

UN tries to impose narc-FARC in Colombia power-sharing deal

by José Restrepo

The United Nations, elements of the U.S. State Department, the São Paulo Forum (a federation of Ibero-American terrorist organizations, headed by Fidel Castro), and Colombian narco-President Ernesto Samper Pizano have undertaken a new offensive to eliminate the Colombian Armed Forces, and to turn that nation into a drug plantation that would function as a UN protectorate. This is the scenario represented by a new “peace proposal” offered by Manuel Marulanda Vélez, a.k.a. “Tirofijo” (Sureshot), head of the narco-terrorist Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC).

The FARC’s “peace negotiations” would begin with the “demilitarization” of a vast sector of the department of Meta, convoking of another Constituent Assembly to write a new constitution, and a government pledge that the guerrillas would not be treated as “narco-guerrillas,” “kidnappers,” or “terrorists.” The negotiations would successfully conclude, according to Tirofijo, when Colombian society accepts the terrorists as their rulers, and the Armed Forces are eliminated.

Tirofijo’s letter follows on the initiatives of former Foreign Minister Augusto Ramírez Ocampo, the ex-director of the Organization of the United Nations for El Salvador (Onusal), who has secured an office for the FARC and National Liberation Army (ELN) terrorists in Costa Rica, fully equipped with computers, radio communications, access to the Internet, and telephones so that their representatives abroad can maintain communication with the terrorists inside Colombia, whether they are in jail or in the mountains.

The idea is to try to repeat, on a grander scale, the UN experiment in “consensus-building” in El Salvador, where “peace negotiations” had served as an excuse to turn the country into a UN protectorate. Since returning to Colombia in 1994, Ramírez Ocampo has ceaselessly worked to have Colombia follow the Salvador model, where the guerrillas become the police, and have final say in dictating military policy. In El Salvador under that policy, the Armed Forces have been slashed to one-third their original size.

Following the UN script, Colombian narco-President Ernesto Samper Pizano, on the same day that the FARC letter was released to the public, Aug. 15, authorized the initiation of “regional dialogues” between civilian authorities and narco-terrorists in the departments of Antioquia and Nariño. It is no accident that the governor of Antioquia is Alvaro Uribe Vélez, who has repeatedly demanded that the UN intervene with its

“blue helmets” to pacify the department. In Nariño, the chief “dialoguer” is Antonio Navarro Wolf, mayor of the city of Pasto and the top leader of the legalized narco-terrorist group, the M-19.

Regional peace dialogues have been a constant demand of the narco-terrorists who, as members of the São Paulo Forum, have adopted its strategy of achieving national power through the slow accumulation of power on the local and departmental level: the strategy of the national coup d’état through regional coups d’état.

The threat behind the ‘dialogue’

At the same time, of course, the Samper government has been daily conceding more terrain to the FARC and ELN, which have organized a violent armed “strike” by the coca-growers in the departments of Caquetá, Putumayo, and Guaviare, with their principal demand being an end to eradication programs against coca and poppy crops. The heads of the strike are veteran leaders of the FARC, who have ordered the assassinations of those peasants who have refused to back their mobilization. The coca-growers have thus been deployed—under threat of terrorism—to occupy towns and airports, and destroy and paralyze several oil facilities in the area, while blocking the passage of vehicles on the few roads and highways that traverse the convulsed zone.

The Samper government has already promised a suspension of the coca eradication program, and has committed itself to paying \$4,000 to the coca-growers for every hectare of coca or poppy they themselves voluntarily destroy. At the same time, the government is negotiating with the FARC leaders over a program and budget for the region, presumably to be administered by the FARC and/or its “indigenous” front men.

And, as if this weren’t enough, the government’s new finance minister, José Antonio Ocampo, called for a national debate in an Aug. 20 interview with the daily *El Espectador*, through which “the people” would decide what aspects of the “excessive” military budget would be cut. According to Ocampo, “70% of operating costs go to defense and justice,” and therefore “it is urgent that civil society concern itself with military spending. . . . The private sector should concern itself with determining the efficiency of this kind of spending.”

Given the Colombian government’s ongoing surrender to

narco-terrorism, it should come as no surprise that the São Paulo Forum openly backed narco-President Samper Pizano at its official meeting in San Salvador on Aug. 15. That narco-terrorist umbrella group denounced the Clinton administration in Washington for its critical stance against the Samper government—including its March 1 decertification of Colombia as a “collaborating partner in the war on drugs” and the withdrawal of Samper’s U.S. entry visa—actions which were dubbed “arbitrary” and “unilateral.”

Strangely, U.S. Ambassador to Colombia Myles Frechette has been acting in direct contradiction of Clinton’s policy. For example, in a controversial Aug. 12 interview on a Colombian television news program, Frechette announced that he had intervened to prevent a group of Colombian citizens—civilian and military—from forcibly removing the corrupt Samper from power. Frechette confirmed that he had met with these would-be “coup makers,” and that he had warned them to “forget it!” He insisted that the United States would oppose “anything of that sort.”

A great deal of speculation has been set off by Frechette’s preemptive warning, concerning his reasons for revealing the coup plans against narco-President Samper. But Frechette has also come out in defense of the good name of the narc-FARC, and on several occasions has said that there exists no evidence that this terrorist group finances itself with money from the drug trade, and that the term “narco-guerrilla” should there-

fore not be used! This, despite extensive documentation that the FARC’s drug-trafficking activities have turned it into the “Third Cartel” in the country. Not unexpectedly, Frechette’s statements have been publicly used abroad by narc-FARC spokesmen as a form of “certification” by the U.S. government! A similar argument was used by the George Bush administration to justify having the drug cartels finance the Nicaraguan Contras and the Afghan mujahideen.

The Colombian military continues to offer resistance to the Samper government’s appeasement strategy toward the narco-terrorists. Army Commander Gen. Harold Bedoya sharply criticized the deal struck between the government and the coca-farmers, for example. In an Aug. 18 interview with the daily *El Tiempo*, General Bedoya stated: “They say that the voluntary eradication of illicit crops is legal, when the only thing that is legal is that those who sow, process, and cultivate coca must answer to the legitimate authorities. They say that the agreements must be fulfilled, when the only thing that it is obligatory to fulfill is the law. They neither asked us nor consulted us about these agreements.”

The day after Tirofijo’s letter was revealed, all brigade and division commanders, and the heads of the three Armed Forces, issued a communiqué in which they reiterated that the FARC, Villavicencio, and Cali cartels are “the principal threat to the national institutions, security, and stability,” and that the Armed Forces have the duty to defeat them.

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