

Bush Administration Unleashes Deadly Institutional Crisis in Mexico

by Dennis Small and Gretchen Small

In an interview published in the Aug. 23 issue of the French daily *Le Monde*, Mexican Presidential contender Andrés Manuel López Obrador warned that the country could wake up on Sept. 17 with *two* Presidents-elect. López Obrador explained that the National Democratic Convention which he has called for Independence Day, Sept. 16, is expected to draw one million delegates to its meeting in Mexico City's central plaza, the Zócalo, and "could name a legitimate President and a coordinator of popular resistance." If the Federal Electoral Court names the Synarchists' darling, Felipe Calderón as President-elect, despite the massive evidence of vote fraud in the July 2 elections, then a full-blown institutional crisis is assured.

"If the court validates the fraud, we will not recognize an illegitimate President," López Obrador told *Le Monde*. "That is why we have already convoked a National Democratic Convention, on the basis of Article 39 of the [Mexican] Constitution, which establishes the people's inalienable right to change its form of government."

López Obrador has been demanding a full recount of the July 2 elections, insisting that he, in fact, won the popular vote. The case is now before the Federal Electoral Court, which must issue its findings by Sept. 6. There are strong indications that the Court intends to sanction the fraud, and name Calderón President-elect.

"If the fraud is upheld," López Obrador told *Le Monde*, "I will continue fighting until the Republic is restored. . . . To negotiate an agreement with an illegitimate government would legalize the democratic pretense, and then this country would never change. In a country like Mexico, with such economic and social imbalances, democracy is a matter of survival. It is the only way the poor can force the government to concern itself with them."

Bush Demands Blood

López Obrador's dramatic decision to up the ante in the Mexican crisis, by warning of imminent de facto dual power, came in the wake of the first head-on repression against the non-violent civic resistance movement he leads. On Aug. 14, President Vicente Fox ordered Federal police and troops of

the Presidential General Staff (a branch of the military) to forcibly remove the encampment of protesters which had set up outside the Mexican Congress that day. Using clubs and tear gas, the troops and police left some ten people injured, including several of the 20 Congressmen and Senators from López Obrador's PRD party who were participating in the protest.

Not only were over 1,000 Federal police then deployed to surround the Congress from the outside, but some 200 commandos from the General Staff were installed *inside* the Congress as well. This is the first time in the history of Mexico that "the Congress has been hijacked," PRD leader Porfirio Muñoz Ledo angrily reported. Even the dictator Victoriano Huerta only dissolved the Congress in 1913—never did he militarily occupy it. He denounced the move as coming out of the school of Chilean dictator Augusto Pinochet.

EIR founder Lyndon LaRouche placed the blame for these developments squarely on the crazy Bush Administration in Washington, and its international synarchist controllers. What Fox did against the institution of the Congress, LaRouche noted, obviously came from north of the border, and will be read that way immediately. The best strategy of Fox and Calderón at this time, would have been to keep things low profile, and just cheat. But now, LaRouche explained, somebody is pushing Mexico beyond the category of baldly lying with impunity. And that "somebody" is the Bush Administration.

Bush is an idiot, LaRouche said. Bush wants blood, and as anyone can see, the man is completely nuts. So don't blame the Mexicans for what's going on. They are being pushed to do it. And they are being pushed by the international financial cartel, the bankers who are controlling the U.S. government. They have a swindle at stake here, and they are determined to break Mexico, as one of the parts of pulling a continent-wide swindle, a looting policy.

These international bankers, LaRouche concluded, are determined to rip off the entire hemisphere, and they want to make a horrible example of Mexico in order to succeed in doing it to the countries south of the Mexican border. That's the strategic motive.



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Website of Andrés Manuel López Obrador

The Next Phase

López Obrador, however, has proved an astute and unpredictable political leader, much to the synarchists' frustration. He has consistently flanked the attempts to provoke a violent confrontation by insisting that his movement is revolutionary, but *non-violent*—in the tradition of Martin Luther King and Mahatma Gandhi. And he has refused to be constrained by lowest-common-denominator organizing, or be boxed into a single-issue focus on vote fraud—which would ensure failure under today's conditions of global economic meltdown.

Instead, he has broadened his organizing focus to the underlying economic issues which have brought millions of people into the streets of Mexico. On Aug. 13, he announced to a mass rally at the Zócalo that his supporters should be prepared to resist for as long as it takes—and it could be “years,” he said—to achieve their goals. He made clear that this new movement which came together to defend the vote, will not disband if that battle is lost, but intends, “here and now,” to bring about the profound transformations that Mexico requires. Positioning his forces so that they remain mobilized, whatever comes next, López Obrador named five goals that the movement must focus on:

“1. We will fight poverty and the monstrous inequality which reigns in our country. Without justice, no one will have guaranteed security and tranquility. Nor will there be social peace. Peace is the fruit of justice.

“2. We will defend the Nation's patrimony. We will not permit national assets to be sold off. We will not permit the privatization, under any modality, of the electrical industry, of oil, of public education, of social security, and of natural resources.

“3. We will uphold the public's right to information. This refers to the attempt to ram through a law strengthening the cartelization of Mexico's mass media.

“4. We will confront corruption and impunity. The government cannot continue to be a committee at the service of a minority. Those who have committed abuses when in power and robbed Mexicans of their patrimony must be punished.”

5. Civic institutions must be cleaned out, he said, because the institutions that are supposed to protect our Constitutional rights have been “hijacked by a cabal.” We are not willing to let tax and treasury policies be applied “solely for the benefit of bankers and influence traffickers.” And we are not willing to allow the Supreme Court “to be at the service of tycoons and to protect white-collar criminals.”

The formal call for the National Democratic Convention, issued two days later, repeated that the movement must meet those five goals, and further stressed the central issue underlying the wrongs suffered in the country: Mexican institutions are not fulfilling their Constitutional obligation to uphold “the general interest.”

The Power of Song

The LaRouche Youth Movement (LYM) in Mexico has been part of the round-the-clock encampments in downtown Mexico City, from the moment they were established one month ago. From their camp at the foot of the Juárez Monument, the LYM organizers have been engaging in non-stop educational work to explain to the masses in the streets the nature of the global economic crisis, and LaRouche's programmatic solutions to it. They have stressed the need for a new classical Renaissance, and publicly debated the concepts needed to bring it about. They have brought public readings of Cervantes's masterpiece *Don Quijote*, and of Plato and Schiller; they engage in street corner pedagogicals on geometry and science; and they *sing*. Their Spanish-language version of the famous U.S. civil rights song, *We Shall Overcome*, is rapidly becoming known in all the camps.

The idea is catching on. On Aug. 20, the López Obrador movement unleashed a new weapon: a chorus of thousands of seniors, who gave their inaugural concert in front of Mexico City's Monument to the Revolution. Directed by one of Mexico's well-known orchestra conductors, and supported by several professional opera singers and students from the National Conservatory, the chorus sang three pieces written with lyrics taken from the writings of Martin Luther King and Mahatma Gandhi. The conservatory students followed with selections including *Va Pensiero*, from Verdi's *Nabucco*, and a duet from Mozart's *Magic Flute*. And lesser quality Mexican *rancheras* were also included in the performance.

The organizer of the event, Jesusa Rodríguez, suggested to the gathered crowd that the movement had just discovered a new instrument of resistance, which will soon show up to sing in such “very interesting places” as, perhaps, in front of the tanks now deployed outside the Mexican Congress.

How will Bush and his synarchists controllers respond to that?