country incapable of acknowledging such a serious error," he ranted, while threatening a cutoff of economic and diplomatic relations. He has already prohibited the use of Venezuela's highways for trucks carrying Colombian coal, and the Venezuelan port of Maracaibo, through which 6,000 tons of Colombian coal pass daily on the way to the United States and Central America, has been denied to Colombian coal companies.

With insurgency boiling in Bolivia, and the governments of both Peru and Ecuador on the verge of collapse as well, the re-escalation of the crisis between Venezuela and Colombia raises the specter of a region-wide conflagration. This is just what the international synarchist bankers are after, in fact, if the Jan. 23 forecast of leading neo-conservative Mont Pelerinite Carlos Alberto Montaner, that "a Latin American-wide war" is coming, is any indication.