

Dateline Mexico by Josefina Menéndez

PAN leader jailed for vote fraud

Rosas Moreno, the first choice of the U.S. State Department and FBI, will campaign for governor of Sonora from his cell.

After several months of deliberations, the state supreme court of the state of Sonora in northern Mexico sentenced Adalberto Rosas Moreno, National Action Party (PAN) leader and former mayor of Ciudad Obregón, to two years and nine months of jail for "abuse of authority and withholding of official evidence."

Rosas Moreno better known as the "Pelón Rosas" ("Baldy"), is one of the most public enemies of the Mexican Labor Party (PLM), which is led by collaborators of Lyndon LaRouche in Mexico. Rosas' candidacy for governor of Sonora in 1985 was intended by the insurrectionary PAN as the spearhead of a national power grab. Rosas Moreno was at a secret 1982 meeting at the U.S. consulate in Hermosillo, Sonora, where U.S. State Department and FBI officials conspired to aid the PAN. He has been active in leading destabilization operations against federal and state governments, even threatening to "generate violence if the PAN is not recognized as a political victor."

With the supreme court's political decision, Rosas is constitutionally barred from going on with his destabilization campaign. Rosas, a scion of powerful oligarchical families and instigator of the Nazi-communist alliance against the government, had been on a "populist-jogging" campaign running (literally) around the state seeking political support.

The present case stems from the 1982 mayoral elections. Then-mayor Rosas Moreno deliberately withheld the ballots and evidence and awarded

the victory to a fellow PAN member. The state supreme court declared the vote illegal and brought charges against Rosas Moreno.

The Mexican Labor Party has been the only party denouncing Rosas' campaign and the PAN's links to dope-running and terrorism in Sonora. The PLM national leadership gave state officials a complete dossier on PAN illegal activities two years ago.

But Rosas Moreno thinks that he can turn the decision into a political victory. Sentenced either to pay a ludicrous fine of 1,500 pesos (around \$10) or spend almost three years in jail, he opted not to pay, boasting, "Being in jail is no problem for me; from there I will still fight to win the PAN candidacy for state governor in the next elections."

The idea of playing Rosas Moreno as a political martyr, blackmailing political officials and even the president, was made clear in statements by PAN's general secretary just a few hours after the news got out. Bernardo Batiz said: "If we don't win the protection of federal justice, definitively, Rosas will lose his right to officially file as a candidate. But with or without the registration he will be the PAN's Sonora candidate."

On April 13, Mexican President Miguel de la Madrid got a taste of the Hitlerian tactics by which the PAN intends to implement that law-defying threat. In Sonora for a political meeting, the president was greeted by a hysterical mob of a thousand pots-and-pans-wielding men and housewives, crying for "justice, justice." Rosas'

wife, owner of the biggest supermarket in the state, published an open letter to Mrs. de la Madrid pleading for clemency.

Helping their publicity, the biggest Mexican daily *Excelsior* reported April 18 on its front page that PAN leaders and their women's auxiliary, the Feminine Association of National Action, sent two letters to President Miguel de la Madrid denouncing the "political repression that exists in Sonora." They tried to blackmail the Mexican president saying that "Your words, Mr. President, haven't found an echo here."

The letter goes on to viciously attack the governor of Sonora, Samuel Ocana, for "stamping on citizens' democracy," in prosecuting Rosas Moreno for his crimes, and that he "moves against every group that puts forward ideas different from his own."

Following up Rosas' promise to "campaign" from jail, the PAN made clear in the letters, that they are collecting citizens' signatures on a letter that reads: "I disagree with Governor Ocana's policies against Adalberto Rosas Moreno."

In reality what the PAN is trying to do is organize a fascist movement from the Sonorans who are suffering from the economic crisis, mainly the middle and upper classes accustomed to the "American standard of living," and wreck governor Ocana's ideas to beat the depression by building great projects like the PHLINO project (Hydraulic Plan).

But Pelón Rosas is so discredited even within this layer that most of his one-time followers are saying that Pelón has gone too far, and he is just heading for an open confrontation. Sources in the state assure me that this time Pelón Rosas is going to lose because of lack of support, even from the PAN membership.