

## Dateline Mexico by Josefina Menéndez

### PAN sparks violence in Nuevo León

*With the aid of the ex-bankers, the PAN insists on provoking upheaval along the northern frontier.*

Last Aug. 2, the Nazi-communist mafia of the National Action Party (PAN) again went on the attack against the institutions of the state, aiming a brutal blow which unnerved the new government of Nuevo León, led by Jorge Trevino, considered a supporter of the President.

The brutal PAN assault on the greenhorn Trevino government, which had just taken office, occurred on the night of Aug. 2, when ex-gubernatorial candidate Fernando Canales Clariond led a demonstration of 10,000 persons, which he called the "Demand March," to insist that Governor Trevino step down. The PAN lost in the July 7 elections, but insists that it really "won."

The march was headed by the state leaders of the PAN. As it was ending and when the leaders had "with-drawn," a shock team came out of the crowd to attack the police guarding the Government Palace. In the ensuing clash, 22 demonstrators and 17 police were injured and a gigantic campaign was kicked off in the media, blaming the government for the violence.

The riot was the culmination of the pressure campaign mounted by the Monterrey Business Group under the direction of Andres Marcelo Sada, to turn Jorge Trevino into a flunky of their interests.

The Monterrey Group delivered another stinging blow when the leaders of the private business organizations turned down the invitations to Jorge Trevino's swearing-in as governor, which was to be attended by the President of the Republic. Hearing of the refusal, President de la Madrid sent

as his personal emissary Carlos Salinas de Gortari, the Planning and Budget Secretary and a native of the state, to convince them that the President would take it as a personal affront if they didn't go. In view of this, a few did show up.

As the result of these pressures, the federal and state government had to pay a high political and economic price to the Monterrey Group to make it stop boycotting the actions of the new government. The payment was in kind, and in cash. The Trevino government gave various positions in its cabinet to political agents of the Monterrey Group, and granted broad concessions to the Group's demands in its government plan, by giving government support to assembly plants.

The Monterrey industrialists, servants of the Group, want to convert their industry, which could supply domestic consumption, into assembly plants for the big U.S. corporations. This is one of the major conditions imposed by the creditor banks of the Monterrey Group, to which they owe \$5 billion—more than the total debt of Bolivia, a country of 10 million inhabitants.

The PAN is working on the same plan to provoke violence for the inauguration of Gov. Felix Valdes in Hermosillo, in the state of Sonora, on Sept. 13. Former PAN candidate Adalberto Rosas, who got his feathers plucked because he did not win the level of votes of his PAN counterpart in Nuevo León, is now being backed by economic forces from the neighboring states of Chihuahua and Nuevo León. This has allowed him to go back on

the offensive and announce he will at all costs prevent Felix Valdes from taking office as Sonora's governor.

So the PAN is regrouping in its old stronghold of Ciudad Juárez, Chihuahua, where they control the mayoralty and now the deputies to the federal Congress. Here, on Aug. 11, they staged a demonstration that was supposed to be huge (rallying all the PAN's adherents in northern Mexico) in support of the cases of Nuevo León and Sonora. They managed to rally 15,000 people, quite a lot for a small city, and the two former PAN candidates, "Baldy" Rosas from Sonora and Canales Clariond from Nuevo León, put in an appearance.

Clearly, the PAN escalation has not slowed down, especially in Chihuahua, where the elections for governor are coming up in early 1986 and where they think the federal government will have no maneuvering room to keep them from taking the governorship—the first for an opposition party in 56 years.

Meanwhile, both the Mexican government and army have started taking measures to defuse the time bomb which is Chihuahua, in particular Ciudad Juárez. There is already talk in political circles that Gov. Oscar Ornelas, who is known for his sympathies with the Vallina Group (controller of the PAN), will soon step down. Besides, in Ciudad Juárez the army has started a campaign of taking away pistols, starting with the PAN-infested municipal police. In less than 24 hours, the army besieged the city and left the police armed only with billyclubs, arguing that a municipality doesn't need so many weapons. And since PAN Mayor Barrios was not around that day, he is now trying to raise a serious protest, because part of his orchestrated plan to provoke violence is being disarmed.