

Dateline Mexico by Josefina Menéndez

Behind the McDonald caper

An open assassination threat endorsed by certain U.S. congressmen is only the beginning of the tale.

On Oct. 1, 1982 as President López Portillo addressed the United Nations, the *New York Times* hit the world's newsstands with a two-page paid political broadside against the Mexican government, taken out by Rep. Larry McDonald, Democrat of Georgia.

It was not the first time McDonald warned that Mexico is going communist and that the United States must take energetic measures to prevent this. The John Bircher congressman first issued the call to battle in 1976 and has taken out at least three similar ads over the past two years.

President López Portillo, asked to comment on the McDonald outburst at a press conference Oct. 6, stated that "for reasons of mental hygiene . . . I did not read it. I did not think that U.S. officials were capable of slandering us publicly. All I can say is that these are cyclical statements of certain sectors of opinion which are capable of intervening [in other countries]. . . . This bothers me, I am deeply indignant."

The President continued: "I believe we have the legitimate right to defend ourselves and to investigate what are their links to equivalent forces inside [Mexico]. Approximately six years ago we made a few inquiries and established a connection between the U.S. legislators and certain national pressure groups."

One of the things that may have gotten 34 other Congressmen to sign McDonald's letter to President Reagan was an accompanying statement by Rep. Ron Paul (R-Tex.) attacking

the U.S. Federal Reserve for bailing out banks with heavy loans to the Third World, an action which boosts inflation inside the United States.

Ironically, López Portillo has repeatedly emphasized how a return of Mexico's flight capital, combined with debt rescheduling and new credits for trade, puts Mexico and Mexico's overextended creditors back on their feet—without a penny coming out of the pockets of the American taxpayer.

Most important, the ad includes a direct assassination threat against some of the highest officials of Mexico. Initially overlooked here, this aspect is now under intense investigation.

McDonald reproduces a 2,500-word indictment of the López Portillo administration written by unnamed elements in Mexico, who charge that both López Portillo and former President Luís Echeverría are part of a "Communist Mafia" which has almost consolidated control of the country.

PRI party President Pedro Ojeda Paullada, Bank of Mexico Director Carlos Tello Macías, Industry Minister José Andrés de Oteyza, and Mexican Ambassador to the U.N., Porfirio Muñoz Ledo, are part of the same "socialist sect."

This communist Mafia, the statement concludes, "should be eliminated at the earliest opportunity."

There are indications the ad is part of a much broader propaganda effort to portray Mexico as a "Cuban satellite" which poses a grave threat to the United States. The ad was reprinted in the *Diario de las Americas* of Miami,

the most important press of the Cuban exile community and a defender of anti-Castro Cuban terror.

Reports surfaced here Oct. 6 that the Cuban exile terrorist group, Alpha 66, has set up camps in California to train Mexicans who are then to return to Mexico to rid the country of "Communist subversion."

Perhaps most worthy of investigation is the "dirty tricks" intelligence outfit set up thirteen years ago by McDonald in Washington and Munich, called the Western Goals Foundation. McDonald is president and chairman. The advisory board includes Roy Cohn, the mob-linked New York City lawyer, who is tied to the Permindex assassination bureau, and currently case officer for Henry Kissinger in Kissinger's assassination efforts against Lyndon and Helga LaRouche; and Gen. Jack Singlaub, U.S. director of the World Anti-Communist League (WACL), the coordinating group for death-squad activity throughout the Ibero-American continent. Singlaub maintains liaison with Guatemalan forces involved in heating up Mexico's border from the south.

McDonald and Singlaub share membership in a cult known as the "Fourth" or "Russian" Order of St. John of Jerusalem. Also a member: Houston-based John Wilkenson de Battenberg, veteran of 30 years of dirty operations against governments throughout Ibero-America, including Mexico.

Singlaub, along with journalists and celebrities from around the world, is currently in Korea, attending a cult session of WACL's great patron, Rev. Sun Myung Moon. The new Moonie paper, the *Washington Times*, editorialized Sept. 25 that the United States must sponsor a military coup against the Mexican republican institutions at the earliest possible moment.