

Helga Zepp-LaRouche and her husband, Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr. Both are politicians and thinkers and both leaders; she, based in West Germany, and he primarily in the United States.

Ten years after the founding of the Club of Rome, a vigorous rebuttal was delivered in that same eternal city.

Polar opposites

“The Club of Life,” says its founding prospectus, “is conceived as the opposing pole to the Club of Rome, both in its conception of the universe and in its political intentions.” The entire so-called philosophy of the Club of Rome is summed up in the title of the famous French novel. *The Fear of Living*.

Employing all forms of mass media, it has impregnated contemporary man with a pessimistic and negativistic attitudes which translate as “hatred of life.”

Zero growth is the undisguised ideal nurtured by the Club of Rome. The world's population should not go beyond 2 billion inhabitants. All others are not invited to what Paul VI termed in speaking to the United Nations in New York, “the banquet of life.” To expel those not invited, the Club of Rome and its followers are not just playing around.

They have wielded their incomparable financial power with enormous audacity. They operate out of the United Nations and through the governments of the great powers and the power of American foundations. There is no country in which they have not spread propaganda for and practiced contraception, sterilization of females and males, abortion, and ultimately, the most sinister plans to assassinate the elderly and the handicapped. Never before, not even in Hitler's Germany, have genocidal plans been presented so blatantly.

David and Goliath

Against this onslaught of extermination, the Club of Life comes forward in today's world like David with his slingshot against Goliath. The LaRouche couple and the many people around the world who follow them offer an encouraging program of optimism, based on scientific postulates against the sophistry of the neo-Malthusians. They seek nothing less than to reform the world economic system. The world's resources and the infinite potential of human genius have merely begun to be utilized in the historical period which is ours to live in.

On profoundly rational foundations based on the most serious of studies, without romantic outbursts about undefined “progress,” the men and women of the Club of Life offer a promising future for all mankind, and especially for those of us who languish amid underdevelopment. It is important that this reaction has its epicenter in the developed countries, but it is necessary that those who are still on the way to development march behind those life-saving postulates, even though they must wage an unequal battle against the strength of those who today hold all the power to advertise lies.

Ríos Montt's shadow over Central America

by Timothy Rush

Pope John Paul II will arrive in Central America on March 2 on one of the most dangerous and difficult peace missions yet in a pontificate famous for extended and risky pastoral trips. From a first base in Costa Rica, he will make one-day trips to Panama and Nicaragua. On March 5, he will stop for nine hours in war-torn El Salvador, proceeding on to Guatemala, his second base of operations. From Guatemala he will make a one-day trip to Honduras, and on March 9, fly to Haiti to preside over a conclave of the Latin American Episcopal Conference (CELAM).

Four weeks before the beginning of the Pope's visit, the U.S. State Department suddenly sprang into action with a major “reassessment” of its policies in the region, supposedly triggered by the string of reversals for the El Salvadoran military starting early in January. Two high-level missions were dispatched. U.N. Ambassador Jeane Kirkpatrick, “at President Reagan and Secretary Shultz's request,” according to the official release, undertook a sudden 10-day tour through Costa Rica, Honduras, El Salvador, Panama, and Venezuela. On Feb. 6, the Assistant Secretary of State for Interamerican Affairs, Thomas Enders, and ranking State Department planning staffer for Latin America Luigi Einaudi, showed up in Madrid for talks with Felipe González and other members of the new Spanish Socialist government, and a likely parley with Cuba's Vice-President Carlos Rafael Rodríguez, who “happened” to fly into Madrid the same day.

Howard Wiarda, Latin America expert occupying Kirkpatrick's old position at the American Enterprise Institute told *EIR* that “something is up. There's a lot of new thinking; new options are opening up.” He said that a cease-fire might be the next U.S. move, to be followed by some form of negotiations which would be “neither Saigon-like abandonment” of the country nor “handing power over to the guerrillas.”

At one level, the sudden flurry of diplomatic initiatives seems to allow the State Department some flexibility of maneuver in the environment of the Pope's trip. A hard-line, “send the Marines in” approach to the deteriorating army position in El Salvador would put the United States at embarrassing cross-purposes with John Paul's efforts to heal the region. A new “soft approach” grabs headlines for the State

Department, which sees Central America as its most promising continental diversion to the "debt bomb" motion on economic issues otherwise spreading from Argentina to Mexico.

Enter Ríos Montt

Preliminary *EIR* investigations show that something more lies behind the situation than whether or not the U.S. State Department is "sincere" in its sudden dove cooings. The key to it is the State Department's build-up of Guatemalan zombie strongman, Efraín Ríos Montt, as the model for the region.

In Spain, Enders urged the Socialist International to "re-assess" its previous condemnation of the Ríos Montt regime, on the grounds that the general had reduced death squad activity in the cities and was making strides in pacifying the countryside. Two weeks earlier the State Department had presented its "documentation" of the improvement to Congress with great flourish, and two months earlier, had maneuvered President Reagan into sitting down for a slide show

with Ríos Montt, after which Reagan emerged to say that Ríos Montt had been given a "bum rap" on his human rights record by hostile media.

"Born-again Christian" Ríos Montt has been a State Department project at least since Gen. Vernon Walters's "secret" trips to Guatemala in the year before Ríos Montt's March 23, 1982 coup, during which time Haig's emissary let it be known that the United States looked askance at a continuation of the succession of hardline "gorrilla" regimes then represented by the government of Gen. Romeo Lucas García.

The model that the 57-year-old general represents is a Latin-Americanized Pol Pot—nothing surprising, since it was Kissinger's handpicked Thomas Enders who installed Pol Pot in Kampuchea in the 1973-75 period. Ríos Montt's much-touted "guns and beans" program in the largely-Indian countryside is based on first destroying homes and razing crops in areas reportedly infiltrated by guerrillas. In a typical operation, a swath of villages 20 by 40 miles in size north of the mountain center of Chimaltenango is destroyed. Then terror-

Guatemala moves to destabilize Mexico

On Jan. 27, two hundred Guatemalan soldiers in civilian dress crossed into Mexico, hauled out four victims from refugee camps on the Mexican border, and executed them. A fifth refugee was abducted. The incident was the second such blatant incursion in seven months.

Four days later, Mexican President Miguel de la Madrid emerged from an emergency meeting with his foreign, defense, and interior ministers to announce that his nation was issuing what amounts to an ultimatum of three points to Guatemala. The Guatemalans must 1) fully investigate and clarify the incident, 2) provide guarantees that no further incursions occur, and 3) punish those responsible.

The response of Ríos Montt's government so far has been denial of any responsibility for the incursion. The Guatemalan foreign minister, in a letter to the Papal Nuncio in Guatemala, countercharged that Mexico was involved in an "international campaign to destroy the New Society of President Ríos Montt. We have the Truth, and we will make the Truth prevail." Guatemalan Commerce Minister Mathen Duchez stated blithely that the solution was for the estimated 30,000 refugees, most of them fleeing from massacres perpetrated by Ríos Montt's military or the new rural militias, "to simply return to their homes."

The Mexican stance was hardly an overreaction. Such influentials as the British-run Heritage Foundation in Washington, which touts the "enormous good"

now being done by Ríos Montt, have staked their reputations for years on the scenario of Central American violence "spilling over" into Mexico, and especially into the oilfields 150 miles from the border.

The provocations on the border itself are not the only way in which the Ríos Montt threat materializes for Mexico. The economic strain of a total of some 150,000 refugees from all theatres of Central American conflict, spread over many parts of Mexican territory, is that much more difficult to absorb because of the state of collapse of the Mexican economy.

Mexico has also had to fight off a plethora of "humanitarian agencies," which have attempted to usurp Mexican authority over the refugee camps. Many of these agencies are just fronts for intelligence and destabilization activities, especially with a "religious" cover. The Protestant sect which Ríos Montt preaches for in Guatemala, the Church of the Word, first entered Guatemala in 1976 on the coattails of the World Vision fundamentalist relief agency, one of the largest "refugee camp management agencies" in the world, invited in to build housing after the 1976 earthquake.

Well aware of the danger, de la Madrid flatly turned down U.N. High Commissioner on Refugees (UNHCR) Paul Hartling when he requested that private agencies be given free run of the refugee camps. A petulant Hartling called a press conference Feb. 3 before returning to Europe, where he lamented that Mexico "had opted, for the moment," to work only with the UNHCR itself, "without the participation of other voluntary, religious, or humanitarian agencies," whose aid "we have found very satisfactory" in the past.

ized survivors who have fled with their families to the mountains, "eating roots and leaves" in the accounts of many, are allowed to re-incorporate themselves in special fortified hamlets. They are given a gun, under obligation of serving in special "militia" patrols with quotas of "guerrillas" they are to shoot down—and food rations.

"If you are with us, we'll feed you; if not, we'll kill you," an army officer involved with the genocide is quoted as saying. Ríos Montt himself said in October that his regime does not hang its opponents: "We shoot them."

Fully 400,000 peasants are now reported to be incorporated in killer bands preying on neighboring villagers or anyone else identified as the enemy; if you don't kill, no food.

The connection between food and killing becomes so close it disappears altogether in instances of cannibalism reported in the Mexican press last summer and at the beginning of February in *Le Monde*.

There are two beauties to the Ríos Montt model in the eyes of State Department sponsors. First, he carries the image of a moral crusader who has cleaned up the notorious corruption and "oligarchical" stench of the previous military command.

Second, he brings to the fore the question of Protestant-versus-Catholic conflict in a country which, over the five years since his own "conversion" to the Guatemalan branch of the California-based Gospel Outreach fundamentalist sect, has seen the percentage of Protestants shoot to as high as 30 percent. The people sent in to administer the food distribution aspects of the strategic hamlet operations include most of the 1,200 missionaries of Ríos Montt's "Church of the Word" in Guatemala and similar cultists. The principle followed is that once a village leader can be brought "into the fold," the rest of the village follows as a matter of mass conversion.

A world-wide network

The Ríos Montt experiment ties into a much broader activation of kook "fundamentalists," which spans religions and has the common denominator of sparking fratricidal bloodshed. Gospel Outreach's newsletter *Radiance*, has recently promoted the work of the joint Christian and Jewish "fundamentalist" group called Tav Ministries. Outreach "elder," Richard Paradise, a member of Tav, serves as one of the liaison officers.

Tav ministries, as recently exposed in *EIR*, is attempting to trigger violent Jewish-Muslim confrontation in the Middle East with a plan to re-build the "Temple of the Mount" on the Jerusalem site of the second-holiest shrine of Islam (see Special Report this week).

The Israeli mafia faction of Ariel Sharon is aiding the Tav project. Sharon's mechinations come full circle with his ties into Honduras and Guatemala. Sharon allies obtained the franchise for establishing the Guatemalan army's communications and intelligence command center outside Guatemala City, and are running it today under Ríos Montt. They moved into the same role in Honduras over the past year, clearing

the way for Sharon's own sudden three-day appearance in Honduras at the end of November 1982. Under cover of Israeli arms deals, intelligence sources report, Sharon concluded arrangements for drug transshipment and safehousing of the Nazi cocaine-running apparatus in South America being dismantled by the new Bolivian president, Siles Zuazo.

The strange case of Sigmundo Ochoa

There are indications that El Salvador is now being prepared for the spread of the Ríos Montt treatment.

During the second week of January, the most highly touted field military commander in El Salvador, Col. Sigmundo Ochoa, declared himself in rebellion against the orders of the "corrupt" military layers at the top, epitomized by Defense Minister José Guillermo García, who "keep their money and their families in Florida or Switzerland." The officer had been featured in a U.S. television documentary six months earlier for his implementation of mobile small-patrol tactics in day and night fighting, which successfully neutralized guerrilla capabilities in his district.

Ochoa's every move during the tense week of confrontation with the Salvadoran military command "was coordinated by the U.S. embassy," according to Heritage Foundation sources. When the lesson had been duly drawn by the U.S. media that the Salvadoran military was finished as a cohesive force, the crisis was settled—with Ochoa being sent to the prestigious U.S. Defense College outside Washington, poised to return at any time his service may be drafted.

The following week U.S. advisers gave the go-ahead for a massed assault of 6,000 of the best-trained Salvadoran troops on the guerrilla stronghold of northern Morazan. From a military standpoint, it was an incomprehensible move. The guerrillas have shown time and time again that they can more than hold their own on such terrain, as they did again this time. Meanwhile, the guerrillas struck into two other provinces left defenseless by the troop redeployments, and the regional center of Berlin fell into rebel hands for the first time in the war. From a political standpoint, however, it served the purpose of further driving the nails into the coffin of the presently constituted military.

El Salvador, like Guatemala, is a fertile field for a shift from "gorrilla" thuggery to "guns and beans" tactics laced with intensifying religious conflict. Protestant inroads into Salvador are second only to those into Guatemala, church experts report.

Salvadoran Archbishop Arturo Rivera Damas warned Feb. 6 that no one should take advantage of the Pope's upcoming trip "for political ends." He specifically called on Protestant groups "not to fear or insult the illustrious visitor."

In the light of Ríos Montt's record inside Guatemala and the threat posed to the rest of Central America and Mexico, the newspaper *New Solidarity*, linked to *EIR* founder Lyndon LaRouche, demanded that U.S. covert capabilities in Guatemala be activated to eliminate Ríos Montt at the earliest possible opportunity.