

Report from Rio by Our Correspondent

Peruvian campaigns to free LaRouche

Brazilian national congressmen gave serious attention to the message from their counterpart, Sen. Jospell Muñoz.

The Secretary of the Peruvian Congress, Senator Jospell Muñoz, met with Brazilian leaders in the capital, Brasilia, beginning on March 15. The daily *Jornal do Brasilia* reported March 17 that "Jospell came to Brazil to invite the Brazilian Congress to participate in the international movement for freeing former U.S. presidential candidate Lyndon LaRouche, who, together with six of his colleagues, is today a prisoner of the United States government on charges of political plotting."

The daily reminds its readers, "During his campaign, LaRouche denounced the actions of the IMF [International Monetary Fund] and narcotics trafficking; he also contended that the movement to exchange part of the Amazon for Brazil's foreign debt is part of a larger movement seeking to undermine Brazilian sovereignty."

In a March 15 meeting with a dozen Brazilian congressmen from the Nationalist Parliamentary Front, Muñoz, who is also the ranking member of the Joint Leadership of the Congress, described Peru's own bitter battle against cocaine traffickers, communist terrorists, and the debt-collectors who drive the desperately poor people into their hands.

In 1985, when Peru was feeding its people, instead of following the Reagan-Bush administration's insistence on genocidal IMF austerity, Muñoz said, "we realized that we had an important ally in the United States," in the person of Lyndon LaRouche. And now, he added, to the astonishment of the congressmen listening to

him, "LaRouche is in jail."

The congressmen pressed Muñoz to give them a full briefing on what was being done to LaRouche, whom they also knew to be Ibero-America's best friend in the developed countries. He told them about his participation in the Martin Luther King Tribunal, held in Crystal City, Virginia, Feb. 25-26, where LaRouche's imprisonment was studied in the context of the moral challenges facing the world.

He also told them of his visit with LaRouche and with *EIR's* Ibero-American editor, Dennis Small, at the nearby Alexandria Detention Center. The Peruvian Senator went to the Virginia prison as part of a fact-finding commission of the Martin Luther King Tribunal, of which he is the chairman in Peru. He had been joined on that visit by Gen. (ret.) Friedrich Wilhelm Grunewald of West Germany, and paleontologist Dr. Jean-Michel Dutoit of France.

Muñoz was formally welcomed by the Brazilian Senate and Chamber of Deputies. He was able to brief their presidents and Ulysses Guimarães, the probable presidential candidate of the Brazilian Democratic Movement Party, the majority party, on his "continental parliamentary crusade to free LaRouche." He was met at the airport by congressman Osvaldo Lima Filho who recently took the floor of the House to denounce the IMF.

One of his meetings was with the congressional delegation from the state of Acre, in the heart of the Brazilian Amazon, right next to Peru. He called for Peruvian-Brazilian unity against

foreign pressures against the completion of a road linking Peru with Acre. He reminded how the United States has been blocking such a link since the 1950s. During his meetings with Japanese leaders in Tokyo while attending the funeral of Emperor Hirohito in February, U.S. President George Bush gave Japan an ultimatum not to fund the road, on the grounds that anything that helped business and people in the Amazon would harm the environment.

Muñoz, a friend of Peruvian President Alan García, will soon introduce resolutions for LaRouche in the Peruvian Senate and bring his crusade to other countries.

On Feb. 28, Congressman Luiz Salomao had given a speech to the House protesting "the trial and sentencing of the polemical American politician Lyndon H. LaRouche to 15 years in jail." He continued, "The details available to me clearly show that there was an abuse of the powers of the judiciary, due to political pressures by the Reagan administration, which was persecuting that member of the Democratic Party who had become a thorn for the American 'Establishment' with his controversial ideas about the international financial system, the arms race, and drug trafficking, among others."

Senator Muñoz had stated, when he announced his continental crusade on Feb. 26 from Washington, D.C., "The jailing of LaRouche and the other members of the Schiller Institute is the worst possible historical mistake for the government of the United States. Not only is it causing [the U.S. government] to lose its credibility as a democratic government and its leadership of the world's democracies, but it has resorted to methods that violate the principles of the Bill of Rights, established and guaranteed by the Constitution of the United States."