

EIR's Small visits Argentina, roasts IMF

EIR's Dennis Small toured Argentina at the end of August, to speak on the topic, "There is life after the death of the IMF." His speeches, exposing the bankruptcy of the drug-money-addicted International Monetary Fund system, received widespread press coverage, both in Argentina and elsewhere in Ibero-America.

The Mexico City daily *Ultimas Noticias*, on Aug. 28, ran an international news wire from AFP, under the headline: "The IMF Could Not Survive Without Drug Trafficking, Small Says That the International Banks Were Reinforced by Money Laundering." According to the story, "The IMF 'could not survive without the money from drug trafficking,' said journalist Dennis Small, editor of the weekly *Executive Intelligence Review*, at a news conference held in the Argentine capital on Tuesday night.

"He added that the international banking system that sustains the IMF structure, was reinforced, thanks to the laundering of money from the sale of drugs.

"Small spoke at a hotel in downtown Buenos Aires about 'Dope [Inc.], the great British business of \$521 billion.' According to the journalist, 'the disaster caused by the application of the free market dogma promoted by the IMF' in the nations of Ibero-America, in the republics of eastern Europe, and in the former Soviet Union, 'subjects the population to extreme poverty and to find employment in the drug business.' . . . Asked about the issue of drugs and money laundering in Argentina, the journalist admitted he was 'not in the position to provide figures,' but he said that to identify those who manage the drug trafficking business, it's enough to determine who is proposing drug legalization and who is carrying out large financial transactions, 'without any explanations.' "

Small's remarks were covered by the daily *La Nacion*, a newswire, and by *Cronica TV*, all of Buenos Aires, after a standing-room-only audience of 116 persons jammed the room in the Argentine capital city where Small spoke on Aug. 27. Attendees included bankers, diplomats, retired and active-duty military figures, students and professors, businessmen, labor leaders, and congressmen.

Small was introduced by *EIR's* correspondent in Argentina, Diana Olaya de Teran, who noted that he had been one of the political prisoners who had been thrown in jail by George Bush, along with Lyndon LaRouche. This conference, she said, is part of a continental mobilization against the IMF,

which will crescendo with a forum in Mexico City on Oct. 11-12.

System about to collapse

Small said that he had first visited Argentina in 1982, during the Malvinas War, when he was sent there by LaRouche. He noted that the evening's conference was titled, "There is life after the death of the IMF," because, indeed, the current international financial system is in its death throes. He cited what IMF Managing Director Michael Camdessus had said recently in Lyons, France: "The system is facing an earthquake worse than Mexico. . . . The banking system is in pieces, and there is an urgent need to tighten the screws."

Small said that Russia is about to blow, thanks to the IMF policies. Since 1990, Russia's physical economy has been destroyed, but its debt has tripled. While the production of foodstuffs, steel, consumer goods, and such has been going down, the production of vodka has been going up, he said.

Ukraine is going in the same direction, as is Ibero-America. In Mexico, the so-called "Salinas model," much touted by Malcolm Forbes and others, has led to the disastrous situation we know, said Small. We at *EIR* were the only ones to warn that NAFTA and the rest of the free-trade prescriptions were no good. We were told that we were exaggerating, that everything was booming, until December 1994, when the bubble burst, the so-called "tequila effect" hit, and everyone realized that we had been right all along in warning that the "Mexican miracle" was full of hot air. The U.S. economy has been gutted, too, he said. The physical economy has given way to the service economy of post-industrial society, and to the uncontrolled growth of speculative activity, fueled by drug dollars and other dirty money.

Brazil could explode at any moment, as could Argentina, said Small.

The disintegration we are facing is not only because of the wrong policies of the last 25-30 years; it is the end of an era that began five centuries ago, Small said. LaRouche has taken on the responsibility of forging an alliance with Russia, China, and the United States to oppose British free-trade methods and to establish a new economic and financial system. In the United States, the LaRouche movement is gaining more power. "Our political movement is unique because it stands for truth and justice, regardless of what it costs us," he said. Small presented the "LaRouche plan," otherwise known as the bill for the bankruptcy reorganization of the economy, which is the centerpiece of the October continental mobilization. The bill—which has already been introduced in the Congress of Argentina—among other measures, calls for declaring the entire world financial system bankrupt; replacing the central bank system with national banks; putting exchange controls in place; and channeling investments into infrastructure. The nations of Ibero-America must retake the fight they abandoned in 1982, establish a debtors' club, and declare a debt moratorium, he said.