

Stone-age Indians are used for new plot against Brazilian nation

by Silvia Palacios

On July 11, on the eve of the Group of Seven summit meeting in London, British Prime Minister John Major declared that the June 1992 U.N. Conference on Ecology and Development, recently re-baptized "Earth Summit," will be an opportunity for all the heads of government of the developed nations "to extend the dominion of law to what is common to all in the world." Since the U.N. ecology conference will be held in Brazil, and there has been a rising drumbeat of rhetoric in Anglo-American circles about how the forest reserves of the Amazon tropics are being squandered by the Brazilian government, there can be doubt that Major's statement is a new escalation in the campaign to create the pretext for an assault on Brazilian sovereignty.

Bush dictates the conditions

When President Ferdinand Collor de Mello visited the United States in mid-June, President George Bush gave the green light to an escalation of foreign pressures against the Brazilian nation, centered on two points: one, forcing the country to accept swaps of foreign debt for environmental preservation projects, which until now have been rejected as a threat to national sovereignty; and two, making the question of the stone-age Yanomami Indians a new focus of international attention.

Upon his return to Brazil, Collor wasted no time in meeting Washington's demands. First, on June 27, Economics Minister Marcilio Marques Moreira announced that the country would agree to annually convert \$100 million worth of foreign debt into environmental projects. This decision garnered a *New York Times* editorial entitled "Bravo Brazil." Such approval was a prerequisite for the Group of Seven to deign to consider Brazil's broader environmental preservation project, which proposes a debt-swap conversion of \$1.5 billion worth of Brazilian foreign debt over five years.

On the second point, President Bush was himself the bearer of a letter, signed by eight Democratic senators notorious for promoting ecological causes. The eight—Albert Gore, Timothy Wirth, Alan Cranston, Paul Wellstone, Dennis DeConcini, Daniel Patrick Moynihan, Tom Harkin, and Ted Kennedy—demanded that the Brazilian President explain his delay in demarcating "Yanomami land." The letter helped fan the growing international campaign for creating Indian enclaves within sovereign nation-states.

Quick to obey, one of President Collor's first actions upon returning to Brazil was the abrupt firing of the president of Brazil's National Indian Foundation (Funai), responsible for Indian affairs. The new Funai director is one Sidney Possuelo, an individual plucked from the circles of Environment Minister Jose Lutzemberger and Science and Technology Minister Jose Goldemberg, and acceptable to the one-worldist oligarchy. Within days of his appointment, Possuelo attempted to justify the legitimate existence of "Indian nations," by taking a tendentious line against the Iberian Catholic evangelization of America, as the fifth centenary of Columbus's voyage approaches in 1992:

In a July 14 interview with *Jornal do Brasil*, Possuelo made the demented allegation that "Western Christian civilization has nothing to be proud of, because ever since the discovery of America, all that can be seen is a history of irreverent and tragic domination of the Indian peoples." Thus, he pledged that from his post he would carry out the demarcation of Indian lands "to prevent great civilizations from disappearing, as they did during the history of the conquest of America."

A Yanomami enclave?

The area chosen by the international eco-fascist lobby for imposing an Indian enclave in Brazil is located in the state of Roraima, in a mineral-rich zone bordering Venezuela. Given that the Yanomami tribe exists on the Venezuelan side of the border as well, what is first being sought is the definition of bi-national Yanomami parks, to be followed by the demarcation of an autonomous transnational area. In 1984, the Venezuelan government denounced an international conspiracy to create "Indian nations" in that zone. But current President Carlos Andrés Pérez—Bush's new world order proconsul in Ibero-America—is already taking steps to demarcate the Yanomami preserve on the Venezuelan side.

Viewed objectively, all the arguments wielded by the "Indian lobby" are patently absurd. In all of vast Brazil there are only 230,000 individuals grouped in various Indian tribes, suffering the same or worse material deprivation as the rest of their countrymen. Of these, a mere 9,000 are Yanomami Indians. In fact, there are more anthropologists and environmentalists swarming over Brazil than there are Yanomami.

According to the Brazilian Constitution, the enormous portion of national territory considered Indian land must be demarcated by 1993. It just so happens that 60% of the total Indian population inhabit the state of Amazonas, an area considered from the viewpoint of geography, natural resources, and so forth, of vital strategic and national security interest.

The ecological offensive against Brazil has been accompanied by aggressive acts of psychological warfare, professionally designed by foreign intelligence to demoralize and divide the Brazilian population in the face of an "all-powerful" and "unbeatable" enemy.

For example, a nasty little piece of so-called science fiction has been circulating extensively in Brazil for a while, which mocks the nationalism of the Brazilian Armed Forces. The action takes place in the year 2009, when 150,000 troops of the U.S. Army "Pax" deploy to Brazil to "guard the tropical Amazon jungle." Despite "repeated military attacks from Brazilian nationalists," the authorities of the "Agency for Environmental Protection" begin the process of reforestation, the story happily ends. The story is a creation of well-known comic book authors Frank Miller and Dave Gibbons, and was published by the *O Globo* editorial house, owned by magnate Roberto Marinho, a partner in various businesses with the Anglo-American oligarchy.

Smithsonian Institution treachery

Nearly one century ago, the world heard similar rhetoric to John Major and George Bush's pronouncements on their "universal global causes" which justify overriding national sovereignty. It came from the mouth of the U.S. President Teddy Roosevelt—Bush's admitted idol—in announcing his "big stick" corollary to the Monroe Doctrine, which proposed punishing all states which don't behave according to Anglo-American rules in the Western Hemisphere. The Roosevelt-Bush tradition extends from the 1840s period of President James Polk, who employed the anti-republican ideas of the "Young America" movement which argued for "extending the area of freedom" to justify annexing half of Mexico's territory. It was in that same period that the U.S. federal government's Smithsonian Institution came into being.

The Smithsonian plays a central role in promoting the goals of the Anglo-American oligarchy, in open treason against the American System of political-economy. Ironically, the founding of the institution stemmed from former President John Quincy Adams's fight to persuade the U.S. Congress, at the end of the 1820s, to accept the bequest of the British engineer Smithson to found a scientific institute for the American republic. Adams was, of course, the author of the Monroe Doctrine, designed to defend the republics of the Western Hemisphere against European oligarchist intervention; the subversion of the Smithsonian has paralleled Teddy Roosevelt's warping of the Monroe Doctrine against its original intent.

Last April, during a meeting in Washington of the Latin American Studies Association, Smithsonian representative Katy Moran addressed a panel entitled "Environment and Development Policy: International Cooperation Among NGOs in Brazil." Moran called George Bush's incorporation of debt-for-nature swaps as a central policy in his Enterprise for the Americas Initiative a victory for the ecology movement, and said that this had paved the way for joining together as a single fist the ecological, indigenist, and human rights groups around, especially, the issue of "preservation of the Indians."

Other major bodies which coordinate their aggressive campaigns to limit Brazilian sovereignty in this region are Brazil Network, Survival International, and Amnesty International. The coordinator of Amnesty's Brazilian desk, Linda Rabben, was responsible for a report recently brought to the attention of the European Commission which condemned Brazil for human rights violations. Rabben also directs the U.S. arm of Brazil Network, an organization with offices in London and Washington, which coordinates such non-governmental organizations (NGOs) of the United Nations as Survival International, Friends of the Earth, and Greenpeace.

Could be *casus belli*

These interventionist designs were denounced by Roraima governor Ottomar Pinto, whose statements were published June 27 in *Folha de São Paulo*. In noting the problems that would exist in attempting to delimit Indian lands, the governor insisted that "to create a continuous area represents a future threat, above all when they begin to talk about limited sovereignty, since the Yanomami also exist on the Venezuelan side. That is how the structure of a nation is formed. The Yanomami nation. Later, one hears talk of the Kurdish question in Iraq."

On July 14, the influential daily *Correio Brasiliense* published the unanimous evaluation held by the Brazilian Armed Forces on the Yanomami question. The military, wrote *Correio*, "does not accept under any circumstances the formation of an independent Yanomami territory between Brazil and Venezuela."

Further, the article continues, the Brazilian military establishment is not prepared to continue the game of cutting back the armed forces while, at the same time, the superpowers have an occupation of the Amazon in mind and are committed to the thesis of limited sovereignty. No one, thus, should be surprised if a state of war to defend the Amazon is declared in the not-too-distant future.