

quality are such that we have created a very explosive political arrangement.”

On embassy take-overs. “State terrorism leads to popular terrorism, and there is a kind of unspoken conspiracy between these two elements in the modern political world...So before one becomes too one-sided in condemning those who carry out embassy seizures on behalf of positive goals, I think one has to understand that the whole basis of political life in many of these countries is associated with terrorism.”

On Mexico. “I think that any kind of dramatic transformation of the reality of a country like Mexico arouses all kinds of fears...I think big technology can be very threatening to the patterns of existence that are prevalent, particularly in the rural countryside. One sees the effects among Indian communities as most extreme. Iran is very helpful as an experience because there all this modernization that was supposed to be so good for people was experienced by them as a terribly corrupting and degrading encounter with what a modern world has to offer...”

On his Mexican co-thinkers. “I believe the two Mexican thinkers most congenial to my views are Carlos Fuentes and Octavio Paz.”

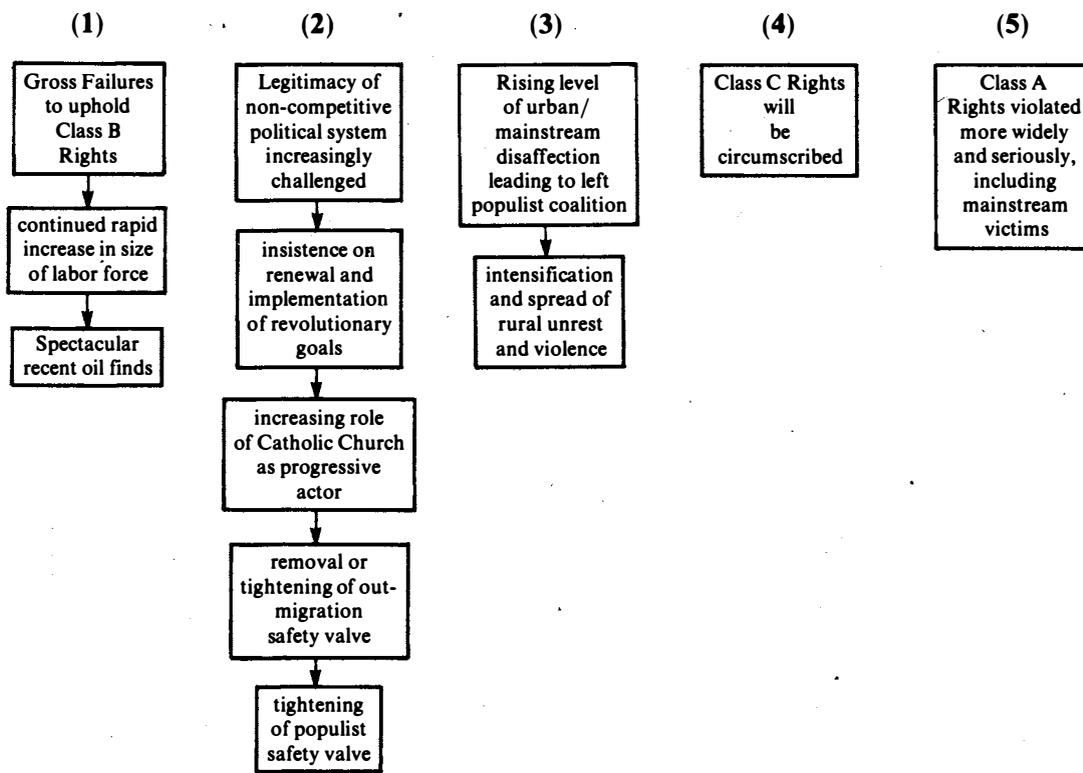
Clark: ‘Mexico reminds me of Iran under the Shah’

In a recent interview with a Mexican journalist, the man who led “human rights” marches down the streets of Teheran in January 1979, explains why he is turning his attention to Mexico and why Mexico must, in his view, turn back from modernization and industrialization.

Q: What’s your thinking on Mexico’s future?

A: The first thing that comes to my mind in thinking about Iran...er, I mean Mexico... is the example of Iran. Iran is the perfect case study on how oil revenues caused a disaster by pushing industrialization and as a result of it, an accelerated process of urbanization that led to terrible suffering for the population. It was a copy of an alien model. So it is clear for me that Mexico has to be very careful about her oil and must foster conservation.

Projected political model of human rights observance and violation in Mexico



I think Mexico is facing a very dangerous conjuncture. What has to be questioned is the desirability of industrial expansion, especially in a country with the cultural tradition of Mexico. I love the country myself. I spent my honeymoon in the Isthmus of Tehuantepec, I know all the back towns of Oaxaca. Mexican Indian art I find particularly attractive.

If you build a significant industrial plant, you create an enormous need for energy. Mexico's oil supply could only last for say 40 years, and after that what could you do? Think about the Shah fantasizing about nuclear energy. It was only a fantasy because there was no national reality for nuclear energy in Iran. It was economic planning based on a foreign model, and was denounced by my good friend Bani-Sadr for over 20 years as an economist.

Mexico should learn the lessons of Iran, although I imagine the Mexican government wouldn't depict itself as similar with the Shah's regime, because it allegedly doesn't violate human rights so blatantly. But the Mexican government is in fact highly aristocratic. And once you have that, and once you add rapid urbanization, popular resentment and chaos begin, and you have a revolution.

Falk's "human rights" assault plan

This chart, contained in an unpublished paper by Richard Falk, entitled Human Rights in Brazil and Mexico, is a glaring example of the way the CFR undertakes destabilization scenarios. Class A rights, in Falk's lexicon, are those "gross violations pertaining to Dignity of Persons and Groups"; Class B, refers to "Gross Failures to satisfy Basic Human Needs of Person and Groups" (economic rights); Class C, "Gross denials of participation in Economic, Social, Cultural, and Political Domain."

Column 1 describes the basic ingredients—according to Falk—that will lead the Mexican government to be a major Class A, Class B and Class C human rights violator during the next decade. Notice the mention of Mexico's "spectacular recent oil finds." Column 2 identifies the major elements now being used by the CFR to destabilize Mexico: The first box recommends a massive attack against the "Presidentialist" Mexican political system, of the sort discussed at the recent PEN International conference and which has proliferated in all of Mexico's "opposition" magazines. The third box "predicts" the increasing role of the Jesuit "Theology of Liberation" variety of manipulation.

A national plan

Steel sets the pace for Mexico's industrial growth

The Feb. 12 announcement that Mexico was going ahead with the construction of Phase II of Las Truchas, the giant West Coast steel complex also known as SICARTSA (Siderurgica Lazaro Cardenas, S.A.), marks an important step toward the implementation of the now year-old National Industrial Development Plan (PNDI).

This Plan, a groundbreaking planning effort designed to chart priority investment strategies for Mexico's anticipated oil revenue boom, provides for heavy incentives for a capital-intensive industrialization strategy. Two forms of incentives exist under the PNDI. First, incentives are placed on investment according to production line. The prime beneficiaries here are electricity and other infrastructure, steel, capital goods and agro-industry.

The other scale arranges incentives according to geographical location. In order to decentralize Mexican industry out of its present four highland strongholds (Mexico City, Puebla, Monterrey, and Guadalajara), and increase trade prospects, the PNDI established a priority development classification of "I-A" for four giant industrial port complexes. These four I-A zones—Lazaro Cardenas and Salina Cruz on the Pacific side, and Tampico and Coatzacoalcos on the Gulf—are granted extraordinary development advantages, including energy discounts of up to 30 percent in certain production lines.

The just announced SICARTSA Phase II expansion, long on the drawing boards but stalled through anti-industry pressures from the International Monetary Fund, is rated at the top of both incentive scales in the planning revisions kicked off by the promulgation of the PNDI in March, 1979. An additional plus in its favor, which helped shape the Mexican government's final decision, is its inclusion of determined Japanese co-investment partners.

Steel projections before and after the PNDI

With the initiation of Phase II of SICARTSA, the growth of the steel sector remains close to the ambitious targets mandated by the PNDI.