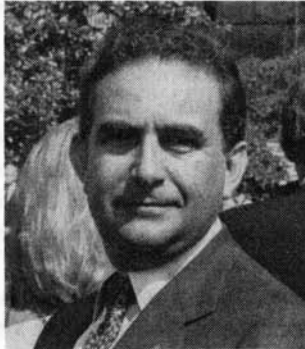


Gustavo Cisneros

Going from bus ticket collectors to billionaires over the last four decades, the Cisneros family has become synonymous in Venezuela with the interests of the Rockefeller family and Henry Kissinger. Before the January 1994 blowout of



their Banco Latino financial empire, the family had come to dominate Venezuela's news media and entertainment industry, and had holdings in food, banking, and minerals.

The Cisneros family was at the center of the so-called "Twelve Apostles," the inner circle which advised the presidencies of Carlos Andrés Pérez. The Cisneroses were notorious for destroying their adversaries through mafia-style tactics run through their media monopoly and their corruption of the judiciary.

In July 1984, the Venezuelan magazine *Resúmen* reported that Oswaldo Cisneros, Gustavo's cousin, was up to his neck in dope-money laundering in Florida. Subsequent *EIR* investigations, included in the 1985 edition of the book *Dope, Inc.*, found the Cisneros family to be linked closely to known international money-laundering interests: the Royal Bank of Canada, Florida dope banking circles, the drug-legalizers of Friedrich von Hayek's Mont Pelerin Society, etc.

Less than one week after the Spanish-language edition of *Dope, Inc.* hit Caracas, Gustavo Cisneros got a court order banning its circulation in Venezuela, and his police agents raided *EIR*'s offices. Every leading official involved in the police raid has since been jailed or charged with drug or corruption charges. The overkill deployed by the Cisneros led the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) to upgrade its watch on the Cisneros family, *EIR* subsequently learned.

In September 1991, the Venezuelan daily *El Globo* reported that a congressional committee had found that the Cisneros organization owned a Miami-based company, Celere, Inc., which was under investigation by the DEA for cocaine trafficking. In 1994, Venezuelan columnist Andrés Galdo and former Venezuelan anti-drug official Thor Halvorssen charged that Banco Latino was a major money-launderer for the Colombian cartels.

Clinton broke Bush's deals with drug cartel

by Jeffrey Steinberg

When William Clinton was first inaugurated President, the drug lobby in the United States prepared to move the campaign for legalization into a new phase. During the Bush years, the Drug Policy Foundation and other pro-dope fronts had successfully hammered away at the administration's draconian, but thoroughly unsuccessful and hypocritical "war on drugs." The propaganda effort to discredit even the notion of a Bush war on drugs was greatly abetted by the fact that Bush's Attorney General, Richard Thornburgh, had surrounded himself with longtime aides who themselves would be prosecuted and convicted of trafficking cocaine, leading ultimately to Thornburgh's own "early retirement." One of the aides, Henry Barr, was serving as Attorney General Thornburgh's liaison to the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) at the time he was indicted by federal prosecutors in Pennsylvania on cocaine-trafficking charges!

Thornburgh's drug taint was minor-league when compared to President Bush's own notorious track record of dealings with Colombian and Mideast dope traffickers during the Reagan administration, when, as vice president, he was the head of covert operations at the White House. When, in December 1989, Bush sent thousands of American troops into Panama to overthrow the Noriega government (ostensibly because of the general's links to drug traffickers), he handpicked the successor regime of President Guillermo Endara, which was comprised almost entirely of well-known front-men for the Cali Cartel, including Endara himself—a fact even the Bush-loving *Wall Street Journal* eventually conceded on its front page.

Bush's nar-contras

At the point in 1985 when George Bush reached the zenith of his power over American secret intelligence operations, he was personally responsible for trashing any last prospect of the Reagan administration embarking on a serious war on drugs effort.

Two events that year epitomized this policy shift: the February kidnapping and torture murder of DEA agent Enrique Camarena by Mexican-based drug-cartel figures, and the late-1985 White House decision that "you can't fight communist guerillas and drug traffickers at the same time."

Evidence later surfaced that Camarena's murder took place at a drug-cartel ranch that was also being used by the Bush-Oliver North team to train Contra guerrillas. The decision to "fight commies, not narcos," signaled an outright

rejection of the then-proven fact that there was a strong alliance throughout Ibero-America between narcotics traffickers and Soviet- and Cuban-sponsored guerrilla groups. The Bush rejection of the “narco-terrorist” thesis was used to justify the Bush “secret team’s” covert alliance with the Medellín and Cali drug cartels to bankroll the so-called Nicaraguan Contras. From that point on, the Contra operation provided cover and rationale for the smuggling of tons of illegal drugs onto the streets of the United States—to bankroll the narco-tainted Contra war against the equally narco-tainted Sandinista regime in Managua.

Oliver North, the Marine lieutenant colonel who served on the National Security Council staff, was George Bush’s towel boy in the covert drug business. The rest of the White House-coordinated operation was staffed by CIA and Pentagon veterans who had cut their teeth in the drug trade during the Vietnam War era, when the “secret war” in Laos was funded to the tune of hundreds of millions of dollars a year for nearly a decade by the proceeds of sales of Golden Triangle opium and heroin.

It’s no wonder that the dope lobby in the United States flourished during the Bush Presidency. George Bush denouncing narcotics was like J. Edgar Hoover denouncing “damn homosexuals.” George Bush was, and still is, one of

America’s biggest closet narcos.

When Bush was voted out of office and Clinton was elected President, the drug lobby expected even more of the same. At a triumphal November 1992 national conference in Washington, D.C., the Drug Policy Foundation (DPF) confidently predicted that the just-elected Clinton administration would adopt a policy of “benign neglect” toward the war on drugs, and that during the Clinton Presidency, the United States would adopt a policy of *de facto*, if not *de jure*, legalization of drugs.

The second, Clinton-era phase of the DPF drive to legitimize the dope culture and turn the drug trade into America’s most lucrative “service sector,” was to be built upon a multi-million-dollar Madison Avenue campaign to ease the path to legalization by the mass marketing of such agit-prop terms as “drug-peace,” “drug-reform,” and the idea that prohibition of drugs had failed in the same way that the 1920s Prohibition of alcohol had failed. Long-haired, pot-smoking hippies, once the mainstay of the legalization lobby, were told to get a haircut, buy a three-piece suit and a laptop computer—or get out of town.

The DPF offensive was also premised on the belief that, increasingly, the nations of Ibero-America would fall under the domination of narco-regimes, like those of Carlos Andrés

Is Luigi Einaudi the Michael Abbell of the State Department?

Luigi Einaudi, a 20-year State Department career officer who is currently senior adviser to the secretary of state, Policy Planning Staff, should be investigated for his political, and possibly other links to the Cali Cartel and its political protectors in Ibero-America. In light of the facts which have recently come to light about indicted former Justice Department prosecutor Michael Abbell’s criminal complicity with the Cali Cartel, the case of Luigi Einaudi—who brags, “I came in with Kissinger,” and is widely known as “Kissinger’s Kissinger for Latin America”—calls out for a full investigation as well.

Einaudi has repeatedly attempted to marry U.S. security interests to the region’s most unsavory characters, such as the Cali Cartel-linked Carlos Andrés Pérez, even after Pérez had been publicly linked with the Colombian drug cartels, and at precisely the moment that he was under investigation for crimes for which he shortly thereafter was jailed.

● **March 11, 1988:** The Venezuelan daily *Diario de*

Caracas published an interview with Fabio Ochoa, the father of Colombia’s notorious three Ochoa brothers, all currently in jail for drug running, in which he explained that he had given a horse named “Cupid” to Pérez. “Carlos Andrés Pérez was going to help me with the Spanish king, the Spanish prime minister,” Ochoa explained, “so that they would free my son who was imprisoned there.”

● **Oct. 21, 1992:** Einaudi, at the time George Bush’s ambassador to the Organization of American States, told a public seminar at the Woodrow Wilson Center in Washington that the entirety of U.S.-Ibero-American relations hung upon maintaining Pérez in power. The Pérez government was “the standard-bearer for the possibility of democracy in Latin America,” Einaudi insisted, hailing Pérez in unusually personal terms as “a President with a personal charisma, history, potential of external reality . . . a projection still of vigor, of courage, of modernity, of adaptability.” What happens to Pérez in Venezuela, Einaudi went on, “is absolutely critical to our collective, regional future,” adding threateningly that any “interruption” of his administration would have “an impact on the whole scene of U.S.-Latin American relations.”

● **May 20, 1993:** Pérez was driven from office to face trial for multimillion-dollar corruption, and was soon thereafter convicted and jailed.

Pérez in Venezuela and Endara in Panama; that narco-terrorist gangs such as Peru's Shining Path would move into positions of de facto power; and that the Cali and Medellín cartels would continue to control successive governments in Bogotá.

Millions of dollars in tax-free cash were promised to the DPF by the likes of libertarian commodities trader Richard Dennis, a founder of the group, and, later, by George Soros, the billionaire currency speculator.

The bright prospects envisioned by the dopers was further encouraged by the appointment of Richard Feinberg as the National Security Council's Ibero-American specialist. Feinberg came to the Clinton White House from his post as head of the Inter-American Dialogue, a private agency dedicated to, among other things, the legalization of drugs throughout the hemisphere. There was also, of course, the permanent bureaucracy at the State Department and the Justice Department that could be counted on to defend the Bush-era status quo.

Two years later, in November 1994, when the DPF held its annual gathering, the mood had changed 180 degrees. While George Bush had been the perfect foil for the dope lobby, President Clinton had turned out to be their worst nightmare. Not only was Clinton dead-set against the idea of "benign neglect" and de facto legalization of drugs, but he was committed to a crackdown on the dope cartels *and their support infrastructure in the United States and abroad*. Clinton's approach was short on rhetoric but long on results.

A 'war and a half' with London

One thing that no one in the dope lobby anticipated was that President Clinton would get into what Lyndon LaRouche recently characterized as a "war and a half" with the British. While the fight between the Clinton administration and London has publicly erupted around the Balkan crisis, the future of Northern Ireland, the role of Germany in the expanded Europe, and the future of China, the philosophical breach between Washington and London has freed the Clinton administration to take a straightforward approach to other issues, including the fight against drugs.

The first signs of a shift in Clinton administration drug policy came with the appointment of Dr. Lee Brown, a career law enforcement professional who had served as chief of police in New York, Atlanta, and Houston, as the head of the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy. During the Bush administration, the post had been filled by conservative ideologue William Bennett and later by former Florida governor and narco-contaminated Bush political crony Robert Martinez. President Clinton also announced that Dr. Brown would be a full member of his cabinet, another sign that the drug war was a serious administration priority.

What started out as little more than a public repudiation of the idea of drug legalization or a softening up on narcocrime, evolved into a quiet shift in American foreign policy, especially toward America's allies to the south. The Clinton administration abandoned the Bush policy of trying to over-

throw the Alberto Fujimori government in Peru, despite Peru's success in defeating Shining Path. DEA and Pentagon resources, including AWACS radar, began to be used to aid the Peruvian anti-drug effort. In June 1995, Undersecretary of Defense Brian Sheridan told Congress that the Fujimori government was going after the heads of the Peruvian drug cartel with the same "very decisive actions" that had characterized the successful war against Shining Path.

The U.S. policy shift, which occurred over the vociferous protests of career State Department officials such as Kissingerian Luigi Einaudi (see box), took on dramatic proportions around the time of the Colombian elections, in which Ernesto Samper Pizano, a notorious drug lobbyist, won the Presidency. The DEA chief in Colombia issued unprecedented statements denouncing the Samper victory as a narco-coup. There were widespread reports of U.S. cooperation with Colombian military and anti-drug officials in obtaining incriminating audio tapes indicating that Samper's campaign had been heavily bankrolled by the Cali Cartel.

ADM probe marks Clinton crackdown on Bush, Brits

At the same time that the Clinton administration has broken the Bush-era deal between the U.S. government and the narcotics cartels of Ibero-America, the U.S. Department of Justice has also embarked on an ambitious crackdown on another cartel that has been targeting the United States and other nations—the grain cartel.

On June 27, federal agents raided the offices of the Archer Daniels Midland Co., one of the world's largest food processing firms. ADM, headed by Dwayne Andreas, is accused, along with four other international food companies, of fixing prices and setting production caps in violation of U.S. law.

The ADM probe, which is directed against some of the United States' leading City of London enemies, is a marker of the Clinton administration's broader war against the British-centered Club of the Isles.

A probe by *EIR* of ADM and the global connections of Andreas, has unearthed a myriad of links to the British Crown's international intelligence and corporate apparatus, including Prince Philip's Club of the Isles. The ties to the Hollinger Corp., the London-centered media empire that has led the assault on the U.S. Presidency since the Clinton inauguration, is of special import.

In September 1994, as the Hollinger propaganda offensive against President Clinton escalated, Dwayne Andreas, who held a seat on Hollinger's international advi-

In March 1995, the State Department's annual international narcotics situation report recommended that Colombia be decertified and cut off from all but the basic humanitarian U.S. aid due to the Samper government's failure to cooperate with the United States in the anti-drug fight. President Clinton issued an executive waiver of the decertification, but the message to the Samper government was clear: U.S. pressure would be unrelenting.

Then, on June 5, the Clinton administration dropped a bombshell. A Miami federal grand jury handed down indictments against all of the top leadership of the Cali Cartel, including five American lawyers, four of whom had been federal or state prosecutors before going to work for the Cali Cartel. Among the five was Michael Abbell, who for 17 years was in the U.S. Justice Department. In the early 1980s, Abbell was the head of the International Affairs Office, which was in charge of all extradition cases. Abbell reported directly to Deputy Assistant Attorney General Mark Richard, one of the two most powerful career bureaucrats in the DOJ.

Several of the Miami-based attorneys named in the indictment were associated with Jeb Bush, the son of the former President and the GOP's 1994 unsuccessful gubernatorial candidate in Florida.

The Miami indictment was the clearest signal that the Clinton administration had broken all of the deals that had been de facto forged between the Bush administration and the Ibero-American dope cartels. Within days of the Miami indictment, Colombian anti-narcotics units were able to arrest Gilberto Rodríguez Orejuela, one of the three top figures in the Cali Cartel. Other arrests followed. In each instance, it was reliably reported that U.S. agents from the DEA and the CIA had cooperated in the arrests.

The war on drugs is by no means over. But, for the first time in over a decade, a U.S. administration has demonstrated a willingness to break from the Bush-era corruption and pursue a straightforward policy of battling against the plague of illegal drugs—in alliance with governments in the hemisphere. And that's a major step forward.

sory board, arranged for ADM to purchase 10% of the non-voting stock in the company's U.S. subsidiary, American Publishing Co. (APC). This investment helped consolidate Hollinger's takeover of the *Chicago Sun-Times*. APC gave Andreas a major outlet in some 240 daily and weekly U.S. newspapers. Conrad Black is now in the process of trying to relocate the holding company over his global media empire to the United States.

The ADM-Hollinger partnership was strengthened last December when another ADM director, former Bush administration Ambassador to Moscow Robert Strauss, was placed on the Hollinger board of directors. The Hollinger international advisory is headed by Lady Margaret Thatcher, Henry Kissinger, and Lord Peter Carrington, and includes Evelyn de Rothschild, Giovanni Agnelli of FIAT, Paul Volcker, and Sir Jimmy Goldsmith.

The incestuous links between the Conrad Black and Dwayne Andreas empires are further evidenced by the presence of one of Black's leading protégés on the board of directors of ADM—ex-Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney. In a recent autobiography, Black took credit for making Mulroney's political career as Conservative Party prime minister of Canada.

In July, Andreas announced that Mulroney would head an internal audit committee to root out any corruption at ADM. This has been widely viewed as an effort by Andreas to head off criminal indictments of top corporate officials for price fixing three major products.

Merge with Brits' sugar cartel

Since the late 1980s, ADM has been working in partnership with Britain's Caribbean sugar cartel, Tate and

Lyle, to establish a lock on world production of high-fructose corn syrup, a sugar substitute that is today used in all soft drinks. The two companies conducted a hostile takeover drive against A.E. Staley Manufacturing Co., an ADM rival with corporate headquarters in the same downstate Illinois town as ADM's world headquarters.

By June 1988, Staley had been transformed into a wholly owned American subsidiary of Tate and Lyle, its profitable food service division sold off, and a half-dozen soybean-processing plants also sold off—to ADM. Today, links between Staley and ADM are so intimate that a three-mile pipeline connects the two companies' main plants in Decatur, Illinois, and the two firms recently opened a joint production facility in Guadalajara, Mexico.

Meanwhile, ADM International ended up owning 7% of Tate and Lyle, which has been synonymous with Windsor/Club of the Isles operations in the Caribbean for over a century. It was created out of a merger of two 19th-century molasses, slave, and cane sugar firms—Henry Tate and Sons and Abram Lyle III.

Another point of convergence of ADM, Hollinger, and Tate and Lyle is the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce, a bank that was cited in *EIR's* book *Dope, Inc.* as a suspected drug money-laundering hub for the entire Caribbean region. Argus Corp. (Hollinger) founder E.P. Taylor was the bank's Caribbean representative during the post-World War II era, during which time he drafted the offshore banking laws that turned Britain's Caribbean island colonies into the leading money-laundering center.

The Clinton assault on ADM and the food cartel may also prove to be a windfall in the crackdown on drug money laundering.—*Scott Thompson*