

Tradition, Family, and Property cult under investigation in Venezuela

by Valerie Rush

Following several weeks of high-profile exposure by the media in Venezuela, the cultists and would-be Pope assassins of the "Tradition, Family and Property" sect are currently facing a slew of official investigations which may well lead to expulsion of the Brazilian-based cult from Venezuela on grounds of violating that country's national security and constitutional law.

Should their expulsion from Venezuela be determined, it is not improbable that others of the 14 countries where the TFP is based would follow suit.

The TFP, an international network of brainwashed assassins linked to the highest levels of Europe's unregenerate monarchical pretenders—the so-called "black oligarchy"—have been notified of formal investigations of their highly secretive activities by the Organized Crime Division of Venezuela's Judicial Police, by that country's attorney general, and by the Internal Affairs Commission of the Venezuelan Chamber of Deputies.

The judicial police investigation of TFP began last summer, when the initial security preparations around next January's papal visit to Venezuela forced law enforcement attention to the various extremist groups operating in Venezuela who posed a potential threat to John Paul II. TFP, which earned notoriety in Brazil for its habit of using photographs of the Pope for target practice by its militants, fell under special scrutiny and had its luxurious Caracas headquarters raided. In early October, there was another raid. Since then, the international security agency Interpol has maintained strict vigilance over all known members of the group.

TFP spokesmen have repeatedly denied involvement in a conspiracy to assassinate the Pope, claiming that "verbal confrontation, much less armed confrontation," is prohibited by TFP doctrine. But new evidence has been uncovered by this press service, giving full credibility to the papal assassin charge.

A front for assassins

According to the May 16, 1982 edition of the French weekly magazine *Le Journal du Dimanche*, Juan Fernández Krohn, the renegade abbot who tried to assassinate John Paul II on May 5 of that year, was in close collaboration with the TFP up to the very moment of the attempted assassination.

Writes *Le Journal* journalist Jacques Tillier, "At the end of 1979 Juan Fernández was in Argentina at the side of [defrocked] Monsignor Lefebvre; then he disappeared to Brazil, where he stayed three months. That is where he made contact with the 'Tradition, Family and Property' sect in Rio de Janeiro. For them the Holy See is vacant. Juan Fernández returned even more hotheaded from his trip to Brazil. 'The Church no longer has a Pope,' he mourned in the Chapel of Saint Frances of Sales in Rouen.'"

Tillier continues, "The TFP sect financed his trip around Poland. In the summer of 1981, he meets Lech Walesa and 'Solidarnosc,' whom he suspects are Trotskyist puppets whose strings are pulled by the KGB. And since the Pope himself is Polish, he must be an agent of Moscow. That's what he [Krohn] wrote in journals published by the 'Tradition, Family' sect and others when he returned from Poland."

A few days after the failed assassination attempt against the Pope, Krohn wrote to his father, "I would have killed that socialist pig, if God had not stopped me."

As the official investigations of TFP got under way at the end of October, *EIR* dropped a bombshell in Caracas, a press release that included the above quotes and other evidence of the TFP's sinister role. The release was run by the leading daily *El Mundo* on Oct. 26.

In an interview granted by TFP spokesman Pedro Morazzani Boschetti to the Venezuelan daily *El Nacional* of Oct. 12, Morazzani politely justified TFP "discrepancies" with the Vatican: "God grants us free will. The Pope is infallible when it comes to questions of Faith and Morality. There we have no different positions. But in political matters one can differ."

And yet, the head of the Venezuelan Episcopal Conference, Father Amador Merino Gómez, had a different view of the TFP's differences: "I believe that in some countries the ecclesiastical hierarchy has had to intervene, calling attention to the activities of the TFP for its deviations and manipulations of the Church doctrine, such as in the case of the frequency of their confessions and of communion." TFP youth are required to give constant confessions, down to the most intimate details, to "spiritual directors" appointed to them by the TFP leadership. Also, TFP considers the Catholic mass heretical and will only enter churches to take communion.



TFP militants in Brazil. The fascist cult uses the Pope's picture for target practice, and instructs its brainwash victims to murder members of their families when the "apocalypse" comes.

Father Merino Gómez also stressed that TFP rejects the teachings of Vatican Council II, along with the social doctrine of the Church contained within the encyclicals of Paul VI and John Paul II. Defectors from the cult report that when Pope John Paul I (Luciani) died, TFP members applauded with joy.

Kidnappers and tax-evaders

The Venezuelan attorney general's investigation of TFP was launched following formal documented charges made by parents of TFP recruits that the sect had abducted and brainwashed their children, converting them into zombies and beggars, turning them against their families, and even inciting them to murder family members (see Documentation). The parents further charged that they themselves are the victims of constant threats by the sect, and that TFP, registered in Venezuela as a "non-profit organization," collected vast sums in the form of donations which were contra-banded out of the country in probable violation of Venezuela's tax laws.

Some of the parents succeeded in legally forcing TFP to return their children to Venezuela from confinement at TFP training camps in Brazil, only to learn that the youths would be permitted to spend just one hour visiting them. During that hour, the children refused to discuss TFP doctrine and refused to eat any food prepared by their families.

The parents declared in their statements to the media, "To

the TFP, the whole world is rotten. They believe they are the chosen ones to make the counterrevolution. . . . They are automatons, they have been brainwashed. . . . Their rites are medieval. They intone Gregorian chants inciting to violence. They are monarchical. For them, women are second class. . . . They have very well-differentiated castes, based on the origins of their members. They are racists; they accept no colored or Jewish members in Asocire [the Venezuelan TFP—ed]."

The congressional investigation of TFP was also prompted by the parents' documented charges, which appealed for action based on Article 73 of the Venezuelan constitution which pledges the state to act as guarantor of the integrity of the family as a mainstay of Venezuelan society. According to the dossier presented to the Commission on Internal Affairs, TFP "does not carry out any kind of activity or work useful to the community, except that of a proselytizing nature or to request donations exclusively for their movement. None of the [members] carry out any chores in their homes, nor do they cooperate with their parents in the slightest to maintain their homes. All of this stimulates laziness, vagrancy, turning our sons and brothers into public beggars. . . ."

Several congressmen urged the investigation of the TFP based on what they described as its "direct interference in the internal political affairs of Venezuela, while its actions regarding the security and defense of the nation itself are unclear."

Documentation

The following is excerpted from a "confidential document" of statements reportedly made by TFP "Patriarch" Plínio Corrêa and his top disciple and personal secretary João Clá, gathered through eyewitness testimony and published by several Venezuelan newspapers:

1) Dr. Plínio declared before an audience of secret militants two days before the assassination attempt against John Paul II carried out by the Turk Ali Agca that he had "prophesied that he [the Pope] was going to die violently."

2) A few days later and before the same audience after the Pope had survived, "he prophesied that fewer than four years of life remained [to the Pope]."

3) In Venezuela, when the Pope John Paul I (Luciani) died, all the members of Asocire [the Venezuelan TFP], including children, rose and frantically applauded and laughed with joy.

4) For every militant to be able to enter the Reign of Maria, which begins after the Apocalypse, he must have killed at least one person, preferably an *FMR* [family member].

5) When the day of chaos (*Bagarre*) arrives, which will be when Dr. Plínio says, the TFP will begin to take drastic action to kill their enemies with swords and other arms, with the aim of murdering all the enemies of TFP, beginning with the *FMR* and *Fasuras* [women].

6) The first step to be taken under Dr. Plínio's orders upon surviving the chaos and installing the Reign of Maria will be the shattering of the [Jewish] "Wailing Wall" to dust and then scattering that dust in all the seas.

7) Dr. Plínio will order an exodus of his militants if the situation at any given moment requires it, because of the perversion and immorality that might take over the life of the cities. Upon abandoning the cities, they would establish colonies, with their presence spread in various places. He chose the most important one to be in the Venezuelan Amazon.

8) Dr. Plínio, in addition to being considered a super-saint and prophet, is considered the incarnation of the Virgin Mary who has returned to save, through his mediation, the chosen ones [TFP] and to punish the reprobates.

The following are excerpts from an article published in the Sept. 5 edition of the Brazilian weekly *Istoé*, entitled "The Real Life of the TFP":

According to Orlando Fedeli, a modest 51-year-old bachelor high-school teacher who was for three decades the faithful servant and follower of Plínio, the time has come to shed light on the most extravagant secrets of the TFP. . . .

While waiting for the *Bagarre* (in French, disorder, tumult, and confusion), when the great battle between Good and Evil will be fought as was announced to the three shep-

herds of Fatima in 1917, the organization theorizes about the coming of the reign of Mary—or, according to the dissidents, something like the reign of Plínio and his mother, Doña Lucília. . . . In the luxuriously appointed hermitage of São Bento, there is a throne in the chapel where the image of Our Lady should be. . . . But the image was removed and replaced by the pair of shoes in which Doña Lucília was buried in 1968. . . .

After a half-century of lay activities in the most conservative circles of the Church, Plínio has been frozen out to the degree that he clothed his anticommunist crusade in ever more disconcerting ways, like the re-establishment of the monarchy, banishment of airplanes and automobiles, electric light, and allopathic medicine. . . .

The present TFP training was conceived around 10 years ago when Plínio launched the great challenge, "Let's go to 10,000," which at the time meant doubling the number of followers through more aggressive recruiting. . . . A former loyalist who took notes on Plínio's [Sunday homily] message of December 30, 1982 recorded how to identify a youth with *Tau*, or willingness to learn Plínio's teachings: "It works out with boys from disorganized families. Tightly knit families avoid the isolation of their members. He is not isolated in his home. He will not go along with us."

. . . The *enjas* [militants] who are considered promising are always "trained" in São Paulo, where the organization is headquartered. In addition to being cloistered in one of the nine São Paulo hermitages, the initiation rites bring them to the Morro Alto farm . . . where they learn to obey the supreme commander. Former hermits remember an unforgettable *quidam* [master] who ran Morro Alto at the end of the past decade, Fernando Telles [current head of TFP in Venezuela—ed.], who once put two *enjas*, Valmir de Oliveira and Mauricio Vistock, into a pigpen for 12 hours to scream, "I am a pig; I am an imbecile." They remember that even when they were devoted to TFP they called the place "Telles brinca" to remind them of Treblinka in Poland."

"Marquesa," a discreet forced residence the organization runs at 172 Marquesa de Alorna Street in Belo Horizonte, normally houses 10 to 15 "hermits" undergoing psychological treatment but, according to dissidents, at least four men are living there without hope of recovery. . . .

Life in the Divine Providence hermitage is far from that. [Ex-TFP militant Norio] Nakamura lived there until May of last year and remembers that to go to the corner for a cup of coffee, one had to ask the *quidam* for permission, giving him the route and exact time of return. If, for any reason, he came back late or changed the route, hermit Nakamura had the right to choose one of three penalties: "Read the works of Dr. Plínio for five hours from midnight to 5 a.m., which left one hour to sleep; walk 10 kilometers; or go 24 hours on bread and water." These seem light compared with those prescribed at Presto Sum, where a militant could be forced to carry rocks while walking around the patio for weeks. Or the common penalty of carrying a heavy rock up and down a ladder.