

Calderón Spills the Beans On Bloomberg Fascist Plans

by Gretchen Small

New York mayor and U.S. Presidential contender Michael Bloomberg promises to make the trains run on time: not only in the United States, but down into Mexico, to and from the slave-labor camps that Bloomberg and his financier buddies intend to set up, as part of their fascist global reorganization of the world.

To hear Bloomberg and others tell it, it's all about infrastructure. Mexican President Felipe Calderón, however, just gave the game away. Visiting five U.S. cities from Feb. 10-14, Calderón laid out a vision of a unified North American economic bloc, able to compete with the rest of the world, because Mexico puts up its starving labor force, and international financiers throw in some capital, and start running Mexico's roads, ports ... and oil.

"While your economy is capital-intensive, Mexico's is labor intensive. ... Let us work together to take advantage of the complementarities of our economies to pave the road to prosperity," Calderón told a joint session of the California State Legislature on Feb. 13.

Mexico's future is as a labor-intensive economy, he asserted, in a speech delivered two days before at Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government. But, highways, ports, and airports, and perhaps a railroad or two, must be built to ship out the goods its cheap labor produces, even more cheaply. Upon his return to Mexico, he summarized his message: "We have no time to lose. Either we strengthen the process of integrating the free market, labor force, and investment throughout North America, or we are going to lose the race of competitiveness and productivity."

In 1991, Lyndon LaRouche warned that the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), then still in the planning stages, would, in the end, create an "Auschwitz below the border," destroying all three North American economies in the process. That is now slated to become a reality. After 25 years under globalization and free trade, Mexico has a real unemployment rate of at least 50%. It has suffered a 30% collapse in real per-capita consumption; a 60% drop in the percentage of the population engaged in real manufacturing; and a collapse of food production. Approximately 40 million of Mexico's 108 million people now suffer from some form of malnutrition, with 25 million being *severely* malnourished, according to a report issued at the end of January, by the Economic Research Institute of Mexico's National Autonomous University (UNAM).

Unable to survive in their own nation, Mexicans have poured across the border into the United States, looking for work. In some Mexican states, 10% of the male population have left to find work up North; fully *one half* of all residents of the state of Zacatecas have gone to the United States!

With the U.S. economy now disintegrating along with the global financial system, those laborers are being shipped back home. Says Calderón and his backers: The time for building concentration camps for private industry, new Auschwitzes, has come.

Corporatists of the World, Unite

The current watchword for this program is "infrastructure." Review the Jan. 19 press conference where California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger, his self-proclaimed "soulmate" Bloomberg, Rockefeller Foundation president Judith Rodin, and their patsy, Pennsylvania Gov. Ed Rendell, issued their call for a nonpartisan coalition for private infrastructure (www.rockfound.org). That's where Schwarzenegger told a representative of the LaRouche Youth Movement to go right ahead and call their program "Mussolini-style corporativism," but the program was going ahead.

Although Calderón did not meet with Bloomberg personally on his U.S. trip, the two had met last April, to coordinate on implementation of an operation run by Bloomberg's *eminence grise*, Rockefeller's Judith Rodin.

Schwarzenegger did receive Calder@aaon at the California State House. Following the Mexican President's address to that body, the two Felix Rohatyn/George Shultz lackies holed up together for a private lunch, after which, Schwarzenegger issued a statement gushing about "our terrific partnership." Calderón "is on the same page with California," when it comes to "improving our aging infrastructure," he declared. The Fact Sheet issued by the Governor's Office on their meeting emphasized that they are talking Mussolini-style infrastructure programs, private-run "public-private partnerships." (They also agreed on stopping industrialization, signing a Memorandum of Understanding "teaming up in the fight against climate change.")

Calderón's trip, billed as a dialogue with "the Mexican community" in the U.S.A., began on Wall Street, with a private dinner Feb. 10, presided over by David Rockefeller, at the Council of the Americas. Private meetings followed with

the *Wall Street Journal* editorial board; New York Federal Reserve president Timothy Geitner; lunch with top bankers and their hangers-on like Henry Kissinger; and in Chicago, with executives from Cargill, Kraft Foods, and other multinational giants. Even Rohatyn's Rev. Jesse Jackson got into the act.

Many of his meetings were private affairs, but Calderón's press office reports that two points were emphasized in all of them: that the private-public infrastructure program is how Mexico will survive the financial crash, and that Mexico's cheap labor is what makes these schemes financially viable.

At the Kennedy School, he baldly stated that the Mexican government's side of financing this infrastructure program will come first, from money "saved" by the privatization in 2007 of public sector workers' social security; and second, privatizing what public infrastructure now exists. Last year, the government privatized three highways, for double (\$4 billion) what it had expected to make from the sale, he bragged.

Goldman Sachs, it turns out, got those highways.

No wonder Calderón's two-ton Treasury Secretary Agustín Carstens (formerly #3 at the IMF) reported after one meeting, that the "finance capital of the world" sees Mexico as a "window of oportunities."

Recycling Highways, as Well as People

Four days before leaving for the United States, Calderón, with Lazard-linked Mexican multi-billionaire Carlos Slim in the audience, announced that he was setting up a National Infrastructure Fund (FONADIN) to channel government monies into a public-private partnership program. FONADIN's main source of funding is to come from the sale of many more public highways. The next day, the government put two more highways up for auction.

That same day, Dallas Fed governor Richard Fischer spoke at a conference in Mexico City, where he also laid down the policy line. Mexico "should invest resources to exploit its advantages," he said, adding that more attention should be paid to infrastructure in Mexico.

Calderón's highway scam has some history to it. This is the second time that most of these highways will have been privatized! When the private highways went bankrupt in the 1995 blowout of Mexico's debt, the government took them over, bailing out the private construction and management firms, and the national and international bondholders alike. The government having assumed the bad debt, the roads are being sold back to private interests, who will again profit from the tolls.

The week prior, Slim, who made most of his \$60 billion fortune under NAFTA (he is now the world's richest man on some days, depending on how his stock portfolio is doing), proposed to the Jan. 27-30 National Civil Engineering Congress in Mexico City that a national "public-private partner-

ship" be set up, to run the Mexican economy. An autonomous "national infrastructure commission" should be established, he said, with a multi-year budget, pooling private and public resources, to design, build, and operate infrastructure projects for Mexico. By "autonomous," he means that the financiers run the show, not the government.

Slim—whose empire spans communications, banking, IT, etc.—owns Mexico's Inbursa bank, which specializes in high-risk financial acrobatics, and has extensive ties to Lazard Frères, the same synarchist banking house which spawned Felix Rohatyn. In 2005, Slim spun off a new company, IDEAL, out of his Inbursa, specifically to manage and profit from infrastructure projects throughout Ibero-America (it subcontracts the dirty work of actually building something), which Slim personally heads.

Oportunidades for Bloomberg's Buddies

Now look at Calderón's joint project with Bloomberg: a Nazi-like "anti-poverty" program which Rockefeller's Rodin took the lead in developing for New York City, as a variation of the Mexican program called *Oportunidades*. Rodin and Bloomberg traveled together to Mexico in April 2007 to meet with Calderón, and study the Mexican program, and then kicked off "Opportunity NYC" last September.

Mexico's *Oportunidades* poverty program (originally named *Progresá*), now imitated in dozens of countries, was the first established on the radical free-trade idea, that government entitlements in a regulated economy, should be replaced with small cash handouts to families which meet certain conditionalities. In the case of Mexico, subsidized (i.e., regulated) prices of tortillas, milk, transportation, and electricity, which benefitted the whole population and the entire economy, were eliminated. Instead, qualified families were given miniscule handouts—while the entire economy upon which their lives depend, was deconstructed.

Bloomberg's program brags that it intends to replace social services which had been provided as a safety net, with an "incentives-based strategy." The Rockefeller Foundation hails it as the first-ever "Conditional Cash Transfer Program" (CCT) in the United States or Western Europe. As in Mexico, miniscule "monetary rewards" are doled out to selected families, who can provide vouchers at the end of every two months, proving they have met specified conditionalities of education and health.

But as bad as the Mexican program is, Bloomberg's New York City program goes further, in two, very chilling ways.

"Beneficiaries" must also work, at any job of any sort. And the program, at least in its pilot stage, is *entirely* financed by private financiers (the Rockefeller Foundation, George Soros's Open Society Institute, the insurance thieves at American International Group/AIG, the mayor's own generous Bloomberg Philanthropies, etc.)

You see, new Auschwitzes—Nazi government slave-labor camps—are not just for Mexico.