

# Colombia's 'Demilitarized Zone' Is a Command Center for Nazi Genocide

by Javier Almario

The 43,000 square kilometers of Colombian territory which treasonous President Andrés Pastrana surrendered to the narco-terrorist FARC as a supposed condition for beginning peace negotiations—territory which has ironically come to be known as a “demilitarized zone” (DMZ)—is today the central command headquarters for a foreign operation seeking to splinter the Colombian nation, impose bloody tyrannies on the shards of territory that remain, loot natural resources, and carry out genocide against the Colombian population, all to the benefit of Wall Street/City of London financiers.

On Nov. 7, 1998, the government officially created the DMZ, withdrawing all military and police forces, and leaving five townships, with a population of more than 90,000—Mesetas, San Vicente del Caguán, La Uribe, Macarena, and Vistahermosa—in the hands of the narco-terrorist FARC (Figure 1). In less than two years, the DMZ, located in the center of production and trafficking of coca, cocaine, opium, and heroin, has become the command center for a full-fledged assault against the nation, and yet the Pastrana government continues its “peace process,” without any backing from the Colombian people. Indeed, Colombians view Pastrana’s so-called “dialogue” with the FARC as a concession to narco-terrorists whose apparent interest in peace is but a cover for seizing power and establishing a dictatorship.

In sharp contrast to the view of the average Colombian, Pastrana’s illusory “peace dialogue” and the DMZ are fervently encouraged by the U.S. State Department, international bankers, the United Nations Organization, numerous non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and the British designers of this entire policy to destroy the sovereign nation-state.

Indeed, international bankers gathered on July 26-28 at a seminar entitled “Wall Street Looks at Colombia,” where they spoke of the “balkanization of Colombia,” and of the “territorial division” of Colombia among competing terrorist groups. These bankers, invited to the meeting by the New York-based Council of the Americas, and by the Colombian think-tanks Fedesarrollo and the National Association of Financial Institutions, have met with the FARC—some openly and some secretly—and continue to insist on the need to maintain the DMZ and to continue the “peace dialogue.”

On July 4, during the annual assembly of the Bishops

FIGURE 1  
**Colombia Is Being Handed over to the FARC Narco-Terrorists**



Conference of the Roman Catholic Church in Colombia, Msgr. Alfonso Cabezas, the bishop of Villavicencio, charged that the FARC had turned the DMZ into “a concentration camp for kidnap victims,” where the FARC holds in captivity children, businessmen, soldiers, police, relatives of prominent Colombians, and so on, in anticipation of receiving huge ransoms to finance their continued terrorist operations. From

the DMZ, and with the treasonous collaboration of President Pastrana, the FARC is blackmailing the media, and the various social strata of the country, into going down on their knees and, like slaves, accepting a de facto FARC government. Former kidnap victims of the FARC maintain that not only does the DMZ contain concentration camps, but also “extermination camps,” where kidnap victims are executed when their families are unwilling, or unable, to pay their ransoms.

In pursuit of its illusory peace, the Pastrana government is deploying the entire national leadership of the country to FARClandia, as the DMZ is known inside Colombia. Thousands of candidates for public posts are trekking to FARClandia, to literally seek permission from the narco-terrorists to conduct their political campaigns. Those who don't, face death threats against themselves and their families, and are either forced to withdraw their candidacies, flee, or be killed.

The DMZ is also an arena for the forced recruitment of children, who are dragged into the FARC's war against Colombia. There are reports that, in various parts of the country, street gangs are kidnapping children, and selling them to the FARC as slaves, for \$250 to \$5,000 each. These children are trained to carry out attacks against the FARC's targets, and are the first to die as cannon fodder in the growing number of terrorist assaults the FARC has been carrying out against towns outside the DMZ. Most of the kidnap victims are registered as “missing” or “runaway” children, who are generally ignored by the press because the majority of them belong to poor families. The training camps are in the El Caguán zone, named for an important river which crosses FARClandia.

When the DMZ was made official in 1998, just a few months after Pastrana took office, the government also included in the package the surrender of the region's 100,000 inhabitants as virtual slaves to the FARC. The first thing that the FARC did was to shut down schools, and to force children and youth into obligatory training with the FARC. The FARC also expelled civil authorities — mayors, judges, prosecutors, notaries, and so forth — from the region. It expelled Catholic priests, Protestant ministers, professors, and anyone who might be viewed by the population as an authority figure.

During the first few days of the DMZ's existence, the FARC told the people that, from that point onward, they would be under the complete authority of the FARC, and that any and all of their activities — entering or leaving the area, buying or selling cattle, food, merchandise, homes, or land, hiring workers, and so forth — had to be explicitly authorized by the FARC. Similarly, the FARC announced that all agricultural production would be used and distributed according to FARC guidelines. All individual liberties disappeared. Despite threats, hundreds of DMZ residents fled the zone, and denounced assassinations, child kidnappings, and theft of cattle, crops, and real estate, by the FARC.

The DMZ is also where some of the most important financial and economic deals in Colombia are being struck. To discuss new “investment opportunities,” the FARC leaders in the DMZ have already been visited by New York Stock

Exchange president Richard Grasso, by America OnLine (AOL) director Jim Kimsey, by the cream of Colombia's business elites, and by innumerable international businessmen and financiers. Would-be investors in Colombia, including executives of multinational oil companies, international supermarket chains, and banks, make a point of first visiting the FARC in El Caguán, to negotiate the terms of the “tax” that the FARC has levied against the country's business elites, which at the moment stands at 10% of their patrimony.

A former leader of one of the FARC's military commands claims that, with the help of experts brought in from what were at the time the Soviet Union and East Germany, deposits of uranium, titanium, and other strategic minerals were discovered in the Serranía de la Macarena, a natural park which today constitutes part of the FARC-run DMZ. It is suspected that these resources figure in secret negotiations between U.S. operatives and the FARC.

Also, many of Colombia's traditional businessmen have been forced to abandon the country because of “security” problems and, before leaving, have sold their businesses to one or another multinational, which benefitted from a prior arrangement with the narco-terrorists. Thus, thanks to the FARC, “globalization” is proceeding apace in Colombia.

Worst of all is that the only thing the Pastrana government has done for Colombia is to carry out a policy designed by the City of London and Wall Street, and enthusiastically encouraged by the U.S. State Department. This was confirmed by outgoing U.S. Ambassador to Colombia Curtis Kamman, who, in an interview with ANCOL news agency on July 31, said that it was “unfortunate” that the U.S. government “cannot have direct contact with the FARC until it hands over those responsible for the crime against the three indigenists” (a reference to three U.S. Indian leaders who were assassinated by the FARC), but that the United States “encourages other countries and international agencies to converse and maintain contact with the FARC.” Kamman held out the possibility that the U.S. government would officially invest money in the FARC-controlled zones, once a “more solid” peace agreement was reached.

That is, while U.S. officials are not legally permitted to hold direct dialogue with the assassins of the three Americans, the U.S. State Department is using its international diplomacy to encourage nations in Europe, Ibero-America, and elsewhere to support the FARC and carry out all sorts of deals with the narco-terrorists.

Indeed, it was precisely such U.S. diplomatic support which enabled the Pastrana government to organize an “international audience” for the FARC on June 29-30, on illegal crops and “alternative” development. The event was attended by ambassadors from Europe, Ibero-America, Japan, and Canada, as well as by UN officials Jan Egeland and Jean Pierre Gontard. These officials were received at the San Vicente del Caguán airport by the FARC's “financial secretary” Raúl Reyes, with all the pomp of state-to-state diplomacy. The meeting was held at the former military base of the Batallón

Cazadores. The international delegates listened with rapt attention to the FARC's proposals for legalizing the drug trade, an aim shared with speculator George Soros.

The U.S. Embassy and U.S. State Department also encourage ongoing campaigns to paralyze Colombia's Armed Forces, with arbitrary accusations of "human rights" violations designed to prevent the military from maintaining Colombia's territorial integrity. In a situation where there are at least four private quasi-armies operating in Colombia, and the nation's Armed Forces are under explicit orders not to conduct any offensive actions against these groups, the Colombian Attorney General's office, Prosecutor General's office, the NGOs, and the U.S. State Department accuse officers of human rights abuse "by omission," for having failed to prevent massacres carried out by these terrorist hordes. As the saying goes, "damned if you do, and damned if you don't." If one were to pursue the same argument in the United States that is being used against Colombia's military, police agents and Pentagon officers would be sitting in jail today for all the murders committed in the city of Washington, D.C.

### **Caguán: Epicenter of the War**

From the Caguán region, the FARC's 20,000 terrorists control half of Colombia's national territory. In that zone, which encompasses the eastern plains, the Amazon, and the provinces of Caquetá, Huila, Nariño, Cauca, and part of the Cauca Valley, the FARC is imposing identity cards different from the official citizen registry card all Colombians carry. From the Caguán, the FARC announced that any Colombian with assets of \$1 million or more must surrender 10% of their income to the FARC, or face kidnapping and eventual assassination. Immediately, they carried out an action designed to paralyze with terror the vast majority of Colombians. In the town of Chiquinquirá, in front of television cameras, FARC terrorists detonated a bomb that had been glued to the neck of a respected local farmer who had refused to pay her "tax." In view of the widespread repudiation of the crime, the FARC leadership decided to deny authorship, while the ever-compliant Pastrana government, fearful of damaging the "peace process," "ingenuously" accepted the narco-terrorists' denial.

From the DMZ, the FARC has carried out the destruction of 230 Colombian townships, beginning with Mitúia on the border with Brazil. Colombia has a total of 1,070 townships. All the towns that have been attacked by FARC commandos have been decimated, as if hit by tornados. The FARC's *modus operandi* is to use gas cylinders converted into high-caliber mortars. The detonations, while ostensibly directed against the local police stations, nonetheless end up destroying 80% of the homes in the town, leaving those inhabitants without a roof over their heads and forcing mass exodus. Also targeted in each town they hit are the clinics and schools, evoking chilling reminders of the Khmer Rouge genocide in Cambodia.

The Pastrana government has decided to withdraw police

forces from 189 of the townships that have been attacked by the FARC, leaving their populations at the mercy of the narco-terrorists, or what the government euphemistically calls "common criminals." Medellín and Cali, the country's second and third most important cities after the capital of Bogotá, have suffered repeated car-bombings and large-scale dynamite attacks, directed against Army and Police headquarters. The FARC and their National Liberation Army (ELN) allies have gone from individual kidnappings to collective kidnappings on highways, airplanes, and at religious and social events.

The result is that, in 1999, there were nine kidnappings a day, while in 1995, there were three a day. It is estimated that in 2000, that figure will rise to 18 a day. The FARC and ELN target every social strata for kidnapping, not just the upper classes. Even minimum-wage workers are forced to pay \$500 to ransom their children from the terrorists. Today, there are an estimated 72 assassinations every day in Colombia, a record number. As can be imagined, these levels of insecurity and the fear they produce, are seriously affecting economic activity in the country.

Armed Forces officers, who are unjustly accused of virtually every massacre or assassination that occurs in the country, are also under legal siege—half of the country's active officers have been legally served by the offices of either the Attorney General or Prosecutor General. The government is also under orders from the International Monetary Fund to strangle the Armed Forces by cutting their budget. Newly appointed Finance Minister Juan Manuel Santos, a vice president of the pro-drug-legalization Inter-American Dialogue, has ordered cutbacks in intelligence budgets, soldiers' rations, weapons outlays, and the operating expenses of the Armed Forces.

Some sources say that the only chance the Colombian Army and Police have, is the so-called "Plan Colombia," military aid which the United States has approved for Colombia. However, this "aid" is a far cry from the help—financial aid, training, and matériel—that Colombia's military needs if it is to beat back narco-terrorism. Ambassador Kamman, for example, forbade the use of U.S.-donated BlackHawk helicopters by Colombian police forces on July 21, when they were urgently needed to rescue wounded police officers besieged by the FARC. The result was that the police were killed (see box).

The U.S. law that approved "Plan Colombia," explicitly establishes that U.S. aid can only be used to combat the drug trade, and not against "insurgent groups"—that is, the FARC and the ELN. If used other than during anti-narcotics operations, that law states, the aid will be suspended. This law draws a non-existent distinction between the drug trade and terrorism.

### **Where Is the FARC's Money?**

There has been a lot of guesswork regarding how much money the FARC has collected through the drug trade, kid-

nappings, bank robberies, and from “quotas” or “taxes” against the population. Some researchers say that the FARC has collected the equivalent of 10% of the Gross National Product (that is, some \$10 billion); others speak of even larger sums. The government speaks very conservatively of \$1 billion a year. It is known that the FARC and the ELN have given money to keep the bankrupt Cuban economy afloat, and to finance operations by the international terrorist organization, the São Paulo Forum, in the rest of the Americas. Jorge Briceño, alias “Mono Jojoy,” has brazenly stated that if the government wants the FARC to stop kidnapping, it will have to come up with \$2 billion a year (twice the government’s defense budget!) to compensate for what the FARC would otherwise be “earning.”

The question is: In what banks has the FARC stashed its ill-gotten cash? What investments does it have on Wall Street? And what is being done with that money? One of the answers is that it is buying high-caliber weaponry. In its DMZ, the FARC has tanks, some of them made there, using parts from caterpillar tractors. Thanks to the Colombian government, the FARC is building bomb-proof bunkers, airports, airstrips, and shelters of every kind. It is known that it is buying surface-to-air, air-to-air, and air-to-surface missiles, and it is suspected as well that the FARC is buying combat airplanes on the international black market. There is already a flotilla of airplanes in Caguán, which are used for both transport and re-supply.

Despite the U.S. government’s evident diplomatic backing for the FARC, the FARC has issued a standing invitation to the United States to invade Colombia so that it can wage its “anti-imperialist war.” It threatens to take out the sophisticated weaponry it has hidden away and to use it. The State Department’s refusal to back the Colombian nation-state against the narco-terrorists could create a Frankenstein’s monster that will turn on its own creators, igniting the entire Andean region. Some sectors of society fear that the FARC will serve as an excuse for the Anglo-Americans to give Colombia the “Iraq treatment.”

## Resistance

The artificial growth of the FARC, whose creation seems to have been designed by the computers in the psychological warfare division of London’s Tavistock Institute, presupposes that a defenseless, terrorized, and broken Colombian population will blindly accept the division of the country into separate “coca republics” under FARC tyranny. However, the government has thus far failed to create a new DMZ in the north, as had been its plan, because of the population’s furious opposition. The government had hoped to turn the southern portion of Bolívar province into a new demilitarized zone for the ELN, which would consolidate the partition of the country. Twenty thousand peasants, with the backing of another 100,000, have thus far blocked the government from carrying out this latest travesty. The peasants and the local authorities have been accused by the

## Life under the FARC

In recent weeks, the FARC has begun a systematic campaign of terrorist attacks on dozens of small Colombian towns that had little or no capability of defending themselves. Two examples follow:

Some 300 FARC terrorists descended on the town of Arboleda, in the province of Caldas, on July 29. During a 36-hour siege, they detonated 250 propane gas pipebombs, setting fire to much of the town. People fled to the nearby mountains as their town burned to the ground. At least 12 policemen and four civilians were murdered, and their bodies mutilated. The police commander of the province said the terrorists played soccer with the heads of some of their victims.

On July 14, the town of Ronesvalle, in Tolima province, was attacked by FARC terrorists, and razed. When its tiny police force ran out of ammunition, and walked out of the ruins with their hands up, the FARC executed them one at a time, with a single shot to the head. According to military and police intelligence, this FARC strategy of taking no prisoners is designed to force the government to withdraw the outnumbered police forces from these small rural towns in an ever-expanding area beyond the FARC-controlled DMZ, thus effectively abandoning the population to FARC tyranny.

Pastrana government, and by the FARC/ELN, of being “paramilitaries” and “enemies of peace,” charges which in Colombia constitute assassination threats. Former Armed Forces commander Gen. Harold Bedoya (ret.), the only visible national leader to have defended the Bolívar peasants, has been similarly attacked.

Despite the fact that approximately 1 million Colombians have fled the violence in Colombia since 1998, there is developing among those who cannot or will not leave, a reaction of “Enough!” to the crimes of the FARC and the ELN. Until now, and thanks in large part to pro-terrorist propaganda by the “human rights” NGOs, the population has simply been a victim. Because of government inaction, the war has been between the FARC/ELN narco-terrorists, who enjoy a virtually unlimited budget for sowing chaos and terror, and a population which the government has refused to defend: as the saying goes, “a battle between a tiger and a hobbled donkey.” But slowly, people are starting to lose their fear of death, as they, their children, and their very nation are pushed up against the wall. A small but definite crack in the victim’s mentality surfaced recently, when the country’s business sectors collectively decided that they would not give a cent in “tax” money to the FARC, even in the face of death.