

the mafiosi had enslaved.

Jailing two of the top three drug traffickers in the country required a sweeping clean-up of the Federal Judicial Police, the Federal Security Police, and certain layers of the military. Caro Quintero and Fonseca, besides charging one another with the murder of Camarena, are providing lists of their contacts and money-launderers, the most scandalous of which is Aracadio Valenzuela, the ex-head of BanPacífico and the Mexican Bankers' Association. Caro Quintero and Arcadio Valenzuela are tied into the Mexican tourist industry, Hyatt, Holiday Inn, Fiesta Americana, and the famous Los Tules tourist complex. Since the crackdown on the drug mafia, some military and police suspects have fled the country, and there is a glut on the market of real estate and other mafia holdings, as the culprits try to liquidate and run to safe territory.

The attorney general's office is investigating the bank accounts of suspects. There is a special team analyzing bank accounts, and aid had been requested of foreign banks to identify mafia accounts and freeze them.

### The new alliance

LaRouche ended his War on Drugs strategy proposal with the following approach to resolving other crucial problems in the hemisphere: "By fighting this necessary war, as allies, we may reasonably hope to improve greatly the cooperation among the allies, in many important matters beyond the immediate issue of this war itself."

The Reagan administration proposal for a cease-fire in Central America, and the President's approach to the Presidents of the Contadora nations, demonstrates precisely this phenomenon. The next joint effort must be to solve the economic crisis, and get the nations devastated by drugs and debt back onto the track of industrial growth. Beyond the joint resolve against the drug mafias which the U.S. and Colombian Presidents expressed, President Betancur also focused on the economic and financial crisis, in hopes of extending cooperation between the United States and Ibero-America to that sphere as well.

In a speech at the White House, Betancur defined such a new basis for hemispheric relations, emphasizing "the link between external debt and democracy." He requested new multilateral negotiations to find new solutions. "We believe," he said, "that the time has come . . . for the United States and Latin America to redefine the parameters of their mutual relations. We need . . . a new understanding, a common doctrine, an alliance for peace; with the determination to go from mere tolerance that has marked the relations between Latin America and the United States to the formulation of a new scheme of open, constructive and fruitful cooperation," which would "not only improve economic relations in the hemisphere," but also mean "the adoption of political objectives to defend democracy, which is the great spiritual value of American civilization."

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## Reagan-Betancur Joint Statement

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# Presidents pledge close collaboration

*This is the text of the Joint Statement on Narcotics issued by the President of the United States and the President of the Republic of Colombia in Washington, D.C. on April 4.*

During our meeting today, we discussed the drug scourge which afflicts both our nations, the Hemisphere at large, and mankind generally. We reviewed the measures our two nations are taking and will take, separately and together, to combat the production, trafficking, demand for, and use of illicit narcotics.

Our nations recognize the terrible effect drug abuse has on the health and well-being of individual users, as well as more generally on the economies and public morality of both societies. It is especially deplorable when the drug poisons are found among the young and even small children.

Drug trafficking is a criminal activity that has no frontiers and can only be controlled by a combined effort of all countries involved. We have shared our concern that the financial power resulting from the enormous profits of illicit narcotics trade poses a terrible threat to democracy in the Americas. Our mutual dedication to the anti-narcotics struggle is an integral part of the close relations that exist between our two nations. We both see a vital need to enlist the cooperation of other governments in this intensified effort.

We understand that the gravity of the problem is a consequence of both illegal production and distribution of drugs as well as growing demand. We also understand these factors are closely related and all efforts to suppress one without at the same time taking equally vigorous actions against the other will be fruitless. For these reasons, each government is prepared to assume its responsibilities, eliminating both illegal production and drug abuse.

The United States recognizes the effort, the commitment of resources and the sacrifices that Colombia has made in destroying crops and laboratories, seizing shipments and bringing suspected drug traffickers to justice, including the extradition of traffickers accused of narcotics crimes in the United States. For the United States' part, enforcement activ-

ities are increasing and prevention and education programs are having positive results in reducing drug abuse.

We are in entire agreement on the need to continue these intensified efforts and to ensure the closest possible collaboration in the war against narcotics. Both nations reaffirm respect for our mutual legal obligations to extradite traffickers under our existing treaty, and will remain in close contact to periodically examine and improve the framework of our legal and law enforcement cooperation as necessary to adapt to changing conditions as we learn from our experiences. We have noted with satisfaction the beginning of new areas of cooperation against narcotics. Mrs. Reagan and Mrs. Betancur, who met earlier today at the White House, look forward to their meeting at the First Ladies' Conference on Drug Abuse, which will be held in Washington on April 24th. We are confident those meetings, in which they will play leading roles, will have a lasting impact.

Colombia renews the commitment to fight against drug trafficking at all levels in order to destroy the crops, the laboratories where drugs are processed, to interrupt the transportation to the U.S. market and to see that those responsible for the trafficking are severely punished. The United States commits itself to increasing its efforts to diminish use and demand of drugs, destroy crops and to strengthen its support for the war against narcotics.

The cost of success in the past has been high. It has included the life of a Colombian Cabinet Minister, Rodrigo Lara Bonilla, and law enforcement officers from both countries. We cannot allow such sacrifices to have been in vain. We pledge to each other to revitalize and intensify our efforts to destroy the trafficking network. Our decision is irreversible, our dedication total. Nothing will deter us from this fight.

Ronald Reagan

Belisario Betancur

*President Reagan's farewell statement to President Betancur, April 4:*

. . . Mr. President, your personal courage and dedication are also evident in your government's all-out battle against narcotics traffickers. You have my unbounded respect for what you're doing.

The production of illicit narcotics and the peddling of these drugs corrupt our societies, our children, and with them, our future. The struggle against this unmitigated evil unites all good and decent people. . . .

In the United States, the fight against drug use has a top priority. We're trying to help those on drugs get off, to prevent those not involved from starting, and we're doing our best to smash the trade in illegal drugs. This matter is of vital concern to us both, and in finding solution to the problem, Colombia and the United States are full partners, as we affirm today in our joint statement on narcotics.

The illegal drug trade, as we both agree, is a cancer. . . .

## Betancur: 'We must intensify the battle'

*Extract from Colombian President Belisario Betancur's speech before the House Foreign Affairs Committee April 3, 1985.*

Drugs are a two-way tragedy: They weaken our two countries and destroy values that are the foundation of our moral and physical patrimony.

We are all daily victims of this plague.

Our two governments give no quarter in the struggle against drugs. Colombia has done it, and will continue to do it relentlessly, even if with material and logistic limitations. We have reached a point of no return, because we wish to be on the side of the human condition. And we are disposed to pay the price, even of our own lives, which would be a small sacrifice to free humanity from this scourge.

But we do not wish to feel alone in this struggle, in which you, too, take part: For here is the greatest center of drug consumption. The tremendous wealth proceeding from drugs, is deposited here. North American banks launder fantastic sums of money and are barely punished.

*Extracts from President Betancur's speech at the dinner hosted by Betancur in honor of Vice-President George Bush on April 3.*

The drug traffic has become an international activity with ramifications on all continents. This traffic, managed by a sophisticated network that has no native land and which moves its activities to different countries as it confronts problems with the forces of law and order, is one of the most serious crimes that threatens the mental health, the moral health, the political health of all mankind. The army and police of my country have seized hundreds of airplanes, vehicles and boats: We have destroyed enormous coca and marijuana crops and dismantled the largest cocaine laboratories in international history. . . . It is a struggle from which we cannot turn back at any price—no matter how high—in spite of terrorist, political, and economic threats, even the price of our lives. But we must intensify the battle against drug consumption: As long as consumers disposed to pay any price and banks that support them, exist, it is not going to be easy to eradicate this horrible crime from the planet.