

Plot afoot to stop Argentine elections

by Cynthia R. Rush

The March 31 reshuffling of the cabinet of President Raúl Alfonsín, which was supposed to enhance the electoral aspirations of the ruling Radical Civic Union's (UCR) presidential candidate, Eduardo Angeloz, hasn't produced the desired results. The resignation of Finance Minister Juan Sourrouille, and his replacement by House of Deputies president Juan Carlos Pugliese, momentarily calmed Buenos Aires' uncontrolled financial markets. But as of this writing, the national currency, the austral, has continued to plummet, reaching the unprecedented level of 56 australs to the dollar on the open market. Two months ago the exchange rate was 17 to the dollar. The inflation rate for April is expected to be at least 30%.

For months, assets of national and international Freemasonic networks, including the U.S.-based Project Democracy apparatus, have waged an intense campaign against the Peronists, whose presidential candidate, Carlos Menem, is expected to win the May 14 elections. Now, with the thorough discrediting of Alfonsín and his UCR, and a Menem victory virtually guaranteed, these factions have stepped up their anti-Peronist propaganda with threats of a military coup and civil upheaval, and a smear campaign of a sort not seen since the mid-1950s. Their purpose is to delay the elections or, alternatively, interfere with Carlos Menem's assumption of power.

UCR candidate Angeloz is adding to the tense environment, with warnings that if Menem wins the May elections, Peronists will take to the streets and violently seize all public buildings in Buenos Aires. Movie theaters have begun to show a documentary which purports to describe the "fascist dictatorship" of Gen. Juan Perón, whose nationalist policies got in the way of those oligarchical financial interests which had always considered Argentina "theirs." A pornographic novel on the lives of Juan and Eva Perón has also begun to circulate.

On April 10, retired Lt. Gen. Alejandro Agustín Lanusse, a leading member of the oligarchical landowning faction of the army, expressed "concern" over the report that many younger military officers intended to vote for Menem. "I try to understand what Juan Domingo Perón did as a politician, but what he did in the military arena, particularly in the army,

on balance, was very negative." After explaining that young officers are confused, and really don't understand the concept of democracy, Lanusse pontificated, "Democracy is not a man, nor a party . . . [but] a way of life," which all Argentines must help to maintain.

This, from a man who, for the entirety of his military career, has been a bona fide *golpista*—organizer of military coups—beginning with his 1951 attempt to overthrow General Perón, for which he served a four-year jail sentence. After overthrowing Gen. Roberto Levingston in 1971, Lanusse ran the military junta that ruled from 1971-73, during which time he coordinated closely with the Grand Master of Italy's notorious Propaganda-2 Freemasonic lodge, Licio Gelli, in hopes of orchestrating his own election to the Argentine presidency.

Almost simultaneously, Gelli himself bragged on a Rome television program that he was responsible for bringing General Perón back to power in 1973 "with the help of the Argentine Masons." Gelli failed to add that P-2 networks entrenched within the Perón government (1973-76) collaborated with other oligarchical factions, including from the UCR, to bring about financial and political upheaval, including the deployment of left- and right-wing violence, which culminated in the 1976 military coup by Henry Kissinger's military and banker friends.

Both Lanusse and Gelli's statements reflect desperation over the likelihood that their faction is about to lose power. What Lanusse describes as Perón's "negative" impact on the army is the fact that under Perón's presidency, the armed forces were brought into the process of national economic development together with the organized labor movement, and circles associated with the Catholic Church. Their fear is that this combination of forces might come together once again under Menem.

In contrast, Lanusse's own financial empire, which he relied on heavily during his presidency, acted on behalf of Soviet strategic and financial interests, to the detriment of national industry. Financier David Graiver, whose money-laundering financial schemes gained him notoriety in 1975, served as Lanusse's social welfare minister; U.S. narco-banker Robert Vesco figured prominently in the circles through which Lanusse carried out his financial manipulations.

Angeloz, who maintains good relations with the same liberal military factions for whom Lanusse speaks, insists that the only way to save Argentina economically is to create a vast tourist industry, capable of generating more foreign exchange. Such a program for "reinserting Argentina into the world economy" means handing the country over to drug-trafficking and money-laundering interests, which have flourished under Alfonsín's "democracy." Perhaps for this reason, Angeloz's candidacy has earned the support of all of Argentina's major rock groups, some of which are appropriately named "Virus," "Paranoid Rats," and "the KGB," which also flourish in drug economies.