

Why the World Bank pushes drugs

London's new Opium War hits the U.S. and the Third World

By the end of this month, the East Coast of the United States is scheduled to be inundated with over 120,000 tons of "high-quality" marijuana from Colombia.

While numberless dealers, mafiosi, and streetcorner hoods will no doubt profit from this drug-trade bonanza, what the average citizen thinks of as "criminals" will not be its primary beneficiaries — or its prime movers. As this report will show, the threatened tidal wave of drugs is the first phase of a deliberate and operational plan by the World Bank, International Monetary Fund, and allied London, Amsterdam, and turncoat American financiers. They are engaged in forcing major portions of the Third World to abandon "expensive, wasteful" development hopes and become profitable, starving narcotics plantations. The minds and bodies of America's youth are to be sacrificed to this debt-and-austerity imperative along with the lives of millions in the Third World, even as these bankers extoll the economic benefits of expanding the drug trade.

Nations such as Jamaica and Colombia, which ought to be moving toward full participation in world industrialization, are instead being driven by the IMF and related institutions into pre-Stone Age forms of agricultural production and comparable levels of disease, ignorance, and poverty. Whatever the local variations, the result is a replication of the death-camp and slave-labor policies that reached their

fullest expression in Hitler's Germany. Now these countries are being ordered to eliminate production of food in order to grow marijuana, opium poppies, and cocoa, to starve themselves in order to produce narcotics for the addicts in the U.S. and other advanced-sector nations — and so gain the foreign exchange to pay their debts to the IMF et al.

And this is not the end of the ugly truth about the World Bank and Co.'s drug pushing, but only the beginning. The international narcotics trade is presently estimated to be, conservatively, a \$100 billion operation. Most of these revenues do not go to the peasant producer nor to the street salesman, nor even to the syndicate wholesaler. The greatest mark-up is taken by the drug financier at the point that the narcotic is shipped by plane or boat from the underdeveloped producer country to the advanced-sector country, notably the U.S.

That mark-up, on the order of 30,000 percent, is one of the highest known in the retail trade. It provides a near \$100 billion slush fund to the world's "black financiers" and their oligarchic political allies. Thus it is the same dirty drug money, this gigantic slush fund, that has been running the economic warfare operations against the U.S. dollar, buying up U.S. corporations for asset-stripping, and providing the funds for the "left" and "right" terrorism that is deployed to protect the oligarchic and banker cliques who run this dirtiest of all dirty operations.

1. The plantation plan for the Caribbean

International drug racketeers in Colombia have increased the land under marijuana cultivation in that country from 100,000 acres at the beginning of the year to 300,000 acres today — an area half the size of the state of Rhode Island — according to the *Washington Post* of Sept. 2.

Going for \$50,000 per ton, next month's "cash crop" will net the banking circles that run the international drug trade a cool \$6 billion on the wholesale level. On the streets of America's major cities, the marijuana will be sold for anywhere from \$35 billion to \$60 billion.

That's the year's astounding "take" from just one

drug-producing country, Colombia. The strategy, however, is to turn the entire Caribbean Basin — including the Central American nations, Colombia, Venezuela, and the Caribbean islands — into one gigantic drug plantation. As the *Post* casually explained, "A smuggling infrastructure developed over the last two years has turned 'pot' into the Caribbean's biggest industry."

What the *Post* didn't say is that the reduction of this region into a poverty-wracked, bestialized drug economy is the direct outcome of years of International Monetary Fund pressure on those

nations. The literally genocidal conditions of debt repayment demanded by the IMF have driven the Caribbean and Central American nations to resort to "quick cash crop production" in order to generate urgently needed foreign exchange. More often than not, the most lucrative "cash crop" turns out to be marijuana or some other narcotic.

Last week this news service learned that Guyana has capitulated to IMF arm-twisting. Following months of IMF-imposed import cutbacks and other murderous austerity conditions, the government has acquiesced to growing marijuana in the country's northwest, in a pathetic attempt to alleviate Guyana's balance of payments crisis. Jamaica has also been subjected to almost unbearable IMF pressure to legalize local consumption of marijuana, and in that way turn the island into a tourist haven for pot-headed American and European youth.

The Nicaragua connection

Part of the story behind the Vietnam-style civil war erupting in Nicaragua is this Anglo-centered drug-running operation.

Since Carter's inauguration almost two years ago, Zbigniew Brzezinski has masterminded a strategy to destabilize the entire Caribbean region with a series of "human rights" campaigns, and then move in reliably manipulable regimes under the direction of the London-directed Socialist International. The goal is to isolate Cuba's influence in the area, and that of the Mexican republic's aggressive industrial development policies, and in that way ensure that the IMF and associated policies have unchallenged hegemony.

The model is the Dominican Republic, which earlier this year elected Socialist International confrere Antonio Guzman President after Brzezinski, with help from social democrat Mario Soares of Portugal, had destabilized the unreliable Balaguer regime.

In Nicaragua, the 40-year-old Somoza dynasty has outlived its usefulness to the Brzezinski-British forces — not because the current dictator is opposed to the IMF or to drug-running (he isn't), but because he is so widely despised by the population that sooner or later he would be overthrown in any case. The current virtual civil war in Nicaragua demonstrates that fact.

Rather than being caught unprepared, the British prefer to have a voice in replacing Somoza, and have therefore chosen to back factions within the Sandinista guerrillas and the business-linked Broad Opposition Front. One top level Brzezinski policy planner bragged hopefully to NSIPS this week that the Nicaraguan situation is "totally under control — just like Angola was with our friend Holden Roberto, until the damned Cubans stepped in to mess up the works." He went on to express confidence that this time the Cubans would keep hands off.

The economic side of this "social democratic" approach to installing drug economies in the Caribbean is the World Bank. The World Bank recently established the so-called Caribbean Consortium, a fund which encourages economies being subjected to IMF strangulation to engage in Maoist "local agricultural production" to generate foreign exchange. To entice them, the Consortium has pooled a pathetic \$120 million from the U.S., Canada, Venezuela, and Britain, to be doled out with an eyedropper to the IMF's desperate victims.

2. How the pushers sell drug economics

World Bank officer:
"They couldn't find a better product"

A statement by John Holdson, the senior official for Latin America in the World Bank's International Trade and Monetary Flows department, Sept. 8:

"I haven't looked at Colombia's drug industry, although I've just returned from Bolivia, and I know that the coca industry there is highly advantageous to producers. In fact, from their point of view, they simply couldn't find a better product. Its advantages are that no elaborate technology is required, no hybrid seeds, the land and climate are perfect..."

IMF official: "Economically, marijuana is just another crop"

From an interview last week with a Colombia specialist at the International Monetary Fund:

Q: There have been statements coming from prestigious layers inside Colombia, such as the head of the Banco de Bogota, which urge the creation of some form of mechanism which could channel the flow of illegal monies coming off of drug trafficking through the Central Bank of Colombia or "to give these highly liquid assets a constructive outlet" as one American banker noted to me. What sort of mechanisms do you think might be considered?

A: Well, I think it highly improbable that the government of Colombia would consider legalization of marijuana given the intense pressure they are under from the United States. And besides, they already have 2.1 billion dollars in reserves and 7 million sacks of coffee just sitting there. I don't know what they would do with any more money coming in.

Q: It has been observed that the Colombian government faces two alternatives: to either legalize drug