

Luis Posada Carriles Gives the Lie To George Bush's 'War on Terrorism'

by William F. Wertz, Jr.

Immediately after Sept. 11, 2001, President George W. Bush righteously threatened any nation that “harbored terrorists.” But now, *EIR* investigations show that the Bush Administration itself is harboring a nest of terrorist assassins in Jeb Bush’s Florida—foremost among them being the Cuban-born operative Luis Posada Carriles, whose career in terrorism and intelligence “black bag jobs” spans more than four decades.

On March 10, 2005, long-time CIA asset **Félix Rodríguez Mendigutia** called for U.S. military intervention in Venezuela, and alluded to the possible assassination of Venezuelan President Hugo Chávez, on a Miami TV program.¹ Rodríguez had been the CIA liaison with the Bolivian forces that captured and executed Ernesto “Che” Guevara on Oct. 9, 1967; he later ran the Contra resupply operation in El Salvador in the 1980s, to overthrow the Nicaraguan government on behalf of Vice President George H.W. Bush and CIA death squad organizer **Néstor Sánchez**.

Rodríguez’s deputy in the Iran-Contra operation was Luis Posada Carriles, who had just escaped from a Venezuelan jail, where he had been incarcerated in connection with the bombing of a Cuban airliner off the coast of Barbados in October 1976, which killed 73 people. Rodríguez was involved in Posada’s escape in 1985, which was effected by means of a bribe reportedly paid by **Jorge Más Canosa**, the now-deceased head of the anti-Castro Cuban American

National Foundation (CANF).²

In March, when Rodríguez made this threat to Chávez, Posada had just entered the United States via Mexico, using a false passport, and was seeking asylum from the G.W. Bush Administration for past services rendered. On June 4, 2005, the Venezuelan newspaper *El Universal* reported that both President Chávez and Venezuelan Vice President José Vicente Rangel accused the Pentagon and the CIA of planning to invade Venezuela and assassinate Chávez. Chávez has demanded that the Bush Administration extradite Posada to Venezuela, a request that Washington has not yet formally ruled on. Chávez has also charged that former Venezuelan President Carlos Andrés Pérez, who was the Minister of the Interior from 1962-63,³ is involved in operations against him.

The terrorists that Bush and Cheney are protecting, are now posing a threat to the emergence in Ibero-America of a combination of sovereign nation-states potentially oriented towards supporting Lyndon LaRouche’s proposal for a New Bretton Woods monetary system. The potential for such action was reflected in the March 29 summit of the Presidents of Brazil, Colombia, and Venezuela, and the Prime Minister of Spain at which historic agreements were reached for economic development and integration. That summit took place just a few weeks after Félix Rodríguez issued his threat to Chávez.

Much of the material accumulated for this report has been derived from extensive counterintelligence investigations

1. On March 10, 2005, Cuban-American journalist Maria Elvira Salazar conducted an interview on cable TV Channel 22 in Miami, Florida, with Luis Piña, from the anti-Chávez Venezuelan opposition, and with Félix Rodríguez. Rodríguez said that if called upon, he would consider coming out of retirement and going back to Venezuela to take action against President Chávez: “I think they are going to have to do something,” he said. When pressed by the interviewer, Rodríguez replied, “Yes! There are contingency plans!” He continued that for “national security reasons . . . there could be economic measures at a certain moment, including military measures,” but it is “hard to say at this moment” whether a CIA commando could be sent to put an end to Chávez. Any action against Chávez would be done openly, he said. “Look, at a certain moment, he [President Bush] can do it militarily. Remember the specific case of Qaddafi: They did it militarily with a plane, and after that Qaddafi did not pose a problem any longer.” When the interviewer objected that “that’s not physically eliminating Hugo Chávez, which is the question,” Rodríguez concluded: “At a certain point, they can do it with a military attack with a plane.”

2. www.afrocubaweb.com/posada.htm. See “Gusanos de Miami e intelectuales Mexicanos: Confunden derechos humanos y contrarrevolucion by Salvador del Rio at www.m3w3.com.mx/SIEMPRE/2279/columna/Columna10.html. The *Miami Herald*, Sept. 5, 1988, reported that his escape was aided by an unidentified Miami benefactor and by Félix Rodríguez. According to the *NY Latino Journal*, in his autobiography, Posada thanked Más Canosa for providing the money for the bribe. Andrés José Arana Méndez, the chief of the prison, admitted that he helped Posada escape for \$28,000. (FBIS, Jan. 23, 1985).

3. As a ranking officer in the Directorate for the Services of Intelligence and Prevention (DISIP) beginning in 1967, Posada was employed by the Ministry of Internal Relations. CAP had been the Minister of Interior from 1962-63. Orlando García, who had been head of operations of Digeapol, the precursor of the DISIP, became CAP’s personal security advisor in 1964. When CAP became President in 1974, he appointed Orlando García head of operations of the DISIP.

Case of Cuban Exile Could Test The U.S. Definition of Terrorist

Old Cold Warrior, Out of Friends, Seeks Asylum

By TIM WEINER

MIAMI, May 5 — From the United States through Latin America and the Caribbean, Luis Posada Carriles has spent 45 years fighting a violent, losing battle to overthrow Fidel Castro. Now he may have nowhere to hide but here.

Mr. Posada, a Cuban exile, has long been a symbol for the armed anti-Castro movement in the United States. He remains a prime suspect in the bombing of a Cuban commercial airliner that killed 73 people in 1976. He has admitted to plotting attacks that damaged tourist spots in Havana and killed an Italian visitor there in 1997. He was convicted in Panama in a 2000 bomb plot against Mr. Castro. He is no longer welcome in his old Latin America haunts.

Mr. Posada, 77, sneaked back into

Agency in the 1960's, his lawyer, Eduardo Soto, said at a news conference last month.

But the government of Venezuela wants to extradite and retry him for the Cuban airline bombing. Mr. Posada was involved "up to his eyeballs" in planning the attack, said Carter Cornick, a retired counterterrorism specialist for the Federal Bureau of Investigation who investigated Mr. Posada's role in that case. A newly declassified 1976 F.B.I. document places Mr. Posada, who had been a senior Venezuelan intelligence officer, at two meetings where the bombing was planned.

As "the author or accomplice of homicide," Venezuela's Supreme Court said Tuesday, "he must be extradited and judged."



2005 issue has their histories, ours of the Bush shall always glorify the number. — African proverb

THE BUSH FAMILY'S FAVORITE TERRORIST

JERRY MELROD, ROBERT FARRY

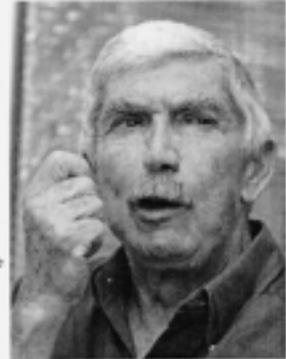
While the Bush administration holds dozens of suspected Muslim terrorists on secret or flimsy evidence, one of the world's most notorious terrorists slipped into the United States via Mexico and traveled to Florida without setting off any law enforcement alarms.

Though the terrorist's presence has been an open secret in Miami, neither President George W. Bush nor Florida Gov. Jeb Bush has ordered a manhunt. The U.S. press corps has been largely silent as well.

The reason is that this terrorist, Luis Posada Carriles, was a CIA-trained Cuban whose long personal war against Fidel Castro's government is viewed sympathetically by the two Bush brothers and their father. When it comes to the Bush family, Posada is the epitome of the old saying that "one man's terrorist is another man's freedom fighter."

The Bush administration, which has imprisoned Jose Padilla and other alleged Muslim "enemy combatants" without trial, has taken a far more lenient approach toward the 77-year-old Posada, who is still wanted in Venezuela for the bombing of a Cubana Airlines plane in 1976 that killed 73 people. Posada also has admitted involvement in a deadly hotel bombing campaign in Cuba in 1997.

Political Pardons?



The case of terrorist Luis Posada Carriles is drawing widespread international attention, because of the bond it places President Bush in. The New York Times put the story on its front page on May 9.

into a former associate of Lyndon LaRouche, **Fernando Quijano**, who was turned by U.S.-based and other intelligence networks associated with the presently continuing Western Hemisphere operations described in this report, such as those associated with Chilean fascist **Gen. Augusto Pinochet's** "Operation Condor."⁴

As *EIR* has reported, Operation Condor was formally established in Santiago, Chile on Nov. 25, 1975, after Pinochet and 50 members of his secret service, the DINA, attended the funeral of Spanish fascist dictator Gen. Francisco Franco in Madrid. Pinochet had been inspired by Franco, whose war to crush the Second Spanish Republic, launched in 1936, was directed by Adolf Hitler's Ibero-American Institute in Berlin, which was headed by Nazi Gen. Wilhelm von Faupel.

Quijano became a controlled asset of Leesburg, Virginia resident Néstor Sánchez in the mid-to-late 1980s, and was also known to have met with Jorge Más Canosa. Quijano's Venezuelan agent **Alejandro Peña**, now within the anti-Chá-

vez Democratic Bloc in Venezuela, met with DINA chief and Operation Condor operative **Juan Manuel Contreras Sepúlveda** in 1993 on Quijano's behalf. Quijano and his associate **Marivilia Carrasco** of Mexico were also directly in contact with Spanish fascist **Blas Piñar**, who is at the center of this Fascist International.

Posada and the CIA's Cuban 'Gusanos'

Now, to the case of Posada Carriles, and what it reveals about Bush's "War on Terrorism."

Posada joined the CIA's Brigade 2506 in 1961, as part of CIA director Allen Dulles's abortive "Bay of Pigs" invasion of Cuba. Posada, **Orlando Bosch Avila**, and Félix Rodríguez were also members of the elite intelligence unit called Operation 40. Other members included **Ricardo "el Mono" Morales Navarrete**, **Virgilio Paz**, **José Dionisio Suárez** and the **Novo Sampoll brothers, Guillermo and Ignacio**.⁵

Operation 40 has been suspected by some of involvement in the assassination of U.S. President John F. Kennedy on Nov. 22, 1963. Posada Carriles himself was placed by at least one witness in Dealey Square in Dallas, at the moment of the

4. See William F. Wertz, Jr., "Schools' Plot: Who's Snuffing Your Neighbor's Kittens?" *EIR*, April 19, 2002; "The Cristero War on Mexico: Synarchism Then and Now," *EIR*, July 25, 2003; "The Nazi-Instigated National Synarchist Union of Mexico," *EIR*, July 9 and July 16, 2004; "The Ibero-American Solidarity Movement; Anatomy of a Fascist Intelligence Operation," *EIR*, Feb. 25, 2005; "Nazis, Operation Condor, and Bush's Privatization Plan," *EIR*, March 25, 2005.

5. Interview by Jean-Guy Allard of Gen. Fabián Escalante, the ex-chief of Cuban intelligence and author of *The Plot* (Ocean Press). The interview is cited on www.spartacus.schoolnet.co.uk/JFKposada.htm.

assassination.⁶ Others have pointed out that Orlando Bosch and Guillermo Novo, among other Operation 40 operatives, travelled to Dallas a few days before the assassination.⁷

This same unit was deployed in the 1970s to participate in Operation Condor. In December 1974, Orlando Bosch, Guillermo Novo, and Dionisio Suárez travelled to Santiago, Chile to offer their services to General Pinochet.⁸ It was Suárez and Virgilio Paz who later triggered the bomb that killed former Chilean Foreign and Defense Minister Orlando Letelier and his associate Ronni Moffitt in Washington, D.C. on Sept. 21, 1976, a crime for which they were convicted.⁹ A declassified FBI report confirms a meeting between exiled Cubans and Pinochet on March 17, 1975, in which Pinochet offered them financial assistance, on the condition they help create a unified fascist international.¹⁰

Posada, a former lieutenant in the United States Army, received his training at Fort Benning in Georgia, where he took an intelligence staff officer course.¹¹ He is both a marksman and a demolitions expert.¹² According to the FBI, in 1965, Jorge Más Canosa paid Posada to blow up a Cuban or Soviet vessel in the Port of Veracruz, Mexico.¹³ That same year, the FBI reported that he was implicated in a plot to overthrow the government of Guatemala.¹⁴

In July 1967, Posada was officially dropped as a CIA asset, but then was reinstated in October, when he was approached by the CIA with an offer to join the Venezuelan secret police (DISIP),¹⁵ where he became chief of security and counterintelligence (Division 54). In 1971, Posada was

involved in a plot to assassinate Fidel Castro on a visit to Caracas on Nov. 31.¹⁶

The Venezuelan Connection to Operation Condor

In March 1974, Chilean DINA chief Juan Manuel Contreras visited CIA Deputy Director **Vernon Walters**. Walters then sent eight high-level CIA agents to give classes in Chile, which lasted until August 1974. At that point, the chief of the CIA delegation, and **Stewart D. Burton**, the CIA station chief in Santiago, requested that the CIA stay in Chile, to take jobs inside DINA. Contreras claims that he and his boss Pinochet rejected the proposal.¹⁷

The model for this proposal was the arrangement already in place in Venezuela, whose DISIP intelligence service, manned by CIA-trained officers, many born in Cuba like Posada, had become a virtual subsidiary of the CIA. Both **Orlando García Vázquez** of the DISIP and Carlos Andrés Pérez have confirmed that at least one CIA officer was posted full-time and had operational duties in the offices of the Armed Forces Intelligence Service in Caracas, which was the Venezuelan equivalent of the CIA.¹⁸

After a meeting with Walters in August 1975 at CIA headquarters, Colonel Manuel Contreras and another DINA officer went directly from Washington to Caracas, Venezuela on Aug. 27. According to Contreras, it was Walters who suggested he go there, the first stop on a tour he made to Ibero-American capitals to propose the organization of Operation Condor. Three other DINA officials had flown in separately from Santiago. **Rafael Rivas Vásquez**, head of the DISIP, met with Contreras at the airport and then took him to dinner with DISIP's general commissioner, Orlando García.¹⁹ Both Rafael Rivas and Orlando García were Cuban-born and CIA-trained.

In his meetings with Rivas and García, Contreras invited Venezuela to participate in Operation Condor, which was founded in Santiago three months later, on Nov. 25. After the Pinochet coup, many of Chile's exile leaders had settled in Caracas. According to García, Contreras wanted the DISIP to capture these exiles in Venezuela and turn them over to Chile for elimination.²⁰ Contreras wanted information about all their activities, including flight information about their travels. He reported to the Venezuelans that the leftist umbrella group, the Revolutionary Coordinating Junta (JCR), was planning to

6. Ibid.

7. According to Marita Lorenz, as cited by www.spartacus-schoolnet.co.uk/JFKbosch.htm.

8. Dinges, John, *The Condor Years*, (New York: The New Press, 2004), p. 128; Peter Kornbluh, *The Pinochet File* (New York: The New Press, 2003), p. 332.

9. Dinges, op. cit., pp. 90-91; Kornbluh, op. cit., p. 344.

10. The Cuban newspaper *Granma*, March 26, 2003 reported on the declassified FBI document. Cited on afrocubaweb.com.

11. Gaeton Fonzi, *The Last Investigation* 1993, cited on www.spartacus-schoolnet.co.uk/JFKposada.htm. Orlando Bosch also received military training at Fort Benning, and after the Bay of Pigs fiasco, ran an anti-Castro training camp for the CIA in Homestead, Florida.

12. That Posada was in charge of demolitions at the DISIP is reported in CIA, April 17, 1972, Personal Record Questionnaire on Posada available from the U.S. National Security Archives.

13. FBI, July 7, 1965, "Luis Posada Carriles," reports that the CIA's office in Mexico sent a report entitled "Intention of Cuban Representation in Exile (RECE) to Blow up a Cuban or Soviet Vessel in Veracruz, Mexico." Jorge Más Canosa, then head of RECE, made a \$5,000 payment to Posada to sabotage the ships.

14. FBI, May 17, 1965, "Roberto Alejos Arzu; Luis Sierra López, neutrality matters, Internal Security-Guatemala," links Posada to the plot.

15. FBI, Oct. 16, 1976, Retransmission of CIA Trace Report cited by the National Security Archive. DISIP was created out of the DIGEPOL (Dirección General de Policía.)

16. www.spartacus-schoolnet.co.uk/JFKposada.htm.

17. Dinges, op. cit., pp. 68-69.

18. Ibid., p. 70.

19. Ibid., p. 105. Orlando García now also lives in Miami.

20. Ibid., p. 105. According to García: "Contreras wanted us to capture Chilean exiles [in Venezuela] and turn them over to Chile with no legalities. He wanted us to just put them on a plane and Chile would pay the fare. He said, 'we have to eliminate the enemies.' I knew that to eliminate meant only one thing—we knew the people he captured would be tortured and killed."



PR/Ricardo Stuckert

The March 29 summit on Ibero-American integration, held in Venezuela. President Hugo Chávez's moves toward such an alliance for development are not to the liking of the Bush Administration. Left to right: Colombian President Alvaro Uribe, Spanish Prime Minister Rodríguez Zapatero, Venezuelan President Chávez, and Brazilian President Lula da Silva.

move its headquarters from Buenos Aires to Caracas. Contreras said that if Venezuela signed up for Operation Condor, then DINA would assign a liaison officer to its embassy in Caracas. Contreras also gave DISIP a set of codes and ciphers to be used in telex communications for the new system.²¹

Venezuelan President Carlos Andrés Pérez (known as CAP), who was President from 1974-78, formally rejected joining Operation Condor.²² However, there is no doubt that Posada and other Cuban-born CIA agents associated with the DISIP and connected with Vernon Walters and Néstor Sánchez collaborated with Contreras. In March 1974, Posada formally left the DISIP and started his own private security agency, the Investigaciones Comerciales e Industriales, C.A. (ICI—Industrial and Commercial Investigations), which Cuban Gen. Fabian Escalante has claimed was “a CIA front . . . probably connected with Operation Condor.” When Posada left the DISIP, “Mono” Morales Navarrete took his place as head of Division 54, the counterintelligence section of DISIP.²³

The Letelier Assassination and Cubana Airlines Bombing

On June 11, 1976, all of the anti-Castro Cuban exile groups met in the Dominican Republic to create a new um-

21. *Ibid.*, p. 106.

22. As Venezuela's Minister of the Interior, CAP had been a fervent anti-communist, but as President in 1974, he opposed Pinochet's methods.

23. www.spartacus.schoolnet.co.uk/JKFposada.htm.

brella organization called the Coordination of United Revolutionary Organizations (CORU), headed by Orlando Bosch.²⁴ Soon after the founding of CORU, on Sept. 21, 1976, Guillermo Novo and other members of the Cuban Nationalist Movement, which merged into CORU, participated in the assassination of former Chilean Foreign and Defense Minister Orlando Letelier in Washington, D.C. This assassination was carried out by Operation Condor. When Posada was arrested in connection with the bombing of the Cubana Airlines plane, he was reportedly found with a map of Washington showing Letelier's daily route to work.²⁵

Both the assassination of Letelier and the bombing of the Cubana Airlines Flight 455 fifteen days later were planned at the June 11, 1976 meeting in Santo Domingo.²⁶ As early as June 22, 1976, a CIA document reported that a “usually reliable” source stated that Bosch “plans to place a bomb on a Cubana Airline flight traveling between Panama and Havana.”²⁷ CORU then partic-

ipated in the founding of Spanish fascist Blas Piñar's Fascist International in Rome in October 1976.²⁸ (In August 1976, Néstor Sánchez had become the CIA station chief in Madrid, Spain.²⁹)

According to declassified U.S. intelligence documents, Posada and Bosch are regarded as the “engineers” of the October 1976 bombing of Cubana Airlines Flight 455.³⁰ In September 1976, after the Letelier assassination and prior to the

24. FBI, Aug. 16, 1978, Secret Report, “Coordinacion de Organizaciones Revolucionarias unidas (Coordination of United Revolutionary Organizations) (CORU), Neutrality matters—Cuba—(Anti-Castro).” This report also states that in 1978, Frank Castro, the Miami chief of CORU, said that Brigade 2506 would be reintegrated into CORU.

25. www.spartacus.schoolnet.co.uk/JFKposada.htm.

26. Tim Weiner, “Cuba Exile Could Test a U.S. Definition of Terrorist,” *New York Times*, May 9, 2005. Weiner reports that Carter Cornick, a retired FBI counterterrorism specialist, said that “both bombings were planned at a June 1976 meeting in Santo Domingo.”

27. A CIA document dated June 22, 1976 is titled “Possible Plans of Cuban Exile Extremists to blow up a Cubana airliner.” Although the original plan to blow up Cubana Flight 467 on June 21 did not take place, this report shows CIA foreknowledge of Bosch's plans, which were realized in October.

28. Henrick Kruger, *The Great Heroin Coup—Drugs, Intelligence & International Fascism* (Boston: South End Press, 1980).

29. Philip Agee and Louis Wolf, *Dirty Work, The CIA in Western Europe* (Secaucus, N.J.: Lyle Stuart Inc., 1978).

30. FBI, Oct. 7, 1976, Secret Intelligence Report, “Suspected Bombing of Cubana Airlines DC-I Near Barbados.” “The source all but admitted that Posada and Bosch had engineered the bombing of the airline,” according to the report.

bombing of the Cuban airliner, Bosch stated: “Now that our organization has come out of the Letelier job looking good, we are going to try something else.”³¹ A CIA source also overheard Posada stating: “We are going to hit a Cuban airliner.”³² The two individuals who placed the bomb on the plane, **Hermán Ricardo** and **Freddy Lugo**, worked for Posada’s security agency.³³ Ricardo claimed that the bombing had been organized by Posada and Bosch.³⁴ Both Ricardo and Lugo were convicted and sentenced to 20 years imprisonment.

After the CORU meeting in the Dominican Republic, Bosch went to Nicaragua and then arrived in Caracas on Sept. 8 with a fake Dominican passport, invited by Orlando García. “Mono” Morales Navarete, who had replaced Posada in 1974 as the head of Division 54 in the DISIP and was García’s deputy, told an FBI agent that there were two meetings in Caracas at which the bombing was planned. One was in the Hotel Anauco Hilton in Caracas and the other in Morales’s room at the Hilton. Both meetings were attended by Posada Carriles. Morales said that “some people in the Venezuelan government are involved in this airplane bombing, and that if Posada Carriles talks, then Morales Navarrete and others in the Venezuelan government will ‘go down the tube.’ We’ll have our own Watergate.”³⁵

Posada and Bosch were arrested in Venezuela on Oct. 14, 1976 for their involvement in the bombing. In 1985, Posada escaped from a Venezuelan prison and went to El Salvador to work for the illegal CIA-run Contra resupply operation, under the pseudonym **Ramón Medina**. He worked as the deputy of Félix Rodríguez (pseudonym—**Max Gómez**).³⁶ Posada also functioned as Eugene Hasenfus’s translator.³⁷ Rodríguez had been sent to El Salvador in 1985 by Néstor Sánchez, with the approval of Vice President George H.W. Bush.³⁸ Sánchez, who had been Latin American Division Chief, CIA Directorate of Operations in the 1970s, was now U.S. Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Inter-Ameri-

31. Memo written on Oct. 18, 1976 to Secretary of State Kissinger from Harold H. Saunders.

32. Ibid.

33. FBI, Oct. 7, 1976, op. cit.

34. www.spartacus.schoolnet.co.uk/JFKposada.htm

35. FBI, Nov. 2, 1976, Secret Intelligence Report, “Bombing of Cubana Airlines DC-8 Near Barbados, West Indies, October 6, 1976,” available from the National Security Archives.

36. Sept. 2, 1986 Contra re-supply document, *Distribution of Warehoused Contra Weapons and Equipment in Spanish with English Translation*, available from the National Security Archives.

37. Hasenfus was the mercenary pilot whose plane was shot down over Nicaragua and who was captured by Nicaraguan authorities. His capture for the first time exposed the illegal Contra resupply operation being run by Vice President George H.W. Bush. See *Democracy Now*, May 9, 2005 interview of Ann Louise Bardach, a columnist for online magazine *Slate* and author of *Cuba Exile*.

38. See www.fas.org/irp/offdocs/walsh/chap_29.htm.



Former Chilean dictator Gen. Augusto Pinochet, who launched Operation Condor in 1975. Posada Carriles was part of the CIA-linked networks involved in this campaign of extermination against Pinochet’s opponents throughout the continent.

can Affairs,³⁹ from which position he oversaw the operations in which Posada was involved.

(In 1963, Sánchez had himself been involved in attempting to organize an assassination plot against Castro.⁴⁰ From 1965-67, he had been CIA station chief in Venezuela, when Posada was recruited by the CIA to join the DISIP. Sánchez was CIA station chief in Guatemala from 1967-68, and in Colombia from 1972-74.⁴¹)

A Bush Family Terrorist

The Bush family has a long-standing relationship with the anti-Castro, Cuban-exile community and has acted repeatedly to harbor a network of known terrorists. Current Gov. Jeb Bush, in particular, has worked closely with **Camilio Padreda**, a former intelligence officer in Florida with the Batista dictatorship overthrown by Castro; and with **Miguel Re Carey**, who had assisted the CIA in attempts to assassinate Castro. Jeb Bush had also been the campaign manager for Cuban-American politician Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, when she ran for Congress in Florida. One of the cornerstones of her campaign was “Free Orlando Bosch.”

In 1987, after meeting with Ros-Lehtinen at the request of Jeb Bush, then-Vice President George H.W. Bush intervened to effect the release of Orlando Bosch from prison in Venezuela, via Otto Reich, the U.S. Ambassador to Vene-

39. EPIIC: Archives, 1988, Covert Action and Democracy: An International Symposium.

40. Néstor Sánchez and Desmond FitzGerald met with Rolando Cubela in a Paris hotel on Nov. 22, 1963. Cubela was to assassinate Castro with a poison pen, which they gave him. See Peter Dale Scott, “The Kennedy-CIA Divergence over Cuba,” in *Deep Politics and the Death of JFK* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1996).

41. See footnote 38.

zuela. Bosch then entered the U.S. illegally in 1988, where he was granted asylum. He was represented by Florida attorney **Raoul Cantero**, the grandson of Cuban dictator Fulgencio Batista; Jeb Bush appointed Cantero to the Florida Supreme Court in 2002. On July 18, 1990, the senior President George Bush granted Bosch residency in the United States.⁴²

In November 2000, Posada and three of his colleagues, including Guillermo Novo, were arrested and imprisoned after trying to assassinate Castro once again, this time at the University of Panama.⁴³ Novo had been convicted along with Suárez and Paz for his participation in the Letelier assassination, but his conviction was overturned on appeal in 1981. He and his brother Ignacio then got jobs as “information officers” for Jorge Más Canosa’s CANF.

According to journalist Ann Louise Bardach, just weeks before Sept. 11, 2001 both Suárez and Paz, who had also been convicted for the Letelier-Moffitt assassination in Washington, D.C., were released from prison by Attorney General John Ashcroft, at the intercession of Jeb Bush.⁴⁴ In September 2004, Posada and his three co-conspirators were suddenly pardoned in Panama, only four months after they were convicted and sentenced to 8-9 years in jail. The pardon was reportedly negotiated in Miami by **Ruby Moscoco**, sister of then-Panamanian President Mireya Moscoco.⁴⁵ Posada’s co-conspirators, all of whom are U.S. citizens, returned to their homes in Miami just prior to the November 2004 elections.⁴⁶

Since Orlando Bosch had been granted residency by the senior George Bush, both Suárez and Paz were released from prison thanks to Jeb Bush, and Guillermo Novo had also been allowed to return to Florida, Posada clearly thought that the Bushes would now come to his rescue as well. All of the terrorist actions which occurred in 1976, took place while George H.W. Bush was head of the CIA. Posada Carriles’s deployment to El Salvador occurred when Vice President George H.W. Bush was responsible for directing the Contra resupply effort.

Dick Cheney and George W. Bush are clearly in a bind. They either extradite Luis Posada Carriles to Venezuela, and risk that he will reveal the secrets of four decades of involvement of Bush family assets in the organization of a fascist international, or they protect him and stand exposed before the world as protectors of an international terrorist apparatus. Either way, the case of Luis Posada Carriles is the thread, which if pulled, can expose the Bush War on Terrorism as the fraud it has always been.

42. “The Bush Dynasty and the Cuban Criminals,” *The Guardian*, Dec. 2, 2002.

43. www.spartacus.schoolnet.co.uk/JFKposada.htm.

44. Bardach interview, op. cit., footnote 37. She interviewed Posada in 1998 for the *New York Times*.

45. *Granma*, April 7, 2005, cited on Afrocubaweb.com.

46. The *Miami Herald*, Sept. 4, 2004.