

TRICKY LAWYER APPOINTED COLOMBIAN AMBASSADOR TO THE U.S.

The newly named Colombian Ambassador to Washington, Mr. Carlos Urrutia, is deeply implicated in a squalid transnational scheme designed to subvert current legislation and cheat peasants out of land.

Colombia law stipulates that publicly-owned idle lands can only be transferred to the nation's poorer *campesinos*. The law also establishes small-acreage limits on such transfers. The legislation is designed to prevent large landowners from expanding their possessions even more through acquisition of public lands adjacent to their properties.

Mr. Urrutia's law firm developed an intricate process which involved first, the creation of fake small proprietorships, phantom small peasant owners; these initial fake legal entities were then purchased by bogus corporations in Spain which in turn transferred them holding companies operating out of Luxemburg, Europe's famed fiscal paradise for shady business operations.

Finally through this transnational connivance a major sugar mill was able to acquire tens of thousands of idle public lands in the Colombian province of Vichada in order to develop a large oil palm plantation.

The appointment of Mr. Urrutia to the prestigious post of Ambassador in Washington signals that Colombia's government pious claims of concern for Colombian small cultivators are mere crocodile tears designed to hide the on-going denial of land, by hook and crook, to impoverished peasants.