

# Billington tour in Mexico builds support to free LaRouche

by Carlos Wesley

There is widespread support in Mexico for the demand to free U.S. political prisoner Lyndon LaRouche, according to activist Gail Billington, who conducted a 10-day visit to that country in January. During her visit, she met with members of Mexico's Congress, including with the president and the ranking member of the Committee on Human Rights. Her tour, which took her to Mexico City, Guadalajara, and to Ciudad Obregón and Hermosillo in the northern state of Sonora, also included meetings with state legislators, the media, leading figures from all the major political parties, and civil and human rights organizations and bar associations, to inform them about the gross violations of human rights occurring in the United States. She appealed to them to join the International Coalition to Free Lyndon LaRouche, and to sign a letter demanding that U.S. President Bill Clinton free LaRouche, undoing the injustice to him committed by George Bush.

Nearly 30 prominent Mexicans joined in support of the coalition's initiative, after listening to Billington describe the years-long effort, led by Henry Kissinger, the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, and the sundry government and private agencies that make up the anti-LaRouche task force, to jail LaRouche and destroy his political movement. Her husband, Michael Billington, a LaRouche fundraiser, is currently serving a barbaric 77-year jail sentence in the state of Virginia for allegedly selling "securities" without a license. The 70-year-old LaRouche has just completed the fourth year of a 15-year federal prison sentence for "conspiracy." Another LaRouche associate, Rochelle Ascher, is serving a 10-year term in a Virginia prison, while several other LaRouche activists are out on bail pending the results of their appeals on sentences of up to 46 years in prison, imposed as punishment for their political activity.

Virtually everyone Gail Billington met in Mexico, including the hard-bitten reporters attending the news conferences she held jointly with Marivilia Carrasco, a leader of the Ibero-American Solidarity Movement, was visibly shocked as she described the Kafka-esque details of the railroading of her husband. While serving a three-year federal prison sentence for his political activities as a co-defendant of LaRouche, Billington, in a blatant violation of the constitutional protections against double jeopardy and similar state statutes, was tried by a Virginia court, using exactly the same fake evidence employed to convict him in federal court, for

a "crime" which was not even on the books at the time he was indicted! His conviction by the Virginia court came after his own defense lawyer argued at trial that Billington was insane and required psychiatric evaluation. The judge refused to allow Billington to fire his hostile lawyer, who not only failed to present a defense, but in his final argument claimed that his client was guilty!

The same judge later upheld a 77-year sentence for Billington—about 30 times more than that received by junk bond swindler Ivan Boesky. Billington's case involved \$76,000 in political loans. In contrast, junk bond king Michael Milken, who admitted he made *billions* in phony transactions, served only 22 months in prison.

Mrs. Billington was repeatedly asked, "Why is LaRouche treated so brutally?" She reminded listeners of LaRouche's decades-long fight against International Monetary Fund (IMF) usury and for the economic development of the Third World, of his proposals for a debt moratoria and for the establishment of an Ibero-American Common Market, of the fact that he traveled to Mexico at least four times to meet with industrialists, farmers, and government officials, including former President José López Portillo, to help develop strategies to implement these programs.

## 'Imago viva Dei'

"LaRouche's enemies have criminalized policy differences," she told a group of attorneys. "His proposals are to reorganize the economy around the concept of man in the image of the living God (*imago viva Dei*), whereas Kissinger and his masters are genocidalists, they don't believe each individual human being is sacred." She called upon the lawyers to sign the letter to Clinton and join the International Coalition to Free LaRouche. After several moments of silence, the head of the group said words to the effect: "We have to take a stand; we can't just sit by." Every one of the lawyers came forward and signed up.

Reportedly Mrs. Billington had the same profound, very personal impact on others with whom she met. Almost everyone volunteered to do something besides signing the letter to free LaRouche and the others, and many thanked her for inspiring them with her courage. Several of the signers also indicated that they would launch their own initiatives to overturn the increasingly Confederate orientation of the U.S. justice system, as shown by the use of the "Thornburgh



Gail Billington with her husband Michael Billington, outside the courthouse in Loudoun County, Virginia in 1986. Michael Billington is serving a 77-year prison term on trumped-up charges of "securities fraud."

Doctrine."

Among those who signed was Luis Cotero, the president of the National Federation of Bar Associations, and Pedro Vargas Avalos, president of the bar association in the state of Jalisco. Support for the coalition's initiative cut across party lines, as the signers included a cross-section of the parties represented in Mexico's Congress—Rep. Cecilia Soto of the PARM; Rep. Pablo Emilio Madero, formerly of the PAN; Rep. Jorge Moscoso of the PRD; and Rep. J.J. González of the ruling PRI—and other political figures, such as Jesús González Schmall, the internationally respected Christian Democratic leader of the Democracy and Doctrine Forum, which split away from the PAN when the leadership of that party allied with President Carlos Salinas de Gortari.

### Outrage at fascist U.S. justice

The response Mrs. Billington got is also due to the outrage Mexicans feel at the Thornburgh Doctrine, which was used by the U.S. government to justify the kidnapping of Dr. Humberto Alvarez Machaín, a Mexican national, from his own country and put him on trial in a Los Angeles federal court, which acquitted him, and the fact that the United States leads the world in the number of people incarcerated and in the barbaric use of the death penalty, particularly against

blacks, poor whites, and Hispanics (the majority of whom are Mexican-Americans).

One such case is that of Ricardo Aldape Guerra, a Mexican national who is awaiting execution in Texas after being convicted in a trial which saw the use of coerced testimony, suborned witnesses, and the suppression of exculpatory evidence.

There is also much anger at the United States for its economic policies which are ruining Mexico, despite the constant barrage of propaganda regarding the non-existent benefits of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA). The municipality of Guaymas, for example, became officially bankrupt while Mrs. Billington was in Mexico.

Although President Salinas appears to have everything under control, under the surface every institution and party is splintering because of the disasters of the IMF free trade policies pushed by the United States. Many in Mexico see LaRouche as the alternative to such policies, leading them to join the International Coalition to Free LaRouche.

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## Documentation

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### El Sol de México

*Excerpts of the article by Axel Trujillo which was published on Jan. 13 by the Mexico City daily El Sol de México. It was entitled, "2,600 Persons Sentenced to Death by U.S.A. Justice: Gail Billington."*

American "justice," which condemned to death Mexican Ricardo Aldape Guerra and violated international law in the kidnapping of Dr. Humberto Alvarez Machaín, has, as its premises, the forcing of confessions, negotiating the participation in trials of witnesses with criminal records, and the hiding of exculpatory evidence.

American human rights activist Gail Billington affirmed the foregoing as she explained that under this kind of "justice," 2,600 persons in the U.S. are sentenced to death, 40% of whom are black and 7% of whom are Latinos, who are confined principally in jails in Texas, California, and Florida.

"If every day they executed one person condemned to capital punishment, the rest of the century wouldn't suffice to complete this macabre labor," stressed Gail Billington.

She said that every year the courts of her country condemn 300 persons to death, and that since 1973, after the reinstatement of capital punishment, 189 criminals have been executed, 1992 being the year with the greatest number of cases, 31. . . .

The spokeswoman explained that Michael Billington, her husband, was accused of financial fraud and sentenced to 77 years in prison in a judicial process which was "prejudiced," plagued with irregularities and partial proofs; besides the fact that the accusers, in this case the government of former

President Ronald Reagan and the Anti-Defamation League, hid exculpatory evidence, which has become known in the last two years. . . .

She stressed that her husband Michael Billington . . . did not commit the alleged offense of "security sales fraud." What he did, in fact, was to raise money for the various political campaigns carried out by the organization founded by Lyndon LaRouche in the U. S. more than 20 years ago.

At the same time, Mrs. Billington is fighting to obtain exoneration for political activist Lyndon LaRouche, 70 years old and condemned to 15 years in prison in a maximum security prison in the U.S., of which he has served five [sic].

Gail Billington will meet with the Human Rights Committee of the Mexican Chamber of Deputies, and with various personalities from all strata of the country, as well as with

the leaders of human rights organizations. . . .

### **Tribuna del Yaqui**

*Excerpts of the article filed from the city of Hermosillo by Humberto Corral, that appeared in the Jan. 20 issue of the Sonoran daily Tribuna del Yaqui. It was entitled "Bush Policies in the U.S. Government Criticized."*

Gail Billington, a human rights activist and member of the political movement of Lyndon LaRouche, presented some shocking statistics here about violations of the Universal Rights of Man occurring in the country that is our northern neighbor.

She noted that the citizenry is vulnerable regarding human rights because they [the U.S.] lead in the number of people imprisoned. "The current year will be more tumultuous, both on the international scene and domestically, if Bill Clinton does not change the judicial policy of the outgoing administration." . . .

To give an idea of the high rate of violations against the Universal Rights of Man in the United States, she said that 1 out of 4 of all black men between the ages of 18 and 30 years, is either in jail or on probation. . . .

The leader from the political movement of Lyndon LaRouche brought her message to this city, to make known the other side of the American government and to point out that now is the time for the new President, Bill Clinton, to change the administration of justice in the United States.

## **Gail Billington reflects on her tour**

*Returning to the United States after her mid-January tour of Mexico to obtain support to free Lyndon LaRouche, her husband Michael Billington, Rochelle Ascher, and other persecuted associates of LaRouche, Gail Billington had these reflections on her visit.*

Uniformly there was a strong personal, emotional, even physical response to my briefing on the political and legal atrocities committed against LaRouche, my husband Michael Billington, and other LaRouche associates in the series of federal and state criminal cases that have been carried out in the United States. This included emphatically the response from the press. . . .

There is tremendous anger at the United States for the way in which it acts as the self-appointed arbiter of "human rights violations," while adamantly denying the existence of any such violations against its own citizens. . . .

One frequently asked question was, "What is the U.S. population doing about this? Why aren't they more angry?"

My answer was that the U.S. population, addicted to TV culture, has become devastatingly morally passive, and unable to distinguish between reality and fantasy. But equally importantly, I warned that this TV culture—soap opera, Oprah-style "tell all" sensational talk shows, and MTV-style rock video—and the fast food, McDonald's-style culture are the biggest, most corrupting, and most obnoxious exports of the United States. On this point, there was universal acclamation.

## **We must refuse to live like slaves**

*Political prisoner Michael Billington wrote the following message, entitled "Imprisoned in the Capital of the Confederacy," from his prison cell on Jan. 6. He has been sentenced to 77 years by the state of Virginia. It was delivered by his wife, Gail Billington, to the people of Mexico.*

Confederate law has regional power, not only in the South, but over the U.S. federal government. The law is not restrained by natural law nor by a Constitution whose purpose was to approximate natural law, based on God's creation of man in his own image. The law of equity among individuals and among nations—that each individual or nation is sovereign, based on God-given inalienable rights, and must be granted the same rights and freedoms, and constrained by the same code of justice, as every other sovereign individual or nation—is essential for the development of the potential creative powers of each individual (which is the purpose of each nation's sovereign existence). It has been replaced by the view that law is simply that which best serves the policy of those in power. The system claims moral neutrality, not because all people are treated equally, but because questions

of truth and justice are not permitted to interfere with the imposition of the chosen policy, and the punishment of those who oppose it.

Thus were we railroaded by this Confederate system—just as those who opposed slavery were “guilty” under Confederate law.

This is not moral neutrality, but legislated evil, which cannot be tolerated by any moral human being. The decision to destroy the political organization associated with Lyndon LaRouche was fascist in nature—intentional implementation of evil—as well as illegal under constitutional law. The decision to try me twice in the state of Virginia—once in federal court and once in state court—was part of the same evil. The 77-year sentence was one of several examples where those involved in this evil chose to publicly flaunt their evil, using terror to force submission.

This is the view from which the Thornburgh Doctrine derived. The policy of the U.S. government was declared to be above any restriction of constitutional or international law, simply on the basis of the power of the government to enforce it.

I recently discovered in my China studies from within the prison system that the intellectual forefathers of the “new Confederacy” and the Thornburgh Doctrine, i.e., those who formed the Confederacy in the 1850s, were the same individuals who helped the British carry out one of the most evil deeds of human history: the Opium Wars and the subjugation of China. Then-U.S. Secretary of State Caleb Cushing and his friends in the diplomatic corps and in the Protestant missionary societies in China worked openly and with great military force in the 1850s and 1860s to impose “free trade” in opium upon the millions of Chinese. They had their own “Thornburgh Doctrine”—Cushing believed that the only law of nations was the law of Christendom. His view of “Christendom,” of course, had nothing to do with Christianity, but was only a name for the policy of the most powerful nations in the Christian world, Britain and America. Under the false banner of the cross, they enslaved millions of Chinese through drugs, a policy of mendacity in keeping with their chattel slavery in the South.

Simultaneously, these interests worked with their French associates to arrange the invasion and occupation of Mexico.

We defeated the Thornburgh Doctrine and the Confederacy once before. Our Lincoln today is in prison, and the Confederacy controls most of the national institutions. Through the North American Free Trade Agreement and other means they are re-occupying Mexico and much of the Third World. The Opium War today is carried out against the entire world’s population, especially their own citizens, which is one modern form of slavery.

Our advantage is the power of truth. God’s will is just—if we do not allow fear and greed to obscure our minds. If we refuse to live as slaves, regardless of the consequences in our personal lives, then we will be free, and we can win this war.

# Menchú delivers death sentence to Guatemala

by Gretchen Small

Working with the United Nations, Nobel Peace Prize winner Rigoberta Menchú is using the repatriation of some 2,400 Guatemalan refugees from their Mexican exile this January, to launch an organizing drive by the narco-terrorist Guatemalan National Revolutionary Union (URNG) for a U.N.-communist takeover of Guatemala similar to what is now occurring in neighboring El Salvador.

The process now under way in Guatemala is another dramatic case of the U.N. creating a crisis where none existed. Despite the wild lies in the media, Guatemala is not suffering a civil war, but from terrorists whose capability was in the process of being eliminated. The URNG did *not* succeed in organizing a mass base for its operations, and emphatically does *not* enjoy mass support from the Indian population.

Menchú and the URNG, with whom she has worked for more than 10 years, now believe that, with the aid of the U.N., they will finally be able to divide Guatemala along ethnic lines, force the Indians into their hands, and unleash a war against Christian civilization itself in the country.

## Mayan sacrifice revived

In an interview with *Vision* magazine in late 1992, reprinted in Peru’s *Expreso* newspaper on Jan. 17, Menchú unveiled the deeper goal of this ethnic warfare. The revival of “ancient religions” such as the Mayan is critical to “national liberation,” she stated. She denounced attempts to characterize Mayan priests and priestesses as “satanic” or sorcerers, and called for these Indian religions to become “a challenge to the Catholic and Evangelical churches” and “to 500 years of plunder”—her view of western civilization. “Why can’t the Mayan religion be the official religion?” she asked.

The bestial concept of “Indian religion” espoused by Menchú was first summarized in a document on Indian philosophy prepared in 1981 by the International Indian Treaty Council, of which Menchú is a spokesman and board member. That document, presented to a U.N. Indigenous Peoples conference in which Menchú participated, decried mankind as “the weakest of all creatures,” less worthy even than wolves, because “humans are only able to survive through the exercise of rationality since they lack the abilities of other creatures to gain food through use of fang and claw.” European science and religion is to be rejected, the group argued, because “rationality is a curse.”

Little is known about the actual Mayan religion, as the Mayan civilization collapsed between 600 and 900 A.D.