

Report from Rio by Silvia Palacios

London's MST slanders EIR

EIR exposés of the Landless Movement as a tool of British colonialism have begun to draw its fire.

On Feb. 10, the Brazilian daily *Folha de São Paulo* published a statement issued by the national leadership of the so-called Landless Movement (MST), which accused *EIR*'s Brazil correspondent Lorenzo Carrasco of being involved in the death of an MST'er in the state of Parana, a death which apparently occurred during an MST land invasion. The accusation, in effect a threat, was issued by João Pedro Stedile, MST national coordinator. Stedile claimed, among other things, that Carrasco "has links to the ultra-right and to the U.S.'s intelligence services."

Similar slanders are circulating in Mexico, spread by individuals tied to Zapatista National Liberation Army (EZLN) commander Bishop Samuel Ruiz. In Mexico, *EIR* founder Lyndon LaRouche and the Ibero-American Solidarity Movement have been targets of repeated attacks by Jesuit David Fernández, whose human rights center is a front for international support for the Zapatistas. The most recent attack occurred in January, at precisely the moment the EZLN launched its latest offensive.

The MST's attack is in response to the exposés in *EIR* and its Spanish-language edition, *Resúmen Ejecutivo*, which have documented that the MST (like its EZLN fellow terrorists) is an instrument of the British oligarchy in using chaos and terror to create a separatist or "limited sovereignty" experiment in the region of Pontal del Paranapanema, and elsewhere.

One of the major concerns of Stedile and his controllers is the *EIR* revelations of the operational ties between the two offspring of British geo-

politics: the MST and the EZLN. This is clear even from the MST's own statement: "One can see the coincidence of repressive methods that we witnessed today in Parana, with the methods used against the peasants in Chiapas, Mexico."

No matter how hard they may try to deny MST-EZLN coordination, it is an open secret. For example, Goiás Bishop Tomás Balduino, president of the Pastoral Land Commission, said to the Ninth National Conference of the MST in January: "Both [MST and EZLN], with all their differences, have a plan of enormous importance for occupying the land."

There exists other high-level EZLN-MST coordination, thanks to former French First Lady Danielle Mitterrand, heiress of Anglo-French colonialism and one of the most zealous promoters of one-worldism and the creation of "indigenous enclaves." Late last year, just before arriving in Mexico to propose the creation of a Kurdish-style enclave for the Chiapas region of Acteal, an oil-rich zone controlled by the EZLN, she travelled to Brazil for a series of private meetings with the MST leadership and its ideologue, Fray Betto.

The "enclave" has been her obsession in every initiative toward Brazil. Danielle and her husband, the late François Mitterrand, for example, furiously defended the creation of the Yanomami Indian reserve, which was conceived to impose "limited sovereignty" upon Brazil in the resource-rich Amazon.

If there remains any doubt that the British control the MST, the following should clear that away. During the

MST's national conference, where its current offensive was planned, the MST changed its leadership in the critical Pontal del Paranapanema, replacing the Maoist Jose Rainha, considered the military chieftain of the organization, for Delwek Matheus, who meets regularly with officials of the Tony Blair government in London. Last Oct. 16, *Gazeta Mercantil* reported that Matheus met with Britain's Deputy Minister of Development and Foreign Relations, George Folks.

This former ministry for administration of Britain's colonies is still the brains for colonial control, especially of Africa. It is from there that former Development Minister Lynda Chalker controlled Yoweri Museveni of Uganda, and other African leaders responsible for genocide in Central Africa. That policy remains the same under current minister Clare Short.

Everything indicates that backing for the MST is part of the agreements that Brazilian President Fernando Henrique Cardoso has struck with the British Empire. Matheus's trip coincided with one to Britain by the president of Brazil's National Institute of Colonization and Agrarian Reform, Milton Seligman, who urged the British non-governmental organizations, which back the MST, not to harass the official visit to Britain that President Cardoso was then planning for early December 1997, in which he received the title "Sir" from Queen Elizabeth.

Seligman brought with him a proposal that the European Union give preference to agricultural products exported from settlements controlled by the MST. Meanwhile, inside Brazil, the MST, and the government's economic policy, known as the "Real Plan," have wrecked agriculture in such productive areas as Rio Grande do Sul, while driving down the value of productive land in several other regions by as much as 60%.