

On top of this decision by the Brazilian government came Venezuela's establishment of the Upper Orinoco-Casiquiare Biosphere Reserve, in April 1991. The combination of these two protected areas, located very near to each other, imposed the first major obstacle to the development of the Great Waterway.

### NGOs against the nation-state

The campaign for the Yanomami reserve exposed a vast network of Brazilian NGOs which, under the control of the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), work for environmentalist and indigenist causes promoted by London's "invisible" empire. Of particular note are the Institute of Socio-Economic Studies (INESC), a Brasilia-based NGO which is one of the main liaisons to London's international NGO apparatus tied to the Theology of Liberation, environmentalism, and the MST; and, the Ecumenical Center of Documentation and Information (CEDI), also created by Theology of Liberation networks.

CEDI's principal agents are Maria José Jaime, founder of INESC; José Carlos Libânio, INESC coordinator for Indian affairs, who also serves as a consultant to Canada's CIDA

and to the Canadian Embassy in Brasilia; and Mary Helena Allegretti, whose first mentor was the Englishman Tony Gross, Oxfam's representative in Brazil. In 1985, Allegretti worked as a specialist in Indian rights for INESC, in close collaboration with the National Wildlife Federation (NWF) and the Natural Resources Defense Council, two of the most important U.S.-based environmentalist NGOs. In 1986, Allegretti founded her own NGO, the Institute of Amazon Studies, with financing from the MacArthur Foundation in the United States.

The CEDI, founded in 1965, maintained close ties to the Environmental Defense Fund (EDF), Cultural Survival, and Conservation International, which are heavily involved in carving out environmental parks along various borders in Ibero-America. The CEDI received funds from the World Council of Churches, for which CEDI founder Niva Padilha also worked. In 1994, CEDI split into three new NGOs, and its "Indian" arm turned into the Socio-Environmental Institute (ISO). Among the founding partners of ISO are Barbara Bramble (NWF), Tony Gross (Oxfam), Dr. Jason Clay (Cultural Survival), José Carlos Libânio (INESC), Dr. Stephan Schwartzman (EDF), and Willem Pieter Groenewaldt (Cultural Survival, Canada). Last June, the ISO presented an injunction against the continued construction of the Araguaia-Tocantins Waterway.

As Canadian journalist Elaine Dewart documented in her 1995 book *Cloak of Green*, the political intent of this swarm of NGOs is the destruction of the nation-state. As Dewart puts it, Cultural Survival honcho Jason Clay's "theme was: the nation-state is a corrupt idea with no remaining political legitimacy. The nation state should wither away, its functions replaced by institutions of local and global governance. Clay laid it out with a will. . . . Two-thirds of the world's 171 states had been created after World War II. But these national states contained within them over 5,000 real nations. . . . The national states created to bind together these smaller nations had little real legitimacy. . . . Nigeria, for example, contained 450 nations. Brazil had 190. . . . National elites represented at most one or two of those groups, said Clay, and they appropriate resources which led to wars."

### Sophisms against the Great Waterway

Following the establishment of the Yanomami Park, the British oligarchy turned to their second key target: the proposed Paraná-Paraguay Waterway, which governments in the area had begun to actually work on in the early 1990s. In July 1993, the London *Financial Times* greeted with great fanfare the issuing of a report prepared by the U.S.-based environmentalist group Wetlands for the Americas, titled, "Waterway: Initial Environmental Analysis of the Paraná-Paraguay River Route."

Based on pseudo-scientific sophisms, the report concluded that the Paraná-Paraguay Waterway had to be stopped at all costs, because it would purportedly drain the famous Pantanal wetlands in the headwaters of the Paraguay River,

## NGOs are 'a threat to national security'

The Brazilian newspaper *O Globo* published on Sept. 30 an article by Gen. Nilton Cerqueira, the security director for Rio de Janeiro, in which he states: "The permissive operations of the NGOs in national territory truly constitute a threat to national security. It is public and well-known that the NGOs conspire against the very existence of the state upon which they rely, constantly, for funds." General Cerqueira then asks: "Who supervises the NGOs? Who finances them? Who controls the unproductive tourist visits of the NGOers?"

The magnitude of the problem had already been indicated, more than three years ago, by the magazine *Veja*. On Feb. 9, 1994, *Veja* documented that there exist more than 5,000 NGOs in Brazil, with more than 80,000 activists. Of these, 70,000 had studied at universities, and 60,000 live exclusively from their work in the NGOs. The census revealed that 14,000 of the NGOs militants were prisoners during the Brazilian military regime (1964-85), and that, of the total number of activists, 25% are priests or religious figures, 21% studied philosophy, and 14% called themselves "Marxist-revisionists" in the 1970s. In 1994, nearly \$700 million a year passed through the Brazilian NGOs, of which at least \$560 million came from donations from abroad.