

gether to discuss an agenda for a democratic government and democratic programs at such time as they can regain their rightful places as democratic, elected leaders in their own country. Many of them were legitimately, democratically elected leaders in their democratically elected Parliament in Sudan before the military takeover by the present regime.

Q: During Jan. 7-15, 1996, you and CSI member John Eibner went to Eritrea to bring President Isaias Afwerki into the coalition against Sudan. What did you expect him to do?

Cox: No, that's a gross misunderstanding.

Q: That's a misunderstanding?

Cox: Yes, I mean the Eritrean authorities have for some time decided entirely on their own that they can no longer tolerate the regime in Khartoum, because, although they had originally started being prepared to be cooperative with that regime, that regime infiltrated terrorists and subversives into Eritrea to destabilize Eritrea. And, Eritrea has subsequently decided entirely of its own volition that it cannot tolerate the regime next door. And so, they are committed of their own accord to try to ensure the removal of what they now see as that illegitimate, and subversive, and terrorist regime.

Q: And, I suppose the same is true for Uganda, which has sent tank columns into Sudan?

Cox: Well, it's not for me to say whether they have sent tank columns into Sudan, I don't know. But, certainly President Museveni and Uganda have also expressed a grave displeasure with the regime in Khartoum, as has Ethiopia, because the Khartoum regime has tried to infiltrate and destabilize those neighboring countries. . . .

Q: Is there anything that you would like to add?

Cox: I think you've asked very fair questions. I hope I haven't ducked any of them. I think you've given me a chance to say the most important things. I think the only thing I would add, if I were asked what the international community could and should do, is that I and my colleagues in CSI have advocated, if necessary, the strengthening of sanctions against the regime in Khartoum. In particular, arms and oil embargoes, because that might help to reduce the continuing military offensives against innocent civilians. The regime in Khartoum is bombing innocent civilians. I spent hours in foxholes, sheltering while aircraft have been circling overhead, bombing innocent civilians. And, I would just like to see more constraints put on that regime in Khartoum to prevent further bloodshed.

Q: Well, I believe that they already face about the toughest sanctions of all but about seven nations in the world today. You say you would like to see them toughened?

Cox: Yes, I would, especially oil and arms embargoes. Thank you very much indeed.

Mexican Elections

Narco-terrorists ready 'final offensive'

by Carlos Cota Meza

On May 24, a contingent of some 100 members of the self-proclaimed Popular Revolutionary Army (EPR) ambushed a Mexican Army unit in the southern state of Guerrero, initiating a battle in which two soldiers were killed. The unit was made up of doctors and nurses, plus support personnel, who were returning to their base after carrying out a social service mission for civilians.

Three days after the medical convoy was ambushed, another military unit was attacked, and in the days since, the attacks have continued, after the Armed Forces began searching for the subversives.

Informed sources have told *EIR* that the EPR had been very well-equipped in its first ambush, considered probably the best organized armed attack carried out by Mexican terrorists in many years.

The campaign for Cárdenas

Contrary to those who have affirmed, some ingenuously, and others out of bad faith, that the first confrontation occurred "accidentally," the pattern of political and propaganda activity in support of the EPR attacks, makes clear that the attacks are a critical part of an international campaign to impose the candidate of the Revolutionary Democratic Party (PRD), Cuauhtémoc Cárdenas, as mayor of Mexico City, in the federal elections scheduled for July 6, as a decisive step toward the destruction of Mexico's national institutions before the year 2000. The British, and their allies in other capitals, are deploying groups such as Laurent Kabila in the Congo, and Cárdenas and the EPR in Mexico, to bring about the decomposition of the nation-state.

The preparations by the terrorist apparatus for a "final offensive" around the elections, are indicated by an activation of every arm of the terrorist apparatus:

Liberation theology's bishop, Samuel Ruiz, the commander of the Zapatista National Liberation Army (EZLN), Mexico's best-known narco-terrorist group, in his capacity as president of the National Mediation Commission, is putting pressure on Government Secretary Emilio Chuayfet to reach "a peace accord" with the EZLN before the elections. Likewise, the Concord and Pacification Commission of the Congress issued a statement of "concern," claiming that because,

for six months, “we have heard nothing of Subcommander Marcos” of the EZLN, they suppose he has disappeared due “to military harassment.”

Two days after the terrorist attack in Guerrero, in the “autonomous towns in rebellion,” as the EZLN calls the towns they control in the state of Chiapas, there was an outbreak of confrontations between civilian groups, which were immediately blamed, by the terrorist crowd, on the ruling party, the PRI. The removal from power of the PRI, as the fundamental institution whose mere existence provides one of the few factors of stability left in Mexico today, is a central point of the British agenda.

Crowning these events, an International Seminar on Indian Law took place in Mexico City, organized by the Mexican United Nations Association and the National Indigenist Institute. The principal speaker was anthropologist Rodolfo Stavenhagen, who denounced the existence of an alleged “selective repression” against Indians in Mexico. Stavenhagen asserted that the solution to the conflict must be that the national Congress legislate “Indian culture and law,” the euphemism employed for the project to create autonomous indigenous territories—that is, apartheid—within the Mexican state.

Stavenhagen is a “consultant on indigenous matters” for the the World Bank and the United Nations Organization; an adviser to the EZLN on “indigenous law and culture”; president of the Indigenous Peoples Fund at the Inter-American Development Bank, which promotes ethnic separatism; but, above all, he has been, is, and apparently ever will be, ex-President Luis Echeverría’s operative in these matters.

Cable News Network promotes EPR war

Expanding the campaign against Mexico internationally is Ted Turner’s Cable News Network (CNN), which acquired the broadcast rights for an interview conducted by Jean François Boyer, a correspondent for an unspecified “French television channel,” with the self-proclaimed “Commander Antonio” of the EPR. The interview took place on May 23, only 24 hours before the first of the attacks on the Mexican Army in Guerrero. CNN was, of course, the leading international propaganda agency for Peru’s MRTA terrorists, when they seized some 500 hostages at the Japanese Ambassador’s residence in Lima, on Dec. 17, 1996.

“Commander Antonio” used the interview with Boyer to outline the narco-terrorists’ offensive, planned for after the Mexican elections. According to a transcription published by the daily *La Jornada*, the EPR’s spokesman told “French television” and CNN International: “We define the situation thusly: We are in an armed struggle against the government, but we believe that in armed struggle, there exist cards to play, aces, which do not necessarily imply declared war. . . . We conceive of this situation as a watershed, which could last long, or little, depending on the circumstances.”

In speaking of Cárdenas’s PRD party, the terrorist spokes-

man revealed the symbiosis which exists between what they themselves call the differing tactics of struggle. For the EPR, the PRD “is one of the forces which participates in, and could contribute to, the fight for the democratization of the country, [but] we believe that it is necessary not to limit oneself to the electoral or legal struggle; we believe that it is necessary to combine it with the armed struggle.”

The shameless journalist then asked him: “In other words, it is not to be excluded, that within a year, with Cárdenas in the mayor’s office, and many PRD deputies and parliamentarians, war breaks out in this country, even though they hold part of power.” The terrorist answered: “Yes, that is right.”

No dialogue with killers

The governor of the state of Guerrero, Angel Aguirre Rivero, responded to the hypocritical calls by the PRD leadership, and some members of his own PRI party, and stated categorically: “One cannot propose dialogue with the EPR, when, in a systematic manner, it is attacking the Mexican Army. . . . The escalation of violence which afflicts the state is promoted by drug-traffickers, killers, and subversive groups like the EPR.”

Faced with that combined threat, the Secretary of Defense and Government, and the Guerrero state Attorney General’s office, put into action a special security plan, increasing the number of military troops and judicial and highway police deployed to pursue the EPR, and reinforcing security of highways, airports, and public buildings.

To the degree that the Army has tightened the circle around the terrorists, EPR units have ensconced themselves in the opium-growing zone of the region known as *Filo Mayor*. The latest confrontations carry the unmistakable characteristic of the drug-trafficking gangs: long-range weapons, principally the famous AK-47, and abundant ammunition, which has permitted them to engage against Mexican Army units for up to an hour.

Ignoring the evidence of the role of the drug traffickers in these events, the PRD has instead used the EPR’s attacks to charge that government operations to clean out the EPR and traffickers seek to impose a “climate of terror . . . to intimidate the electorate” so they do not vote next July 6. In this, they echo the EPR’s self-serving charge, that the “growing militarization” and pressure on “their units” constitute acts of “state terrorism.”

Two senators from the PRD, Héctor Sánchez from the state of Oaxaca, and Félix Salgado Macedonio of Guerrero, went so far as to raise the EPR to the level of a national army, calling for “dialogue” between the “command of the Mexican Army and the command of the EPR.” The PRD considers Mexico’s Army the enemy, Secretary General Jesús Ortega made clear, when he informed the Secretary of Government that the PRD is demanding that he tell President Ernesto Zedillo: “We want the armored vehicles and the soldiers to return to the barracks.”