

## Dateline Mexico by Hugo López Ochoa

### The Cárdenas movement won't go away

*Moscow, the Social Democrats, the State Department, and the PRI have all failed to crush the movement behind Cárdenas.*

A mass rally on Oct. 2, designed as a leftist commemoration of a 1968 student massacre, was turned into a rally for the nationalist Cuauhtémoc Cárdenas, the man who most Mexicans believe won the July 6 presidential elections—much to the chagrin of the pro-Moscow faction of his coalition, the National Democratic Front (FDN).

The more than 100,000 people gathered for the rally demanded that Cárdenas speak, even though the Communists had kept him off the speakers' list and prevented him from leading the march which preceded the event.

But the maneuver failed, underlining the fact that Cárdenas and his movement, are not about to be eliminated from the political scene, either by the vote fraud of President-elect Carlos Salinas de Gortari, or by the machinations of the left.

The occasion for the showdown was particularly rich in political significance. Exactly 20 years ago, in 1968, on the eve of the Mexico City Olympics, dozens of students died when a meeting of 5,000 people was dispersed by army units after mysterious snipers fired on the crowd and the Army units surrounding it at the Tlatelolco housing project. Ex-President Luis Echeverría, who was government secretary at the time, recently revealed that the provocation was set up by "foreign agencies."

Tlatelolco became the symbol of the cult of death of the leftist students. Much of that "Generation of '68" was corrupted into homosexual, satanic,

and environmentalist cults today controlled by the Socialist International and Moscow.

But most of the 100,000 at this year's commemoration belong to no party. They voted for Cárdenas, because his program defends national sovereignty and opposes the genocidal austerity of Mexico's creditor banks and the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

Cárdenas did not waste words. He said, "Believing that I interpret the feelings of millions of democratic and patriotic Mexicans, I again certify our commitment to fight for those ideals for which many fell in this plaza."

Had the left sectarians managed to exclude Cárdenas as an "alien" from this event, on the grounds that he was a member of the ruling Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI) in 1968, that would have helped regime propagandists sell their story that "Cárdenas is alone" and that the left controls those "few, violence-prone desperadoes" enraged by the vote fraud against Cárdenas. That is what the government wants to happen, so it can destroy Cárdenas—"assassinate him, jail him, or exile him," as predicted recently by *Quejacer Politico* magazine.

But contrary to such hopes, after the PRI got Salinas de Gortari certified President-elect Sept. 10, the Cárdenas movement continued to grow. On Sept. 14, in Mexico City, 350,000 supporters turned out for Cárdenas. When he toured Veracruz state, popular acclaim forced him to stop and speak in every town.

On Oct. 4, police in Guerrero state violently broke up a picket line by Cárdenas supporters protesting vote fraud outside the city hall in Coyuca de Benitez.

The ruling oligarchy accuses Cárdenas of wanting "civil war" and of wanting to prevent Salinas from being inaugurated on Dec. 1. They want to get rid of Cárdenas as a political force, so that they can force Salinas to continue De la Madrid's genocidal IMF policies. They are threatening Salinas with chaos from capital flight, if he does not obey. Salinas has already agreed to prolong the wage, price, and exchange rate freeze of the De la Madrid government, during his first month in office.

Columnist José Luis Mejías noted in *Excelsior* Oct. 2 that Cárdenas has nowhere called for civil war. Those who want it, he reports, are the government faction made up of "partisans of overt and brutal repression," the "IS" (Socialist International) and the "IC" (Communist International), "whose organizers are quite active all over Latin America."

To erode the Cárdenas movement, those forces have fostered a Byzantine debate within it on the supposed need to turn it into a leftist party. Oscar Mauro Jiménez, the congressional coordinator of the nationalist Authentic Party of the Mexican Revolution (PARM)—the party which originally launched Cárdenas' candidacy—now insists that "Cuauhtémoc Cárdenas is not the one who called for a new political party; it was Heberto Castillo and Gilberto Rincon Gallardo," among other leaders of the communist Mexican Socialist Party (PMS).

The PMS is willing to disguise itself in nationalist colors to take control from Cárdenas, who is neither socialist nor a hater of the United States. Its first putsch against him aborted on Oct. 2. Cárdenas is sticking to his guns.