

Bush League buys victory of Mexican leftist Cárdenas

by Cynthia Rush and Valerie Rush

Mexico's Cuauhtémoc Cárdenas, of the Party of the Democratic Revolution (PRD), won election to the powerful post of Mexico City mayor, in the country's mid-term elections on July 6. The victory of this São Paulo Forum agent was due, not to the fact that Mexicans like him or his policies, but because they are enraged that the government of President Ernesto Zedillo has continued to apply the disastrous free-market economic program implemented so brutally by Zedillo's predecessor, and George Bush crony, Carlos Salinas de Gortari.

Zedillo's insistence on a *Salinista* economic policy, proved the PRI's downfall: It lost its absolute majority in the lower House of Congress, giving up seats to both the PRD and the National Action Party (PAN), and handing over two key governorships, in the states of Nuevo León and Querétaro, to the PAN.

Cárdenas's victory was also due to the fact that, over the past five years, the Bush-linked "Project Democracy" apparatus in the United States poured enormous sums of money into PRD-affiliated "human rights" groups, and other supporters of the narco-terrorist Zapatista National Liberation Army (EZLN) (see article, p. 45). And, in the weeks leading up to the elections, both international and national media put out a continuous barrage of propaganda portraying Cárdenas as the "front-runner," destined to achieve victory over the "corrupt" and "authoritarian" PRI. In addition, treasonous factions inside the PRI, associated with the Bush-Salinas machine, organized to hand the election to Cárdenas.

There is no question that the Cárdenas victory greatly strengthens the operations of the narco-terrorist São Paulo Forum inside Mexico, and encourages the forces promoting the breakup of the nation-state, in the name of "Indian autonomy." But it also creates a complex political situation, in which Cárdenas's victory may be a very short-lived one indeed.

In an interview with "EIR Talks" on July 9, Lyndon LaRouche pointed out that "across the country, in Mexico, there is sort of a three-way split in the Congress, and in local and various elections, among the party called the PAN . . . the PRD, and the Institutional Party [the PRI], which is the traditional party in Mexico." What has happened, LaRouche explained, is that "there has been a rearrangement of the deck chairs on the Mexican ship of state, in which the rumpus boy, Cárdenas, . . . is now going to be the . . . head of Mexico City; his party is going to have an influence, a strong influence in Mexican politics, but he will be constrained, because Mexican politics is now engaged in a three-way split."

Head in the noose

The fact is, that Cárdenas has a noose around his neck. This is the man who wants to run for President in the year 2000. Despite his and his party's verbiage against "neo-liberalism," he won the election with the support of Wall Street and other neo-liberal institutions, which fully expect him to continue with their hated economic policy—including the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA). Susan Kaufman Purcell, vice president of the Rockefeller-run Council of the Americas, put it succinctly in an commentary in the July 10 *Washington Post*, in which she explained that "the conventional wisdom that the overwhelming support Mexicans gave to opposition candidate Cuauhtémoc Cárdenas for mayor of Mexico City, represents a repudiation of Mexico's economic reforms, including NAFTA, also is not necessarily correct. . . . Cárdenas himself offered no obvious alternative to Mexico's current policies, other than a pledge to make them more transparent and equitable."

The International Monetary Fund's managing director, Michel Camdessus, and agents of a bankers' think-tank, Inter-American Dialogue, both confidently stated prior to the election, that if Cárdenas were to win, he would "behave responsi-

bly” and take no steps to negatively affect “investor confidence” in Mexico. At an event held in his honor at the New York-based Council on Foreign Relations prior to the election, Cárdenas even told his hosts that his model for economic growth is the “economic miracle” created by Chile’s Gen. Augusto Pinochet, so praised by international bankers and other creatures belonging to the fascist Mont Pelerin Society.

In an election-night television appearance, Porfirio Muñoz Ledo, a leading member of Cárdenas’s brain trust, manically, but aptly, labelled Cárdenas the “Tony Blair” of Mexico. This, of course, is a reference to the British Labour Party prime minister who plans to “out-Thatcher” Margaret Thatcher, by imposing a fascist austerity more draconian than even his Conservative opponents dreamed of.

Mexicans didn’t vote for Cárdenas because they wanted a continuation of the Salinas economic policy, or because they agree with the PRD’s support for the EZLN. If Cárdenas doesn’t follow through on his promises to promote a more just economic and social policy, he can kiss his Presidential aspirations good-bye. The rumor that one of his first acts will be to fire 62,000 of the 70,000 workers in the Mexico City government, will not make him popular.

His other problem is going to be dealing with the internal politics of the PRD, and with the radical, narco-terrorist swamp, including the EZLN and the Guerrero-based People’s Revolutionary Army (EPR), which see his election as the signal for escalating the separatist insurgency launched with the EZLN’s appearance in the southeastern state of Chiapas in January 1994.

That Cárdenas backs these operations is not in doubt, as the Ibero-American Solidarity Movement (MSIA), a co-thinker organization of Lyndon LaRouche, charged during the final month of campaigning prior to July 6. But public association with these groups now doesn’t jibe with the “moderate” image Cárdenas is trying to put forward, in anticipation of his Presidential campaign. This is why PRD thugs and pro-Cárdenas media responded so hysterically against the MSIA, whose campaign pamphlets and posters described Cárdenas and the PRD as the “electoral arm of narco-terrorism and separatism.” The MSIA obviously hit a raw nerve in denouncing Cárdenas as “the Kabila of Mexico.”

Smash the PRI

One of the outcomes of the July 6 election, is the weakening of the PRI, an institution long targeted for destruction by the British-backed international oligarchy, which associates it with a strong nation-state. Yes, the PRI is weakened, but it is not out of the picture, as London’s *Financial Times* lamented in a July 8 editorial, complaining that the PRI “traditionalists” were still influential, despite Cárdenas’s victory.

Yes, but these traditionalists will only maintain influence, if they move to clean out the nest of vipers organized around the self-exiled former President, Carlos Salinas de Gortari, vipers who treasonously worked to hand the election to Cárdenas.

The complicity between Salinas and his supposed political enemy Cárdenas, goes way back, and has been repeatedly documented by *EIR*. Exemplary of how this alliance operated, was the June 24 campaign breakfast, at which Cárdenas analyzed the prospects for his future cabinet. In attendance were several nominal PRI members, who maintain close relations both with the Salinas clan, and the radical pro-Zapatista urban networks cultivated by Mexico City’s former mayor, the British asset Manuel Camacho Solís.

Attendees included: Juan Manuel Fernández, powerful controller of Mexico City’s finance ministry when Camacho was mayor, and a financier of the Ecological Green Party; Pedro and Pablo Moctezuma Barragán, brothers of former Government Secretary Estéban Moctezuma (a political confidant of President Zedillo), who are promoters of the People’s Urban Movement and the Emiliano Zapata Revolutionary People’s Union, organizations controlled by Camacho Solís when he was mayor. Also present was Javier Olea Muñoz, lawyer for PRI governor Jorge Carrillo Olea. Carrillo is known as one of Carlos Salinas’s men, and has been accused of being a drug trafficker.

MSIA: voice of reason

by Hugo López Ochoa

As a result of Mexico’s mid-term elections held on July 6, the São Paulo Forum’s Cuauhtémoc Cárdenas, of the Party of the Democratic Revolution (PRD), will be Mexico City’s next mayor, and for the first time in 70 years, the ruling PRI party will not have an absolute majority in the lower House of Congress.

In the month and a half prior to the elections, the campaigning of the Ibero-American Solidarity Movement (MSIA) against Cárdenas and the PRD, and the hysterical response it provoked from the media, including the most outrageous fabrications, proves beyond question that from the outset, the media was mobilized to elect Cárdenas as Mexico City’s mayor. As documented below, the major press went to wild and illegal extremes to defame and discredit the MSIA, inventing one lie after another so as not to address the organization’s truthful and damaging portrait of Cárdenas as “the Kabila of Mexico.”

In late May, the MSIA, a co-thinker organization of Lyndon H. LaRouche, launched a historic campaign to expose “Cuauhtémoc Cárdenas’s Fascism with a Democratic Face,” with a 45,000-copy run of a pamphlet with this title, and a kicker reading “Neo-Cardenism: a Higher Phase of Salinismo.” In Mexico, the term “Salinismo” is the adjective used to describe the unbridled free market, also known as “savage capitalism.”