

## The Schwarz Report



Dr. Fred Schwarz Volume 46, Number 11 Dr. David Noebel

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To see a complete list of books recommended by the Christian Anti-Communism Crusade, please check out our website at www.schwarzreport.org. This site also has back issues of *The Schwarz Report* as well as other great resources.

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

### China's Red Flower of North America

by Bill Gertz

Ai Wang Mak dialed a phone number in Guangzhou, China.

The man who answered, Pu Pei-liang, was a researcher at the Chinese Center for Asia Pacific Studies at Zhongshan University, known to U.S. intelligence officials as CAPS.

"I'm with Red Flower of North America," said Mak, a Chinese national working as an engineer in Los Angeles for Hong Kong-based Phoenix Television.

Mak said he would arrive in China in nine days. Pu instructed him to use a calling card to phone from the airport in Guangzhou so that he could be picked up.

The call from California to China, placed October 19, 2005, was intercepted by the long electronic ears of the U.S. National Security Agency.

Mak's reference to Red Flower of North America brought a breakthrough in a yearlong investigation into one of the most damaging losses of defense technology in American history.

Chinese spies used those code words to authenticate themselves when making contact with communist China's intelligence bureaus. Other often-used code words include Winter Chrysanthemum and Autumn Orchid.

U.S. intelligence knew that CAPS received funding from the People's Liberation Army and conducted operational research for the Chinese military. The phone call revealed that CAPS had one of its most valuable spies inside the U.S. defense industrial system.

Mak and Pu, investigators say, were undercover military intelligence officers with the Second Department of the People's Liberation Army, the spy service well-known to U.S. counterspies as 2 PLA.

Investigators say Tai Mak's brother, Chi Mak, headed a family spy ring in Los Angeles. After his Oct. 28 arrest by the FBI, Chi Mak, a naturalized citizen and electrical engineer with a major American defense contractor, told investigators that he had supplied sensitive Navy weapons secrets to the Chinese since 1983.

The fact that the spy ring went undetected for two decades was a major counter-intelligence failure. Worse, the U.S. government would go on to bungle the case.

R. James Woolsey, the former CIA director, has called the Constitution one of the best recruiting tools for intelligence services. His point is that those living under oppressive, dictatorial regimes sometimes will take incredible risks to step forward and secretly help in the battle for freedom and democracy.

In fall 2004, the CIA recruited just such a source from China, a person within the military and security establishment. One of the first questions the CIA poses, in the jargon of the intelligence business, is "Who is picking our pockets?"

The new source identified the spy ring in Los Angeles that investigators said was run by Chi Mak, an electrical engineer with the defense firm Power Paragon, a subsidiary of the Fortune 500 company known as L-3.

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

The source said the Chinese military was gaining sensitive technology and information on Navy warships. What's more, China was buying ostensibly commercial goods and diverting them to the military.

Under pressure to adopt a counterintelligence culture instead of a "cop" mentality, the FBI hoped to play the spy ring and see where it led.

Counterintelligence is part art, part science, a discipline aimed at identifying and exploiting or stopping foreign spies. Law enforcement is easier: You identify the bad guys and arrest them.

But the government mishandled the case. One problem was that the FBI and the CIA had conflicting goals. The CIA was afraid to lose its prized source, the Chinese recruit. The agency did not want the FBI to make arrests immediately, because swift action would alert the Chinese to a mole.

Investigators said Tai Mak, who worked for a producer of Chinese-language programming, served as a handler and courier for the spy ring. The investigation continued for about a year, until the NSA intercepted his "Red Flower" phone call in October 2005.

Days later, on Oct. 28, the FBI arrested Chi Mak, 66, and his wife, Rebecca Laiwah Chiu, 63.

Agents also arrested Tai Mak, 57, and his wife, Fuk Heung Li, 49, at Los Angeles International Airport as they prepared to travel to China.

He was carrying disks on which were hidden encrypted files containing sensitive data on Navy technology. Many documents were labeled "proprietary" and "restricted," meaning they could not be exported.

An FBI affidavit made a case for applying maximum charges against the four suspects—conspiracy to steal U.S. military information on restricted Navy warship technology, smuggling information to China in violation of export laws, and theft of government property.

"Chi Mak said that he knew that Mr. Pu was providing the information to members of the Chinese government's science and technology community," the affidavit said.

The FBI produced the affidavit to secure arrest warrants for the Mak brothers and their wives, as well as search warrants for their homes, workplaces, and vehicles. Having spent a year conducting electronic surveillance, investigators believed the searches would uncover classified data and other information that would lead to more serious espionage charges.

Judges underscored the seriousness of the charges by denying bail for the Mak brothers. One judge told Chi Mak's lawyer: "You're talking about billions of dollars of technology that puts our country at serious risk."

Chi Mak, a specialist in electrical power, received a secret-level security clearance in 1996.

The document trail led investigators to conclude that he passed information that will allow Beijing to track the Pentagon's new Virginia class-attack submarine, which uses L-3 technology. The compromised technology also will enable the Chinese to develop countermeasures against the submarine and to copy its electronic systems.

Investigators believe he gave China schematics and design information on the latest generation of Aegis weapons systems, which L-3 helped to develop. Aegis—meaning shield—is being upgraded to become American's most advanced and mobile anti-missile system for use on guided-missile cruisers, guided-missile destroyers, Sea Wolf-class submarines and aircraft carriers.

Chi Mak worked on four classified Navy contracts related to Aegis. Investigators believe his spy ring was the main supplier of Aegis technology to China and, one U.S. defense official says, the Chinese quickly incorporated it into their Luyang II guided-missile destroyer.

By the time formal indictments were issued Nov. 15, the most serious charges against Chi Mak and the three others had been dropped. Tai Mak's wife was excluded altogether, though she was charged separately with running an illegal marriage-fraud network that helped immigrants gain entry into the United States.

The three remaining suspects were indicted on relatively minor charges of failing to register as foreign agents. The initial charges could have resulted in prison terms of up to 25 years, but the lesser charges carried maximum sentences of 10 years. Chi Mak, his wife and Tai Mak all pleaded not guilty.

So what changed? U.S. government sources say that petty squabbling between prosecutors and investigators jeopardized the case.

The more serious charges were dropped because the FBI counterintelligence team that conducted the investigation got into a dispute with the U.S. attorneys in Los Angeles who were in charge of the prosecution.

The FBI fully expected that search warrants would unearth classified data, so prosecutors balked when much of what was found was not officially classified as secret.

"Nothing I passed [to China] was classified," Chi Mak told investigators shortly after his arrest.

He was right. Investigators say the lack of classified documents revealed that the spies had done their homework.

Chinese intelligence-gathering services exploited the fact that Navy officials underclassified some of the most sensitive information about weapons systems to make it easier for private defense contractors to use the data.

"There is no question that this case has caused serious damage to U.S. national security," one investigator said.

Espionage laws are so difficult to apply that prosecutors almost need a confession to be able to make their case.

The current statue, enacted in 1917, requires prosecutors to prove "intent" or reason to believe that the information is to be used to the injury of the United States, or to the advantage of any foreign nation."

This standard often forces the release of intelligence or defense information to prove national security was harmed.

David Szady, head of FBI counterintelligence until this year, said loss of sensitive-yet-unclassified information can do real harm to national security.

The technology passed to China in the Mak case was proprietary corporate trade secrets or export-controlled, but did not carry the "secret" or "top-secret" label. Chi Mak had access to Connecticut-based submarine manufacturer Elec-

tric Boat, for example, as if he were one of their own employees, Szady said.

The case "probably murdered the Navy" because of the loss of technology, he said.

Obtaining contract documents not only will allow Beijing to build its own version of one of the Navy's developmental warships, the DD(X) destroyer, but possibly to "sell it in competition to us," Szady said.

The Chinese, he said, are good at positioning agents who can obtain advanced technology in the developmental stage, before it is classified.

"The [spy] business is getting more complex, more subtle," Szady said. "It's smarter business than the old cloak-and-dagger."

—The Washington Times, September 18, 2006, p. 1, 14

# **United Nations' Tour of Dictators**

by Jacob Laksin

Not the least unfortunate aspect of the United Nations is its habit of providing Third World despots with a prominent pulpit to speechify against the agency's principal sponsor: the United States. Last week was no exception, as three worthy claimants to the title of most anti-American head of state—Iran's millenarian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad; Venezuela's Castro protégé President Hugo Chavez; and Bolivia's Bolshevist President Evo Morales—descended on Turtle Bay to diabolize President Bush, denounce American foreign policy, and revel in the adulation of the UN's correspondingly anti-American membership.

The results were entirely predictable. Ahmadinejad thundered against the "aggression, occupation and violation of international law" by the United States and pronounced the establishment of Israel a "tragedy;" Chavez snarled that President Bush was "the devil," derided free-market capitalism as one of the "great evils and the great tragedies" and identified the United States as the main agent of "international terrorism;" Morales, the most conciliatory of the three, raged against American efforts to inhibit the Bolivian cocaine industry as "an instrument of recolonization or colonization."

Leave it to the far-Left to cast this authoritarian rogue's gallery as goodwill ambassadors and upgrade their hate-mongering to the status of cogent commentary. Hardly had the applause died down at the UN General assembly, than left-wing pundits unveiled their own tribute: Far from demagogues with crudely anti-American agendas, they were spokesmen for the world's collective outrage at the all-too-real sins of the United States. "People who say these guys are just outliers

are wrong," Mark Weisbrot, a Latin America specialist at the leftist Center for Economic and Policy Research (CEPR) informed the *Wall Street Journal*. "They are saying things that many other leaders only think."

Unmentioned by the Journal was that the CEPR, and Weisbrot in particular, are longtime apologists for leftist dictators, most prominently Hugo Chavez. Evidence for this charge is not wanting. When in 2003 the Chavez regime established a U.S.-based lobbying group, the Venezuela Information Office, Weisbrot instantly emerged as the effort's leading backer, urging the "progressive funding community" to bankroll Chavez's undisguised PR agency in the interest, of all things, of Venezuelan democracy. Weisbrot himself has been a tireless publicist for Venezuela's would-be president-for-life, having previously attacked the country's grassroots democratic opposition as "mostly managers and executives." In a 2005 article, he held up Venezuela's government as "the way democracy is supposed to work," a curious assessment of a regime that, among other infringements of civil liberties, has introduced 20-month prison sentences for the crime of "offending the authorities" and consistently rigged the electoral vote in its favor.

The CEPR was scarcely the only left-wing institution to cheer Chavez. Following his disturbed performance at the UN, Chavez paid a visit to—where else?—a university, specifically Cooper Union College in Manhattan. There Chavez likened the Bush administration to the Nazis, described American policies in Iraq as genocide, and demanded that President Bush be brought before an international tribunal to be tried for war crimes. All of this was greeted with enthusiastic applause by the audience of professors, students, and trade union representatives, some of whom arrived outfitted in red shirts, in tribute to Chavez's signature fashion.

It was not the only stop on Chavez's propaganda tour. Chavez would also be hailed by an overflowing crowd at the devoutly left-wing Mount Olivet Baptist Church in Harlem, where he was introduced to the podium by actor *cum* activist Danny Glover, arguably Hollywood's most devoted encomiast of Fidel Castro. (No mean feat, as Humberto Fontova has shown.) Glover, who ardently shares Chavez's disdain for the United States—the *Lethal Weapon* star believes his country to be one of "the main purveyors of violence in this world" and has likened President Bush to a slave-owner—would not be disappointed.

The Venezuelan strongman proceeded to deliver himself of a plodding disquisition on America's "devil" president—who, Chavez assured the assembled crowd, "might kill me"—complete with extended readings from his preferred blueprint for governance, Noam Chomsky's *Hegemony or Survival: America's Quest for Global Dominance*. In deference to the venue, Chavez prayed "that the American people will elect a president we can negotiate with." The message evidently resonated with the crowd, which chanted, in Spanish, "Chavez, Chavez, the people are with you!" Chavez did not repeat his previously stated conviction that the "imperialist" United States had "planned and drove" the September 11 terrorist attacks to justify "aggressions" against Iraq, but it is not at all clear that it would have met with disapproval.

Chavez's close ally, President Ahmadinejad, received similarly deferential treatment. Blogging at the *Huffington Post*, Nathan Gardels, editor of the left-leaning *New Perspectives Quarterly*, asserted that the Iranian leader, like Chavez, had accurately diagnosed the world's reaction to "George Bush's unilateralism" and "Anglo-Saxon dominance." "When Ahmadinejad railed against US and UK attempts to dominate the world through the Security Council, as if this were the early post-WWII era instead of the 21st century, it was a message that resonated globally," Gardels claimed, adding that "[i]t would be a big mistake to dismiss their comments as the ravings of mad men..." All Ahmadinejad had done, according to Gardels, was express what the "rest of the world...actually thinks."

Many on the Left agreed. Indeed, Ahmadinejad became something of an overnight celebrity among New York's liberal establishment. The venerable center-left think tank, the Council on Foreign Relations (CFR), invited him to attend a special question and answer session. The diplomatic gesture backfired disastrously, as Ahmadinejad took the occasion to call for "more impartial studies to be done" to determine whether the Holocaust actually occurred, defended Iran's "right" to enrich uranium, and chastised his hosts—among them insurance mogul and Holocaust survivor Maurice Greenberg—for being puppets of the Bush "government position." CFR's communications director, Lisa Shields, nevertheless defended the council's decision to grant Ahmadinejad yet another forum to promote his cause: "We've had Castro. We've had Arafat, and Mugabe. We've had Gerry Adams," she noted,

an explanation that did not reflect nearly as well on the center as she might have supposed.

Columbia University showed only marginally more sense, canceling a planned visit by the Iranian president, officially for lack of security. Considering Ahmadinejad's views on academic freedom—he recently enacted a purge of liberal and secular faculty in Iranian universities as part of a campaign to bolster Islamic fundamentalism across the country—his appearance would have put the school, which already boasts a not-unjustified reputation for anti-Semitism, in an awkward position. But the very fact that the university offered to play host to Tehran's theocrat speaks volumes about its priorities.

Most noteworthy is that the initial invitation was extended by Lisa Anderson, dean of the School of International and Public Affairs. It may be recalled that in the spring of 2005, Anderson emerged as a vigorous defender of Columbia professor Joseph Massad, her onetime graduate student, against the complaints of Jewish students that he routinely used his classroom as a platform to inveigh against Israel. That same month Anderson signed a letter to Columbia's president, Lee Bollinger, dismissing complaints about anti-Israel professors as "the latest salvo against academic freedom at Columbia." But Ahmadinejad, unlike Columbia students apparently, deserved the benefit of the doubt. "I think we ought to be open to hearing things we don't ordinarily hear and that we find objectionable," she told the *New York Times*.

As a relative newcomer to the America-bashing circuit, Evo Morales didn't quite attract the following of his more notorious co-speakers. He did, however, succeed in breaking American law, when he held aloft a green coca leaf, a main ingredient in cocaine production and banned in the U.S., to protest American criticisms of his country's failing anti-drug policies. In the hypocritical spirit of the occasion, Morales also lectured the United States about the need to respect laws and human rights, an amusing complaint coming from a socialist authoritarian who used revolutionary violence to ascend to power and has repeatedly cracked down on independent institutions. Not coincidentally, Morales has for months been the subject of glowing profiles in left-wing periodicals. Writing in the Nation, for instance, Tom Hayden heaped praise on Morales' "anti-corporate, pro-indigenous, pro-democracy agenda."

As last week's outpouring of political support demonstrates, the notion that the likes of Morales, Chavez and Ahmadinejad represent the authentic voice of America's global victims remains, for many on the Left, too appealing to surrender. Countless failings aside, then, the U.N. at least serves the useful purpose of putting the far-Left's political sympathies in sharp perspective. Maybe there's a case to be made for it after all.

—FrontPageMagazine.com, September 25, 2006

# The National Council of Churches and Al Qaeda

by Mark Tooley

The head of the U.S. National Council of Churches (NCC) has a burden on his heart for prison inmates...if they are former al Qaeda or Taliban operatives at Guantanamo Bay.

In his www.middlechurch.net blog, NCC General Secretary Bob Edgar records his chagrin that the U.S. government has denied his request for a visit with the Gitmo prisoners.

"I was in prison and you visited me," Jesus says in Matthew 25:36. But the detainees at Guantánamo are not permitted visitors. I know this from personal experience," Edgar blogged. "The National Council of Churches requested to visit these children of God simply to see how they were being treated," he piously shared. "We simply wanted to visit these prisoners as our Lord commands in Matthew 25:40."

Edgar's and the NCC's interests in prisoners seems to be very specifically confined to the dozens of interned terrorists at Guantanamo. But there are millions of prisoners around the world, most of them are genuinely criminal. But tens of thousands of them are incarcerated only for their political or religious beliefs, including thousands of Edgar's fellow Christians.

My colleague Faith McDonnell, a prominent religious liberty advocate, has appealed to Edgar to take a break from his Guantanamo preoccupation and look at 12 or so specific Christian prisoners of conscience, several of whom are facing death sentences for believing in Jesus. The prisoners she identifies include several Chinese, a Vietnamese, three Indonesians, an Egyptian, a Cuban, an Eritrean, and a North Korean, all of whom suffer because they defied Communism or Islam. These sufferings interest the NCC not at all.

The Guantanamo prisoners are *cause celebres* with the anti-American international Left. While the detainees' dietary and religious needs are carefully tended to, leagues of lawyers advocate on their behalf, the international media report their every hiccup, and ostensible human rights groups devote tens of thousands of man hours to argue for their legal protections. In return, the al Qaeda and Taliban hooligans probably have only contempt for the Western secularists and leftist Christians who plead on their behalf. In a world governed by al Qaeda, church officials like Bob Edgar would be beheaded, and the NCC suppressed into *dhimmitude*, i.e., subordination to Islamic law.

Meanwhile, the 350 Montagnard Christians imprisoned and tortured by the Vietnamese communist regime do not have much hope of media attention or international visitors. Neither does Pastor Gong Shengliang, formerly pastor of a congregation of 50,000, now into his fifth year of wasting away in a Chinese communist prison. Coptic Christian Hesham Azmy Iskender and six of his fellow Copts have been in an Egyptian prison since April, after their arrest at a Christian funeral for the victim of an Islamist knife stabbing. An Eritrean Gospel singer has spent much of the last two years incarcerated in a shipping container for her evangelical beliefs. Indonesian Sunday school teacher Rebekka Zakaria is serving time with two of her Christian friends after being accused by Islamists of trying to convert Muslim children.

Western church officials love to visit Fidel Castro's Cuba, but so far, not many have pressed to visit Christian dissident Jorge Luis García Perez Antunez. He's been in prison for 16 years, often confined to a "tiny, sealed cell with no light or bedding, typically overflowing with excrement and infested with rats and insects," according to *Christian Solidarity Worldwide*. Unfortunately for him, as with the others listed above, they are not enemies of the United States. So Bob Edgar and his U.S. church council are *not* agitating for visits or disseminating news releases on their behalf.

In vivid contrast, a quick search of the NCC's website finds two dozen statements about the Guantanamo prisoners.

For example, in March 2004 the NCC organized a press conference and "silent walk" through Washington, D.C., on behalf of the Guantanamo prisoners, in partnership with the American Civil Liberties Union, family members of the prisoners, and actress Vanessa Redgrave. Folk singer Peter Yarrow even joined in by writing a special song. The NCC renewed its request, first made in December 2003, for an "interfaith delegation" to visit to monitor the "physical, mental and spiritual condition of the detainees."

"The National Council of Churches has said that the denial of rights that inhere in the worth of human beings before God are not only a crime against humanity," Edgar declared at the 2004 press conference, "they are a sin against God. All faiths share this basic teaching....All persons are connected in the family of God. My rights, your rights, and the rights of the detainees are inseparable."

Already by January 2003, the NCC had endorsed a friend of the court brief for the U.S. Supreme Court demanding that Guantanamo detainees be empowered to challenge their detention. "The National Council of Churches has a long tradition of advocating for civil liberties and human rights," asserted Antonios Kireopoulos, the NCC's Associate General Secretary for International Affairs and Peace.

Early this year, the NCC "emphatically supported" a United Nations report demanding that the U.S. close the detention center at Guantanamo. For the third time, Edgar asked permission for a "small interfaith delegation" just to peek in at

the prisoners. "Today we renew that request, not only for the benefit of the detainees but for the benefit of the reputation of our country in an increasingly skeptical world," Edgar intoned.

Almost amusingly, in late 2004, Edgar denounced the U.S. for detaining Chinese Uighur Muslims at Guantanamo. The Uighurs had been in Afghanistan under the Taliban. Having found them no longer a threat, the U.S. wanted to release them, but could not return them to China, where they would have been imprisoned or killed. Edgar demanded that they be given immediate refugee status in the U.S., since Uighurs are a "persecuted minority" in China. It was a rare and no doubt grudging admission for Edgar that all is not well in communist China. Rejecting Chinese demands for their return, the U.S. ended up sending the Uighurs to Albania, about which Edgar appears not to have commented.

Edgar had offered the services of the NCC's relief arm in the Uighurs' potential U.S. resettlement. Such hospitality! The NCC has also helped to transport family members of

Guantanamo detainees to the U.S. for media events. Who knows how much the NCC has spent on its Guantanamo advocacy, but it is a safe assumption that this budget line item is exponentially larger than the NCC's line item for persecuted Christians.

"We have a long way to go before we can truly stand as a beacon of Christ's light for the rest of the world," Edgar penned in his blog about Guantanamo. "I pray that Congress and the Supreme Court may continue to apply pressure on the president to meet the basic standards of the Geneva Convention; I pray that those people of faith who courageously wrote letters, rang phones on Capitol Hill, and spoke boldly about the love of their Lord may be given the gift of perseverance."

We can also pray that persecuted Christians, whose imprisonment, torture and death sentences do not much interest Edgar's Guantanamo-obsessed NCC, will also be given "the gift of perseverance."

-FrontPageMagazine.com, September 29, 2006

# **Brazil's Intellectual Marxist Elite**

by Augusto Zimmerman

For a constitutional democracy to become a reality in practice, not just in theory, authoritarian solutions need, as a matter of ethical principle, be clearly rejected by political actors. If not, the entire edifice of constitutional democracy may eventually collapse under the overwhelming weight of political intolerance and undemocratic radicalism.

Regrettably, one would not be mistaken in characterising many intellectuals in Brazil as having little or no respect for the liberal-democratic traditions and legal institutions of the most developed countries in the world. Rather, populism, collectivism, and rejection of economic freedom are values inherent in the formation of the Brazilian intellectual elite.

With some exceptions, Brazilian universities are often archaic repositories of old-fashioned Marxist conceptions of law and society. Such conceptions deny that any constitutional order might be regarded as 'just' unless it furthers radical socialism. Thus, any legal system that does not advance socialism is automatically discarded as a 'fraud' employed by the 'evil' capitalists to supposedly oppress the poor.

The rationale for this, as legal philosopher Laurent Cohen-Tanugi asserts, is that radical leftists are inclined to consider the rule of law a "conservative mystification to perpetuate the liberal-capitalist system, at the dear price of every [radical] social transformation".

This being the case, one can more easily understand why so many Brazilian intellectuals are left-wing radicals who view

the principles of liberal democracy quite negatively, and steadfastly refuse to abandon old socialist idols such as dictator Fidel Castro, in spite of strong evidence concerning the absence of basic human rights in Cuba. As a result, they have been working incessantly to discredit every political system not strictly based on principles of Marxism.

Unfortunately, in Latin American countries such as Brazil, Carlos Alberto Montaner comments, "what many intellectuals announce in newspapers, books and magazines, and television is repeated in the majority of Latin America universities...

"This message explains the close relationship between the lessons young scholars receive in the university and their link with subversive groups such as Sendero Luminoso in Peru, Tupamaros in Uruguay, Movimiento de Izquierda Revolucionária in Venezuela, the M-19 in Colombia, of Sub-Comandante Marco's picturesquely hooded Zapatistas in Mexico. The weapons these young men carried with them into the jungle, mountains, and city streets were loaded in the lecture rooms of the universities".

In fact, a serious problem facing liberal democracy in Brazil is precisely that the political writings of V.I. Lenin are quite popular amongst intellectuals. Such academics appreciate Lenin's political ideas in spite of the fact that oppression in the former Soviet Union occurred not just as a result of the excesses of Stalinism but rather as an integral part of the 'foundations of lawlessness' that he established.

It was Lenin, not Stalin, who openly advocated that the state must base all its power "directly upon force and unrestricted by any laws." And Lenin also declared: "The revolutionary dictatorship of the proletariat is ruled, won, and maintained by the use of violence by the proletariat against the bourgeoisie, rule that is unrestricted by any laws".

An academic deeply influenced by Lenin's writings is political-science professor Emir Sader, currently the head of the Laboratory of Public Policies at the prestigious State University of Rio de Janeiro (UERJ).

He is the author of well-known books such as Os Sete Pecados do Capital (The Seven Sins of Capital), Cartas à Che Guevara (Letters to Che Guevara) and Estado e Política em Marx (State and Politics in Marx). Professor Sader, who identifies himself as a 'socialist militant', is indeed so much so that a leader of Colombia's FARC describes him as a major contact in the country for the communist-drug guerrillas.

Besides these books, Emir Sader has also written articles maintaining that Latin American dictators of fascist leaning, particularly Brazil's Getúlio Vargas and Argentina's Juan Domingo Perón, were rather 'democratic leaders'.

This quite renowned professor, a respected scholar who is often invited to appear at leading programs on national television, and who is regularly posting articles in Brazil's leading newspapers, declared this in a March 17, 2002 article in the daily Jornal do Brasil:

"Vargas, Perón, Arbenz, Goulart, Allende, amongst several others, were all of them leaders who fell from power just because of their democratic virtues, not vices. Their desire was to create a more democratic society based on the sovereign will of the popular masses. As such, they ended up clashing with the local oligarchies and political elites, not to mention the destabilising influence of the U.S. government and the terrorist actions of the great media."

As can be seen, Sader's paradigm for a "democratic leader" follows the classical model of tyrannical government mentioned by Greek philosophers more than two thousand years ago. In opposition to 'oligarchies' he then goes to support top-down changes that are imposed by populist leaders whom the ancient Greeks called 'tyrants.'

This is because, as the retired Brazilian ambassador J.O. de Meira Penna properly explains, "Brazil's Getúlio Vargas and Argentina's Juan Perón were typical tyrants in this classical sense... [as] both men subverted legitimately organized, liberal-constitutional schemes of ideological plurality".

And yet, it is quite curious to see an academic so heavily promoted by the Brazilian media, suddenly turn on this and deem its journalists 'terrorists' if they dare disagree with his high estimation of 'democrats' such as Vargas, a 'democrat' whose Estado Novo regime arrested, tortured, and sent his political opponents into exile. Indeed, Vargas 'appreciated' democracy so much that a 1941 letter sent to Nazi Germany by its ambassador to Brazil commented:

"President Vargas requested me to call him unofficially today....The President began our conversation by stating that he very much regretted the deterioration in economic relations with [Nazi] Germany....The President then emphasised his intention to maintain neutrality towards [Nazi] Germany

and, also, his personal sympathy for our authoritarian [Nazi] state, referring at the same time to the speech delivered by him recently. He openly expressed his aversion of England and the democratic system as a whole."

This is the politician that people like Sader point to as the paradigm of "democratic leadership" for their country. And, not just that, but they also maintain that the current ruler of Venezuela, Hugo Chavez, is also another "democratic leader" to be imitated.

In Sader's opinion, this colonel went to respect all legal-democratic proceedings so as to achieve enough power "to change the constitution...and have all his laws approved by the parliament." Thus, he and other prominent Brazilian intellectuals, including Bishop Tomas Balduíno, João Pedro Stédile, Leonardo Boff, Chico Buarque, and Oscar Niemeyer, signed, in August 2004, a political manifesto in support of the Venezuelan president.

Whereas such "intellectuals" hold colonel Chavez in the highest esteem as a sincere democrat and law-abiding ruler, Human Rights Watch accuses his government of widespread human rights violations, including the killing of political adversaries, police torture, the restriction of free speech and the independent press, and undue politicization of the judiciary. Under Chavez, Venezuela has sheltered groups with ties to Islamic terrorism and allowed weapons from its official stockpiles to reach Colombian drug guerrillas.

Therefore, what such intellectuals consider a "democratic" leader one does far better to classify as a typical caudillo. And yet, because of their strong belief in top-to-bottom "progressive changes," they would suggest that even a notorious dictator like Fidel Castro is also a "progressive" leader, even though the Cuban government consistently restricts basic human rights, such as freedom of expression, and maintains harsh prison conditions.

In fact, Professor Sader has explicitly argued that Castro is the head of a "progressive government," which, somehow, "universalised the rights of its people to education, information, and culture." Of course, he has not been able to explain how these rights could be enjoyed in a country where the state criminalizes any thought that is not in accord with government ideas.

Although the rights to education, information, and culture cannot be truly exercised unless the citizen is reasonably free to meet with others, and without governmental control, Articles 53 and 54 of the Cuban Constitution deny their normal exercise by stating that any person can, for any reason, be arbitrarily arrested if the government thinks he or she poses any form of "danger" to its "national security," even if no crime has ever been committed by this citizen.

As a result, what people in Cuba have acquired is not truly the right to education but rather indoctrination masquerading as education, aimed at ensuring a more subservient population; because basic rights to free speech and writing are sine qua non for the normal exercise of rights to education, information, and culture.

This being the case, it is hard to develop a normal democratic reality in a kind of political environment where so many people ignore (or despise) basic principles of democracy and the rule of law. It is paramount to develop a more comprehensive understanding with these important principles, which can only prosper in Brazil if the prevailing mentality of its ruling political and intellectual elites is substantially changed.

—*Brazzil Magazine*, <u>www.brazzil.com</u>, September 25, 2006

### Allah's Socialists

by Aaron Hanscom

"2030—then we take over," reads a popular T-shirt worn by Muslims in Stockholm. Recent comments by European politicians might cause these young Swedes to think about pushing the date forward a couple of decades. Europe, it increasingly appears, is in fact ready to be handed over to radical Muslims without a fight.

Consider the situation in the Netherlands. Just this month a female Muslim teacher was suspended by a school in Amsterdam for refusing to shake hands with men. Dutch Justice Minister Piet Hein Donner, trying to show his countrymen that *dhiminni* status is something to be proud of, said in an interview in the recently published book *Het land van haat en nijd* (*The Land of Hate and Anger*) that he is not bothered by Muslims refusing to shake his hand. He also said it was wise for the Queen of the Netherlands not to have insisted that a Muslim leader shake her hand when she visited his mosque in The Hague earlier this year.

Western niceties are the least Donner is willing to give up. He went on to welcome *Shari'a* law in the Netherlands saying: "It must be possible for Muslim groups to come to power [in the Netherlands] via democratic means. Every citizen may argue why the law should be changed, as long as he sticks to the law."

It is a sure certainty for me: if two thirds of all Netherlanders tomorrow would want to introduce *Shari'a*, then this possibility must exist. Could you block this legally? It would also be a scandal to say "this isn't allowed!"

The majority counts. That is the essence of democracy. Donner's hypothetical scenario isn't very hard to imagine. There are nearly one million Muslims in the Netherlands out of a population of about 16 million. Almost half of Amsterdam's population is of non-Dutch origin, while only one out of three students in Amsterdam schools is Dutch. Not only are three out of five Turkish and Moroccan immigrants in the Netherlands unemployed, but most are not integrating into Dutch society. As Bruce Bawer explains in his book *While Europe Slept: How Radical Islam is Destroying the West from Within*, "It was this policy, known as 'integration with

maintenance of one's own identity,' that enabled Muslims to establish an extensive separate culture within the Netherlands, complete with government-funded schools, mosques, community centers, and other institutions."

Such Islamic colonies in the heart of Europe suit Donner just fine. He says, "a tone that I do not like has crept into the political debate. A tone of: 'Thou shall assimilate. Thou shall adopt our values in public. Be reasonable, do it our way.' That is not my approach." Indeed, the only way that Donner seems inclined to follow is the Islamic way. In November 2004, Donner tried to make the case that an obsolete blasphemy law should be enforced to protect Islam from insults. Protecting film directors like Theo Van Gogh—who was murdered that same month—from Dutch-born Islamic terrorists seems to concern the Justice Minister less.

Spanish Foreign Minister Miguel Angel Moratinos latest idea is even more incredible than Donner's welcoming of *Shari'a* law to the Continent. After a visit to Gaza, Moratinos told the Barcelona daily *La Vanguardia* that "The best response to al Qaeda is no response, and to keep working towards peace."

According to a recent report in the Spanish newspaper *El Periodico*, an average of three Spanish Muslims are recruited each month for suicide bombings in Iraq or terrorist training in Afghanistan, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Yemen, and Somalia.

Moratinos and Donner are part of a large group of leftist politicians who—it could be argued—have joined forces with the enemies of the West. British MP George Galloway is the most well-known of those cheering for the other side. To Saddam Hussein he once said, "Sir, I salute your courage, your strength, your indefatigability." He has accused Prime Minister Tony Blair of "waging a war on Muslims...at home and abroad." Such rhetoric is a blessing to radical Islamists who seek to divide the West. American al Qaeda operative Adam Gadahn said in his latest message: "Escape from the unbelieving army and join the winning side. As for those who have expressed their respect and admiration for Islam, and acknowledged that it is the truth and demonstrated the support and sympathy for the Muslims and their causes like George Galloway, Robert Fisk, and countless others, I say to them, isn't it time you stopped sitting on the fence and came over to the side of truth?"

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