MSIA to Zedillo: Mont Pelerin Society seeks to destroy Mexico

The Ibero-American Solidarity Movement (MSIA) in Mexico issued an Open Letter on Jan. 1, calling on Mexican President Ernesto Zedillo to cancel his scheduled speech at the Jan. 14-17 meeting of the Mont Pelerin Society in Cancún. A translation of the complete text appears in the Jan. 15 issue of the weekly newspaper New Federalist.

... [W]e have learned that you are scheduled to open the regional meeting of the Mont Pelerin Society . . . called "This Hemisphere of Freedom," and it will honor Michael Novak, dedicating a special session to him. . . .

Mr. President, you should not give the opening speech, nor the closing speech, nor even show up at that event. It is one thing for us to have political differences, but it is a completely different thing for you, in the name of all Mexicans, to endorse an organization that actively promotes: 1) drug legalization; 2) slavery as a viable economic model; 3) the destruction of the institutions of our nations, including the Armed Forces and the Catholic Church, as well as the disappearance of the nation-state itself as the embodiment of national sovereignty; and 4) promotes "free trade" policies which are based on the "philosophical" doctrines of a certain Dr. Bernard Mandeville.

One can already see the destructive effect of such Mont Pelerinite policies, in the havoc being wrought on the United States by House Speaker Newt Gingrich and his followers.

1. Drug legalization

Milton Friedman, the 1976 Nobel Prize winner in economics, in his book *The Tyranny of the Status Quo*, proposes drug legalization, even though he acknowledges that "it could increase the number of addicts." In effect, Friedman said: Our belief that it would be desirable to legalize marijuana or other drugs does not hang on whether marijuana or other drugs are harmful or harmless. . . . At least until 1991, Milton Friedman was listed as the vice president of the Mont Pelerin Society. . . .

2. Slavery as Viable Model

The Mont Pelerin Society openly supports the so-called "cliometric" subschool of economics from Milton Friedman's University of Chicago. The leading cliometrician is

Robert W. Fogel, winner of the 1993 Nobel Prize in economics, who defends the chattel slavery that prevailed in the southern United States prior to the Civil War. In his book *Time on the Cross: The Economics of American Negro Slavery*, which he co-authored with Stanley L. Engerman of the University of Rochester, they argue: "Economies of scale were achieved only with slave labor. . . . The larger the farm, the larger the percentage of persons who were slaves." "Too, black slaves were the first group of workers to be trained in the work rhythms which later became characteristic of industrial society.". . .

3. Destruction of institutions

Friedrich von Hayek, winner of the 1974 Nobel Prize in economics, is the founder of the Mont Pelerin Society and one of its main ideologues. In 1942 Hayek penned an essay titled "The Road to Serfdom," which would also be the title of his book, the basis on which the Society was founded in 1947. In that essay, he claimed that "the notion that the world may finally achieve peace through the absorption of the separate states into federated groups and, ultimately, into a single federation, far from being a new one, was in truth the hope of nearly all the liberal thinkers of the 19th century. . . . An international authority which can effectively limit the powers of the state over the individual, would be one of the best safeguards of peace."

There are numerous statements from members of the Mont Pelerin Society avowing that the Armed Forces of our nations are an unnecessary expense, and that the Catholic Church represents an obstacle to their policies.

Steve H. Hanke, one of the scheduled speakers at the Cancun meeting, in his book *Currency Boards for Developing Countries—A Handbook*, proposes the elimination of central banks and their replacement by currency boards, which are nothing else than the "monetary policy" that the British Empire has applied—and still applies—to its colonies since the last century....

4. The Satanic doctrines of Bernard Mandeville

On Sept. 23, 1966, Friedrich von Hayek gave a speech at the London Academy in which he acknowledged that a certain

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Dr. Bernard Mandeville was the real inspiration for the laissez-faire doctrines of Adam Smith. In fact, added von Hayek, Mandeville was the seminal influence of the "ethical system" developed by Smith in his Theory of Moral Sentiments. The Dutch-born Bernard Mandeville (1670-1733) was the Satanic "philosopher" who organized London's infamous "Hell Fire Clubs." Mandeville's philosophy is summarized in his "The Fable of the Bees; or Private Vices, Publick Benefits." Mandeville's fundamental axiom is that "human nature" is based on the seven deadly sins, and that there are no selfless acts by man, neither out of pure goodness nor for love of God. Mandeville holds that if man's nature is sinful, then private vices lead to public good.

In his so-called poem "The Grumbling Hive: or Knaves Turned Honest," Mandeville says:

"Then leave Complaints: Fools only strive To make a Great and honest Hive. . . . Fraud, Luxury, and Pride must live Whilst we the Benefits receive."

In his "Essay on Charity and Charity-Schools," Mandeville writes: "The surest wealth consists in a multitude of Laborious Poor . . . without them there could be no enjoyment, and no Product of any Country could be valuable. To make the Society Happy and People Easy under the meanest Circumstances, it is requisite that great numbers of them should be Ignorant as well as Poor. . . . "

As you can see, Mr. President, Raúl Salinas de Gortari would have been a very faithful disciple of Bernard Mandeville, the bedside philosopher of the members of the Mont Pelerin Society, and, most particularly, of the honored Michael Novak, who has won undeserved fame for having created a "religious" argument in favor of free trade, which is bandied about in Ibero-America as a defense of the doctrine of free trade from the "teachings" of the Catholic Church.

In July 1994, Novak gave a conference in Krakow, Poland. ... In it he argued that if one wants to establish a lasting republic, it must be established for sinners, because sinners are not merely a moral majority, they are virtually the moral unanimity. In his book This Hemisphere of Freedom: A Philosophy of the Americas, Novak insists: The only realistic possibility is to build an economy for sinners, the only moral majority.

Mr. President Zedillo: We want you, by your rejection of the meeting of the Mont Pelerin Society in Cancun, to give the people of Mexico a sign that you are not prepared to turn this nation into another "Fable of the Bees," such as the one we knew under the previous administration of Carlos Salinas de Gortari. . . . Those of the Mont Pelerin Society want "Fraud, Luxury, and Pride" to return to Mexico whilst they "the Benefits receive." This would not only destroy your government, but also our nation.

Currency Rates

