

Soros' Army of Legalizers

"Many *cocalero* brothers . . . after what happened in Bolivia . . . are asking to take up arms," Peru's leading *cocalero* Nelson Palomino told *Correo* daily Oct. 27. Palomino's Peruvian Federation of Coca Growers coordinates tightly with Evo Morales, the leader of the Bolivian uprising. Last February, representatives of Morales and Palomino met with Soros' drug-legalization team at a conference in Merida, Mexico, billed as a strategy session to map out the next phase of the legalization war throughout the Americas. The conference was made possible by Soros' money, and a featured speaker was Ethan Nadelmann, director of his Drug Policy Alliance, who said the Merida meeting "shows us that opposition to drug prohibition is popular and widespread in Latin America. And it has begun to unite."

Since the mid-1990s at the latest, Soros' apparatus has financed and directed the Andean Council of Coca Leaf

Producers (CAPHC), which joins Morales and the Peruvian coca-growers, with Ecuadorian, Colombian, and Brazilian assets of the drug cartels. And the Soros-financed Andean Commission of Jurists is one of the leading drug-legalization lobbies in Ibero-America. That commission functions as a de facto branch of Human Rights Watch/Americas; both target government officials and military officers involved in fighting the drug cartels as human rights violators.

Human Rights Watch/Americas is Soros' "baby." He gave it start-up capital, sits on its board, and has poured money into it ever since, as a central part of his drug-legalization project. Jorge Castañeda, Mexico's former Secretary of Foreign Relations and an outspoken advocate of legalizing dope, was named to the executive board of HRW earlier this year. Argentina's former Montonero terrorist leader, Horacio Verbitsky, a member of the HRW advisory board, co-authored the prologue to a new book pushing drug legalization, with none other than Argentina's newly-named Supreme Court judge, Eugenio Zaffaroni.—*Gretchen Small*