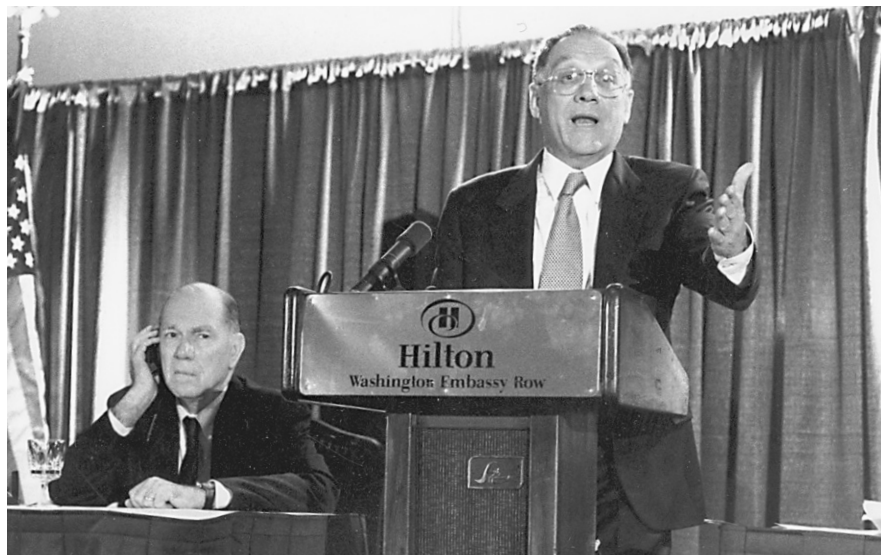


Washington, D.C. Seminar: Defend the Nation-State! Colombia's Gen. Bedoya vs. Narcoterrorism

On Feb. 23 Presidential candidate Lyndon LaRouche was joined in Washington, D.C., by former Colombian Defense Minister Gen. Harold Bedoya, who is also former head of his country's Armed Forces, in a seminar on the "War on Drugs and the Defense of the Sovereign Nation-State."

LaRouche called for resuming the cause of the independent Americas, as developed since the time of John Quincy Adams and James Monroe, whereby it was understood that the defense of what were then the emerging republics of Ibero-America, was an integral part of the defense of the United States. We must take up the fight against drugs as a rallying point for the defense of the nation-state, said LaRouche.

General Bedoya focussed his report on a critical analysis of the so-called Plan Colombia, which calls for a 12-year war, in which 50 percent of drug crops and land are to be destroyed and recaptured in the first six years, and the rest in the second six. This is a fraud, he said; first,



Seminar participants Gen. Harold Bedoya (podium) and Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr.

because no population can be expected to endure war conditions over 12 years; second, because, with the amount of land under coca cultivation having doubled over the past four years, even a reduction of 50 percent in six years

would not prevent a major increase in coca production. Moreover, in discussing land areas to be retaken and crops destroyed, the Plan excludes areas of the country which are completely controlled by the narcoterrorist FARC.

Launch Call for Commission on 'New Violence'

Presidential pre-candidate Lyndon LaRouche has called for the formation of a "National Commission Against the New Violence." The Commission, which is in its formative stages, will be composed of state legislators, medical professionals, Civil Rights activists, law enforcement officials, clergy, and citizens. Its purpose will be to combat the accelerating social disintegration of the United States, seen in the increasingly brutal, senseless acts of violence committed by armed and unarmed children, armed policemen, and execution-happy government officials.

In a statement, "Star Wars and Littleton," published in *Executive Intelligence Review* last July 2, LaRouche asserted that "it is false, pathetically simplistic, and an evasion of government's responsibility to assess true causes for problems of national

security, to imply that hand-guns sold over the counter to teenagers *caused* the Littleton massacre. . . . Unless relevant institutions get down to the serious business of addressing the actual causes for this pattern of incidents, this murderous rampage will persist, whether or not the guns were legally sold to adolescents, or whether or not the producers and distributors of cult-films and Nintendo-style video games intend that specific effect."

Aftermath of Diallo Verdict

LaRouche called for the Commission's formation in the hours after the Amadou Diallo verdict in New York on February 25. A year earlier, shortly after the unarmed Diallo was gunned down by 41 shots fired by four policemen in the space of five seconds, LaRouche had requested that his campaign researchers

begin an investigation of the methods of instruction and training of the police forces of New York and other cities.

Government-sanctioned murder of even *the innocent*, through executions in states like George W. Bush's Texas, destroys all notions of justice in the name of "preserving the integrity of legal procedure." The continued sanctions against Iraq, resulting in the deaths of over 500,000 innocent children since 1991; the unprovoked bombing of the Chinese embassy in Belgrade; and similar actions, are also key to understanding why we cannot expect the youth of this nation to have more respect for the dignity of life than do their parents, or the society's governing institutions.

Further discussion appears in "The Diallo Affair and the 'New Violence' in America," p. 94.