

this “San Martín Region,” with the backing of coca-grower Lucas Cachay and Cecilia Oviedo, leaders of the Front for the Defense of the Interests of the People of San Martín (Fedip-SM), and by members of the MRTA and Shining Path. Cachay, who was also a leader of the Selva Maestra Agrarian Federation, had led violent opposition to coca eradication, and his program called “for the autonomous region,” “for the expulsion of the [U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration] DEA from San Martín.” Cachay also demanded “the suspension of the state of emergency . . . the immediate withdrawal of military forces and DEA, since they violate human rights just like our Army. We propose the oversight of a civil authority [i.e., regional government] over the military.” The autonomous regional government that MRTA wanted, would allow it “to make contracts with foreign investors, for oil exploration, for example.”

In parallel with the erection of “people’s power” by the MRTA in the Huallaga, in 1991 it launched a campaign to become legalized, through the Free Fatherland Movement, led by Yehude Simons, Oviedo, and Cachay. Simons began a furious campaign in favor of “peace negotiations with the MRTA,” and drew on the strong support of various Liberation Theology bishops, such as the late Luis Dammert Bellidó. In February 1992, Nicaragua’s Daniel Ortega, in Peru for a São Paulo Forum meeting, proposed that he be mediator for “peace negotiations” between the Peruvian government and the MRTA. Ortega never received a response to this offer.

This double operation was dismantled by President Fujimori, who halted the “regionalization” project, and, through his April 5, 1992 actions, wrecked the “legal” apparatus of the MRTA, the Free Fatherland Movement, and threw Simons—among others—into jail.

With the final, definitive capture of Víctor Polay in June 1992, and the dismantling of the “mother camp” in the Upper Mayo Valley that November, the noose around the MRTA tightened. In April, the kidnapping commando force led by Cárdenas Schulte fell. Beginning in September 1992, the new kidnapping force, headed by Chilean Jaime Castillo Petruzzi, unleashed a wild offensive which ended in October with his capture, along with three other Chileans and all of its Peruvian members.

From 1992 onward, the MRTA sent many of its members to Bolivia, where some 350 Shining Path and MRTA terrorists obtained UNCHR political refugee status, with the agreement of social democratic President Jaime Paz Zamora. Authorities in the succeeding Bolivian government charged that, after four years of penetration, the MRTA threatened to expand its subversive operations to the coca-growing zones of that country, on top of kidnappings.

With important international support, the MRTA prepared two “political blows” that would help it recover: One was discovered and dismantled in December 1995, and the other was carried out on Dec. 17, 1996. As of this writing, the outcome of the second is still pending.

## George Soros finances narco-terrorism, too

by Gretchen Small

Investigating the international support apparatus that undergirds the MRTA terrorists has turned up hard evidence that global speculator and “philanthropist” George Soros—already under the government microscope in three countries for his diverse subversive activities—is not only the primary financier of the international drug legalization lobby,<sup>1</sup> but is also a leading financier of the drug cartel’s narco-terrorist machine.

The starting point for investigating Soros’s role in narco-terrorism, is his Human Rights Watch (HRW), a premier international “human rights” hit squad, deployed against nations targetted by the British Crown. Track the activities of HRW’s division for the Americas, investigate its personnel and who they work with, check the backgrounds of the sources for its “human rights” campaigns, and you will find that HRW/Americas (formerly Americas Watch) functions as an integral part of the cartel’s drug production and terror apparatus in at least the three major drug-producing countries of South America: Colombia, Peru, and Bolivia. (There is a similar case to be made regarding Mexico.)

George Soros gave HRW its start-up capital, and he has continued to pour in his largesse over the years. The group’s 1995-96 Annual Report lists Soros and his wife, Susan, as among their largest donors, those who provide \$100,000 or more. Soros also sits on the board of the HRW’s oldest projects: HRW/Helsinki (founded in 1978 to target Russia, Poland, and the former Czechoslovakia) and HRW/Americas (formed in the early 1980s). His wife joins him on the board of the Helsinki division.

### How the octopus works

HRW boasts a staff of “over 100 regional experts, lawyers, journalists, and linguists,” whose professed job is “to make governments pay a heavy price in reputation and legitimacy if they violate the rights of their people,” according to the 1995-96 Annual Report. While, in the early days, activities were centered on getting the United States to cut off aid

1. See *EIR*, March 22, 1996, “Soros Bankrolling Global Drive for Drug Legalization,” and Jan. 24, 1997, “Soros Gang of Drug Legalizers Challenges the White House.”

to the governments HRW had targetted, today, with expanded capabilities, they boast that they also expect the United Nations, European Union, World Bank, Japan, and Russia to follow their dictates.

HRW's report brags that, over the years, they have "honed a powerful set of techniques" to achieve their aims. The report explains: "Our first, and often most powerful, tool is public stigmatization—the process of investigating, documenting, and publicizing a government's abuses to embarrass it in the eyes of its citizens and the world." That achieved, they then press "for withdrawal of military, economic, and diplomatic support from governments that regularly abuse the rights of their citizens."

They acknowledge that they develop "close partnerships" with local groups in targetted countries, with whom they "work actively . . . to collect evidence of abuses [and] to devise strategies for change."

Soros's Human Rights Watch/Americas is integrated with his Open Society Institute project to force drug legalization. (The current president of Soros's Open Society Fund, Aryeh Neier, previously served as executive director of HRW/Americas.) In 1995, HRW set up a new Drug Program, with a \$69,000 budget for its first year, solely dedicated to hampering anti-drug programs around the world through alleging "human rights abuses."

HRW announced that because "national and international counter-narcotics programs . . . by and large have escaped close human rights scrutiny, in early 1995, HRW began a multi-year effort to document and challenge human rights violations caused or exacerbated by efforts to curtail drug trafficking internationally as well as in the United States." Bolivia was cited as a possible success story, where HRW takes credit for convincing the government to force anti-drug police to wear "name-tags . . . to end their anonymity"—a program to furnish the cartel with bulls'-eyes for its killers!

### **Partners in the Andes: from drug legalizers . . .**

Because the HRW's information is treated as "credible," its charges are repeated in the international media as "fact," and used by governments to make policy, without further investigation. HRW is far from a neutral observer, however. Examine the case of Peru: Here, HRW works with three principal "partners," two of which operate throughout the Andean region: the Andean Commission of Jurists, the Andean Council of Coca Leaf Producers, and Peru's Pro-Human Rights Association (Aprodeh). Each works so closely with HRW/Americas and each other, with overlapping personnel and coordinated deployments, that they function as a single apparatus—all within the narcotics trade.

The **Andean Commission of Jurists**, much cited in the international press as an independent source on human rights

abuses in Peru, is one of the leading drug legalization lobbies in Ibero-America, with offices in the six Andean countries. Its headquarters and largest operation are located in Peru, where it functions as a de facto branch of HRW/Americas, publishing HRW reports in Spanish, under its own logo. Its executive director, **Diego García-Sayan**, authored the foreword for Americas Watch's 1992 book defending the terrorists, *Peru under Fire* (see below).

García-Sayán, a member of the UN mission which negotiated the fraudulent peace accord for El Salvador (Onusal), argues that Colombia should strike a similar deal with terrorist groups there. He is a board member of the Mont Pelerin Society's Peruvian outpost, the Ludwig von Mises Institute, and recently joined the Inter-American Dialogue—both groups in the forefront of the drug legalization effort. García-Sayán works closely with Ethan Nadelmann, the Soros employee who heads the Lindesmith Center drug legalization think-tank, based in Soros's Open Society Institute offices in New York. In July 1993, Nadelmann was a star speaker at a forum on legalization in Lima, organized by the Andean Commission of Jurists.

In February 1996, García-Sayán traveled to New York City to meet with Nadelmann again. As Nadelmann reported afterwards, they discussed how an international campaign to remove the coca leaf from the United Nations' Schedule I list of prohibited drugs, could be used to further the drive for global drug legalization.

On March 13-14, the Andean Commission of Jurists sponsored an "International Meeting on Current Scientific Studies on the Effects of Coca Consumption on Humans" in Lima. The featured speaker was British anthropologist Anthony Henman, the head of the U.K. legalization lobby, Drug Reform, identified by Nadelmann as his top European contact.

Speakers at the conference espoused the alleged virtues of "traditional" uses of drugs, attacked anti-drug efforts as "a threat to the environment," and debated plans to get the Peruvian and Bolivian governments to take up their campaign for coca to be removed from the UN's proscribed substances list.

### **. . . to the FARC's 'cocalero' shock troops**

The **Andean Council of Coca Leaf Producers** (CAPHC) and the Peruvian Center for Social Studies (CEPES) co-sponsored the forum with the Andean Commission of Jurists. The CAPHC interlocks with the Andean Commission of Jurists in both personnel and projects. The head of "Drug Policies and the Phenomenon of Narcotics Trafficking" at the Andean Commission, is **Ricardo Soberón-Garrido**, an official adviser to the CAPHC.

The coordinator of the coca forum was **Hugo Cabieses Cubas**, the executive secretary of the CAPHC and president of CEPES. Several top CAPHC people attended, including

its head, Bolivian radical **Evo Morales**. As *EIR* detailed in its Nov. 10, 1995 *Special Report* on Fidel Castro's narco-terrorist São Paulo Forum, Morales and Cabieses are both São Paulo Forum activists.

The CAPHC is the shock-troop force for the drug cartels. Its self-proclaimed mission is to turn the hundreds of thousands of poor families growing coca in Peru, Bolivia, Ecuador, and Colombia, who are currently enslaved to the drug cartels, into a unified armed insurrectionary force, to defend drug-growing and -trafficking in the region. CAPHC charges that all coca eradication programs are de facto violations of the "growers' rights." CAPHC operates primarily in Bolivia and Peru, and coordinates closely with "coca groups" from Brazil, Colombia, and Ecuador.

On April 18, 1995, the Bolivian government raided a meeting of its directors and advisers, arresting the 24 participants on charges of sedition. The meeting had been called to map a strategy to spread the CAPHC's violent campaign against coca eradication into Peru. More than half were foreigners, who were deported after a few days, including 11 Peruvians, a Brazilian, two Colombians, and a U.S. citizen, among them Cabieses and Soberón-Garrido.

The CAPHC coordinates with the Colombian Communist Party's Revolutionary Armed Forces (FARC), which the Colombian Army has documented constitutes the "Third Cartel," controlling significant sections of Colombia's drug traffic.<sup>2</sup>

In August 1996, Evo Morales visited Colombia, and offered international support for the coca producers, which the FARC had initiated in the southern departments of Caquetá and Putumayo. Morales called on the FARC-led insurrectionists to maintain "strength, unity, and resistance to pressure from the police and military."

Not surprisingly, Morales also defends Elizabeth Aida Ochoa Mamani, one of the MRTA members jailed in Bolivia, for the November 1995 kidnapping of businessman Samuel Doria Medina, as "a human rights defender." In October 1996, shortly before White House drug policy adviser Gen. Barry McCaffrey was to visit Peru, Soberón-Garrido threatened that, should the Peruvian government adopt a U.S.-backed coca eradication program, it would face conflict similar to the one in Colombia's Caquetá.

Hugo Cabieses, for his part, works at the **Pro-Human Rights Association** (Aprodeh), which HRW/Americas uses as a leading source for its charges against Peru. His job? Heading Aprodeh's program on drug-trafficking. When the CAPHC crew were deported from Bolivia, Aprodeh organized their defense.

Aprodeh is a group of lawyers who worked closely with the MRTA leadership from its founding, and defend its

leaders today. Its president is **Francisco Soberón-Garrido**, Ricardo Soberón-Garrido's cousin. Aprodeh's leading guru is Javier Diez Canseco (see MRTA Dossier), a defender of the MRTA who serves on the editorial board of the São Paulo Forum's magazine, *América Libre*.

The Andean Commission of Jurists and Aprodeh are both members of Peru's National Human Rights Coordinator (CNDDHH), whose reports are treated as gospel abroad.

## Knocking out the enemies of the drug cartels

With such "unimpeachable sources," HRW has an unbroken record in Ibero-America of attacking national forces deployed against the drug cartels.

On Nov. 8, 1990, the heads of Colombia's Medellín Cartel, in the midst of their most violent killing spree, sent an open letter signed by "The Extraditables" to a leading politician, promising to free a number of Colombian journalists held as hostages, if the government met one condition: to publish widely a report issued in October by Soros's Americas Watch, which denounced the government's anti-drug actions as violations of the Medellín Cartel's "human rights." The Extraditables demanded "all the communications media of the country . . . provide space to the human rights organizations, so that they can denounce all the violations of these rights. We wish that this opportunity be given, very particularly, to Americas Watch."

Six days later, Juan Méndez, who wrote the Americas Watch report, gave an interview to the Colombian daily *El Espectador*, calling for "the most total disarmament possible" of Colombia—even as the Extraditables were bombing and murdering almost at will. Méndez claimed HRW did not call for the outright abolition of national armed forces, but said, "We do celebrate the decision of Costa Rica in 1948 to dissolve its Armed Forces." Within days, a representative of the terrorists used Americas Watch's report to demand that the Attorney General open an investigation against the Army.

In 1984, Juan Méndez, then executive director of Americas Watch, had visited Lima, where he gave an interview to Shining Path's newspaper, *El Diario*, attacking Peru's military for carrying out a "dirty war" against Shining Path's already widespread terrorism.

In November 1991, Méndez sent a letter to Shining Path chieftain Abimael Guzmán, requesting that he "investigate and sanction" Shining Path members responsible for violating the human rights of six Peruvian soldiers (they had murdered them). Peruvians accused Méndez of using the letter as a ruse to confer virtual recognition on Shining Path as a legitimate belligerent in a "civil war." He denied it, but then stated that if the Shining Path wished to enter into a dialogue with Americas Watch, "perhaps we would do so," if that would help "improve the conduct of both forces."

2. Maj. Luis Alberto Villamarín Pulido, *The FARC Cartel*, Ediciones El Faraón, 1996 (reviewed in *EIR*, Sept. 27, 1996).

As late as 1990, Americas Watch was organizing an international defense for the Association of Democratic Lawyers, which it praised as “promoters of human rights” inside Peru. Yet, it was public by that time, that the Association of Democratic Lawyers was a very important “legal” front for the Shining Path. Headed by a succession of Shining Path’s leaders—such as Marta Huatay, who was political chief of Shining Path operations in Lima, until her capture—various Democratic Lawyers were caught carrying orders for assassinations and bombings from jailed Shining Path leaders, to those on the outside.

### Foreign aid targeted

HRW’s international campaigns to have foreign aid to Peru cut off, often coincided with terrorist offensives inside the country. Over July-September 1991, as Shining Path went on a nationwide offensive, killing more than 200 people in the first two weeks of August, with special affinity for mayors, priests, and security forces members, HRW raised a cry for the U.S. to cut aid.

On Sept. 12, Holly Burkhalter then HRW’s Washington director, testified to Congress that Americas Watch was “firmly opposed to U.S. military aid to Peru,” unless the military was pulled out of the areas designated as emergency zones (areas where Shining Path was largely in control), and military officers prosecuted. She reiterated those demands in a column for the *Christian Science Monitor* four days later, which acknowledged that, without U.S. aid, “Peru will stand alone against an insurgency of incalculable brutality.”

Early in 1992, Americas Watch published *Peru Under Fire: Human Rights Since the Return to Democracy*, to mobilize an international cutoff of foreign aid to Peru, in a desperate attempt to head off Lima’s preparations for unbridled war on the terrorists. *Peru Under Fire* lies that Shining Path “does not appear to be directly involved in the drug trade”; states that “to note the heavy toll of Sendero [Shining Path] attacks is not to consider them illegitimate in all cases”; and brands any civilian who joins military anti-terror actions, “a legitimate target for attack.”

The book’s thesis is that any counterinsurgency action constitutes a violation of human rights, by definition. The book places the entire responsibility for the estimated 23,000 deaths in the war upon *the government alone*. “The cost of the repressive strategy has been more than 23,000 lives, the overwhelming majority of them civilian,” Americas Watch asserted, a fallacy of composition which then was trumpeted around the world.

The London *Financial Times*, for example, reported that the “authoritative” human rights organization, found that the Peruvian Army has killed 23,000 people over a decade.

Today, Human Rights Watch/Americas continues its campaign against government policies which brought some measure of peace back to Peru, by defeating the terrorists with a minimum of bloodshed.

## Red Cross: humanitarian or terrorist sympathizer?

by Valerie Rush

The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), a Swiss-based agency and one of the world’s oldest non-governmental organizations (NGOs), today serves as part of a global terrorist support network which, under the guise of protecting human rights or conducting “humanitarian” interventions, aids and abets the enemies of the sovereign nation-state. Specifically, the ICRC uses as its cover the false claim that terrorist organizations are “combatants” in war, and, therefore, are to be accorded the same status as nation-states.

In numerous parts of the world, the ICRC or its local branches have been found to be accomplices of terrorist insurgencies against elected governments. The latest of such incidents is ongoing in Peru, where the Red Cross is criminally complicit in sabotaging the Fujimori government’s efforts to successfully resolve the hostage situation at the Japanese ambassador’s residence in Lima. Its behavior on behalf of the MRTA is so open, that Peruvian authorities have privately accused the ICRC of facilitating MRTA “media shows,” and of serving as “couriers” between the terrorists in the compound and their jailed colleagues in Peruvian prisons.

ICRC representative Michel Minnig is well-positioned to act as courier. He freely comes and goes in and out of the Japanese ambassador’s residence. Reflecting the government’s view of the ICRC, in early January, President Alberto Fujimori revoked the Red Cross’s right to hold unsupervised visits with jailed MRTA leaders, as it had been permitted to do up to that point. One Red Cross official whined that the organization was appealing to the “highest levels” of government, and expected to have the decision reversed. To date, however, the policy is still in effect, and will remain so until the hostage crisis is over, according to President Fujimori.

The Red Cross has a history of working with Peru’s terrorists, and even openly acknowledged “field contact” with them in its 1993 annual report. Granted permission that year to visit MRTA and Shining Path prisoners, the Red Cross offered them such deferential treatment that prisoners in jail for common crimes protested. In April 1994, Gen. Alfredo Rodríguez, commanding the Peruvian Army’s largest-ever offensive against the MRTA-Shining Path alliance in the Upper Huallaga Valley, charged that the Red Cross was responsible for sabotaging the offensive, by lying about military conduct at precisely the point that the Army was positioned to capture key narco-terrorist leaders. Those leaders then escaped.