

Kirchner Walks Into Trap Of Argentine Synarchists

by Cynthia R. Rush

When Argentine President Néstor Kirchner stood up to the International Monetary Fund in early March, and insisted that human needs come before debt payment, he threw the synarchist financiers who stand behind the IMF and the predatory vulture funds for a loop, and won the overwhelming support of the Argentine people. But now, only a month later, Kirchner has walked into a trap laid by these same fascist bankers, with dangerous implications for the nation's stability, and the future success of their war against the IMF.

Dressed now in political garb, the synarchists are using the highly emotional issue of what happened to Argentina during the traumatic terror-vs.-counterterror war and military coup of the 1970s, to divide the country along false ideological lines and seek maximum chaos at a time when the country can least afford it. As the history of the "strategy of tension" in Europe shows, the terrorists of the "left" and "right" were spawned by the same synarchist mother. Argentina's "dirty war" of the 1970s was no different.

Many of the leaders of Argentina's left terrorist groups emerged from right-wing "Catholic nationalism," and were trained by its most fanatical, anti-Semitic ideologues. Out of the right-wing Tacuara Group came leaders of the leftist Montoneros, for example. The death squad and torture apparatus which functioned in Argentina, misnamed as "state terrorism," was nurtured among the same networks that produced France's murderous Secret Army Organization (OAS), notorious for its atrocities in Algeria and several attempted assassinations of President Charles de Gaulle.

In national tension surrounding the 28th anniversary of the March 24, 1976 military coup, Kirchner has made the grave mistake of allying with one side against the other—in this case, with the human rights offensive led by such individuals as George Soros's agent, former Montoneros intelligence chief Horacio Verbitsky, and Mothers of Plaza de Mayo leader Hebe de Bonafini, who publicly applauded the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks. When the country needs unity to face the escalating battle with the IMF and creditors, Kirchner's actions have provoked enormous tensions—in the Armed Forces, his own Justicialista (Peronist) Party, and society at large. Democratic Presidential pre-candidate Lyndon LaRouche warned that it is a mistake for Kirchner to jump into this fight now. Under financially precarious conditions, the only possible beneficiaries will be the fascist bankers who seek the country's annihilation.

Playing Both Sides

The workings of the trap were seen in the events leading up to the anniversary of the 1976 coup. Kirchner fully endorsed the plan to build a "Museum to Memory" on the grounds of the former Navy Mechanics School (ESMA), which served as a clandestine detention center where presumed terrorists were tortured and killed. During the March 24 rally organized by human rights groups to "remember" the 1976 coup, Kirchner officially inaugurated the museum plan, and stated in his speech, "In the name of the State, I come to ask forgiveness, for the shame of having remained silent, during 20 years of democracy, about so many atrocities." Earlier that day, he had attended a ceremony at the Army Academy, and made Army Chief of Staff Gen. Roberto Bendifini remove the portraits of two former leaders of the 1976-1983 military junta, Gen. Jorge Videla and Gen. Roberto Bignon. The plan to do this had caused such anger among the Armed Forces, that three Army generals and one colonel, asked to be retired rather than witness the scene.

Tension was also palpable at the March 26 convention of Kirchner's Peronist Party. There, the President's rival, Córdoba Governor José Manuel de la Sota, laid down the gauntlet: "It pains me that it was said I don't condemn state terrorism"—referring to earlier remarks by Kirchner's Chief-of-Staff Alberto Fernández—"but it also pained me when Rucci was assassinated." José Ignacio Rucci, a leader of the Peronist-run CGT labor federation, was murdered in 1973, and many "traditional" Peronists attribute that act to the leftist Montoneros. De la Sota's statement was greeted with a standing ovation and raucous singing of the Peronist march; this angered several governors present who were Montonero militants in the 1970s, and were jailed or tortured then.

The danger these developments portend for the country's stability cannot be underestimated. The right-wing Carlists of the fascist *Maritornes* apparatus, whose kinship with the networks of Spain's fascist Blas Piñar *EIR* has documented in previous issues, are foaming at the mouth against Kirchner. Antonio Caponnetto, a member of the *Maritornes* magazine's editorial board, issued an article March 5 entitled "ESMA: War Booty?" openly calling for Kirchner's ouster. "The current Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces," he charged, "is a convinced, confessed, and proud agent of that Marxist insurrection that invaded the country, with the support of two foreign states, the Soviet and the Cuban."

Caponnetto said that setting up a museum on ESMA's grounds is a sacrilege just like the "churches that were profaned by the Bolsheviks in Holy Russia, to convert them into museums to atheism." He also manipulated the very emotional issue of the deaths and casualties which the military suffered during the 1970s, to call for a holy war against Kirchner and his "subversive" entourage. "If there are still soldiers left with courage and honor, they must take the place of those illustrious [military] dead, and stop the assault of the subversive mob."