

Rumsfeld's 'Ungoverned Areas' Spread Across The Americas; Will War Follow?

By Gretchen Small

In November 2002, U.S. Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld attended the Fifth Defense Ministerial of the Americas, in Santiago, Chile, to personally deliver an ultimatum: The governments of the Americas must create a multinational military force tasked to intervene in the terrorist-infested "ungoverned areas" of the hemisphere, or the United States might do so unilaterally. Foreign intervention into "unoccupied parts of countries," whether in the Americas or elsewhere on the globe, is justified, he argued, because that's where terrorists, drug-runners, and destabilizers of democratic governments lurk.

Thus was launched the "Rumsfeld Corollary" to Vice President Dick Cheney's doctrine of imperial "preemptive" war." That is, that the "war on terrorism" justifies the elimination of national sovereignty in areas where government authority is weak or non-existent. An argument not unlike, in its logic, the Cheney-Rumsfeld doctrine that the war on terrorism justifies the violation of the Geneva Conventions, and the practice of torture.

What neither Cheney nor Rumsfeld state publicly, however, is that the same synarchist financiers who direct their drive for world empire and dictatorship, whose cannibalization of the physical economies of the region over three decades has driven these nations to the point of disintegration, also finance and deploy the left-wing synarchists who are creating the very conditions of ungovernability which provide the pretext for their planned military interventions.

"That's the way these things work: as left-right operations, with Cheney and company on the 'right,' and [Fidel] Castro and [Hugo] Chávez on the 'left,'" U.S. Democratic Party Presidential candidate Lyndon LaRouche explained, in a May 19 campaign statement warning of the terrorist threat stemming from these right-left provocations in the Americas. (See *Editorial*)

On May 6, the Bush Administration, undeterred by the disaster resulting from the war to bring "democracy" to Iraq, threw a hand-grenade into the Americas, with the release of the final report of its Commission for Assistance to a Free Cuba, outlining a strategy to: (1) "bring an end to the ruthless and brutal dictatorship" in Cuba; "assist the Cuban people in a transition to representative democracy"; and "assist the Cuban people in establishing a free-market economy." Over

the next two years, \$59 million is to be spent on this "Free Cuba" project, with other countries pressed to join yet another would-be "coalition of the willing."

The Castro regime responded in kind, as it has for nearly 50 years, mobilizing its assets throughout the Americas. For if there is one thing upon which the right and left synarchists fervently concur, it is that terror and war are the means to achieve their objectives. Since Sept. 11, 2001, Rumsfeld repeatedly has raved that the war on terrorism must go on for 100 years. So, too, Fidel Castro protegee Hugo Chávez has repeatedly raved, that should Washington move to overthrow his regime, Venezuela "has enough allies on this continent to start a 100-year war." Preparing to come to Chávez' aid are the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC), South America's largest drug cartel and terrorist army, whose spokesman, Raúl Reyes—the FARC killer notorious for negotiating with former New York Stock Exchange chairman Richard Grasso—told Colombia's terrorist-linked ANNCOL news agency on May 4, that "the FARC sympathizes with the government of Hugo Chávez," which they expect to stand up to the "oligarchs."

From Venezuela. . .

Potential target areas for supranational intervention discussed at the 2002 Defense Ministerial were Colombia, Haiti, and the Triple Border Area, where Paraguay, Argentina and Brazil meet. Other areas were also on the radar screen at that time at the U.S. Army War College, where Col. Joseph Nuñez had been tasked to draw up a proposal for a supranational force (See *EIR*, Dec. 20, 2002). Some at the Army War College at that time had gone so far as to identify the giant *favelas* (slums) of Rio de Janeiro and São Paulo as potential targets for intervention!

Eighteen months of the Cheney-Rumsfeld "Global War on Terror" later, the entirety of South America is becoming one, big, "ungoverned area." The governments of Bolivia, Peru and Ecuador are in the process of being swept away, as masses of angry, starving people, employed and mostly unemployed, finding no one to take up their cause, are being mobilized under the leadership of narcoterrorist agitators. Brazil is a powderkeg set to explode into a new "Colombia." Driving the disintegration of national governments, is the col-

lapse of the physical economies of the region, the result of more than two decades of International Monetary Fund-directed cannibalization of the region's infrastructure, productive capabilities, and peoples.

The Chávez-Castro-Cheney combination have thus brought the entire continent to the brink of generalized warfare. The most immediate flashpoint looming, is Venezuela, around the scheduled voting to "repair" the referendum on whether President Chávez should be recalled, or finish out his term. In December 2003, the opposition turned in 3.4 million signatures gathered in the recall referendum, well over the 2.4 million required by the Constitution, but the Chávez-stacked National Election Council, backed by a Chávez-stacked chamber of the Supreme Court, threw out 1.2 million signatures on a technicality. Under international pressure, the Chávez regime agreed that signers could verify their signatures in a new polling, before the final decision would be made. That verification is now scheduled for May 28-31.

The back-and-forth over whether Chávez could be removed from office by electoral means, has kept the situation from exploding out of control for the past few months. Chávez and his movement, however, have no intention of leaving government, no matter what the results. Both sides are arming for civil war, when the referendum option is finally buried, as it is expected will occur, one way or the other, around the coming vote.

The hardcore of the synarchist militants within the opposition are centered around the Democratic Bloc, whose chosen spokesman is Alejandro Peña, the self-proclaimed asset of the old Spanish Franco-ite fascist, Blas Piñar. The Bloc, which also interlocks with the radical right-wing networks of the Miami Cuban exile community, has been organizing for an armed overthrow of the regime, and in early March threatened that any soldier or officer who did not side with them, is to be considered "a traitor. . . an agent of Fidel Castro, and should be treated as such." Former National Guard Gen. Felipe Rodríguez announced to the *Miami Herald* in early April, that he had formed a clandestine *Contra* force, the "Freedom Commandos." Then came the May 6 public call for the military overthrow of Chávez from former President Carlos Andrés Pérez, a synarchist asset since his days with the Dulles brothers' notorious Caribbean Legion.

Not to be outdone, Chávez announced to a huge rally in Caracas on May 16, that he had ordered the military beefed up, a doubling of the military reservists, and the training of civilian militias by retired military officers. Under the Constitution, Chávez officials added, everyone is required to join the regime's militias.

To Bolivia. . . .

Peru and Bolivia form the other immediate epicenter of crisis in the Andean region, as both nations face an integrated, coca-grower insurgency led by megaspeculator George Soros's narcoterrorist assets, spanning both countries. The immi-

nent collapse of the Toledo government in Peru is described in an accompanying article. The situation in Bolivia is no better. President Gonzalo Sánchez de Lozada, a mining baron, was run out of office in October 2003, by mass protests provoked by his disdain for the destruction wreaked by his Wall Street buddies' policies. Barely seven months later, his successor, Carlos Mesa, is hanging by a thread.

Since taking office last October, Mesa has been caught between mass protests led by Morales and crew, demanding economic relief, and Bush Administration ultimata that he make no concessions, either on coca eradication, or free trade economic policy. As soon as Mesa came in—before he had made any concessions to the popular uprisings he faces—neo-conservatives in Washington added Bolivia to the regional "axis of evil" they have constructed of Lula da Silva's Brazil, Chávez's Venezuela, Fidel Castro's Cuba, and Néstor Kirchner's Argentina.

High-level military sources in La Paz, Bolivia reported in mid-April that the U.S. Embassy there is pressing for a "constitutional" coup against Mesa. Mesa brought "recalcitrant leftists" and people close to coca-producer Evo Morales into his government, in a desperate attempt to form some base for it. The U.S. Embassy reportedly does not want a military coup, but wishes to see Mesa replaced by the head of the Senate, whom they "suggest" could then call new elections.

Funny thing: The most radical of the leftist forces, around self-declared terrorist Felipe Quispe and the Bolivian Labor Federation (COB), began a campaign for immediate elections in May. Should that occur, sources in La Paz report, Bolivia would likely become unsalvageably polarized between poor supporters of the George Soros-linked narcoterrorist leader Evo Morales, and middle-class and wealthy backers of the World Bank's favorite privatizer in Bolivia, Jorge Quiroga. Quiroga, a U.S.-educated yuppie, served as interim President from July 2001-August 2002, after then-President Hugo Bánzer developed terminal cancer.

Given the current conditions of advanced economic devastation, should Mesa be driven out, as the U.S. Embassy reportedly envisions, civil war could result. Quispe has already announced he has a "mandate to organize armed struggle, if its necessary."

Should Rumsfeld's doctrine be implemented—should U.S. troops, or the proposed force of Chilean-Argentine troops, for example, enter Bolivia, Venezuela, the Rio slums, or any other part of Ibero America, under the pretext of "restoring order" in the wake of governmental collapse—it will trigger continental war. And out of that conflagration, no government will survive—an outcome preferred far more by the synarchist financiers, than the possibility that the Ibero-American nations develop within themselves the leadership required to defend their peoples from the bankers' genocide, and join with other nations in breaking with the financial system which is crushing them.