

# **The Schwarz Report**

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## Inside

**Che: 39 Years of Hate and Murder** by Humberto Fontova, Page 4 Mr. Fontova examines the "celebrity" of Che Guevara.



#### **Nicaragua's KGB Party** by Lloyd Billinsley, Page 6 Nicaranguans go to the polls in November. Will the KGB help decide its victor?



#### Dancing With the Devil

by Ben Johnson, Page 7 Hugo Chavez's recommended reading for a new birth of Facism includes Noam Chomsky.

And do not participate in the unfruitful deeds of darkness, but instead expose them. Ephesians 5:11

# John Lennon: Pied-piper of Drugs, Free-Love and Marxist Revolution

by David A. Noebel

Editor's note: I have been interested in the cultural demise of the West since reading Gramsci's exhortations from jail on how to destroy the west's Christian soul. John Lennon did as much as anyone to destroy the Christian soul and his "Working Class Hero" was written for the communist revolution.

Many in this audience remember the Beatles and the audacity of this rock 'n' roll group saying they were "more popular than Jesus." Some of you, I suspect, also remember the *Saturday Evening Post* article (July 1964) on the Beatles which contained the following comment: "It's incredible, absolutely incredible," said Beatles' press officer Derek Taylor. "Here are these four boys from Liverpool. They're rude, they're profane, they're vulgar, and they've taken over the world. It's as if they founded a new religion. They're completely anti-Christ. I mean, I'm anti-Christ as well, but they're so anti-Christ that they shock me, which isn't an easy thing."

Now forty years later, the Beatles are back in the news with the release of Steve Turner's extremely interesting and authoritative work *The Gospel According to the Beatles* (Westminster John Knox Press, 2006). Turner, a poet and journalist for over thirty years, has written a number of books on popular music icons such as Eric Clapton, Johnny Cash, and U2, including an earlier work titled, *A Hard Days Write: the Stories Behind Every Beatle Song* (2005). He also wrote the poem "Creed" which Tim LaHaye and I reprinted in our work *Mind Siege*. Now, in his latest effort, Turner offers an indepth look at the world of the Beatles, especially their lifestyle as preached and promoted in the lyrics of their songs and their music.

Of particular interest to our readers is Turner's acknowledgment of your humble and obedient servant. In the first chapter he notes, "David Noebel [was] one of the earliest opponents of Beatles music. Noebel started Summit Ministries in 1962, and it was through his work with teenagers in this capacity that he became interested in the effects of rock 'n' roll." (223) Elsewhere he states "The most high-profile Christian critic of the Beatles was a thirty-year old youth pastor, David A. Noebel, the author of *Communism, Hypnotism and the Beatles* (1965) and *Rhythm, Riots and Revolution* (1966)....His thesis was that rock 'n' roll sapped the moral fiber of the young, unwittingly achieving the goals of the revolutionary left." (23)

Turner could have mentioned my 1969 work, *The Beatles: A Study in Drugs, Sex, and Revolution* as well as *The Legacy of John Lennon: Charming or Harming* 

"Dwell on the past and you'll lose an eye; forget the past and you'll lose both eyes." Old Russian Proverb

*a Generation?* published in 1982. [Note: These books by David A. Noebel are out of print.]

Later, Turner quotes me directly on this point, "The Beatles in particular have a special significance to the disrupters of society for their promotion of drugs, avant-garde sex and atheism. The revolution, though sometimes veiled, is fundamentally against Christianity and Christianity's moral concepts. Karl Marx sought to dethrone God before he set out to destroy capitalism." (23)

Turner's careful research more than verifies my early observations of the Beatles' harmful and negative influence upon millions of naïve young people and validates how these pied-pipers from Liverpool led tens of thousands straight into the drug culture and sexual revolution. Indeed, Lennon's gospel was a gospel of freedom without God, moral boundaries or adult responsibility. His mantra of "give peace a chance" was merely a cloak to cover his drug-drenched lifestyle, promiscuity (free love) and Marxist/socialist revolution.

Because I have been criticized over these many years for my observations regarding the Beatles, I will merely summarize Turner's research on this most influential rock group. Readers can make up their own minds on whether "Beatlemania" was, and is, a positive or negative thing. The following material comes directly from Steve Turner, *The Gospel According to the Beatles* (Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox Press, 2006), and is highly recommended reading for those interested in the subject of rock 'n' roll in general and the Beatles in particular.

1. "As John [Lennon] said in 1968, 'I've changed a lot of people's heads.' There can be no doubt that, particularly from 1966 onward, they were looked to for guidance, and their songs were analyzed in much the same way as theologians analyze the Bible or literary critics analyze Shakespeare." (1)

2. "It would be wrong to assume that this gospel came only through the lyrics of the songs, important though they were. It also came through the sound of the music, the spaces between the words, and their entire way of life." (2)

3. "The Beatles, it seemed, went through things on behalf of their followers and then sent back their findings. They traveled the world, smoked pot, took acid, snorted cocaine, lived to excess, became addicted, consulted psychics, spent millions, meditated, and then wrote their reports up in the form of songs." (7)

4. "Millions of young people smoked pot, dropped acid, investigated Eastern religions, and marched for peace in Vietnam as a result of things the Beatles did and said." (9)

5. "We're all Jesus and we're all God," said John in 1968. "He's inside all of us, that's what it's all about. As soon as you start realizing that potential in everyone, well, then you can change it [humanity] and the people themselves can change it. That's the whole bit. Jesus wasn't God come down to earth any more than anybody else was. He was just a better example of a good guy." (11)

6. "Hallucinogenic drugs without doubt produced the crucial turning point. The Beatles' use of them marked the point not only when they became more concerned with art than entertainment but when they became more introspective....Without drugs it's unlikely that they would have been as receptive to the teachings of Hinduism or would have devoted so much time to learning techniques of meditation." (12)

7. "Information about Eastern religion was made more widely known in the West than ever before through the influence of the Beatles. It's difficult to imagine that the New Age movement would have had so great an appeal without their groundwork. Interest in Transcendental Meditation, for example, received a tremendous boost from their corporate endorsement, and the proliferation of shaved–headed men and long–haired women singing the Hare Krishna mantra on the main streets of every major city was a direct result of the financial and moral backing their organization received from the Beatles." (12)

8. "Occasionally this empathy was so consuming that, as he later admitted, when he was under the influence of drugs, 'I thought, Oh, I must be Christ.' His boyhood friend Pete Shotton told of a meeting John called in May 1968 to tell Paul, George, and Ringo that he was Jesus Christ reincarnated." (17, 18)

9. "Christianity will go. It will vanish and shrink. I needn't argue about that; I'm right and I will be proved right. We're more popular than Jesus now; I don't know which will go first—rock 'n' roll or Christianity. Jesus was all right but his disciples were thick and ordinary. It's them twisting it that ruins it for me." (20)

10. "Rock 'n' roll was the sound of a generation slipping free from the restraints of the past. The music rarely articulated what it was against. Its values were primarily communicated through its spirit. In a nutshell, rock 'n' roll was about rediscovering the primal urges and chipping away at the encrusted values of Western civilization. The teenagers who went wild in the aisles, or who tore up cinema seats and started fights, weren't responding to inciting messages in the lyrics. They just knew instinctively that rock 'n' roll was encouraging them to let loose." (58)

11. "Rock 'n' roll doesn't glorify God. You can't drink out of God's cup and the devil's cup at the same time. I was one of the pioneers of that music, one of the builders. I know what the blocks are made of because I built them...I figure that rock 'n' roll is devastating to the mind. It is not from God. The lyrics don't talk about Jesus. The beat hypnotizes you." (Little Richard, *Dallas Times Herald*, October 29, 1978, 14A)

12. "Everyone agrees that John behaved as though existentialism were true. He lived his life the way he wanted to. He didn't give a sod about anything or anyone else." (Turner, *The Gospel According to the Beatles* (65)

13. The Beatles traveled to Hamburg, Germany in August 1960. St. Pauli, the area where the Beatles played their concerts "was one of the most notoriously liberal districts in Europe....Every extreme form of human behavior was tolerated and, in most cases, celebrated." (70) "St. Pauli was an enclosed society where all bourgeois values and Christian principles were discarded, and it was made easy to yield to every previously unfulfilled desire...visiting the sleazy bars, befriending transvestites, and taking part in group sex, often with off-duty hookers." (71)

14. "The existentialist position was that the Christian worldview, being untrue, was inhuman. It subdued and inhibited us. It made us fearful of discovering our full potential. There was no implicit virtue in holding back and no implicit vice in letting go. 'Christianity should not be beautified and embellished,' argued Nietzsche. 'It has waged deadly war against this higher type of man; it has placed all the basic instincts of this type under the ban.'" (84)

15. "Aronowitz believed that pot would change the Beatles and thus their music. As the music changed, the listening world would get the message, and the gospel of liberation through marijuana would spread more rapidly than ever before....The immediate effect of the drug on the Beatles was to give them a feeling of freedom." (102)

16. "To John in his stoned state this sound [music played backwards] sounded beautiful, and the next day he asked Martin to add a section of reversed vocals to the end of the song. The eerie, distorted sound was unlike anything that had been heard on a pop single before. 'That one was the gift of God,' he said in 1980...actually the god of marijuana." (105)

17. "It was the love that [John] felt when smoking. This was the first song [*From Me to You*] that he had composed with Paul under the influence, and they decorated the lyric sheet in bright colors to reflect the drug-hazed feeling of the moment." (107)

18. "It was the first taste of John's style of preaching. 'Say the word and be like me' is a command. 'Now that I know what I feel must be right/I'm here to show everybody the light'...the key to his transformation was to have understanding, an understanding made possible by drugs." (108)

19. "Amphetamines and alcohol, their drugs of choice so far, had made them energetic, outgoing, and often aggressive. They were drugs that encouraged communal experience, letting off steam, and dancing. Pot had the opposite effect. It made them feel mellow, introspective, and peaceful....'Cannabis makes people peaceful,' said Ringo. 'We're all saying peace and taking peaceful drugs.'''(108)

20. "For George and John it was a perception-changing experience. LSD dissolves the normal sense of ego that allows one to distinguish between self, others, and inanimate objects. The tripper feels united with all things." (117)

21. "Those who have tripped out—the turned-on people, beautiful people, heads, freaks—then feel part of an enlightened elite who have seen beyond the façade...the vision of the hallucinogenic drug taker—is reality." (117)

22. *"Yellow Submarine* was a psychedelic odyssey that pushed the animation of its day to the limit."

23. "Beatles records were becoming trip music." (122)

24. "*Tomorrow Never Knows*, the first track recorded for the [*Revolver*] album, was the most obviously connected to LSD. It consisted of John intoning words adapted from Timothy Leary's *The Psychedelic Experience* over a collection of randomly spliced tapes, most of them music played backward." (124)

25. "To John the new 'drug-based religion' was more dynamic than formal Christianity." (125)

26. The Lennon sermon would have portrayed Jesus as "a garlic eating, stinking, little yellow greasy fascist bastard catholic Spaniard." (Lennon, *A Spaniard in the Works*, Simon and Schuster, 1965, 14)

27. Lennon portrays his dad as: (a) "Ye stupid bastard," (b) "Ye shriveled little clown," (c) "Yer dirty little ponce,"
(d) "The slimy little jew," (e) "a buddy friend and pal." (A Spaniard in the Works, 83-85)

28. "[Timothy] Leary, who spent the summer of 1967 tripping to Beatles music, raved about them....In his essay 'Drop Out or Cop Out' he referred to them as 'holy men,' declaring: 'The rock 'n' roll bands are the philosopher-poets of the new religion. Their beat is the pulse of the future. The message from Liverpool is the Newest Testament, chanted by four Evangelists—saints John, Paul, George and Ringo. Pure Vedanta, divine revelation, gentle, tender irony at the insanities of war and politics, sorrowful lament for the bourgeois loneliness, delicate hymns of glory to God." (Turner, *The Gospel According to the Beatles*, 127)

29. "By 1967 John had taken so much LSD—between 1965 and 1970 he claimed to have taken literally 'a thousand trips,' although this must have been an exaggeration." (130)

30. "Leary argued that LSD was 'Western yoga.' He once said, 'Our religious philosophy, or our philosophy about the meaning of LSD, comes closer to Hinduism than any other religion." (140)

31. "The idea for *Why Don't We Do It in the Road*, Paul's most minimalist song, came to him when he saw the

mating habits of the local monkeys. He envied their freedom to have sex whenever and wherever they wanted, unhindered by human concerns for decorum and guilt." (147)

32. "Now [John] was adamantly atheist. Religion in general was a drug (*Working Class Hero*), Krishna was pie in the sky (*I Found Out*), and God was a concept by which we measure our pain (*God*)." (182)

33. "Following his bold atheistic statements in *God* and *Imagine* in the early 1970s, John abandoned the spiritual in favor of the political. On moving to New York he associated with the young left-wing radicals Jerry Rubin, Abbie Hoffman, and Rennie Davis." (185)

34. "Mark David Chapman,...a long-standing Beatles fan, suddenly decided that John was a hypocrite, a man who had encouraged people to distrust the system but who was now a serious investor living in one of New York's most expensive apartment buildings....Chapman thought that John

## Che: 39 Years of Hate and Murder

#### by Humberto Fontova

Thirty nine years ago, Ernesto "Che" Guevara got a major dose of his own medicine. Without trial he was declared a murderer, stood against a wall and shot. Historically speaking, justice has rarely been better served. If the saying, "what goes around comes around" ever fit, it's here. The number of men Che's "revolutionary tribunals" condemned to death in the identical manner range from 400 to 1,892. The number of defenseless men (and boys) Che personally murdered with his own pistol runs to the dozens. Imagine Charles Manson, Ted Bundy, and Son of Sam t-shirts on such as Johnny Depp and Prince Harry. Granted, these last three didn't match Che's murder tally.

"Executions?" Che Guevara exclaimed while addressing the hallowed halls of the UN General Assembly December 9, 1964. "Certainly, we execute!" he declared to the claps and cheers of that August body. "And we will continue executing (emphasis *his*) as long as it is necessary! This is a war to the DEATH against the Revolution's enemies!"

According to the *Black Book of Communism* those firing squad executions had reached around 10,000 by that time. Sloboban Milosevic, by the way, went on trial for allegedly ordering 8,000 executions. The charge against him by the same UN that deliriously applauded Che Guevara's proud proclamation was "genocide."

The "revolutions' enemies" being bound, gagged and murdered by Che and his henchmen were among the most enterprising and valiant fighters of the 20th century. These Cuban was just a phoney. He'd seen recent pictures of John in the recording studio and read a story in <u>Esquire</u> that reported on his real estate investments. Here was a man who urged people to imagine having no possessions owning Holstein cows, farmland in the Catskills, a boat, a gabled shorefront home surrounded by trees on Long Island, and a mansion in Palm Beach, Florida." (191, 192)

35. "On December 8, 1980, Mark Chapman…lay in wait outside the Dakota building. When John and Yoko returned from a night out, he let them walk past him, took aim with his Smith and Wesson .38 revolver, and fired four shots into John's body." (193)

36. While no God-loving Christian condones Chapman's taking the life of John Lennon the reality is: "The wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord" (Romans 6:23).

freedom-fighters ranked alongside the Polish Home Army and the Hungarian Freedom-Fighters. They fought just as valiantly, as desperately—and ultimately—just as hopelessly. They fought to the last bullet and usually to the death.

Most heartbreaking of all, they fought alone and abandoned. They specialized in ripping off their gags and blindfolds to yell "VIVA CRISTO REY!" or "VIVA CUBA LIBRE!" or "ABAJO COMUNISMO!" before the bullets shattered their bodies and the coup de grace from Che's henchman shattered their skulls.

The few survivors live in places like Miami and New Jersey today and qualify as the longest-suffering political prisoners in modern history. But you'll look for their stories on the History Channel, PBS, the *New York Times*, etc., in vain. They fought the Left's premier pin-up boys, you see. So their heroism doesn't qualify as Politically-Correct drama.

Not that you'd surmise any of the above from the mainstream media or academia—much less Hollywood. From the high priests of the Fourth Estate Che Guevara gets only accolades. *Time* magazine, for instance, honors Che Guevara among "The 100 Most Important People of the Century."

The man who declared, "a revolutionary must become a cold killing machine motivated by pure hate," (and set a spirited example,) who boasted that he executed from "revolutionary conviction" rather than from any "archaic bourgeois details" like judicial evidence, and who urged "atomic extermination" as the final solution for those American "hyenas," (and came

hearth-thumpingly close with Nuclear missiles in October 1962) is hailed by *Time*—not just among the "most important" people of the Century—but in the "Heroes and Icons" section, along-side Anne Frank, Andrei Sakharov, and Rosa Parks.

"If the nuclear missiles had remained we would have used them against the very heart of America, including New York City," Che Guevara confided to the *London Daily Worker* in November of 1962. "We will march the path of victory even if it costs millions of atomic victims...We must keep our hatred alive and fan it to paroxysm." This was Che's prescription for America almost half a century before Osama Bin Laden, Mullah Omar, and Al-Zarqawi appeared on our radar screens.

But for the prudence of Nikita Khrushchev, Che Guevara's fondest wish would have made New York's 9/11 explosions appear like an errant cherry bomb. Yet listed along-side Che Guevara in *Time*'s "Heroes and Icons of the Century," is Mother Theresa. From here the ironies only get richer.

The most popular version of Che t-shirt, for instance, sports the slogan "Fight Oppression" under his famous face. This is the face of a man who co-founded a regime that jailed more of it's subjects than Hitler or Stalin's and declared that "individualism must disappear!" In 1959, with the help of Soviet GRU agents, the man celebrated on that t-shirt helped found, train and indoctrinate Cuba's secret police. "Always interrogate your prisoners at night," Che ordered his goons. "A man's resistance is always lower at night." Today the world's largest Che mural adorns Cuba's Ministry of the Interior, the headquarters for Cuba's KGB and STASI trained secret police. Nothing could be more fitting.

Yet somehow, this same image is considered the height of hipness on everything from shirts, watches and snowboards, to thong underwear and an undisclosed location on Angelina Jolie's epidermis. Ms Jolie, by the way, recently won the UN's "Global Humanitarian Award" for her work with refugees.

Will someone please inform Angelina Jolie that her tattoo idol, with his firing squads and prison-camps, provoked one of the biggest refugee crises in the history of this hemisphere. On top of the 2 million who made it with only the clothes on their back, the Cuban Archives project, meticulously compiled and documented by scholars Maria Werlau and Dr Armando Lago, estimate that close to 80,000 Cubans have died of thirst and exposure, have drown, or have been ripped apart by sharks attempting to flee the handiwork of the man "Ms Global Humanitarian" honors by having him permanently emblazoned on her skin.

Yet prior to Fidel and Che's glorious reign, Cuba took in more immigrants (primarily from Europe) as a percentage of population than the U.S, and this includes the Ellis Island years. Prior to the glorious Cuban revolution people were as desperate to enter Cuba (especially from neighboring Haiti and Jamaica) as they are now to exit Cuba (at extreme risk to life and limb.) Perhaps Castro acolyte Charlie Rangel can explain this? Perhaps Jesse "Viva Fidel! Viva Che!" Jackson can explain it?

When Madonna camped it up in her Che outfit for the cover of her American Life CD, she plugged a regime that criminalized homosexuals and anything smacking of gay mannerisms. In the mid 60's the crime of effeminate behavior got thousands of youths yanked off Cuba's streets and parks by secret police and dumped in prison camps with "Work Will Make Men Out of You" in bold letters above the gate (the one at Auschwitz' gate read: "Work Will Set You Free) and with machine gunners posted on the watchtowers. The initials for these camps were UMAP, not GULAG, but the conditions were identical.

When the crowd of A-list hipsters and Beautiful People at the Sundance Film Festival (which included everyone from Tipper and Al Gore to Sharon Stone, Meryl Streep, and Paris Hilton) exploded in a rapturous standing ovation for Robert Redford's The Motorcycle Diaries, they were cheering a film glorifying a man who jailed or exiled most of Cuba's best writers, poets and independent film-makers while converting Cuba's press and cinema--at Czech machine-gun point-- into propaganda agencies for a Stalinist regime.

Che groupies are many and varied. The noted historian Benicio Del Toro, who will star as his hero in a Hollywood Biopic due next year, says: "Che was just one of those guys who walked the walk and talked the talk. There's just something cool about people like that. The more I get to know Che, the more I respect him."

More than his cruelty, megalomania or even his epic stupidity, what most distinguished Ernesto "Che" Guevara from his peers was his sniveling cowardice. His groupies can run off in a huff, slam their bedroom door, and dive headfirst into their beds sobbing and kicking and punching the pillows all they want—but Che surrendered to the Bolivan Rangers voluntarily, from a safe distance, and was captured physically sound and with a fully loaded pistol.

One day before his death in Bolivia, Che Guevara—for the first time in his life—finally faced something properly describable as combat. So he ordered his guerrilla charges to give no quarter, to fight to their last breaths, and to their last bullet. A few hours later his "untamable defiance," lack of hypocrisy and "walking of the walk" all manifested themselves. With his men doing just what he ordered (fighting and dying to the last bullet) a slightly wounded Che snuck away from the firefight and surrendered with a full clip in his pistol while whimpering to his captors: "Don't Shoot! I'm Che I'm worth more to you alive than dead!"

His Bolivian captors begged to differ. —*FrontPageMagazine.com*, October 9, 2006

### Nicaragua's KGB Party by Lloyd Billinsley

The U.S. is not the only country that will go to the polls in November. Nicaragua does, too, and Daniel Ortega is running for president. Nicaraguans know Ortega as a FSLN *comandante* in designer glasses, a member of the Marxist Sandinista *junta* that oppressed and looted their country. According to his former sponsors, there's much more to the man and his supposedly independent movement today. One thing that hasn't changed, though, is that he a still beloved by the American Left, which wants him to win almost as much as it wants Nancy Pelosi to be Speaker of the House.

Since the American Left yawned when the Venona papers showed that Alger Hiss, the Rosenbergs, and other of their heroes were indeed traitors, the fact that Daniel Ortega, his brother Humberto, and many of their FSLN comrades are mentioned in recently revealed KGB files will probably cause no agonizing re-evaluation. Yet these important but neglected revelations show why the prospect of a new Ortega regime should concern American policy makers. That is especially true with the emergence of anti-American bullhorn Hugo Chavez of Venezuela, who supports Ortega and would like his burgeoning left-wing axis to include a Nicaragua headed by the candidate of the *Frente Sandinista de Liberación Nacional*.

The FSLN began with Carlos Fonseca Amado, author of *A Nicaraguan in Moscow* and a trusted KGB agent, codenamed GIDROLOG, "Hydrologist." That information emerges from KGB files smuggled to the West by Vasili Mitrokhin, the official tasked with moving the KGB's foreign files to a new location. The Mitrokhin archive, published with co-author Christopher Andrew of Cambridge, is the most complete intelligence find from any source. The recently published second volume, *The World Was Going Our Way: The KGB and the Battle for the Third World*, sheds light on key events, including KGB manipulation of Chile's Salvador Allende, and control of the FSLN, which figured prominently in Soviet strategy.

A keystone of that strategy in the Americas involved Cuba, codenamed AVANPOST or "bridgehead." In the designs of KGB chairman Aleksandr Shelepin, Nicaragua was to have become a second bridgehead working alongside the Cubans. In 1959, the FSLN's Tomas Borge and a group of Sandinistas arrived in Havana for meetings with Fidel Castro. Files reveal that the KGB also recruited Nicaraguan exile Edelberto Torres Espinosa, codename PIMEN, a surgeon and friend of Carlos Fonseca. Torres' KGB case officers V.P. Nefedov and V.V. Kostikov regarded him as a valuable and reliable agent. An agent, under KGB rules, means one who takes orders and carries out assignments.

In 1961, Shelepin told Nikita Khrushchev about these agents, along with one codenamed LOT who remains unidentified, and allocated funding for them. What the KGB had in mind for the FSLN was a "sabotage-terrorism group" headed by Manuel Ramón de Jesús Andara y Ubeda, an expatriate Nicaraguan surgeon working in Mexico. His codename was PRIM, and he selected candidates for training.

Andara y Ubeda's guerrillas formed the basis for a diversionnye razvedyvatelnye gruppy, or DRG, a sabotage and intelligence group given the codename ISKRA, "Spark," which was also the name of Lenin's newspaper. The files reveal that the KGB showed great interest in using the FSLN for sabotage in the southern United States. In 1966, the KGB placed Andara y Ubeda's group on the U.S.-Mexican border, with bases in Ciudad Juárez, Tijuana, and Ensenada. The targets included American military bases, missile sites, radar installations, and the oil pipeline from El Paso, Texas, to Costa Mesa, California. Files reveal that agents selected three sites for landings, with dead drops to store mines and explosives. The KGB also ran a support group, codenamed SATURN, which according to the Mitrokhin archive "was tasked with using the movements of migrant workers (braceros) to conceal the transfer of agents and munitions across the border."

Under the same ISKRA codename, the KGB also trained the Nicaraguan guerrillas who seized the National Congress in August 1978. Vladimir Kryuchkov head of the FCD, the KGB's foreign intelligence directorate, was briefed on operations. The guerrillas flew to Havana, where Castro met with Tomas Borge, Humberto Ortega and Daniel Ortega. Cuba's *Departamento América* (DA) helped them set up a base in Costa Rica, vital in their ousting of strongman Anastasio Somoza in 1979.

DA boss Julián López Díaz conveniently became Cuba's ambassador to Nicaragua. The first Soviet official on the scene was Nikolai Sergeyevich Leonov, the KGB's leading Latin American expert, who had been deployed to Mexico in 1953 and who became deputy head of the FCD, in charge of KGB

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operations in North and South America.

According to the files, Daniel Ortega told Leonov the FSLN strategy was to "tear Nicaragua from the capitalist orbit." Leonov told his bosses that the Ortegas would transform the FSLN into a Marxist-Leninist party, which would allow other centrist and "bourgeois" parties only because they did not threaten Sandinista power and served as a facade for the outside world. The FSLN, Leonov reported, would also lead class struggle across Central America.

To that end, the Sandinistas approached Moscow for military aid. According to the files, they wanted to act while Jimmy Carter was still president. In 1981, Humberto Ortega and Soviet defense minister Dimitri Ustinov signed an arms treaty. Everything went through Cuba, and according to the Mitrokhin archive, more Soviet arms arrived in Cuba that year than at any time since the 1962 missile crisis. In 1983, when Daniel Ortega visited Moscow, the Soviets agreed to send a squadron of MiG-21 fighters.

The KGB and the Battle for the Third World also reveals that the KGB and Cuba's DA played a significant role in fueling protest in the United States over what the Left called the "U.S. war in Central America." The Committee in Solidarity with the People of El Salvador (CISPES), a disinformation operation launched by Salvadoran Communists Farid and Skafik Handal, publicized a State Department paper forged by the KGB's FCD service. Those taken in by it included Anthony Lewis of the *New York Times*. Also during the 1980s the KGB launched the disinformation campaign that rich Americans were plundering the bodies of Latin American children for organ transplants. This was publicized through International Association of Democratic Lawyers, a Soviet front, and was getting play long after disproved as KGB propaganda.

Under FSLN rule, Nicaragua became, in the words of writer Paul Berman, the world center of the New Left. This was the place the aparatchiks hung out once Vietnam was safely in Stalinist hands. The FSLN anthem referred to "the yanqui, enemy of mankind." But the Nicaraguan people, who couldn't slip away to Berkeley and San Francisco, did not share the American Left's enthusiasm for the FSLN vanguard and voted them out of power in 1990. The victory of Violeta Chamorro stunned National Public Radio, among many others. Before leaving power the Sandinistas looted the country on a scale unmatched by Somoza.

Now Daniel Ortega wants to run the place again. His Soviet bagmen and trainers are no longer on the scene. Fidel Castro is still around but his regime no longer commands respect as a model. But Ortega has found a new sponsor is pushing for a fight with the yanqui enemy of mankind. Hugo Chavez, who has also been meddling in Peru, is supporting Ortega with more than rhetoric. In April, he signed a deal with Nicaraguan mayors of Ortega's FSLN party to sell them Venezuelan oil at special rates.

Stephan Kinzer, who covered Central America for the *New York Times* during the 1980s, cites polls showing that 69 percent of Nicaraguans would not vote for Daniel Ortega under any conditions. But Ortega deploys a political base that makes him a "formidable candidate." Ortega, writes Kinzer, "has already shown his power over the court system by arranging for pro-Sandinista judges to absolve him of charges that he sexually abused his stepdaughter for years." The candidate "now wants to use that power to shape the November election result."

-FrontPageMagazine.com, June 2, 2006

### **Dancing With the Devil**

#### by Ben Johnson

If nothing else came out of yesterday's speech at the UN, we now know what is on Venezuelan proto-fascist Hugo Chavez's reading table.

"Noam Chomsky, and this is one of his most recent books, *Hegemony or Survival: The Imperialist Strategy of the United States*," he said, hoisting the tome aloft at the podium. "I will just leave it as a recommendation."

His Chomsky citation merely proves what we have been saying at FrontPage Magazine for years: there is an Unholy Alliance of American leftists and anti-Americans worldwide and the influence runs both ways.

Yesterday, Chavez called for "the immediate suppression—and that is something everyone's calling for—of the anti-democratic mechanism known as the veto, the veto on decisions of the Security Council." In his book *Failed States*, Chomsky counseled America to "give up the Security Council veto." The book was published as part of the American Empire Project, whose blog commented the Chavez endorsement. (Quite a journalistic "get." Perhaps his blurb will read, "This is the kind of book I would *never* burn!") The blog also asserts, "TERRORISM CAN'T BE DEFEATED—EVER."

Chomsky's views are widely shared on the far-Left. His *alter ego* Howard Zinn has also advocated the "abolition of the Big Power domination of the Security Council, with rotating membership and no veto power." Both regularly call the veto anti-democratic, and various leftists, quoting their ideological heroes, have parroted the charge.

Now one runs his own country. Chavez's admiration for

MIT's most conspicuous Marxist is not new; he told ultraleftist Amy Goodman on her "Democracy Now!" program last September, "I would like very much to shake hands with Chomsky. I've been reading him for a while. I admire him enormously."

Chavez's literary review drew less coverage than his following lines: "Yesterday the devil came here. Right here." [Crosses himself.] "And it smells of sulfur still today." (A speech transcript has been helpfully preserved on Alexander Cockburn's hate site, Counterpunch.org.)

His use of the sign of the cross was as ironic as it was sacrilegious. After Roman Catholic authorities encouraged the Church Militant to participate in the 2004 election, Mr. Democracy's response "has been harsh and is designed to intimidate Church officials and sow division within the Church." Pope Benedict XVI petitioned Chavez to lighten government strictures on Catholic journalists when the two met this June. (Venezuela is more than 90 percent Roman Catholic.)

But Hugo Chavez's activism goes beyond his humorimpaired UN schtick and his PR stunt of offering low-cost heating oil to the poor and credulous. He may have given \$1 million to the Taliban following 9/11; he is believed to be hiding the leader of the revolutionary narcoterrorist gang FARC and providing Venezuelan passports to its members; and he may have allowed Hezbollah activity in the land of Bolivar. The *faux* populist, who has called himself "very Maoist," is in or has had alliances with Fidel Castro (who he says is "Christian in the social sense"; he's certainly made his share of martyrs), the Islamic Republic of Iran, Muammar Qaddafi, and Saddam Hussein. He has also tried to swing a local election for the Nicaraguan Sandinistas.

Like all fascists, he has engaged in a costly militarization, dedicating \$3 billion to rearmament. The deal he inked in July with Russia will acquire at least two-dozen Russian fighter planes, 50 assault helicopters, some 100,000 Kalishnikov rifles, and a Kalishnikov manufacturing *plant*. Additionally, Castro has provided 15,000 "advisors" to train the Great Leader's "Bolivarian Circles," a personal military attaché that acts as Chavez's "Hitler Youth," private army, and domestic spy agency. (Subjects showing insufficient adoration are denied government services.) North Korean officials visited Caracas more than a year ago, and Pyongyang has but one export (though I'm told its stores rival those of Americus, Georgia).

report released last month by Freedom House found: "Venezuela's scores have dropped across the board in all four indicators of good governance addressed in the study: accountability and public voice, civil liberties, rule of law, and anti-corruption and transparency. In fact, only Nepal, Zimbabwe, and Nigeria have experienced a greater net change for the worse."

He has, in fact, cracked down on "disrespect for government authorities" (a crime expressed in language evoking another Western hero: Cartman from "South Park") and has created a "blacklist of political opponents."

We're gratified to know many of the same left-wingers who denounce us as "McCarthyites" support a modern practitioner of the blacklist, that much of the "peace movement" supports a pro-terror militarist, and that the voices of "dissent" cheer heartily for an advocate of censorship and repression.

Chavez's Marxist economics have led Venezuela down the well-trod path to poverty. The nation is rated "repressed" and ranked #152 in this year's "Index of Economic Freedom," saddling the Venezuelan people with a miserable –9.4 percent GDP contraction. Still, more than half its exports come to the United States.

His rhetoric is a hot-selling import on the Left. Cindy Sheehan and Medea Benjamin have met with him. Benjamin's Global Exchange takes gullible leftists on pilgrimages to the southern, socialist Shangri-la. Thus, yesterday's speech garnered unsurprising praise on the Left—as did that of Iranian President Ahmadinejad. According to one columnist on *The Huffington Post*, "It would be a big mistake to dismiss **their** comments as the ravings of mad men when they are only saying what the rest of the world—China, Russia and France on the Security Council as well as countries from Brazil to South Korea—actually thinks." No wonder Chavez is so popular on the Left; not only does he allow them to believe the rest of the world shares their pretensions, he even played the race card—declaiming President Bush "looks at your color, and he says, 'Oh, there's an extremist.""

Thus, Chavez and Chomsky made mutual admiration pacts; Osama bin Laden makes allusions to Michael Moore; *The Huffington Post* legitimizes the ravings of a leftist fascist and an Islamofascist; and the Unholy Alliance grows steadily clearer day-by-day.

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Internal repression and censorship have followed. A

Founded in 1953, the Christian Anti-Communism Crusade, under the leadership of Dr. Fred C. Schwarz, has been publishing a monthly newsletter since 1960. *The Schwarz Report* is edited by Dr. David A. Noebel and Dr. Michael Bauman. The Crusade's address is PO Box 129, Manitou Springs, CO 80829. Our telephone number is (719) 685-9043. All correspondence and tax-deductible gifts (the Crusade is a 501(c)3 tax-exempt organization) may be sent to this address. Permission to reproduce materials from this *Report* is granted provided our name and address are given.