

Andean Report by Cynthia Rush

Kissinger pals in trouble in Venezuela

After six years, charges made by EIR's "Narcotráfico S.A." have come back to haunt the Cisneros clan.

Six years ago, in February 1985, when *EIR* began to circulate the Spanish-language edition of the bestseller *Dope, Inc.* in Venezuela, Henry Kissinger's intimates, the Cisneros family, moved to halt its distribution. Named in *Narcotráfico, S.A.* for their links to international financial circles involved in laundering drug money, the Cisneros clan ordered the political police, the Disip, to raid *EIR*'s offices, confiscate the book, and expel *EIR*'s correspondents from the country. The book has not been permitted to circulate in Venezuela since.

Now, however, explosive revelations coming out of the Venezuelan congressional commission investigating corruption and drug trafficking allegations made by former Military Intelligence Commissioner Osmeiro Carneiro, have sparked renewed interest in the banning of *Narcotráfico, S.A.* as well as in the original charges made against the powerful Cisneros clan.

According to the Sept. 19 daily *El Globo*, the Carneiro commission has turned up evidence that the Cisneroses are the owners of the Miami-based Celere, Inc., a company implicated in cocaine smuggling by the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA). Celere, Inc. is registered in the name of Lázaro Rogelio Ugarte Bresselau, a Cuban-born CIA agent who, until recently, was security chief for President Carlos Andrés Pérez, and has been implicated in a number of CIA-linked dirty operations.

After the publication of the *El Globo* report, Venezuela's RCT tele-

vision news program contacted Alejandro Peña, secretary general of the Venezuelan Labor Party (PLV), to comment on the charges. Peña, a co-thinker of jailed U.S. statesman Lyndon LaRouche who commissioned the writing of *Dope, Inc.*, recalled for RCT's viewers the events surrounding the Feb. 4, 1985 raid on *EIR*'s Venezuelan offices, and called for an investigation into the banning of *Narcotráfico, S.A.*, the arrest and deportation of *EIR*'s correspondents, and the shutting down of their offices. Peña, whose comments were aired Sept. 19 and 20, revealed that almost all the personnel involved in the raid on *EIR* and the banning of the book, were hirelings of the Cisneroses.

The judge who issued the warrant for the 1985 raid, Ana Luisa Gandica, had not only been a lawyer for the Cisneros-owned Pepsi-Cola Co. of Venezuela, but also acted as a witness to the marriage of Lázaro Rogelio Ugarte Bresselau, Peña reported. Noting that virtually all of the individuals involved in shutting down *EIR* have subsequently been fired, prosecuted, and even jailed on drug-related charges, the PLV leader also recalled that the banned *Narcotráfico, S.A.* had mentioned the current head of Venezuela's central bank, and known representative of Rockefeller financial interests, Pedro Tinoco. According to published accounts, Ugarte Bresselau first came to Venezuela hired by Tinoco to handle security for his Banco Latino.

The interest generated in this case was such that on Sept. 21, representa-

tives of every major media attended a Caracas press conference in which Peña was again the featured speaker. The volatility surrounding these developments is such that the reporter from the Cisneros-owned television network, Venevisión, tried to deflect the heat by focusing on Peña's relationship to Lyndon LaRouche, reminding those present that LaRouche is in jail in the U.S.—on charges of tax evasion, he lyingly claimed. However, when Peña responded by providing documentary evidence of Kissinger's role in the frameup of LaRouche and the persecution of his political organization, the Venevisión reporter was stunned.

Television cameras zoomed in when Peña held up a copy of Kissinger's August 1982 letter to then-FBI director William Webster, in which the former secretary of state demanded that the resources of the U.S. government be used to persecute LaRouche. He also held up a copy of the telex message sent by Iran-Contra figure Gen. Richard Secord to Oliver North on LaRouche, found in North's safe. This was the illegal activity which led to the creation of the "Get LaRouche" task force by the U.S. government, Peña explained.

The significance of this evidence wasn't lost on those present, since Kissinger's personal friendship with the Cisneros family is well known, and since Henry is also an official adviser to President Pérez. Peña reminded the press that it was Venevisión's own director, José Rafael Revenga, who, together with Gustavo Cisneros, took the legal steps to ban *Narcotráfico, S.A.* "I don't think that there can be a serious war on drugs if investigations, for whatever reason, are stopped, or if books are banned," he said, adding that charges made against the Cisneroses in *Narcotráfico, S.A.* have never been investigated.