

# TFP cult and the Gnostic Church caught in a plot to murder the Pope

by Valerie Rush

On the eve of Pope John Paul II's trip to Central America on Oct. 11-13, *EIR* has put out an urgent warning to government and security agencies of relevant countries that an assassination attempt against the pontiff might be expected from two organizations: Tradition, Family, and Property (TFP) and the Universal Christian Gnostic Church.

*EIR* first uncovered these two sects in the course of broader investigations of the drugs-and-terrorism networks that extend from Europe's "black nobility" oligarchs to Ibero-America's machine-gun-toting mafiosi. Then, when anti-drug fighter Patricia Paredes de Londoño was kidnapped last June by elements linked to the Gnostic Church of Colombia, the resulting *EIR* probe of the mutual connections between the Gnostics, Ibero-American terrorist organizations, the dope mafias, and East bloc intelligence services led straight to the door of the same "Bulgarian connection" exposed by Italian magistrates investigating the first assassination attempt against the Pope.

This past summer, Venezuelan police raided the Caracas headquarters of the TFP as part of their preparatory security work around next January's visit by the Pope. The TFP was identified three years ago in the Brazilian magazine *Manchete* as a paramilitary extremist sect which uses photographs of the Pope for target practice.

## On the trail of assassins

In recent days, extensive exposé material on the terrorist activities of the TFP have appeared in both the Venezuelan and Colombian press, drawn heavily from *EIR* dossiers on the subject, and that same material is now being covered in the Dominican Republic and elsewhere. A major exposé of the criminal activities of the Universal Christian Gnostic Church also just appeared this week in Colombia (see Documentation).

Activation of the terrorist capabilities of these two anti-Christian sects in Ibero-America is especially significant in light of the Pope's recent statements in Calabria, Italy, in which he called on elements of the mafia to free themselves from *omerta*, the mafia oath of silence, and to return to a dignified and moral human existence. "Have the courage to eliminate 'omerta' that binds so many people in a kind of squalid complicity dictated by fear," said the pontiff.

Both the TFP and the Gnostic Church, with proven ties to the international drug trade, would properly view the Pope's visits to Ibero-America as intended in part to strengthen the recent initiatives of Ibero-American heads of state to forge a regional anti-drug capability and to have the United Nations proclaim the trade "a universal crime against humanity."

In addition, the Pope's hard-hitting assault on the Theology of Liberation and other deviations from the Judeo-Christian ethic is nothing less than a warning to the TFP schismatics and Gnostic heretics that their activities, too, could become a target of attack.

The history of the TFP and Gnostic Church's direct involvement in assassination threats against the Pope has been extensively published in other reports, which we summarize in the following.

The first attempt against the life of the Pope, committed on May 13, 1981 in Saint Peter's Square in Rome, was carried out with the collaboration of the Bulgarian government, whose intelligence services used their drug-contraband routes to assist the transportation of hired assassin Ali Agca from Turkey to Italy. The "communist" government of Bulgaria follows the teachings of the Gnostic doctrine. The now deceased Lyudmila Zhivkova (1942-81), director of Bulgaria's Committee of Art and Culture, member of the Politburo, and daughter of Todor Zhivkov, president of Bulgaria and first secretary of the Bulgarian Communist Party, was a notorious organizer of the Gnostic International.

The Universal Christian Gnostic Church is "an intricate network of international swindlers and counterfeiters, two of whose members [in Colombia] have been linked to the drug trade and to the cultivation of marijuana," according to a detailed report in the Colombian weekly magazine *Cromos*. In Colombia, the Universal Christian Gnostic Church is headed by "Patriarch" Julio Medina Vizcaíno, one of whose leading supporters is José Vicente Márquez. Márquez, secretary of the seventh commission of Colombia's House of Representatives, has been identified as the mastermind behind the abduction and attempted brainwashing of Patricia Londoño, wife of the vice-president of the Colombian Anti-Drug Coalition.

The second attack against the life of the Pope was committed on May 12, 1982 in Portugal, by a suspended priest

named Juan Fernandez Krohn, who had been ordained by the schismatic bishop Marcel Lefebvre. Krohn belongs to the Lefebvrist group which calls itself "Sede Vacante" (The Vacant See) and, according to European security sources, also to the Blue Army of Fatima, which has some 25 million members distributed in more than 100 countries with sponsorship and leadership control by the royal Portuguese family, the Braganzas.

Two heirs of the Braganza family are publicly associated with TFP, and the pretender to the Brazilian throne, Prince Luis de Orleans e Braganza, lives in a house of the TFP. The Braganzas are related by marriage to the Thurn und Taxis family, sponsors of Lefebvre.

### **Narco-terrorists strike back**

Stung by the increasing exposure of their murderous activities, the narco-terrorists and their high-level sponsors have gone on the rampage against anti-drug fighters on the continent. In Colombia, the Anti-Drug Coalition and the Andean Labor Party (PLAN), with which it shares its anti-drug commitment, have been specially targeted. The Oct. 2-8 issue of *Semana* magazine, published by the son of former President Alfonso López Michelsen, ran an anonymous article suggesting that the PLAN—"linked to the rightwing Tradition, Family and Property, according to some"—had formed a paramilitary "anti-mafia kidnapping brigade" which was rumored to be behind the Sept. 20 abduction of the father of top Colombian cocaine mafiosi Pablo Escobar Gaviria.

Escobar is a dangerous criminal and Colombia's most wanted fugitive, who gathered a 3,000-man personal army to force the release of his father on Oct. 5. It is evident that *Semana's* "rumor" was an effort to finger PLAN leaders and members for assassination by the mob.

Since the death threats against Venezuelan President Jaime Lusinchi were revealed immediately following the head of state's powerful appeal to the United Nations General Assembly in September to declare the drug trade a "universal crime against humanity," the whole gamut of Gnostic sects has been mobilized against him. The followers of Sun Myung Moon, for example, have used their press to attack President Lusinchi's U.N. speech—not surprising given the Moonies' open campaign for the legalization of heroin.

Intelligence sources also report that the Gnostic M-19 guerrillas are active inside Venezuela, and could launch an assassination attempt against the Pope in January.

The crash of Lusinchi's helicopter in early October is viewed by the President's security personnel and intelligence sources as another clear warning to back off from his anti-drug campaign. Nonetheless, he continues to take the offensive. On Oct. 6, high-level authorities from Venezuela met with their Colombian counterparts in San Cristobal, Venezuela to coordinate anti-drug strategy. At the same time, an official investigation of the Gnostic Church in Venezuela has been opened, and the TFP has been put on notice.

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## Documentation

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# The terrorists and murderers of TFP

*The following are excerpts from articles which appeared in the Venezuelan and Colombian press and were reprinted in other papers across the Ibero-American continent during the week of Oct. 8. Here the terrorist activities of the international anti-Church sect Tradition, Family, and Property (TFP) are extensively detailed for the first time in the mass media.*

**El Universal, of Caracas, Venezuela, published an article Oct. 9 titled "Kidnapping and Brainwashing of Youth in the Civil Association 'Resistance'":**

The Civil Association "Resistance," recently raided by Venezuela's police corps in relation to an alleged conspiracy to assassinate the Pope, is affiliated with the association "Tradition, Family, and Property (TFP)," an international organization under close scrutiny in the countries in which it operates.

Its central headquarters are located in Brazil, where camps known as *Eremos Militarizados* serve to contain the youth "kidnapped" in various countries, according to the accusations of some parents. In Venezuela, it is estimated that some 30 youths have been sent to that country so far this year, and authorities are conducting intensive investigations based on the charges of their mothers.

These youths are submitted to "brainwashing," whereby they come to despise their families. Similarly, they hate the Pope and the Church in general, accusing it of having deviated from its principles. In Brazil in 1981 it was charged that members of the organization held target practice using photographs of the Pope as their targets.

*El Universal* received copies of international reports on the activities of this organization. . . . One of the reports indicates that none of the members of these groups make their living legally, but rather through donations they obtain "from the banks and private businesses which they frighten with the Communism they say they are battling."

Recruitment is conducted among youth between 15 and 25 years of age, mainly from the middle and upper classes. . . . "Currently they have recruited some 70 youths whom they use in their so-called public campaigns, dressed in red tunics and black pants and carrying posters with a [Braganza] lion as emblem, where they proclaim that the Church is corrupt and that all the priests, including the Pope, are corrupt," according to the reports. . . .

Tradition, Family, and Property was founded by Plinio Correa de Oliveira, a 75-year-old Brazilian whose predecessors were ministers under the last Brazilian emperor Don Pedro II. . . . Two heirs of the royal Portuguese family, the Braganzas, are publicly and prominently associated with the TFP. . . .

The Braganzas form part of the real base of the European "black nobility" that includes the families Thurn und Taxis of Regensburg, Bavaria and Otto von Hapsburg. These European oligarchs jointly control the feudal network of cults (sects) and paramilitary groups that work as a "fifth column" within the Catholic Church, which includes the followers of the schismatic Bishop Lefebvre, who personally ordained the priest Juan Fernández Krohn, the renegade father who tried to assassinate the Pope during his visit to Portugal in May of 1982; and the Blue Army of Fatima with its 25 million members.

. . . TFP is organized with the structure of a "cult" or "sect," and one of its outstanding characteristics is *the policy of separating youth recruits from their families and moving them into TFP houses*. . . . TFP's nature as a "kidnapping sect or cult" is underlined by the case of Father James Lebar of the United States. Father Lebar, who lives in Westchester, New York, is the spiritual adviser to the "Blue Army of Fatima" of the United States. He is a personal friend and close associate of Rabbi Maurice Davis. Rabbi Davis is a professional "deprogrammer" who nominally leads a group of "anticult" parents. The irony is that Rabbi Davis was responsible for providing Jim Jones, head of the famous Jonestown, Guyana massacre, with his first temple.

#### **El Universal, Oct. 11, (paid TFP advertisement):**

In view of the numerous falsehoods and even slanders spread against the TFP by a public-relations explosion utilizing Caracas media, it is up to the Caracas bureau of the TFP to protest and re-establish the truth. . . . This explosion gives the impression that we are living 100 years ago, imagining a rich and powerful political network whose actors operate in a more or less mysterious way. This is set up around the princely German house of the Thurn und Taxis, related to a Prince Lobkovitch [Lobkowicz—ed.], also German; to Archduke Otto von Hapsburg, son of the late Emperor Carlos of Austria; to the princes of Orleans-Braganza (one of which, Don Luis, is pretender to the throne of Brazil; and both collaborators of the TFP of that country). And also to the Black Roman nobility, that part of the Roman nobility which remained faithful to Pius IX when the House of Savoy conquered the Papal States in 1870 and who wore black after the treaty of Letran.

The TFP supposedly somehow is part of an imaginary International. . . . In the course of political events, it is evident that all of these illustrious Houses have been deprived of the power they once had. Therefore, there is no meaning

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to this International, which no serious politician would worry about. . . .

As can be seen, all these fables are frivolous.

Likewise the accusation that "these oligarchic networks run paramilitary groups which work as fifth columns inside the Catholic Church, which include the followers of schismatic bishop Lefebvre, who personally ordained renegade priest Father Fernandez Krohn, who tried to murder the Pope during his visit to Portugal in May of 1982."

#### **El Siglo, of Bogota, Colombia, Oct. 10, "Group That Would Assassinate the Pope Identified":**

Caracas, Oct. 9 (EFE)—The Venezuelan police have unveiled the identity of the heads of the ultra-right group "Tradition, Family, and Property," which had planned, it is said, an attack against Pope John Paul II during his upcoming visit to the country in January of 1985.

A source at the Attorney General's office indicated that the presumed head of the Venezuelan organization is a man called Pedro Morasani, who is believed to be the one in charge of recruiting and training youth in violent actions.

At the same time, the editors of the [Venezuelan] daily *El Nacional* have received a document signed by a group of mothers whose sons were allegedly abducted and transported to Brazil by the same organization. The mothers say that the group functions in Venezuela under the name of "Civil Resistance Association" (Asocire) and subjects the youth to a process of indoctrination and mental control.

The headquarters of the organization is situated in the "Country Club," one of the most elegant areas of Caracas, and was raided by police agents who charged that more than 200 of its members, almost all of them foreigners, were carrying out illegal activities.

It was also revealed that TFP is financed by groups of millionaires committed to the "fight against Communism."

## The Gnostic Church: A Satanic mission

*The following are excerpts from an article appearing in the Oct. 9 edition of the Colombian weekly magazine Cromos entitled "A Patriarch Who Rapes, Commits Fraud, and Embezzles." The article details the criminal and immoral activities of the Universal Christian Gnostic Church of Colombia, the same mafia-linked Gnostic organization which EIR has identified as behind the abduction and brainwashing of Colombian anti-drug fighter Patricia Paredes de Londoño. Although documentation for the Cromos article is provided by the rival Movimiento Gnostico of Colombia, the details illustrate the insidious nature of the Gnostic "Church."*

Julio Medina Vizcaíno, who calls himself the "Venerable Master Gargakuichines, Patriarch II of the Gnostic Institutions," heads an intricate network of international swindlers and counterfeiters, two of whose members are linked to narcotics traffic and the cultivation of marijuana. It is incredible that they are inexplicably protected by Colombia's laws, which they have openly flaunted, with the protection of known politicians, supported by public employees, taking advantage of the property [by seeking sanctuary] of the Church which he [Vizcaíno] claims as his own. He is a clever cheater of ingenuous peasants and has managed to set up a Satanic structure which operates at his will in several Colombian cities and other countries.

The resumé of Medina Vizcaíno, born in Ciénaga, Magdalena, includes crimes such as perjury, counterfeiting, embezzlement, attempted rape (taking advantage of the rites and belief structures of his church), and unlawful expropriation of the property of others, for which he has been jailed several times. He is now being sued in several courts, and faces charges before the attorney general. The skillful Colombian swindler is assisted in these criminal acts by fanatic cohorts whom he calls archbishops, bishops, abbots of the temples of the mystery, presidents, secretaries, and priests. . . .

Medina Vizcaíno and his followers have managed to seize control of the publishing house "Iris Printers" . . . which, in addition to editing all sorts of books and pamphlets, serves as a library specializing in the occult. In addition, he has

managed to make himself a significant fortune through charity, by means of a series of communiqués sent to his bishops and their wives in which he instructs them, not only how to collect money, but how to make the shipments, and [gives] the number of his post office box, instructing that it [the money] should be sent by certified mail and indicating that it is "to maintain the Patriarch, his wife, home, and secretary. . . ."

Another serious crime that hangs over Medina Vizcaíno is that of falsification of documents, using the name of [Gnostic Church founder] Samael Aúñ Weor, for which Medina Vizcaíno and his associate Olmedo Palomino Sánchez were arrested in Quito, Ecuador. In addition, Medina Vizcaíno, taking advantage of the titles of his church and the fear he instills in his followers should they not cede to his demands, has committed—according to accusations against him—a chain of sexual abuses against his followers, including the wives of some of the members of the Universal Christian Gnostic Church of Colombia. . . .

To swindle his numerous followers in Colombia and elsewhere, Medina Vizcaíno avails himself of various accomplices and partners in high positions within his church hierarchy, the majority having police dossiers for a broad range of crimes. They are, among others: José Vicente Márquez Bedoya, Jaime Colmenares, Efraín Villegas, Quintero, Olmedo Palomino Sánchez, Antonio Riaño Girón, Bernardino Pinto Sanabria, Carlos Granda Zapata, José Torres, Argermiro Quintero, and Julio Rafael Martínez López.

The most skillful and influential of these, José Vicente Márquez Bedoya, is currently the secretary of the Seventh Commission of the House of Representatives and a member of the Liberal Alternate Movement run by senator Alberto Santofimio Botero. Márquez Bedoya passes himself off as a lawyer and, both within and outside the country, as a representative of the House, according to some testimony. . . .

But the tricks of Márquez Bedoya don't stop here, according to his detractors. . . . While in Madrid, Márquez asked for the loan of the apartment of a Mr. Luis Fernando Moya to sleep with one of his assistants. A little later, using the trick of offering to sell a bracelet to one of his followers, he tried to rape her, for which he was accused before the coordinator of [his movement in] Spain, Freddy Vera.

The so-called "Gnostic institutions" which Medina Vizcaíno leads include within their ranks members with reproachable behavior such as that cited above, but also well-known delinquents dedicated to the cultivation of marijuana and the international narcotics trade. . . . One case currently under investigation is that of Julio Rafael Martínez López, designated bishop by Medina Vizcaíno . . . who traveled several times to Honduras to carry out special missions of the Gnostic Church. The last of these excursions occurred on May 20, just a short time after the death of [Justice] Minister Rodrigo Lara Bonilla.