

Report from Rio by Silvia Palacios

Bush wields debt-for-ecology threat

The State Department and World Bank are not reckoning with Brazil's resistance to the "ecology" weapon.

George Bush and his Secretary of State James Baker are openly conveying threats against Brazil from the world eco-fascist lobby, as part of the "New Yalta" arrangements of the Anglo-American Establishment with Moscow. The threats say: Either accept the new scheme linking foreign debt negotiations to a phony defense of the Brazilian ecology, or face financial asphyxiation.

During his stay in Tokyo to attend the funeral ceremonies of Japanese Emperor Hirohito, President Bush violated the most elementary notion of sovereignty—both Japanese and Brazilian—by virtually ordering Japanese Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita not to grant any loans for the building of a Brazilian highway extending from the Amazon state of Acre to the border with Peru, which would unite a rich Amazon region with the Pacific Ocean.

A mere 60-kilometer stretch of road is all that is required to unite the highway networks of Peru and Brazil, a span which, according to the Japanese embassy in Brazil and spokesmen of the Brazilian government, was never even included in the financial considerations of the so-called Nakasone Fund. Despite Bush's claims of environmentalist concern over the Acre-Peru construction project, it is clear from the tiny stretch of land involved that Bush is not motivated by the ecology.

Rather, he was clumsily trying to execute the ecological side of the superpowers' New Yalta accords, which is intended to be the pivot for the fascist restructuring of world credit.

With its enormous foreign debt, its vast Amazon territory, and its large zones of environmental devastation, Brazil is meant to be the model target of the debt-for-ecology weapon.

Pressure on Brazil regarding Amazon ecology also came from France. President François Mitterrand said that the Amazon would figure high on the agenda of the next summit of the Group of Seven non-Communist industrialized nations. But Mitterrand's government is not waiting until then. France is sponsoring a super-meeting on world ecology at The Hague, scheduled for March 11 and to be attended by representatives of 23 countries, including heads of government.

The author of the idea for an ecology summit is French Prime Minister Michel Rocard, a leader of the Socialist International. His idea is to create a supranational entity that has the authority to punish "crimes against the environment." This had already been proposed to Brazilian President José Sarney when he stopped over in France on his way to Moscow last year. The same idea, of course, was openly promoted by Soviet boss Mikhail Gorbachov at the U.N. General Assembly last year. Rocard's ecology summit has the unconditional backing of the government of Holland, and also that of Norway, whose Socialist prime minister, Gro Harlem Brundtland, heads the U.N. World Commission on Environment and Development. The Soviets are well represented on that commission, which brings together "globalist" fanatics worldwide.

The campaign to halt Third World development under the guise of ecol-

ogy concerns is becoming increasingly transparent. Taking advantage of last month's high-profile orgy in Brazil, where rabid ecologists and Indians manipulated by Anglo-American intelligence gathered in the Amazon region of Altamira, a mob of European congressmen descended on the country.

European Parliament Deputy Paul Staes of Belgium faithfully represented the latest International Monetary Fund conditionalities by threatening to halt \$600 million worth of financing for the Grande Carajas mining project, "because environmental clauses have not been complied with."

The World Bank, meanwhile, has continued its campaign to shut down Brazil's nuclear program, by issuing its final verdict on the nuclear plant at Angra III. "It is unviable," the Brazil division chief of the World Bank, Mahan Nunasigne, arrogantly pronounced upon suspension of a \$500 million credit for the Brazilian electrical program.

Until now, the Brazilian government's response to this blackmail has been all tangled up in diplomatic warfare under the byzantine control of the Foreign Ministry. But pressure for an all-out confrontation with the financial institutions, and especially with the World Bank, is growing across Brazil.

Reflecting that pressure is a document distributed March 1 by the government at a cabinet meeting held at the Brazilian National Security Council, in which the Sarney government affirmed Brazil's right to "freely deliberate on internal affairs without discrimination by political conditionalities imposed on its financing requests to international agencies." The document concludes with a demand that the World Bank reconsider its veto of Angra III.