

# British eye Argentina for Chiapas-style insurgency

by Cynthia R. Rush

Very soon after a phony “indigenous” rebellion occurred in Chiapas, Mexico, on Jan. 1, 1994, leading to Mexico’s destabilization, individuals inside the Argentine government told *EIR* that President Carlos Menem feared that a similar process could be unleashed in his own country, particularly in the poorer northwestern region. Argentina had already experienced social upheaval in Santiago del Estero province in November 1993, and similar, although less violent, incidents erupted in Salta and Jujuy early this year.

The Buenos Aires daily *Clarín* reported that Menem stayed in frequent phone contact with Mexican President Carlos Salinas de Gortari to get briefed on the Chiapas situation and convened his cabinet, including top military brass, several times to instruct them to “pay close attention to any local indication that might appear similar to the rebellion set off by the Zapatista Army”—a reference to the Mexican narco-terrorist group which launched armed attacks on six Chiapas municipalities on Jan. 1.

On March 25, *Clarín* reported that Menem “has seen a dark hand which might attack the continent and a risk from which Argentina would not be exempt.” He told visiting U.S. Trade Representative Mickey Kantor two days later that he would have never sat down to negotiate with hooded terrorists the way the Mexican government had done with the Zapatistas, and identified the continent’s indigenous movements as a source of potential destabilization. “If we act quickly,” he told Kantor, “we can prevent that explosion from expanding in Latin America. In a small country like Guatemala, with 4 million inhabitants, there are 28 ethnic groups. That’s dangerous. Ask the President of Ecuador how Chiapas is reverberating in his country. He told me there are fears that this will expand.”

## Can’t have it both ways

The Argentine President has good reason to be worried. Like Mexico and the rest of Ibero-America, his nation is a target for destruction by the same British-directed forces behind Mexico’s Zapatista insurgency. And Argentina, which Britain has always felt naturally “belonged” to its empire, is particularly coveted by these evil interests. It’s not enough that its founding institutions have been emasculated by the last ten years of “democracy”; the aim is to smash every vestige of national sovereignty and usher Argentina

into the New Age of United Nations-led one-worldism.

If Menem has any illusions that his obedience to British policy will save him, he should think again. Similar subservience by Mexican President Salinas did not stop the British from destabilizing his country, once he had outlived his usefulness to them. Attacks from the political opposition arguing that Menem comes from the same mold as Mexico’s ruling party, the PRI, point to the strategy already under way against him and Argentina’s national institutions. He should be wary that Andrew Graham-Yooll, a former employee of the Hollinger Corp.’s newspapers in London (the same crowd trying to destroy the U.S. presidency), has just arrived in Buenos Aires to run the British press outlet the *Buenos Aires Herald*. And Menem should watch his back, now that the British intelligence agencies, MI-5 and MI-6, have signed an agreement to train agents of the Argentine state intelligence service SIDE.

The irony is that the policies Menem’s government has applied since 1989 have assured the nation’s economic and military defenselessness in the face of this British onslaught. Nowhere is this more visible than in the disastrous policy toward the Armed Forces.

Menem has sought to transform the military into an instrument of the new world order through “downsizing” and “restructuring” and incorporating it into United Nations peacekeeping operations, which he boasts has gained Argentina added “international prestige.” Buenos Aires is slated to become an international center for the training of U.N. forces beginning later this year, and Argentina is one of the countries being counted on to join a supranational military intervention into Haiti.

The success of this United Nations strategy depends on silencing the voice of the imprisoned Col. Mohamed Ali Seineldín, who is not only Argentina’s leading military patriot, but a figure respected continentally because of his opposition to British imperialist designs. A hero of the 1982 Malvinas War, the colonel has publicly defended American statesman Lyndon LaRouche, whose own unjust imprisonment in January 1989 was ordered by the Bush administration.

In mid-April, in statements made before a Buenos Aires federal judge, Seineldín denounced attempts coming “from within the government” not only to discredit him, but to

target him for murder through a lying campaign linking his *carapintadas*—Army nationalists—to acts of terrorism and robbery. That campaign intensified on April 26 when police raided a weapons arsenal on an island in the Paraná River delta in Buenos Aires, and claimed that the weapons were to have been used in a commando operation to free Seineldín from Magdalena Prison. On May 3, Menem himself insisted to Radio América that one of the people arrested in the case had stashed weapons “for the cause, the *carapintada* cause.” He also implied that Seineldín’s nationalists were responsible for the bombing of the Israeli embassy in Buenos Aires three years ago—a charge strongly and repeatedly denied by Seineldín.

As the colonel noted in a statement to another federal judge on May 6, “from my cell it is difficult to identify the people and places from which these bastardly reports are being issued; but one need only read the press to see that we are being permanently linked to every criminal act committed in our country.” In a statement April 26, Seineldín had warned that attacks on him prove the existence “of a malicious service which intends to stain the Army.”

### Enter the São Paulo Forum

This assault on the military, and on the individual capable of rallying national and continental forces in defense of sovereignty, has fueled the growth of the very forces seeking Argentina’s destruction. In the April 10 elections for seats in the Constituent Assembly which will reform Argentina’s 1853 Constitution, the leftist Frente Grande (Large Front) coalition won in Buenos Aires with 35% of the vote and in the province of Neuquén, where Bishop Emeritus Jaime de Nevares led their slate. Much of their polemic was centered around “fighting government corruption.”

The Frente Grande is not just a motley collection of leftists and communists. It is a branch office of the São Paulo Forum, the continentwide apparatus of narco-terrorists created by Castro’s Cuba which intends to seize power in several Ibero-American nations this year. Among those groups which congratulated the Frente on its electoral victory were the narco-terrorist Guatemalan National Revolutionary Union (URNG) and Uruguay’s Frente Amplio (Broad Front), also members of the São Paulo Forum.

The Frente’s Argentine leaders include as well assets of the Anti-Defamation League of B’nai B’rith, such as Carlos “Chacho” Alvarez and socialist Alfredo Bravo, both of whom have publicly slandered Lyndon LaRouche and demanded that *EIR* be expelled from Argentina. Jaime de Nevares, a follower of schismatic Liberation Theology, has been heralded as the Argentine version of Mexico’s existentialist Bishop Samuel Ruiz, a central figure in the plot to destroy that country’s national institutions. Not accidentally, it is Luis Sobrino Aranda, a top freemasonic defender of the São Paulo Forum and opponent of LaRouche, who is most loudly praising the bishop. The Frente Grande has launched a cam-

paigned to make De Nevares the president of the new Constituent Assembly.

Menem’s goal of being reelected President in 1995 is contingent on the Constituent Assembly eliminating the constitutional ban on two-term Presidents. Late last year, Menem agreed to the so-called Olivos Pact with former President Raúl Alfonsín to secure the latter’s support for that change. Now, much the way that Cuauhtémoc Cárdenas is operating in Mexico, the Frente Grande is targetting the deal and the “authoritarian” presidential system it supposedly represents—not because Menem is so much of a threat to their policies, but because even Argentina’s weakened institutions cannot be allowed to stand under the United Nations agenda.

### Jacobin mobs

The Frente’s leaders are proposing a grand alliance among all the country’s “democratic” elements, similar to what Brazil’s Workers’ Party (PT) under presidential candidate Luís Inácio “Lula” da Silva has attempted to do. In late April, Alvarez, Bravo, and Federico Storani, a dissident member of Alfonsín’s UCR party, spoke by telephone with Peronist Sen. José Octavio Bordón to discuss possibilities for broadening the coalition, looking toward the 1995 elections. Bordón, a member of the Washington-based Inter-American Dialogue think-tank, some of whose members are “on loan” to Ibero-American governments, is a presidential pre-candidate for 1995 whose platform emphasizes fighting corruption and modernizing political parties. He has no objection to the International Monetary Fund’s economic program applied by Menem and Finance Minister Domingo Cavallo.

Alvarez, Bravo, and Bordón try to pass themselves off as respectable political leaders whose only goal is strengthening democracy. But the Frente Grande’s role in leading the organized hysteria which occurred around the unexplained, early-April death of a young Army conscript in Neuquén, and the activities of some of its members in provoking unrest in the country’s northwest, reveals its actual nature as a force for unleashing mob violence.

When the beaten body of young Omar Carrasco was discovered at the Army base in Zapala, Frente leaders joined with the pro-terrorist Mothers of the Plaza de Mayo, the human rights lobby, the Communist Party, and affiliated groups to march in protest and demand that obligatory military service be banned in Argentina.

In the public debate around the Carrasco death, politicians and media linked to the Frente intensified the attack on the Army and implied that nationalist military officers were responsible for the young man’s death. Mirta Mantaras, a leftist lawyer working for the Carrasco family, urged parents to engage in “civil disobedience” by not sending their sons to do military service. “The military despises civilians,” she said. “The institution is like a caste. . . . This is the heritage passed down from the Proceso [the 1976-83 military government] and the Prussian tradition of the Argentine Army.”