

Your Excellency alleges that Mr. LaRouche was tried for his political ideas. That is not true.

Mr. LaRouche was convicted in December 1988, on 13 counts of mail fraud and illegal loan solicitation. He was also convicted of damages to the U.S. Internal Revenue Service. Mr. LaRouche has not filed income tax returns since 1979.

In January 1989 he was sentenced to 15 years in prison. (Mr. LaRouche could have received a sentence of up to 65 years for the crimes for which he was convicted.)

The victims of the mail fraud and illegal loan solicitation imputed to him were citizens who loaned money to the LaRouche Group. Many of them were elderly retired people who lost thousands of dollars in loans that were never repaid and which, according to testimony, the LaRouche Group had no intention of paying.

Mr. LaRouche was not tried for his political convictions which, as unpopular as they may be, are constitutionally protected, a protection extended even to Mr. LaRouche's allegation that Queen Elizabeth II heads a narcotics trafficking network.

As for the inclusion in your speech of references to Capt. Alfred Dreyfus, any suggestion of parallel with Mr. LaRouche is absurd. Dreyfus was the victim of prejudice based on anti-Semitism; the Anti-Defamation League accuses Mr. LaRouche's organization of being overtly anti-Semitic.

*Deputy Oswaldo Lima Filho replied to Barr in a May 4 letter on Chamber of Deputies stationery. The text reads:*

Thank you, sir, for sending the May 2, 1989 letter, accompanied by documents sent to Mr. Deputy Luiz Salomão, about the request for reversing the trials conducted by the Courts of the State of Virginia, U.S.A., against citizen Lyndon LaRouche.

An examination of the publications sent me by *Resumen Ejecutivo* magazine about the trials in question demonstrate that the accused was absolved of identical accusations by verdict of the Criminal Court of Boston, and that the trial before the Court of Alexandria, Va., was too short, with the accused being denied some of his constitutional rights.

The appeal signed by one of the great jurists of the United States of America, attorney Ramsey Clark, former U.S. Attorney General, demonstrates the violation of these rights in the cited trial.

Neither I nor the signators of the referenced appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court question the issue of merit involved in the trial, but rather its procedural defects, defects which violate the Constitution of the United States.

Whatever Mr. Lyndon LaRouche's political or religious convictions may be, he is "entitled to a fair trial with due process of law" [in English in the original].

That is what is expected by this long-time admirer of the U.S. Supreme Court, of whom Justice Marshall is a permanent adornment and example.

## Greens grab Ecuador's jungle, target Brazil

by Mark Sonnenblick

On April 5, Ecuador submitted to one of the largest land-grabs in history. Its central bank agreed to honor at face value \$9 million in foreign debt which "environmentalist" groups had bought for \$1 million. What's more, it will pay 60% annual interest to the groups' local front, the Nature Foundation (*Fundación Natura*), in local currency.

John Shores of the Nature Conservancy lobbying group in Washington boasted, "The bonds will have an interest rate of 60%, so even if the economy doesn't improve, we will get 10 or 20 times our investment, while lowering Ecuador's debt."

Ecuador's debt, upon which it has not paid a penny since January 1987, now stands at \$10 billion. So, it has been cut by \$9 million, less than a thousandth part. American Express Bank, Morgan Guaranty Trust, and Bankers Trust were able to unload for \$1 million, debts which were otherwise totally worthless. The \$10-20 million that bankrupt Ecuador will have to pay out to the Nature Foundation over the next eight years cannot help but add to the country's inflationary blow-out.

The Nature Foundation will spend the money running a national park system to make preservation of plants and animals the nation's priority, instead of improving the lot of impoverished human beings. Foundation president Roque Sevilla boasted in a paper he wrote for the United Nations Environment Program, "Ecuador now has 14 protected Natural Areas which encompass more than 11% of the national territory."

### 'Our Amazon for development'

Ecuador, Bolivia, Costa Rica, and the Philippines have succumbed to such "debt-for-nature" schemes. But, nationalist forces in Brazil and Peru have blocked the malthusians from violating their territorial sovereignty.

"The Amazon region is 7 million square kilometers with resources and plains which should serve Latin America," Peruvian President Alan García asserted April 17. He spoke at the founding session of the Amazon Parliament, which was formed by Brazil, Peru, Ecuador, Venezuela, Colombia, Bolivia, Guyana, and Suriname. The Amazon Parliament "will be the instrument for integration to solve common problems," declared its first chairman, Peruvian Deputy Hector

Vargas Haya.

Brazilian Ambassador to Peru Orlando Leite-Ribeiro the same day rebuked the United States and European countries for their hypocritical campaign to prevent the economic development of the Amazon. "Countries which, throughout history, have plundered several continents are now trying to coerce our sovereign right to self-sufficiency," he said. As documented in the forthcoming *EIR* Special Report "The 'Greenhouse Effect' Hoax: A World Federalist Plot," much of the devastation to the Amazon has been done to pay usurious debt service to the top U.S. and European banks.

Those same financial circles covet the strategic minerals yet undiscovered under the vast Amazon basin. The recent boisterous campaign to internationalize the Amazon can be traced back to meetings organized by Henry Kissinger in Rio and Brasilia, Nov. 18-19, 1981. One participant, Martha Muse of the Tinker Foundation, confided at the time that the main topic was the future of the Amazon, then a subject remote from public interest.

A few months later, during an April 1982 trip to Brazil, *EIR* Ibero-American Editor Dennis Small warned Brazilian leaders that U.S. support for the British seizure of Argentina's Malvinas Islands presaged a new round of Teddy Roosevelt-style "gunboat" diplomacy. Small warned that sovereignty would be violated and territory seized to collect foreign debts. Brazilians left Argentina at the mercy of the British. Today, the political gunboats of the environmentalists, the U.S. government, and the U.S. media are making the Amazon into "a Brazilian Malvinas."

So many U.S. senators have been poking around the Amazon lately, that the local governors asked them to stay home. During a late March junket, Pennsylvania liberal Republican Arlen Specter gave Brazilian President José Sarney an ultimatum to put the Amazon under international management. When he refused, conservative Idaho Republican Steve Symms charged that Sarney "is trying to rally public opinion in favor of the Amazon region as if there were a campaign for the internationalization of the Amazon. He wants to make the Amazon into the Brazilian Malvinas; but he will not get it."

### **The big stick**

A month after he became President, George Bush was already quietly ordering Japanese leaders not to help Brazil develop the Amazon. In Senate testimony April 20, World Resources Institute chairman Gus Speth insisted that the United States turn from such "quiet bilateral negotiations" to "a global bargain" on ecology, enforced through "a series of international conventions." He predicted, "Environmental diplomacy will become the most important area of diplomacy in the coming decade."

At the same Senate Foreign Relations Committee hearings, Worldwide Fund for Nature (WWF) chairman Russell Train demanded that no country be given any U.S. foreign

aid unless, like Ecuador, it give his group veto power over its domestic policies. He also demanded that no country be allowed relief on its foreign debt unless it submit to internationally policed "conditionalities" on its "natural resource management."

Most Brazilians are enraged by this imperialist assault on their right to develop. The military has blocked foreign intervention in the Amazon on national security grounds. During April, the ecologists took note of such resistance. WWF president Kathryn Fuller observed that "concerns about having outsiders dictate land use policy" and "lack of local conservation groups [have] been an obstacle to swaps in other countries."

So, the Globo TV network, owned by WWF international board member Roberto Marinho, and other media are working overtime to germinate local conservation groups to provide a cover for gunboat conservatism. By supporting such "local" agents, the Soviet Union has avoided the acrimonious diplomatic flaps which the Bushmen's "big stick" has provoked.

V.V. Volsky, the Soviets' top Ibero-American expert, pledged in *Pravda* Feb. 22, "the Soviet Union's adherence to the idea of ecological security of the planet, and . . . its readiness to unite efforts in the struggle for the preservation of the environment. . . . Now even in Brazil, which previously considered the fate of the Amazon forest reserves to be its internal affair, voices are heard ever more loudly, in support of coordinated international efforts in the interest of saving these 'lungs of the planet.' "

The loudest noises in Brazil for surrendering sovereignty come from the WWF's local front, Funatura, whose chief science adviser, José Goldemberg, is a board member of Moscow's International Fund for the Survival and Development of Humanity. The U.S. National Academy of Sciences brought Goldemberg to chair a panel in Washington, D.C. at its May 2-3 "Forum on Global Change and Our Common Future." Funatura's president, Mari Teresa Jorge de Tabu, urged foreign governments to "wait a little while," rather than continuing to provoke reactions from the military and Sarney. "Brazil needs time, and more care is needed in how things are said by outsiders," she cautioned.

The Soviets and the Teddy Roosevelt "conservationist" imperialists in Washington are trying to configure Brazil's presidential elections in November so as to sharply reduce the power and influence of military nationalists. One of their pet projects is Luiz Inacio da Silva, nicknamed "Lula," now boosted by Gallup polls showing him as the frontrunner. Lula heads a popular front of Marxist and "Green" organizations. He told businessmen in São Paulo, April 25, "Sure we could utilize the Amazon to go fishing abroad for money. This government lacks the wisdom and competence to do it." Lula made clear to businessmen in his audience, "I do not agree with that retrograde niggardly nationalism, that 'the Amazon is ours' and nobody can participate."