

## Assassination of cardinal sends a bloody message

by Carlos Méndez

Archbishop of Guadalajara, Cardinal Juan Jesús Posadas Ocampo was assassinated on May 24 in front of the Guadalajara international airport, under circumstances that indicate that the murder was deliberate. However, the official story released by Mexican Attorney General Jorge Carpizo is that Cardinal Posadas was killed by drug traffickers who confused him with a rival drug lord, because the cleric was travelling in a car supposedly similar to that of the targeted trafficker. Mexico's bishops have described the official story as "absurd" and "infantile," with several of them charging that Cardinal Posadas was indeed the intended victim.

The Attorney General's denial that the assassination was premeditated is intended to obviate the need for a full-scale investigation by the government into who the actual intellectual authors of the attack are.

In a statement issued May 26, the Ibero-American Solidarity Movement (MSIA) demanded: "1) that the crime be investigated as a premeditated assassination; and 2) that said investigation and punishment of those guilty be carried out with the utmost speed, because any coverup of the authors of the murder and their motives could unleash a cataclysm of unknown dimensions which nobody wants. . . . We call attention to the fact that this crime takes place in the midst of an assault by the Masonry against the Catholic Church. . . ."

"It is already proven that the Masonry is one of the leading instruments of the superpowers, of the International Monetary Fund [IMF], and of the malthusian cabal, to impose genocidal policies on the debtor countries, policies which have been systematically denounced by the Vatican and by Mexico's bishops."

It should be noted that Cardinal Posadas himself had played a prominent role in these denunciations. On April 21, he had criticized the free-market economic policies of the Carlos Salinas de Gortari government, and insisted that the

1994 presidential elections should serve "as an appropriate occasion for changing" them. Cardinal Posadas also charged that governments have presented population growth "as a mythical threat, to legalize and justify birth control. . . ." He also warned that the Masonry's activities could lead to a reopening of old wounds in Mexico (see *Documentation*).

In the May 31 issue of the newspaper *El Sol de México*, columnist José Cabrera Parra noted that the murder of Cardinal Posadas "occurred on the first anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the Mexican government and the Vatican. . . ."

On May 25, the Guadalajara daily *Siglo 21* published a note saying that "violent death is not the accustomed fate of bishops. Until yesterday, only one has suffered this fate in Mexico, José Soledad Torres Castañeda, who was the first bishop of Ciudad Obregón [Sonora]: He was murdered on a highway in 1967. 'A group of Masons' is mentioned as the possible authors of the assassination." That reference is never clarified in the article.

But never has a cardinal been killed before in Mexico, not even during the darkest period of religious warfare in the 1920s, the so-called Cristero Wars, when Masonry launched a violent, all-out attack on the Catholic Church.

### A strategic assassination

There are much broader strategic implications to the Posadas assassination, which go beyond Mexico. It is in this broader context that the cardinal's murder is usefully compared to the 1989 assassination of Alfred Herrhausen, the chairman of Germany's influential Deutsche Bank: Both murders were intended to deliver a bloody message to all who oppose the Versailles System, neo-liberal free-market economics, and the so-called new world order.

Herrhausen was murdered because he wanted to see a

general reorganization of eastern Europe's foreign debt on just terms, in opposition to the major international creditor banks, and because he wanted to carry out a large-scale program of economic development for eastern Europe, precisely the region which is today in flames because of the application of the opposite policies of the IMF.

Although at the time it was said that Herrhausen was murdered by terrorists from Germany's Red Army Fraction (RAF), authors of the book *Das RAF-Phantom—Wozu Politik und Wirtschaft Terroristen Brauchen (The RAF Phantom: Why Politics and Economics Need Terrorists)* maintain that the assassination was carried out by professionals of the western intelligence services.

The option that faced a united Europe in 1989, of setting a new course of economic development and genuine political freedom, is similar to that which faces Ibero-America today. With the murder of Herrhausen, the German government of Helmut Kohl was terrorized into backing off from adopting policies that would have produced a very different situation in eastern Europe, indeed all of Europe, today. The murder of Cardinal Posadas is designed to terrorize into silence and passivity those elements within the Ibero-American church, military, and other nationalist sectors that oppose the new world order, and to enable the international financial and political elites to regain control of a continent that is fast spinning out of their grasp.

The Mexican cardinal's murder is also an attack on the Vatican itself. As U.S. economist and political figure Lyndon LaRouche has pointed out, it is the Masons and their political controllers who are behind such brutal attacks on Christian civilization as the assassination of Posadas and the recent bombing in Florence, Italy. Among the strategic objectives of these enemies of Christian society is to eliminate the Vatican altogether by the end of this century.

On June 2, LaRouche explained in an interview that "one should look back to the early to middle 19th century, say, from the period of the 1840s to the assassination of U.S. President McKinley by an assassin imported from Europe. These are the methods which we associated with Giuseppe Mazzini's Young Europe and his branch, which was part of the U.S. Confederacy, called Young America. This is exactly what has happened before. . . . These are freemasonic methods of that type, the Grand Orient Lodge in France, the Grand Orient Lodge in Italy, similar groups in the United States and outside it, all connected, of course, to the tradition of Lord Palmerston in relation to the United Grand Lodge in London. . . . If one knows the history of the 19th century and the early 20th, there is no doubt in anyone's mind as to exactly what is going on."

### **Vatican counter-offensive**

Recent church attacks on free-market "neo-liberal" economics, such as Cardinal Posadas Ocampo's statements, reflect a significant and visible strengthening of the anti-liberal,

anti-International Monetary Fund faction within the Vatican. For example, six months ago, at the Fourth General Conference of the Latin American Bishops Council (CELAM) held in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, Vatican Secretary of State Cardinal Angelo Sodano publicly praised the very Mexican model of IMF looting that Cardinal Posadas and others were later to attack by name. The final document that came out of the CELAM conference itself lent credibility to that same neo-liberal model, perhaps the result of the insidious influence of Michael Novak within the Ibero-American Catholic Church.

But in mid-April of this year, the Vatican chose Mexico as the arena to launch a bold counter-offensive against genocide and economic neo-liberalism. During the International Congress on Demography and Development held in Mexico City, Colombian Cardinal Alfonso López Trujillo, president of the Vatican's Pontifical Council on the Family, declared that "it is scientifically proven that it is not population growth which is the leading cause of poverty in certain developing-sector nations, but the unjust distribution of wealth, the abuse in exploitation of natural resources on the part of the industrialized countries. . . ."

During the inauguration of that conference, Cardinal Posadas Ocampo read a speech by the president of the Mexican Bishops Conference (CEM), Monterrey Archbishop Adolfo Suárez Rivera, which stated that "Mexico has already reached intolerable levels of extreme poverty," and that "the neo-liberal policy which predominates today in the region is worsening the negative consequences of such [free-market] mechanisms. . . . It should suffice to note the reappearance of cholera, which is fundamentally due to the structural adjustments *prescribed* by the International Monetary Fund and World Bank" (see *Documentation*).

### **The Masons say 'no,' but . . .**

According to the May 28 issue of the Monterrey newspaper *El Norte*, "Carlos Vásquez Rangel, president of the National Confederation of Liberal Organizations, denied today that Masonry had ordered the execution of Cardinal Juan Jesús Posadas Ocampo over ideological differences. . . . 'The black hand which murdered him is the drug trade,' he said."

The MSIA answered on June 2: "There are many reasons to doubt the sincerity of Carlos Vásquez Rangel . . . when he denies that Masonry had anything to do with the assassination of Cardinal Juan Jesús Posadas Ocampo. . . . That the head of Mexican Masonry is not a reliable source is proven by the fact that Carlos Vásquez Rangel was the one who accused U.S. politician and economist Lyndon H. LaRouche of financing the Democratic Revolutionary Party (PRD) of Cuauhtémoc Cárdenas, which has been conclusively proven false. . . . If that slander was the last public statement of Vásquez Rangel, there are weighty reasons to be skeptical regarding his latest comment on the assassination of Cardinal Posadas Ocampo."

What is certainly the case is that no one in Mexico believes the government's multiple cover stories: first, that the cardinal was caught in a cross-fire, *despite the fact that the coroner confirmed that he had been shot by 14 bullets at point-blank range*, and second, that he was mistaken for a drug trafficker, even though numerous eyewitnesses confirmed that his cardinal's garb was apparent and unmistakable to all. Even more suspicious is the fact that an Aero-mexico flight was delayed on the runway for a full 20 minutes to allow more than a dozen of the hitmen to board it and make their getaway!

It is very clear that nothing less than an immediate and serious investigation of the cardinal's murder will satisfy a Mexican population horrified both by the bloody deed and by the Salinas government's handling of it.

---

## Documentation

---

### Cardinal spoke out for economic, social justice

*Archbishop of Guadalajara, Jalisco, Cardinal Juan Jesús Posadas Ocampo, barely a month before his assassination on May 24, had harshly denounced the neo-liberal economic policies imposed by the government of President Carlos Salinas de Gortari, noting that the 1994 presidential election is "an appropriate occasion for changing" them. The cardinal also attacked the myth that population growth is the cause of poverty, and warned about the danger that the Masonry's activities could reopen old wounds in Mexico's history. What follows are excerpts from some of his most recent statements, as reported by the Mexican press.*

**La Jornada**, April 22, 1993: "The presidential elections of 1994 will be 'an appropriate occasion for changing' the neo-liberal policies, whose version of solidarity has been practiced as alms, welcome to some who are marginalized, but insufficient in a process which impoverishes the majority and increases the wealth of the few, according to Cardinal Juan Jesús Posadas Ocampo, the vice president of the Mexican Conference of Bishops (CEM). Posadas Ocampo led the homily which inaugurated the conference series 'Demographic Issues in Latin America,' sponsored by the Latin American Alliance for the Family, the [Mexican] National Pro-Life Committee, the Pontifical Council for the Family and the CEM's Bishops' Commission for the Family. . . .

" 'Liberalism and neo-liberalism are forms of trying to solve the crisis; but if greater poverty is produced to remedy these crises and the enrichment of others, the few, grows, then the church has to condemn that ideology,' said Posadas.

. . . Posadas Ocampo asserted that the governments have presented demography 'as a mythical threat, to legalize and justify birth control. . . .'

"The vice president of the CEM stated that with regard to family planning, as in economic policy, 'one must have the courage, the audacity, to leave a course if it does not produce the welfare of society.' And he added that 1994 'is an appropriate occasion for changing' it."

**Unomásuno**, April 24, 1993: "The Masonry in the country has every right to create a new political party, but before that it has to demonstrate what its goals are, because if they intend to keep attacking the Catholic Church then we run the risk of reopening old wounds," the vice president of the Mexican Conference of Bishops, Juan Jesús Posadas Ocampo, warned. . . .

"In an interview, Cardinal Posadas Ocampo commented that if the Masons seek the common good of Mexicans, then the Catholic Church would be in a position to collaborate with them in the defense of rights, but if that is not the case, then they would be out of order. . . . He admitted that, if one analyzes the principles and the traditional philosophy of the Masons, it is clear that they do not act in our favor; nonetheless, we believe that this is not the moment for ideological confrontations, because tolerance, pluralism, and freedom are a step towards truth."

**La Jornada**, April 20, 1993: "Mexico has already reached intolerable levels of extreme poverty, and it finds itself sunk in a grave crisis of social inequality, according to the president of the Conference of Mexican Bishops, Adolfo Suárez Rivera. 'Many people in our country believe that two Mexicos are being built: an immense one, which is hungry and backward; and another one, which is small, rich, modern, and international. And in a country so divided, where a small part grows richer every day and a great majority grows daily poorer, we will not be able to build the great nation that all Mexicans desire.'

"In his inaugural speech to the 54th Assembly of Mexican Bishops, which was read by . . . Cardinal of Guadalajara Juan Jesús Posadas Ocampo, Suárez Rivera warned that if the market and the consumers of the North American Free Trade Agreement are not adequately dealt with, Mexico will have to pay a high social cost. . . .

"And he added: 'The neo-liberal policies which prevail today in the region further deepen the negative consequences of these mechanisms. By indiscriminately deregulating the market, thereby eliminating important chunks of labor legislation and by firing workers, the gaps in society have been deepened.'

"As an example, 'it suffices to point to the reappearance of cholera, which in the final analysis is due to the structural adjustments prescribed by the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank. This fact dramatically symbolizes the growing pauperization and economic marginalization of all Latin America.' "