

# LAST DITCH OF COLONIALISM

## PENNY LERNOUX

Miss Lernoux is South American correspondent in Bogotá for Copley News Service.

### Bogotá

Back in 1956 when John Foster Dulles was warning the British and the French to keep their hands off the Suez Canal, neither the State Department nor the Pentagon grasped the irony of the situation. It never crossed the minds of those in government that what was good for Egypt might also be good for Panama. Not surprisingly, the thought has since occurred to the Panamanians, who now are talking in earnest about nationalizing the Panama Canal rather than put up with Washington's intransigence in revising the 1903 Hay-Bunau-Varilla Treaty.

Gen. Omar Torrijos, Panama's tough, straight-talking strongman, already has threatened to march on the Canal Zone on two occasions. Washington bureaucrats who think he is bluffing could be in for a surprise. Torrijos may not be every Panamanian's idea of a benevolent dictator. (He heads the National Guard, Panama's combined police and armed forces, but is not the President, who is only a figurehead.) However, Torrijos has *machismo*, and the guts to stand up to the United States in a confrontation, a highly prized Latin American virtue wiping out all other sins in Panamanian eyes. Moreover, his impatience at the failure of the United States to come to terms with Panama over the elimination of an outdated colonial enclave is shared by all Panamanians, who to a man would march on the Canal Zone at Torrijos' orders.

"I'm no admirer of Torrijos," said a former cabinet minister's wife, "but I have to admit the man has the courage of his convictions." She was referring to an attempted countercoup in December 1969, following Torrijos' ouster of aging President Arnulfo Arias the previous year. While on a pleasure trip to Mexico, Torrijos was informed he had been replaced by other military officials and was offered a handsome "pension" to stay in Mexico City. Torrijos refused, hired a small plane and landed in Panama at dawn to begin a triumphant march on the capital, all of which was televised nationally. From that moment on, Torrijos was transformed from an obscure military officer into a national hero.

In delaying a Canal settlement, the United States also is postponing any solution to the drug traffic from Europe and South America which flows through Panama to the United States. Due to greater vigilance over the direct Atlantic route, large quantities of heroin, cocaine and marijuana are being shipped via Panama, a fact the Panamanian Government recognizes. "If we had more control over the Canal Zone, we might be able to exercise more control over the drug traffic," suggests Foreign Minister Juan Antonio Tack. From the Panamanian viewpoint, there is no reason to cooperate with the United States in solving its drug problem if the United States will not cooperate with Panama by abolishing its claim to "perpetual sovereignty" over the Canal Zone. U.S. Congressmen naturally want it the other way round, saying they will not consider a new treaty until Panama cracks down on the drug traffic.

Panamanian and U.S. representatives are now in the fourth round of negotiations since the January 1964 riots which resulted in the deaths of twenty-two Panamanians and four Americans. Both sides agree that the United States should administer the Canal and provide for its defense. The United States also is willing to return some of the unused land in the 553-sq.-mile Zone, and hand over certain administrative functions, such as postal facilities. What has stymied the talks is the United States' refusal to give Panama jurisdiction over Canal Zone courts, police and water supplies, in effect perpetuating the Zone's status as a "country within a country." The United States also wants the new treaty to extend into the 21st century at which time "Panama would have an option to terminate the treaty if a satisfactory new arrangement could not then be negotiated," says Ambassador David H. Ward, former deputy Under Secretary of the Army and now a Canal treaty negotiator. "This will end the perpetuity provision which has been a substantial cause of dispute over the years." Ward assumes, of course, that Panama is willing to wait another three or more decades.

U.S. insistence that the Panama Canal must be "efficiently administered and securely defended" has been strongly influenced by the Pentagon, which the Panamanian Government and American employees of the Panama Canal Co. blame for U.S. intransigence. However Rear Adm. Gene La Roque, former director of the Inter-American Defense College and now head of the privately sponsored Center for Defense Information, believes the Southern Command headquartered in the Canal Zone (as well as the military groups in Latin America attached to it) should be phased out because it no longer influences or serves U.S. strategic interests.

Until the question of sovereignty is resolved, Panama will not discuss the issue of new Canal tolls or a second inter-oceanic canal. The government also says that the duration of the new treaty will depend on how favorable the terms are.

Foreign Minister Tack points out that if United Fruit, of all companies, can operate without problems under Panama's laws, there is no reason why Canal Zone residents cannot do the same. "How would the Americans like it if a foreign government were allowed to rule a territory within the United States?" he asks. In effect, the U.S. Congress is responsible for establishing laws within the Zone and a military governor is empowered to enforce them. It has even occasionally happened that a Panamanian citizen has been arrested in the Zone, even though he did not live or work there, and deported to the United States.

One of the little publicized reasons why a U.S. Canal study commission has ruled out Colombia as a possible location for a second inter-oceanic canal is the Colombians' certain refusal to accept the United States' condition of a sovereignty clause. In fact, if the Panamanians had had any say in the matter, they never would have accepted the United States' claim to "perpetual sovereignty" when they declared independence from Colombia in 1903. As



# PANAMA'S ANSWER

In their efforts to force Panama to back down in its demands for a revision of the fettering agreement on the Panama Canal signed in 1903, the U.S. imperialists are ready to resort to every possible means, fair or foul—and the record shows that most of them have been foul. They began by attempting, through their mercenaries, to depose General Omar Torrijos, the commander of the National Guards and virtual leader of the ruling junta. Then Washington's past masters at subversion began instigating local capitalists, disgruntled by the economic reforms, against the Panamanian government. This was followed by attempts to provoke conflicts between the government and the Church. And when the numerous plots and provocations proved of no avail, another insidious imperialist weapon was brought into play—slander.

It all began with a "friendly visit" to Panama by Congressman John Murphy, chairman of the House of Representatives subcommittee on the Panama Canal. On his return to Washington, Murphy, known to be one of the most diehard opponents of any revision of the colonial status of the canal, divulged a piece of sensational "news" to pressmen: the Panamanian Foreign Minister Juan Antonio Tack, assisted by Moisés Torrijos, the present Panamanian Ambassador in Madrid, had allegedly, for their personal enrichment, organized large-scale drug smuggling from Europe to the U.S.A. via the Panama Canal.

As the sponsors of this slanderous anti-Panamanian campaign had anticipated, the U.S. press and news agencies avidly picked up this "news." For the Panamanian Foreign Minister is one of the most active advocates of revising the old canal agreements and cancelling the 1903 treaty. Moreover, the Panamanian Ambassador in Madrid is the brother of General Omar Torrijos, with whose advent to the fore of Panamanian political life Panama took a particularly firm stand in claiming its legitimate rights to the canal and the canal zone. By their smear campaign, Murphy and those behind him hoped to bring pressure to bear on the Panamanian leaders

to make them more tractable in the negotiations on the canal now in progress in Washington.

Operation Slander, however, boomeranged against those who masterminded it. The Panamanian government did not take a defensive stance: within 24 hours it expelled from Panama three U.S. diplomats who had "informed" Murphy about the alleged drug traffic. Juan Antonio Tack summoned the U.S. Ambassador and told him that the Panamanian authorities had strong evidence that these diplomats were in fact agents of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA). "The cause of the whole affair," the Panamanian Foreign Minister told journalists, "is that of late we have been taking a more rigid stand at the canal talks with the Americans."

Washington's brazen tactics aroused a storm of indignation in Panama. Photos of the "diplomats" flying home

from Tocumen airport in Panamanian newspapers were captioned: "Out with the CIA," "Out with the Slanderers." The U.S. State Department had to apologize to the Panamanian government. Apologies were tendered also by the U.S. Federal Bureau of Narcotics and even by the Director-General of United Press International, who had displayed particular zeal in spreading the slanderous fabrications.

What is most important, however, is that the crude pressure exerted by the U.S. has failed to soften the attitude of Panama. "We are firmly resolved to secure the transfer of the Panama Canal zone under the jurisdiction of our country," Foreign Minister Juan Antonio Tack recently stated. "U.S. imperialism is suffering defeats in various parts of the world. It will be defeated in Panama as well." J. COBO

Americans of all cultures—Italian, Polish, Slavic, Negro, Jewish, and Indian—are looking back at their heritage with new pride. They are finding and expressing new-found identities. Just as the 1960's expressed the vitality of youth, I think the 1970's are going to express the vitality of America's diverse cultures.

The myth of the "American melting pot" has finally given way to the truth that each of us has retained the traits and virtues of our forefathers. And it is a good thing. As we understand ourselves and the rich cultural heritage that is responsible for much of how each of us is put together, I think there is going to be a greater harmony in America. We are going to discover that we are really not all the same and we are going to accept each other's differences. Once we do that, there is going to be less prejudice and hate. I believe that the truth is going to make us free of the antagonism many of us feel toward one another.

### CONGRESS MUST MEET THE CRISIS AT PANAMA

HON. JOHN R. RARICK

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 13, 1971

Mr. RARICK. Mr. Speaker, in a statement on September 22, 1971, before the Subcommittee on Inter-American Affairs of the House Committee on Foreign Affairs, I strongly opposed the surrender by the United States of any of its treaty-based sovereign rights, power, and authority over our territorial possession known as the Canal Zone and urged prompt favorable action on House Resolution 540 and other pending identical resolutions sponsored by some 100 Members of Congress. That statement was published in an extension of my remarks in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD of September 23, 1971, at page E9954 under the title of "Panama Canal Belongs to the United States."

Since then much has happened. On October 6, Panama, in line with earlier threats by its officials, placed its case for new canal treaties before the membership of the United Nations. Also, on October 6, Harold Lord Varney, president of the Committee on Pan American Policy of New York, published an illuminating article in which he answers this question: "Why is Mr. Nixon Giving Away the Canal Zone?" In this article, Mr. Varney gives realistic interpretations of the dangers at Panama that have been denied the people of our country by the mass news media of the United States.

As the culminating events in a long agitational campaign of hatred in the Republic of Panama by its revolutionary military government against the United States, there were mammoth demonstrations on October 11, in support of Panamanian demands for full sovereignty over the U.S.-owned Canal Zone territory and the Panama Canal. While no disorders occurred during the demon-

strations, the Panamanian strong man, Brig. Gen. Omar Torrijos, made demagogic appeals with open threats against the United States of future violence in the event Panama does not secure its objective of full sovereignty over the Canal Zone.

The unreasonable demands by Panama for the surrender of the Canal Zone to that country, does not conform to realities. Panama exists as an independent country solely because of the Panama Canal. Until November 3, 1903, it was part of Colombia. If there is to be any turning back of the clock of history, which most thoughtful Americans espouse, the Canal Zone should be returned to Colombia, which country in 1914 recognized the title to the Panama Canal and Railroad as "vested entirely and absolutely in the United States, without any encumbrances or indemnities whatsoever."

The United States bought all the rights, powers, and authority of sovereignty over the Canal Zone from Panama, which country was the successor to Colombia as the sovereign of the Isthmus, and purchased all privately owned land and property in the zone from individual property owners. It would be just about as sensible for Mexico to demand the return of the Gadsden Purchase or Soviet Russia to demand the return of Alaska as for Panama to persist in its unreasonable demands for cession of the Canal Zone. As the body of the Congress closest to the sovereign people of the United States, the House should act promptly and favorably on this premise.

Moreover, our Government cannot surrender by treaty or otherwise its control over the Canal Zone and canal to any other sovereign government or to any international agency, including the U.N., without specific authority from the Congress, which includes the House as well as the Senate.

The framers of our Federal Constitution were men of rare wisdom and vision. They foresaw the need for a provision in that great instrument to prevent the Executive from disposing of any territory or other property of the United States by pretext of a treaty except with the approval of both the Senate and the House. Accordingly, that was included in article IV, section 3, clause 2 of the Constitution as follows:

The Congress shall have Power to dispose of . . . the Territory or other Property belonging to the United States.

As far as the record shows the current negotiators for the proposed Panama Canal treaties have never referred to this constitutional requirement and have acted with complete duplicity and insincerity by ignoring our Constitution and apparently never bringing it to the attention of the Panamanian negotiators. Whatever the Senate may do as regards the projected surrender at Panama, the House has thus far been adamant and will likely so remain. Yet our negotiators have gone merrily along ignoring the vital constitutional provision with Chief Negotiator Robert B. Anderson and his associates evidently try-

ing to sweep the proposed giveaway of the Canal Zone under the diplomatic rug.

The people of the United States, to the extent that they know these facts are violently opposed to any such surrender. As the actions thus involved have become better known, the people have expressed their views, which are overwhelmingly hostile as shown by an extensive correspondence from many parts of the Nation.

In view of these facts, it is difficult to understand how President Nixon **STATINTL** have been so hoodwinked as to accept the weak and timid 1967 Johnson canal policies and to retain the Anderson outfit in positions affecting the Panama negotiations. This action by the President is beyond the comprehension of rational thinkers, who oppose assuming the burden of responsibility without authority.

The Johnson-Nixon negotiators seem to be utterly ignorant or indifferent to the relationship of the Panama Canal and the security of the Western Hemisphere, including the United States and Panama. The fact that Cuba is already under U.S.S.R. control, the further fact that Chile has recently passed under the Communist yoke, and the added fact that Soviet power is infiltrating every Latin American country in a design aimed at wresting control of the Panama Canal from the United States seems to make no impression on our negotiators. Hence, their conduct cannot be explained alone as one of stupidity for the effect of their action is in complete betrayal of the freedom of Western nations, including Panama, which has been following a suicidal policy that could affect its independence.

In order that the Congress may have the story of Panama's action at the United Nations and the cited article by Mr. Varney, as well as a report on the October 11 demonstrations, I quote the Varney article and two news stories from the New York Times as parts of my remarks:

WHY IS MR. NIXON GIVING AWAY THE CANAL ZONE?

(By Harold Lord Varney)

Despite angry public protests, Washington persists in its insane course in Panama. The looming end of the road will mean the loss of United States control of the Panama Canal. A graver effect can be the crash of all American defenses in Latin America.

The Nixon Administration is deliberately inviting a crushing disaster on the isthmus. Surely no American President has ever driven to perdition so heedlessly and needlessly.

When Mr. Nixon entered the White House in 1969, the Panama difficulties were as nearly a dead letter as is conceivable in Latin American relations. The headlong rush of three successive Administrations—those of Eisenhower, Kennedy, and Johnson—to surrender American sovereignty in the Canal Zone seemed to be a bad nightmare of the past. Johnson, who had been badly bruised by the fight over the proposed treaty of 1967, had with a genuine sigh of relief filed away the draft treaties which his inept negotiators had handed him. The surrender treaties were tabled and almost forgotten.

But now they are back again—and back with a bang.

President Johnson had been saved at the gong by a completely unforeseen event—the seizure of the Panama Government by a

10. JUNE 1971

STATINTL

# Ex-Officer Claims He Aided CIA Plot To Prevent Panama Takeover of Canal

Compiled by Our Latin America Staff

PANAMA — The National Guard says one of its former officers claims he received money and help from the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency to arrange a plot to prevent Panama from taking over the Canal Zone.

The former officer, Abraham Crocarno, 32, was arrested by American authorities in the U.S.-controlled Canal Zone Tuesday on an immigration detention order. He is wanted in Panama on charges of kidnaping and armed robbery, and the Panamanian government is going to ask the United States to hand him over.

IN OCTOBER 1968 Crocarno, a captain in the Guard, took refuge in the Canal Zone after the Guard overthrew President Arnulfo Arias. That same month, however, he returned to Panamanian territory and seized a fellow officer, saying later he planned to use him as a hostage for an attack on a National Guard post in Arraijan.

After a chase back into the Canal Zone during which he freed the officer, Crocarno was arrested by Canal Zone police.

He pleaded guilty in the zone to a charge of false arrest, received a 10-month suspended sentence and was fined \$750. Placed on probation for three years, Crocarno left for Venezuela.

Crocarno returned to the Canal Zone last February on a ship passing through the canal. The National Guard says witnesses identified him as one of four men who held up a branch of the national Bank on March 5 and escaped with \$49,934.

THE GUARD said Crocarno's hideout in the Canal Zone was discovered by Panamanian intelligence agents 39 days ago, but they bided their time while ferreting out the "network" supporting Crocarno in Panama. There was no announcement of other arrests, however.

The communique said a number of Panamanians who visited Crocarno reported he claimed to have help and money from the CIA "to arrange a subversive movement to prevent Panama from getting jurisdiction in the Canal Zone."

The Panamanian government, led by Gen. Omar Torrijos, is seeking sovereignty over the Canal Zone, and negotiations with the United States are about to resume.

H 3544

## CONGRESSIONAL RECORD — HOUSE

May 5, 1971

STATINTL

## HEW PEACE ACTIVITIES

April 17 (Wed.) Indochinese film festival (first of three weekly films to be shown each Wednesday) 12 noon to 1:00 PM Room 1137-North Title: "And Time Is Running Out" (45 minutes). This film portrays the effects of the war on the Indochinese civilian population and presents the May Day Movement's demand: "If the Government won't stop the war—we'll stop the Government."

April 8 (Thurs.) Rennie Davis, National Coordinator of the People's Coalition for Peace and Justice 11:45 AM North Auditorium. He will speak on the spring anti-war activities and how HEW employees can become involved.

April 14 (Wed.) Indochinese film festival (film No. 2) Title: "People's War" Rm. 1137-North. This film shows the North Vietnamese people under war conditions (August 1969) organizing to defend their country.

April 15 (Thurs.) Vietnam veterans against the war (11:45 AM Room G-751 North. Representatives of the estimated 5,000 Vietnam veterans who will be marching on Washington April 19-23 will speak about the war.

April 21-22 (Wed.-Thurs.) Referendum: The war in Indochina. All HEW employees will be asked to participate by voting on several national issues.

April 21 (Thurs.) Indochina 1971: How is the war different? 11:45 AM Rm G-751 North. A panel of Washington activists, including individuals who have recently met with Vietnamese and Laotians, will speak to the changing characteristics of the war.

April 24 (Sat.) Peace rally and march. The Federal employee's contingent will meet at 10:30 AM in McPherson Square (15 & K Streets, N.W.).

April 28 (Wed.) "The Advocate": Special issue. This issue of The Advocate will focus entirely on HEW and its relationship to the war.

April 28 (Wed.) Indochinese film festival (last of 3) 12 Noon to 1 PM Rm. 1137-North. Title: "Struggle for Life." This film was produced by the National Liberation Front (NLF) to show the struggle for liberation in South Vietnam and to show the health services provided by the NLF.

April 29 (Thurs.) People's lobby HEW will be the all-day focal point of the anti-war activities. Representatives from NWRO and SCLC will discuss the war and oppression here at home with HEW employees at 12 noon in the Auditorium.

Among the events listed on the schedule, you will note Rennie Davis, national coordinator of the People's Coalition for Peace and Justice, speaking on April 8 in the North Auditorium regarding the "Spring anti-war activities and how HEW employees can become involved." Representatives of the Vietnam Veterans Against the War were to address employees about the war on April 15 in the North Building. The Indochinese Film Festival included three films; one portraying the effects of the war on the Indochinese civilian population and presenting the May Day Movement's demand:

If the Government won't stop the war—we'll stop the Government.

Another film, identified as being produced by the National Liberation Front, showed the struggle for liberation in South Vietnam and health services provided by the NLF. A third film, which I presume was also produced by the National Liberation Front, showed the North Vietnamese people under war conditions organizing to defend their country.

These "peace activities" certainly were not designed to promote loyalty or harmony within the Government, and I frankly am at a loss to understand why they were permitted to take place on Government property. I am sure there are those Government employees who have personal convictions against the war in Vietnam and would like to attend activities such as these. But it is totally incomprehensible to me why the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare is accommodating these protest groups in presenting their message by making Government space available to them to show Communist-produced films and speak to Government employees about how they can actively work to halt the operations of the Government.

The American public has elected a President to direct our Government's operations and dictate our country's policies. Although some Americans disagree with the policies of the administration, they undoubtedly expect the Government structure itself to remain loyal to the policies of the President. For the most part Americans accept the policies laid down and fully expect the employees of the Government itself to do so. Regardless of the banner under which these activities are permitted—employee relations, employee activities, or other—I see no reason why Government space should be allowed to be used to promote sentiment against the Government's policies, particularly in a matter as serious as the Vietnam war.

How do I explain to my tax-paying constituents who have lost sons and husbands in this war that we are allowing facilities supported by their tax money to be used this way.

I have written to President Nixon and to Secretary Richardson expressing my concern over this action, seeking an answer to this question, and urging that this type of activity not occur again in Government buildings.

The SPEAKER. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Maine (Mr. HATHAWAY) is recognized for 10 minutes.

[Mr. HATHAWAY addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

## U.S.S.R., U.S.A., AND THE PANAMA CANAL

The SPEAKER. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. FLOOD) is recognized for 15 minutes.

Mr. FLOOD. Mr. Speaker, in recent years various Members of the Congress in both Senate and House have warned of the long range Soviet program for wresting control of the Panama Canal from the United States. To meet this danger my distinguished colleague from Missouri (Mr. HALL) and I have introduced identical resolutions expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the United States should maintain its undiluted sovereignty and jurisdiction over the Canal Zone and canal.

Many other Members of the House have joined us in this effort.

The fact that the time has come for the House to act on the indicated resolutions is evidenced by the publication in the September 1970 issue of the New Times of Moscow of a most revealing article by Ruben Dario Souza, the General Secretary of the People's Party of Panama, who visited the Soviet capital at that time. This Soviet support of Panamanian objectives is most significant.

In an article in a recent issue of East Europe, a distinguished international magazine published in New York, John P. Speller, its executive editor, quotes a major portion of the Dario Souza article, interprets its thrust as regards Soviet objectives at Panama, and urges a three point program to safeguard the vital interests of the United States. As stated by author, Speller, this program, which does not acquire new treaties with Panama, consists of the following:

First, reaffirmation of U.S. sovereignty in perpetuity over the Canal Zone;

Second, increase of security precautions as regards the employment of aliens in security positions in the maintenance and operation of the canal; and

Third, the major modernization of the existing Panama Canal.

The previously mentioned resolutions to reaffirm U.S. sovereignty over the Canal Zone and canal, although introduced in the House, have not yet been acted upon. Proposed legislation for the major modernization of the canal has been introduced in both House and Senate but hearings have not been held. The question of the employment of aliens in Panama Canal security positions is of prime importance for such employment could paralyze the operation of the canal in a time of crisis.

In regard to the last matter it was the holding by U.S. citizens of security positions that enabled the canal to operate without interruption to transit during the January 1964 Panamanian mob assault on the Canal Zone, which fact won the admiration of the shipping world.

The recent visit of Robert B. Anderson to Panama in connection with a resumption of treaty negotiations emphasizes the importance of prompt action by our Government in the premises.

As the indicated article is most timely and should be of high interest to all Members of the Congress and others concerned with canal problems, I quote it as part of my remarks:

[From the East Europe, Feb. 1971]

RUSSIA, AMERICA, AND THE PANAMA CANAL  
(By Jon P. Speller, Executive Editor of East Europe, has been interested in Panama Canal matters for more than a decade. For the past two years he has been working on a book, The Panama Canal: Heart of America's Security, devoted to analysis supporting the major modernization of the Panama Canal proposed by Congressional Panama Canal experts Congressman Daniel Flood Dem., Pa.) and Senator Strom Thurmond (Rep., S.C.)

In recent years the Russians have vigorously entered into a race for naval supremacy over the United States. Except for the fact that they were foolish to throw down the

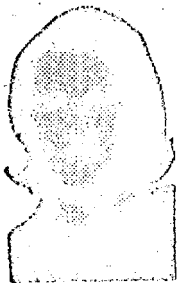
WASHINGTON DAILY NEWS

19 MAR 1971

Latin using them to ease rough situations

## 'Plots' on the rise in Americas

STATINTL



By VIRGINIA PREWETT

THAT hoary chestnut, the "international plot," is popping up all over in Latin America these days. From "Papa Doc" Duvalier in Haiti to President Salvador Allende in Chile, Latin Americans are falling back on this device to help them over rough places.

Dr. Allende has an "imperialist plot" with CIA trimmings going strong in Chile. He may be whipping up emotion that he hopes will carry his already troubled administration to victory in important April 5 municipal elections.

But leftists in both Peru and Bolivia in recent times exploited international plot charges just before they seized U.S. oil properties. So there is speculation that Dr. Allende wants to announce Chile will pay little or nothing for U.S. copper properties he is about to take over -- and wants nationalistic feeling running high when he does.

"Papa Doc," Dr. Allende, former President Juan Bosch of the Dominican Republic, factions in Costa Rica, sectors of the Panama press and Ecuadorian officials have rung the changes recently on the plot theme.

No matter how much you may doubt the curative value of Dr. Allende's Marxist-Leninist prescriptions for Chile's ills, it must be recognized that he came into the presidency with much personal respect. His manipulations of the old plot ploy may very well shrink this international image.

## FATAL PROCESS

"Papa Doc" traditionally punishes "plotters," a process often fatal for those accused, after he has had a reverse of a spell of increased physical weakness. He is now attempt-

ing to strengthen his regime of terror by charging 37 people, some of them army officers, with complicity in a May, 1968, invasion attempt. Some of the accused have been in jail nearly a year in connection with a later incident and their prospects are not bright, judging from the record.

In the Dominican Republic, Juan Bosch recently tried to inflate a localized political conflict into a runaway national crisis with charges the CIA is responsible for mysterious murders of Dominican leftists -- with President Joaquin Balaguer in effect winking at it all. A more firmly-based national quarrel with Haiti stole his thunder, however.

## ASKED WITHDRAWAL

In February, Panama's military rulers, frankly piqued because U.S. narcotics investigators gathered evidence in Panama without official permission, asked our Peace Corps to withdraw after the U.S. also arrested a Panamanian in the Canal Zone on drug charges. Press sharpies and the rumor mill said our Peace Corps was in a plot with the CIA, and connected the events.

Ecuadorians, including officials, have freely speculated that the recent concentration of an extra-large fleet of U.S. tuna boats off Ecuador -- a circumstance that led to numerous arrests and a U.S.-Ecuadorian controversy over sea limits -- was "plotted" as a provocation by the U.S. tuna industry.

In a sub-plot, former President Alfredo Ovando of Bolivia is being accused of having his long-time partner, the late President Rene Barrientos, and four others mysteriously murdered. The charge is that Messrs. Ovando and Barrientos were in a deal to smuggle arms to Israel and Mr. Ovando arranged all the deaths because he feared the dead four would reveal this. Mr. Barrientos died in a flaming helicopter crash in April, 1969.

12 Feb 1971

STATINTL

# PETRO-LITO

...Y LIBRANOS, SEÑOR, DE TODO MAL  
Y PELIGRO, AMEN...

...Y DE LA CIA TAMBIEN!



And deliver us, Master from all evil and danger. Amen...  
...And from the CIA too.

26 DEC 1970

STATINTL

## PANAMA

Felix Gonzalez Santizo, known as Nito, was killed while engaged in "a gun battle with members of the National Guard in the hamlet of Quebrada Bonita ... some 20 miles from Panama City" on Oct. 15, reported Western news agencies. Granma, the Cuban newspaper, told Nito's history, which was not reported generally. He was born in 1941 of peasant extraction in the province of Colon, Panama. He attended a vocational school, worked as a bricklayer and as a chauffeur. He was active in the organization of peasant leagues and "fought against the Marines who massacred Panamanian young people in January 1964 in the Canal Zone; together with murdered leader Floyd Britton, he organized rallies to protest against the aggression ... against Cuba in 1961; ... he joined the Vanguard of National Action (VAN) and in 1967 he represented the people of Panama at the first conference of the Latin American Organization of Solidarity, held in Havana. ... Back in Panama at the time of the 1968 coup d'etat, he was made the subject of a tenacious manhunt by the CIA ... [and since then] he worked underground. ... At the time he was killed, he was a member of the revolutionary Front of Popular Resistance which embraced VAN and MUR. ..."

*Compiled by Renee Blakken*