

# International Intelligence

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## ***Obrador: I Will Deal With Debt the Way Kirchner Has***

On the campaign trail in Jalisco June 1, Mexican presidential candidate Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador, of the Democratic Revolutionary Party, dropped a bombshell.

Said Obrador, one of the two leading candidates in the July 2 election, "It has been shown that things go better for countries or governments which don't adjust or adhere precisely to everything which these international financial bodies dictate. The 'Washington Consensus' has been shown as not the best for developing countries, such as ourselves. Argentina, for example, achieved a very good debt negotiation, despite pressures against it. The country [Argentina] was on the floor. It was bankrupt, and President Kirchner knew how to carry out a very good debt negotiation, and this freed up funds for national development. . . .

"We are going to fulfill our obligations, but not in an orthodox manner. The technocrats who have been managing the country's economy have gone beyond what was asked of them. They let people walk all over them. . . All as fundamentalists," Lopez Obrador charged.

The popular mayor of Mexico City also said he would ask Mexico's central bank to stop favoring speculative groups. And he reiterated he would set up a Truth Commission to evaluate the \$120 billion spent on bailing out the banks, on which the government pays a high price.

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## ***NGOs Push Privatization Of Scarce Water Supplies***

Privatization and control of scarce water were discussed by several NGOs as the way to deal with water scarcity, at a May 24 forum in Washington on "Understanding the Global Water Crisis." The event was sponsored by the project Global Environmental Change and Human Security (GECHS). After presenting the facts: 1 billion people do not have access to safe water; 2 billion

have no access to a minimum health institution; and 2 billion lack sanitation, the speakers provided no solution, except to allocate water through price—commodity control mechanisms—explicitly privatization.

When LaRouche movement organizer Larry Freeman presented the alternative of nuclear desalinization, this was dismissed because this technology "would always be 20 years away," and spreading nuclear power plants (as opposed to solar) throughout the underdeveloped world would only cause another problem.

In discussion with others attending the forum, all agreed we need more water, but no one wanted to think through how to do it.

When Freeman told the group that we can create fresh water through science and technology, the sponsors of the forum got visibly nervous.

One member of the group suggested using "demand-based" pricing to obtain water.

As Lyndon LaRouche noted recently, control of water by the financier oligarchs, especially in arid regions such as Africa, is more important than oil.

At the forum, it was noted that Nile River water is controlled by Sudan and Egypt, and that it is too small in volume for the 10 countries in the Nile basin, much less just for even Egypt's needs.

The zero-growth, anti-science and anti-infrastructure prejudices of the NGOs put them, intentionally or not, in the camp of the genocidalists.

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## ***Iraqis: GI's Killing Civilians Every Day***

Iraqis are becoming increasingly enraged over the killings of civilians by U.S. troops.

Prime Minister Nouri Al Maliki said June 1, "This is a phenomenon that has become common among many of the multinational forces. No respect for citizens, smashing civilian cars, and killing on a suspicion or a hunch. It's unacceptable." He added that attacks on civilians will play a role in future decisions on how long to ask American troops to stay in Iraq.

Maliki said June 2 that the Iraqi govern-

ment would likely seek the investigation files on the Haditha massacre from the U.S. military.

Deputy Prime Minister Salam al-Zubaie, said in an interview with the *New York Times* that "As you know, this is not the only massacre, and there are a lot. The coalition forces must change their behavior. Human blood should be sacred regardless of religion, party, and nationality."

Muayed al-Anbaki, chairman of the Iraqi Human Rights Association, said June 2, in reaction to the video of the incident in Isha, said, "It looks like the killing of Iraqi civilians is becoming a daily phenomenon."

As a solution to this problem, Lt. Gen. Peter Chiarelli, the Multi-National Corps commander in Iraq, on June 1 issued orders that all coalition troops in Iraq are to undergo two to four hours of "core warrior values training."

Yet to be addressed: Who has been responsible for the coverups of the incidents that are finally beginning to be reported? How far up the chain of command does the responsibility go?

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## ***Basque Microstate Leaders Hail Montenegro Vote***

In a background interview with the *Financial Times Germany*, the chairman of the Basque nationalist Party PNV, Juan Jose Ibarretxe, welcomed the recent independence vote in Montenegro. This vote "reinforced the Basques to go for a Referendum on their own Independence," he said. He strongly criticized EU Commissioner Javier Solana, who had said that whoever compares Montenegro with the Basque would be "mentally confused."

The Solana statement represents an attack against hundreds of thousands of Basque voters, he said.

Basque ETA founder Julian Mariaga gave indirect support to Ibarretxe by stating that the Basque people must vote on their own destiny. For the independence of the Navarra and the French Basque region, We must convince politically, and not by way of an armed struggle, he said.