

Venezuelan drug king demands dictatorship

by Carlos Wesley

On March 9, Venezuelan drug trafficker Lizardo Márquez Pérez called for the overthrow of the constitutional government of Venezuela, and the establishment of a dictatorship of the drug traffickers whose model is Adolf Hitler. "It is not possible that a President of the Republic cannot solve the problems of a country because a party is opposed. You can't govern like that. To govern is to command," Márquez said. In the interview with *Diario de Caracas* on March 9 from his cell in Florida's Metropolitan Correctional Center, where he is serving a sentence for smuggling cocaine, Márquez added: "Hitler, in a certain way, made Germany great because he told the party, 'I will govern but in a dictatorial manner.'"

Imitating the nationalist posturing of his fellow Nazi, Colombian drug-trafficker Carlos Lehder Rivas, Márquez ranted against the extradition of drug traffickers from Ibero-America to the United States. "If giving away part of national territory is treason to the motherland, what can be said about a government giving up its citizens to a foreign government? There is no justification. That means that there is no trustworthy justice system in the country," he said. "It is absurd. It is as if the U.S. considered itself the policeman of the Americas."

Márquez, a former military officer, also defended Cuba and Nicaragua shipping cocaine to the United States. "If the United States is using bacteriological warfare and chemical warfare, what those countries are doing is using drug warfare." He then said that he intended "to take power by the force of arms—populations like ours, which are politically and culturally immature, must be led. Latin America is proof that democracy does not work."

"These statements could easily be dismissed as the rantings of a madman," declared the Venezuelan Labor Party (PLV) in a press release distributed on March 10. However, Márquez is backed by powerful forces inside and outside of Venezuela, who are hell-bent on stopping the war on drugs being waged by the nations of Ibero-America in collaboration with the Reagan administration.

By his own admission, Márquez is a party to the so-called "Machado Plan," a plot to overthrow the government of President Jaime Lusinchi which was uncovered following the assassination of a prominent Venezuelan attorney last month.

The Plan—named after the former head of Venezuela's Military Intelligence, Gen. Rafael Arturo Machado Santana, a member of Márquez's "movement" and at present a fugitive—was partly financed by Colombian drug traffickers. Besides the murdered attorney, several other Venezuelan functionaries were on the list of intended victims, including Justice Minister José Manzo González, a leader of the war on drugs.

Márquez has ties to the higher levels of the international dope mafia, including Colombian trafficker Carlos Lehder, who shares his admiration for Hitler. Lehder, who also shares Márquez's dislike for the extradition of drug traffickers to the United States—to the extreme that he reportedly ordered the assassination of former Colombian Justice Minister Rodrigo Lara Bonilla—said the following about Hitler in a recent interview: "Adolf eliminated 21 million communists and six million allied enemies. He is the greatest warrior mankind has ever had. What happens is that history is told the way the Jews want the world to see it."

Lehder, like Márquez, has his "movement," Colombia's Movimiento Latino modeled after Germany's Green Party, complete with a newspaper and candidates for public office, and a "right-wing, nationalist" platform that has not stopped Lehder from continuing his partnership with Robert Vesco in the drug trafficking business run through Marxist Cuba and Nicaragua.

Reportedly, Vesco has been collaborating with very powerful Venezuelan families to legalize gambling casinos on Venezuela's Margarita Island. U.S. Sen. Paula Hawkins (R-Fla.) has also obtained evidence of Vesco's drug-running activities in Venezuela. According to the Venezuelan press, Senator Hawkins disclosed that Vesco was transmitting instructions from Cuba to the drug mafias in Venezuela through the Nicaraguan embassy in Caracas. Reportedly, these mafias include Cubans and members of the Palestine Liberation Organization, as well as Venezuelans. The Venezuelan daily *El Mundo* reported March 6 that the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) said that drug trafficking through Venezuela is "super-protected," and that it is run by two "extremely powerful economic groups with foreign links."

The Venezuelan Labor Party has demanded an investigation into Vesco's Venezuelan connections. Noting the connection between Vesco, his Hitler-loving partner Lehder, and the equally pro-Nazi Márquez Pérez, the PLV states: "They are part of the same operation." The PLV also notes that "Vesco has been protected in Costa Rica and Nicaragua. It's been said that he has been in Cuba and that he is now in Panama. From his itinerary, it can be seen that the interests which protect him include the KGB and evil interests in the United States, including among others, Kenneth Bialkin, director of B'nai B'rith's Anti-Defamation League, who has been a friend and lawyer of Vesco. What is most surprising is that Bialkin, a supposed defender of American Jews, is the one who defends a recognized partner of Nazis."