
The El Salvador Model

When UN talks peace, get ready for war!

by Manuel Hidalgo

There was much fanfare in mid-March in the international media over recent events in Central America. El Salvador held “democratic elections” on March 16, purportedly proving the success of the 1992 United Nations-brokered “peace negotiations” in that country. And neighboring Guatemala took its first steps down that same path: Under the smiling supervision of UN monitors, the Guatemalan National Revolutionary Union (URNG) narco-terrorist army “demobilized” and “disarmed” their troops, in exchange for an El Salvador-style power-sharing accord. Another notch on the UN’s belt; another happy ending. Or, is it?

The facts behind these stories show otherwise: The United Nations, and the U.S. administration under President Sir George Bush, forced the Salvadoran government to sign the 1992 “peace agreement” with the narco-terrorist Farabundo Martí Liberation Front (FMLN), by which the latter was supposedly demobilized and disarmed. But as the UN’s “verification commission” stood by and watched, FMLN cadre subsequently actively participated in terrorist plots in Bolivia, Peru, and probably other nations. These included trafficking in “demobilized” weapons via Nicaragua and Panama, “consulting,” providing political support, and sending manpower to train and participate in terrorist commando actions. In fact, the UN’s “demobilized” FMLN shares major responsibility for the ongoing hostage crisis in Lima, Peru.

In all of these activities, the FMLN was operating as a part of the São Paulo Forum’s centralized structure, along with Nicaragua’s Sandinista National Liberation Front (FSLN), Peru’s Túpac Amaru Revolutionary Movement (MRTA), Colombia’s April 19 Movement (M-19), as well as veteran terrorists from Chile, Panama, Spain, and other countries. The São Paulo Forum is the hemispheric narco-terrorist coalition founded by Fidel Castro in 1990 and protected by the British oligarchy. Evidence presented below is clear: the UN was aware of these actions and their goals, and evidently endorsed them fully.

A new arms cache

In early March, after an FMLN weapons cache was discovered in Nicaragua, Salvadoran President Armando Calde-

rón Sol announced that his government would denounce the FMLN before the UN Secretary General, for violating the 1992 “peace agreement.” Since the UN is the intellectual author of the violation, the Salvadoran President can hardly expect to find much justice there. Beginning in 1993, there is abundant evidence to show that the FMLN didn’t hand over its weapons arsenals, as the “peace accord” stipulated, setting the exact dates on which this was to occur. Instead, it hid the weapons, in order to later “export” revolution, right under the nose of the UN’s “verification commission.”

This was no secret. In 1993, *EIR* published the following testimony of a foreign official who worked with the UN in El Salvador:

“The only thing the guerrillas really had to do was demobilize. They could say that they handed in their weapons; they could show up more than once and get new legal IDs. Since there was no oversight, guerrillas could get two or three identities, while the FMLN swears it already demobilized all its people.”

Recent events confirm this report:

- **February 10:** Nicaraguan police discovered an arms cache in southern Managua, containing AK-47 automatic rifles, mortars, RPG-7 rocket-launchers, and explosives. Joaquín Cuadra, head of the Nicaraguan Armed Forces, stated on Feb. 28 that he had “practically confirmed” that the weapons’ original owners were “ex”-Salvadoran guerrillas. On March 5, it was reported that El Salvador’s attorney general had begun an investigation of this affair.

Almost immediately, the parliamentary group of the Salvadoran Democratic Party, made up of FMLN dissidents, accused the FMLN of hiding weapons after the signing of the 1992 “accords.” Since May 1993, when a huge weapons arsenal exploded in Managua, subsequent discovery of other arsenals has unleashed repeated scandals. From all available evidence, the latest weapons cache belonged to the Popular Liberation Forces (FPL) and the Salvadoran Communist Party, the two main groups left in the FMLN, after the ERP and National Resistance groups split off and subsequently founded the Democratic Party.

FMLN secretary general Salvador Sánchez Cerén, an FPL leader, had to admit that the Managua bunker discovered in May 1993, contained FMLN weapons, but he lied that there were no more. His lie was exposed when 48 other FMLN weapons arsenals were discovered in Nicaragua, El Salvador, and Honduras.

- **March 4:** The Democratic Party accused the FMLN, and particularly the FPL, of having planned the seizure of the Japanese ambassador’s residence in Lima, last December. It pointed to the Peruvian police’s charge that two FMLN members, “Osmin” and “Roman,” trained the MRTA commando which took the residence, led by Nestor Cerpa Cartolini. Shortly after the takeover, a Democratic Party congressman showed that American MRTA member, Lori Berenson, was closely linked to Sánchez Cerén, referencing her stint

as Sánchez's private secretary prior to travelling to Peru. Peruvian police say Berenson is one of the people responsible for weapons trafficking from Central America to Peru. Beginning in February of 1995, the Peruvian press publicized Panamanian police reports indicating that FMLN weapons captured in Ciudad Colón, originated in Nicaragua and were intended for the MRTA. From as early as 1992, Peruvian media had explicitly denounced the FMLN's support for the MRTA.

• **March 6:** El Salvador's Democratic Party, led by former guerrilla leaders Guadalupe Martínez and Joaquín Villalobos, implicated the FMLN in the actions of the MRTA's hostage-taking commando. The two stated that Berenson was a "protégé" of the FPL's top leader, Leonel González, and that the MRTA and Spain's Basque ETA sent representatives to the São Paulo Forum's June 1996 conference sponsored by the FMLN in San Salvador. FMLN leaders also traveled to Peru in 1996, for no known purpose.

Lori Berenson, the FMLN, and the MRTA

The trafficking of FMLN weapons to Peru, discovered in 1995, was organized by Lori Berenson; Panamanian Pacífico Castellón, the head of the MRTA's commando Nestor Cerpa; and Chilean Sandinista, Sergio Cruz Suárez (identified as Cerpa's contact outside the Japanese residence), with the support of the Castroite MLN-29. Berenson hooked up with the São Paulo Forum in 1988, when she travelled to El Salvador for the first time, at the height of the FMLN's "offensive." When FMLN leaders had to take refuge in Sandinista-controlled Nicaragua, Berenson went with them to serve as an aide-de-camp (presumably to Sánchez Cerén).

Once the "peace accords" were signed in 1992, she returned to El Salvador to work as Sánchez Cerén's secretary, and as a protégé of FPL leader, Leonel González. She remained there until her work as an arms trafficker for the MRTA brought her to Panama, Ecuador, and to Nicaragua, from which shipments to Peru were made, with obvious Sandinista support. Berenson married FMLN guerrilla, Walter Mejía.

In December 1995, Peruvian police discovered plans by Cerpa's commando to take over the Congress. Although Cerpa and Cruz Suárez escaped, Berenson, Castellón, and other MRTAers were captured by authorities, along with a huge arsenal containing the same type of weapons—AK-47 rifles, RPG-7 rocket-launchers, etc.—as those discovered last February in Nicaragua. On Dec. 2, 1995, the Lima daily *Expreso* revealed that the MRTA's plan had been to "take congressmen hostage and 'negotiate' the freedom of a group of jailed MRTAers, including Víctor Polay Campos and Peter Cárdenas Schulte. . . . For this . . . the terrorists would demand the presence of the International Red Cross and other foreign human rights organizations."

The plan was aborted in 1995, but was reactivated by Cerpa and Cruz, with only minor changes and many improve-

ments, just one year later. Had Berenson not been captured in 1995, she would today be at Cerpa's side inside Ambassador Aoki's residence, pointing rifles in hostages' faces. With the support of the media, the NGO network, and the UN's British-controlled, one-worldist bureaucracy, the MRTA is demanding the same treatment as was given the FMLN: "peace talks," like those held in Guatemala and El Salvador. On Dec. 26, the MRTA gratuitously freed one of its hostages, Guatemalan ambassador to Peru, José María Argueta, in honor of the "peace agreement"—also brokered by the United Nations—which would be signed just a few days later, on Dec. 30, by that government and the UNRG narco-terrorists. The Peruvian government immediately rejected the MRTA's proposal that the Guatemalan government mediate in talks between the two.

Preparing the groundwork in Lima

Exactly two months before the seizure of the Lima residence, the FMLN and the United Nations had the gall to participate in a conference in Lima promoting "peace accords," and hailing the Salvadoran and Guatemalan "models." The conference was organized by the Washington, D.C.-based Woodrow Wilson Center for International Scholars—wet nurse to the Wall Street-linked think-tank, Inter-American Dialogue. Among the conference's stars were the FMLN's Presidential candidate, Rubén Zamora, and Peruvian Alvaro de Soto. The latter was the UN's principal negotiator in El Salvador, adviser to the Guatemalan "peace talks," and personal secretary to then-UN secretary-general, Javier Pérez de Cuellar. In 1992, Zamora traveled to Lima with Sandinista Daniel Ortega to recommend that "peace negotiations" take place between the government and the MRTA.

According to El Salvador's Democratic Party, an FMLN leader travelled to Peru several times during 1996 for unknown reasons. Sandinista intelligence chief, Tomás Borge, also unexpectedly showed up in Lima last August.

Peruvian nationals who worked for the United Nations in El Salvador, such as Carlos Chipoco and Diego García Sayán, are also playing an important role today in Peru. Chipoco was the lawyer for members of the narco-terrorist Shining Path who were killed in 1986 while in prison, and García Sayán worked for the UN team in El Salvador, and is today a leading proponent of negotiations with the narco-terrorists—and of drug legalization—back in Peru.

Both of these policies are promoted and financed internationally by speculator George Soros, who provides funds to these networks through Human Rights Watch, the Lindesmith Center, and the Drug Policy Foundation—all proponents of drug legalization. Aside from being a guest of the Lindesmith Center, García Sayán is the executive director of the Andean Jurists' Commission, an NGO protected by the UN which attacks the war on drugs. In Colombia and Peru, he has been accused of supporting terrorists.

Right in the middle of the Lima hostage crisis, García (also a member of the Inter-American Dialogue) provocatively invited former Colombian President Belisario Betancourt to Lima. Betancourt was the head of the lying UN “Truth Commission” in El Salvador, which blamed the Armed Forces for 95% of the human rights violations in that country. He sent a letter urging that the UN be brought in to broker a “peaceful solution” to the hostage crisis, something also constantly promoted by García Sayán.

One fist across the region

Clearly, we are dealing here with an international narco-terrorist apparatus, centered in London, which operates throughout Ibero-America through the groups and networks associated with the São Paulo Forum.

A snapshot of this apparatus surfaced publicly back in May 1993, when the first large Nicaraguan weapons bunker was discovered—when it blew up on the outskirts of Managua.

The bunker’s owner was Eusebio Arzallus Tapia, a member of Spain’s narco-terrorist ETA, several of whose cadre took refuge in Nicaragua and were protected by the Sandinistas. The bunker contained kidnapping plans, including lists of targeted Ibero-American businessmen, and phony passports. According to the Brazilian press, the lists included names of Brazilian businessmen and Mexican banker Harp Helú, who was in fact kidnapped a short time later. One participant in this kidnapping was Peruvian Juan Carlos Caballero Velásquez, a member of Cerpa’s commando who was arrested in Bolivia in 1996 for the November 1995 kidnapping of Bolivian businessman and politician, Samuel Doria Medina. The ransom Cerpa collected for that job helped to finance last December’s seizure of the Japanese residence.

There are many MRTA members jailed in Peru who are foreign nationals—veterans of Chile’s MIR, Spain’s ETA, Nicaragua’s Sandinistas, and El Salvador’s FMLN. Among them are Jaime Castillo Petruzzi and Sergio Cruz Suárez. During the first half of this decade, Castillo and Caballero led the MRTA’s “special extortion and kidnapping force” in a brutal series of kidnappings. In fact, it was the veteran Peruvian “internationalists” who fought with the Sandinistas in the late 1970s, who founded the MRTA.

It is this same apparatus which has again come to the surface with the discovery in February of another large weapons bunker.

Nicaraguan president Arnaldo Alemán responded angrily to the news of its existence, and demanded that the Salvadoran FMLN “come clean” and inform the authorities of how many other secret arms caches they have, that they also did not turn over to the United Nations. Alemán is asking the right question, but of the wrong people: the question should rather be put to the United Nations, and their sponsors in London.

Sudan resists London’s proxy invasions

by Linda de Hoyos

Sudan President Omar al-Bashir took the issue of the invasion of his country since January of this year, in separate appeals to the heads of state of the Organization of Islamic Conference in Islamabad, Pakistan on March 23, and again to heads of state and ministers gathered at the summit on the Zaire crisis of the Organization of African Unity in Lomé, Togo on March 27. Speaking of his country’s position on a “cultural and strategic borderline” in Africa, President al-Bashir said that Sudan had been exposed to “an atrocious foreign aggression,” which threatened the “unity, sovereignty, and independence—as well as territorial integrity”—of Sudan.

The countries invading Sudan are Ethiopia, Eritrea, and Uganda, working in tandem in a two-front war launched against Sudan from the east on Jan. 12 and the south on March 9. All military operations have been carried out under the cover of Dinka-tribe-based Sudanese People’s Liberation Army of John Garang. The Western press is loathe to acknowledge the military role of Ethiopia, Eritrea, and Uganda against Sudan, with the notable exception of Sam Kiley of the London *Times*, who noted that Garang, President Yoweri Museveni of Uganda, Isais Afwerki of Eritrea, and Meles Zenawi of Ethiopia—all leftist guerrilla leaders of long association—have joined for war against Sudan, with the “quiet backing of Great Britain” and the United States.

Also involved from the sidelines, in the eastern front at least, is Israel. Eritrea is home to an Israeli base, and according to the Jordanian newspaper *Amman al-Hadath* of Feb. 24, a fresh shipment of heavy and medium weapons for the war was delivered in mid-February to the Eritrean port of Massawa, whence it was transported to the al-Ruways camp on the Sudan-Eritrea border, for use in the war against Sudan. In addition, a 13-member Israeli military team is training Sudanese insurgents.

Even so, the Sudanese Armed Forces, bolstered by an extraordinary mobilization within the civilian population, have been able to push back the invasion on both fronts.

The invasion from the east had already stalled by the end of February. The plans of the SPLA-Eritrea-Ethiopia combined to cut the highway and rail routes from Khartoum to Port Sudan were not realized; and public plans to seize the Rosieres Dam, which supplies Khartoum with most of its electricity, met the same fate. Similarly, the battle cry of Sadiq al-Mahdi, head of the British-organized National Democratic Alliance, which provides the political cover for Garang, for