

Americans back antidrug effort

Amid warnings of the danger of a right-wing coup in Colombia, the U.S. Labor Party this week announced an international mobilization to preserve Colombian democracy.

If Alvaro Gomez Hurtado successfully carries out a coup it will vastly expand the flow of marijuana into the U.S. through legalization of production and export of this mind destroying drug.

The Labor Party has launched a campaign to pressure the Carter Administration to increase its assistance to the

Colombian government's efforts to eradicate the drug plague through increased paraquat spraying.

The Carter Administration will also be urged to apply its human rights policy to condemn Alvaro Gomez Hurtado and the right-wing military which has been carrying out systematic repression and torture against the population.

The Andean Labor Party in Colombia, a fraternal party of the U.S. Labor Party, is participating in an urgent mobilization of secular, political and religious forces to put an end to

To President Carter — White House
Copy to: Honorable Virgilio Barco —
Embassy of Colombia
Washington D.C.

Dear President Carter:

We of the Michigan Anti-Drug Coalition send our greetings to you. You entered the Office of the President with great aspirations for the country and high moral ideals. The Michigan Anti-Drug Coalition commends you for this work.

We of the Coalition are deeply concerned about drugs. Shortly, we will be sending you a progress report on our activities. We have received indications that the present government of Colombia might be in trouble. You and the present government of Colombia have worked jointly in the past to prevent drugs from entering the U.S. We urge you to investigate the present situation and lend your support and protection to those who are against drugs in Colombia.

Our best regards.

**Executive Board
Michigan Anti-Drug Coalition
Detroit, Michigan**

To the Colombian Embassy, Washington, D.C.

As a U.S. citizen, I express my concern about drugs, and urge the U.S. government to give aid to antidrug programs or an antidrug government in Colombia, as we have in Mexico.

**Max Dean, Executive Secretary
National Association for the Advancement
of Colored Peoples (NAACP)
Flint, Michigan**

To Colombian Embassy and to President Carter

Honorable Virgilio Barco
2118 Leroy Place, NW
Washington, D.C. 20008

We Americans strongly support the efforts of your President Julio Cesar Turbay to eradicate marijuana cultivation and drug trafficking from Colombia. We urge President Carter to increase financing to aid Colombia in paraquat spraying programs and other joint efforts. We condemn the fact that some of the same public figures in Colombia who support legalization of marijuana export are posing a threat to democracy and threatening the human rights of the population.

Buffalo, N.Y., February 1, 1979

**Dr. Ernest Shapiro, New York
State Non Partisan Anti-Drug Coalition**

Rev. Theodore Guest, Minister, Pentecostal Church

John Kolecki, former educator

The man behind the coup danger

military justice and repression and demand a return to constitutional guarantees.

In addition, U.S. and European organizations are being urged to send telegrams to the Colombian government via its embassy in Washington and abroad supporting the government's efforts to shut down the drug traffic and expressing concern that current right-wing brutality and repression against the population be halted. Several telegrams have already been sent, of which the following are representative.

To President Carter — White House

Copy to: Embassy of Colombia, Washington, D.C.
Ambassador Virgilio Barco

The democratically elected government of Colombian President Turbay Ayala is now facing the threat of a military coup. Since his election, President Turbay has made efforts to halt the flow of illegal drugs from Colombia and has repeatedly asked for U.S. technical and financial assistance in those efforts. In fact only last week, Turbay reiterated his commitment to stop the outflow of marijuana from that country. The same figures who are now posing a threat to democracy in Colombia are also those supporting the legalization of marijuana as an export crop. We, the undersigned, support President Turbay's efforts to control narcotics traffic and we condemn this threat to democracy and to the human rights of the Colombian population.

Rev. John B. Crowell, D.D.

President — New Jersey Christian Conference

Charles H. Ryan, member

New Jersey Academy of Family Physicians

Abdul Malik Ali — private citizen, Trenton

Organizations are for identification purposes only.

The man behind the current coup danger in Colombia, Alvaro Gomez Hurtado, is one of the oligarchist "black international's" leading members. Among his close associates and cothinkers internationally are Otto von Hapsburg, Franz Joseph Strauss of Germany, and Amintore Fanfani of Italy. His association with such European oligarchs dates back to 1952, the year in which he joined with them and others in founding the European Center for Documentation and Information. The latter organization has brought together in regular meetings some of the world's leading right-wing fascists to coordinate economic and political policy. It also reportedly coordinates terrorist deployments internationally. In the 1960s the Center merged with the Mont Pelerin Society, one of the leading promoters of the fascist "free enterprise" economic policies designed to supplant global industrial and advanced technological development with drug-based, feudal economics. Gomez's affiliated publication *Sintesis Economica* and his newspaper *El Siglo* frequently laud "free enterprise," and have published von Hapsburg's own output on the subject.

The Jesuit-trained Gomez makes no attempt to hide his views. In the months leading up to the meeting of Latin American bishops in Mexico, Gomez lamented editorially that a "humanist" faction of the Church had succeeded in imposing its world view of esteem for the creative powers of the human mind whose reflection in the world was seen in the advancement of science and technology. Coherent with this is *El Siglo's* frank and outspoken campaign to turn Colombia into a marijuana-based economy — to which end Gomez is now attempting to carry out a military coup in Colombia. Exemplary is his August 1977 column which argued that "Colombians must think very seriously about legalizing marijuana immediately First because it will yield us foreign exchange. And second, because we have proven that to prohibit it, to help a country that is not interested in its prohibition, is damaging to the morals of those charged with enforcing the law." In Gomez's view, the Turbay government's official position against marijuana legalization is a major obstacle to a "booming" Colombian economy based on a "bonanza" from "exports produced through operations difficult to register in their own name" — that is, marijuana production.

The precedent for the chaos which a military coup would provoke in Colombia and regionally is "La Violencia" — the ten-year civil war orchestrated by Alvaro's father, Laureano Gomez. A Falangist in his own right, Laureano waged what he termed "religious" warfare against the Liberal Party leaning population, with the aid of certain Jesuit orders and right-wing death squads which performed brutal tortures and atrocities against their victims. The Colombian population has not fully recuperated politically or psychologically from the horrors of that period — but Alvaro Gomez is committed to unleashing the same destruction on a regional scale to maintain and expand his drug-running franchise.