

themselves “protectors of Indian rights.”

In contrast to British imperial designs, the current Colombian Senate debate on Urabá put a spotlight on the vast development potential of this region, making it clear that any investment in the region would be to the benefit of all Colombians. Recalling the plans for building the Atrato-Truandó Canal, several senators from the Antioquia region discussed the need for deep-water ports, railroads, and highways. Investment figures in the range of \$1.5-15 billion were mentioned. There was talk of a “Marshall Plan” for Urabá.

### A commission created

On May 22, President Samper, desperate to find anything to boost his popularity, and echoing the Senate debate, proposed the building of the Atrato-Truandó Canal. His government has already ordered the creation of a commission made up of the finance, communications, transportation, economic development, and national planning ministers, to determine the best route.

Whatever Samper’s motives, the debate generated by his proposal has revived dormant hopes, especially among the inhabitants of Chocó, Antioquia, and Córdoba. But it has also activated old enemies of the canal project, such as Samper’s political godfather, ex-President Alfonso López Michelsen, also known as “the Godfather” of the drug trade.

At the beginning of the 1980s, co-thinkers of Lyndon LaRouche, as well as some national institutions, mobilized around the proposal to build the Atrato-Truandó Canal. In 1984, the Colombian Fusion Energy Foundation, an organization inspired by LaRouche’s economic policies, together with the Bogotá chapter of the Colombian Society of Economists, the Colombian Geographical Society, and Sen. Daniel Palacios Martínez, created the Pro-Atrato-Truandó Civic Board.

That same year, Senator Palacios introduced a bill giving the President extraordinary powers for a four-year period, to create a mixed-capital company (public and private), for the purpose of building the canal, and to dictate whatever changes were necessary to attain that goal. The bill was passed by the Congress in 1984. In August 1985, the organizations belonging to the Pro-Atrato-Truandó Civic Board organized an international conference to promote the new law. Ramtanu Maitra, of *EIR*’s bureau in India, attended representing Lyndon LaRouche, and explained the latter’s world infrastructure program, including the proposed building of the Kra Canal in Thailand.

At that conference, *EIR* presented a study of the economic benefits Colombia would derive from building the canal. *EIR* presented the old studies done by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in the 1960s. In studying 30 possible routes for the building of a new interoceanic canal, the Corps of Engineers considered the Atrato-Truandó route among the best (Figure 3).

Already at that time, the Panama Canal was considered obsolete, since it could only handle 60,000-ton ships, while

## Pugwash world federalists behind Urabá grab

Two leaders of the Urabá separatist project are pupils of a brainwashing project set up in Antioquia, Colombia in 1995, by Roger Fisher’s Harvard Negotiations Project (HNP). Antioquia Gov. Alvaro Uribe Vélez, and Gloria Cuartas, mayor of Apartadó, both advocates of supranational oversight of Urabá enforced by UN blue helmets, have been principals in Harvard’s “Pedagogy of Tolerance” project since Fisher opened its first seminar in Medellín on April 24, 1995.

An international law expert and an adviser to Robert McNamara’s U.S. Defense Department in the 1960s, Fisher is one of the leading architects of the post-Kennedy, post-industrial global paradigm shift directed by British intelligence’s psychological warfare division, the Tavistock Institute. His “working assumption,” he argues, is that “conflict is an inevitable feature of social life”; the only issue is, who will “manage” it.

Through his Harvard center, Fisher directed the creation of an international apparatus of experts in “management” of conflict, as an instrument of the world-federalist lobby created by Britain’s evil Lord Bertrand Russell. It was Fisher who, in 1961, set up the Council for a Livable World, for Russell’s mad scientist aide, Dr. Leo Szilard, to serve as the U.S. branch of Russell’s one-world-government effort, the Pugwash Conference.

Fisher’s current program in Colombia is a two-year project whose stated goal is to train 40,000 people (local government officials, teachers, trade unionists, civic activists, etc.) in “sociological techniques” and “processes of negotiation, dialogue and peace.” The 40,000, each sent out to tutor others, is considered sufficient to reshape the nation. The site chosen by the Harvard team for their project, was Antioquia, one of the departments of which Urabá is a part, and where the drug cartels first established their grip in Colombia.

Joining Fisher as a “professor of tolerance” in the first phase of the Colombian program was Shafik Handal, the veteran head of El Salvador’s Communist Party and unrepentant advocate of armed struggle, who directed the Farabundo Martí Liberation Front’s war against his nation for decades. Handal is also a product of Fisher’s behavioral training. The Conflict Management Group set up by Fisher in the 1980s, the subgroup of the HNP which runs the Antioquia project, played a central role in establishing the current UN dictate over El Salvador. “We advised and trained both sides in the war between the government and the opposition FMLN,” CMG literature brags.