

## Dateline Mexico by Jacobo Frontoni

### Zapatistas defended by foreigners

*Commander Germán was freed under foreign pressure. Was it Bush, Castro, Perry, Feinberg? All of them?*

Once again, as occurred in January 1994 and again in February 1995, foreign forces pressured the government of Mexico to keep it from finishing off the narco-terrorist Zapatista National Liberation Army (EZLN). This time, foreign pressure forced the government to free terrorist Fernando Yáñez, alias "Germán," the founder of the EZLN who has been directing its national terror apparatus.

On those occasions, nationalists in Mexico had attempted to take a decisive step against the EZLN; each time, international forces, together with a plethora of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and pro-terrorist groups in Mexico, mobilized to stop them. Once again, the EZLN has shown that it depends, absolutely, on the international protection which its controllers provide it.

The release of Germán may be the most damaging backdown yet. Officials announced on Oct. 23 that the long-sought terrorist had been arrested with an AK-47, a 9 mm pistol, 64 rounds of ammunition, and 1.4 grams of cocaine in his possession. The EZLN apparatus went into action, denying that he was a leader of the EZLN—but threatening that if he were not released, they would pull out of talks with the government.

Yáñez coyly stated that "it would be an honor to belong to the EZLN; and it is up to them to say if I am, or am not, a member."

On Oct. 26, the Attorney General's office ordered Germán released, under an amnesty law passed for EZLN members earlier in the year.

Bishop Samuel Ruiz of San Cris-

tóbal de las Casas, visiting Vienna, Austria on Oct. 30, protested the detention of his fellow EZLN commander as "illegal." He alluded to the power that the EZLN's international mobilizations inflict, noting that it was the presence of the international media which had forced the government to return to the negotiating table with the EZLN just two weeks before.

On Oct. 31, Germán strutted onto the floor of the Chamber of Deputies on the arm of Party of the Democratic Revolution Deputy Rosario Ibarra de Piedra, and began a press conference, even though Congress was in session! When furious deputies demanded the "criminal" be removed, he jeered back, "Let's see the general come and get me out." Asked what general, he answered only, "They know which one."

The EZLN apparatus then began gunning for the head of Army intelligence, Gen. Acosta Chaparro, charging that he ran the operation which captured Germán, and that that arrest constitutes *ipso facto* proof that a "dirty war" is beginning.

The question is, who applied the crucial *international* pressure, required for a wanted terrorist of the stature of Germán to be released? Was it George Bush, or Fidel Castro? Was it U.S. Defense Secretary William Perry, who was in Mexico when Germán was arrested? Was it Richard Feinberg, National Security Council adviser and former president of the Inter-American Dialogue, who accompanied Perry to Mexico? All of the above are on a list of suspects who have supported the policy of handing

power to narco-terrorists in the Americas in the name of "democracy," and have clout in Mexico.

The fact that Perry and Feinberg were on an official visit in Mexico when "Germán" was detained, is of particular note. Perry went in pushing the line of the insane report issued last September by the U.S. Department of Defense, *United States Security Strategy for the Americas*. That report insists that the United States must maintain a policy of "active support" and "encouragement" for government negotiations with "insurgent and guerrilla forces," because the latter, it lies, are diminishing in strength.

This is the line of Bush and the Inter-American Dialogue, which is the leading proponent of drug legalization. Feinberg, the Dialogue's former president, has used his post on the National Security Council to promote that policy, including hosting meetings with leaders of the São Paulo Forum, the narco-terrorist international which Castro operationally controls.

Even the World Bank has been pressuring for a deal with the EZLN. According to the Oct. 13 Mexico daily *Reforma*, World Bank director James Wolfensohn, fresh from meeting in Chiapas with various EZLN-related NGOs, announced that the World Bank wishes to enter into dialogue with everyone, even Subcommander Marcos.

U.S. Presidential candidate Lyndon LaRouche has warned that the Defense Department, "or some idiots there . . . are proposing *negotiating* with the EZLN." In his campaign document, *The Blunder In U.S. National Security Policy*, LaRouche refutes the DOD's document, insisting that the leading threat to U.S. security is "two interrelated factors, financial collapse and spreading 'ethnicity' and other armed conflict."