

Dateline Mexico by Josefina Menéndez

'In Sonora the republic's at stake'

Patricio Estévez's book on the upcoming Sonoran elections uses his own explosive recollections.

A great political impact, and tremendous consternation in establishment circles, has been set off in the northern state of Sonora by the recent book whose title translates, *In Sonora the Republic Is at Stake*. The author is Patricio Estévez, executive committee member of the Mexican Labor Party (PLM), a fraternal organization of the economist Lyndon H. LaRouche.

The book is a thundering denunciation of the state's networks and oligarchs, who together with henchmen of the U.S. State Department have been manipulating the electoral process since 1967, culminating in their big project to elevate the Nazi-Communist PAN party to the governorship next July.

The unique power of these charges is not just that they are made by the PLM, the PAN's most relentless opponent, but also that Estévez was inside the 1967 Sonoran student movement, parent of the national student movement of 1968, which threatened the very basis of the Mexican political system.

Estévez testifies that the movement was a "deliberate political prolongation of the pre-election process in the state, which was manipulated from the outset by different factions disputing the governorship." He also notes that "the role of U.S. intelligence services who operated in the state capital under the rubric of USIS (United States Information Service), where the student leaders worked, was decisive." Estévez adds that among the student leaders were some linked to the "right-wing clergy and econom-

ically powerful families of the north, sprinkled with left elements at the time dependent on the Mexican Communist Party."

Once repression started against this manipulated movement, Estévez reveals that "the students, parents, and other professionals of the political clergy who participated actively in the movement's violent actions, were pulled out of Sonora to the city of Tucson [Arizona], with the logistical support and in private and U.S. government cars by employees of American origin who worked as agents of the USIS, which set up a bridge of 'exiles' to get the persons facing arrest warrants out of the country."

Estévez comments on how they got information to give, not only to Mexican authorities, but also to USIS agents and representatives of certain reactionary families who were financing and backing them.

He concludes: The interests who were so brilliantly manipulating the students, "are the same interests today toying with this other 'brilliant and audacious youth,' Adalberto Rosas López, PAN candidate for state governor," who is endorsed by the *New York Times'* James Reston and U.S. Ambassador Gavin to win the July election.

In luxuriant detail, Estévez explains why Sonora has been virtually adopted as a laboratory and political trampoline for local bosses, who in tandem with the U.S. southern border mafia, are puffing themselves up as a local insurgency against Mexico's presidency.

Such was the case of the young "playboy" Carlos Armando Biebrich, who became governor of the state in September 1973, backed by local mafias and by then-Interior Secretary Mario Moya Palencia. The game was nationally steered by ex-President (now deceased) Miguel Alemán Valdes, who wanted to install Moya Palencia as President and Biebrich as interior secretary. Alemán planned to later make Biebrich President, to give free rein to his ideal of liberating Mexico from "nationalists" who oppose legalized casinos, drugs, and prostitution.

Estévez recounts that after the noisy fall of Biebrich in 1975, Sonora's oligarchs decided to revive the corpse of the PAN, supported by the Calles-Alemán duo. Rodolfo Elías Calles, the son of Plutarco Elías Calles (ex-President of Mexico expelled in 1938), had from the 1930s laid the basis to destroy the Agrarian Reform and meet U.S. bankers' demands in support of the big private landholders. With this policy, the local bosses reinforced the local political clergy and the PAN. From here arose the powerful families who bankrolled the 1967 movement and who today finance the PAN's Rosas López, Biebrich's crony.

The book hones in on Adalberto Rosas López, "candidate of the oligarchy," with a panorama of his business activities, his marriage with one of the rich Mazón heiresses, his intimacy with other businessmen such as accused drug-trafficker Manuel Clouthier de Sinaloa. Estévez writes, "The personality of Adalberto Rosas is intrinsically perverse, because his sick fight for power has never been oriented by an idea of the good, but concentrates the oedipal-neurotic-infantile character of the neo-PANists, pushers of the degraded colonialist counterculture and anti-government propaganda."