

# LA BATALLA DEL 5 DE MAYO

El Cinco de Mayo de 1862, México comprobó a Francia y al mundo entero, ser digno de ser libre y contar con los recursos suficientes para defender la nacionalidad e independencia.

Esa fecha quedó como un símbolo de las luchas por la libertad, cuando Ignacio Zaragoza dijo a sus valientes: "Nuestros enemigos son los primeros soldados del mundo, pero vosotros sois los primeros hijos de México y os quieren arrebatar vuestra patria. Soldados: leo en vuestra frente la victoria".

Hoy vais a pelear por un objeto sagrado, vais a pelear por la Patria, y yo me prometo que en la presente jornada la conquistaréis un día de gloria".

Los antecedentes de este momento crucial de la guerra de intervención francesa se remontan a inicio de la expansión imperialista de Napoleón III, quien buscaba establecer en México un dominio territorial para obtener materias primas y controlar los mercados.

El Bonaparte pequeño justificaba su empresa mexicana, alegando que se proponía establecer en la frontera sur de los Estados Unidos una monarquía fuerte, como barrera a la expansión futura de dicho país, barrera de latinos, contra los sajones.

En realidad lo que mas interesaba eran las minas mexicanas, la posible apertura de un canal en el istmo de Tehuantepec, la colocación de empréstitos que dejaran jugosos intereses y entre otras, la idea de convertir a México en un gran productor de algodón para los telares franceses.

Francia, con España e Inglaterra firmó la triple alianza, para cobrar adeudos que México tenía con esas naciones y ante el decreto de suspensión de pagos de Benito Juárez en 1861 tal situación hizo crisis, decidiendo cobrar al gobierno mexicano por medio de las armas.

En una excelente batalla diplomática, Juárez y sus ministros lograron que Inglaterra y España negociaran y retiraran sus tropas de invasión, pero Francia, violó los tratados de La Soledad e inició las hostilidades el 9 de Abril de 1862.

Benito Juárez dispuesto a responder con la fuerza a la agresión de Francia, decretó la Ley Marcial y el estado de sitio en todos los lugares ocupados por el invasor, organizó la defensa por medio de

guerrillas y para evitar que los extranjeros obtuvieran viveres ordenó una política de tierra calcinada.

Como jefe supremo de las fuerzas mexicanas fue nombrado un joven general: Ignacio Zaragoza, quien ordenó que todos los varones de 20 a 60 años tomaran obligatoriamente las armas contra los franceses.

El Presidente Juárez dijo a su pueblo: "Tengamos fe en la justicia de nuestra causa, tengamos fe en nuestros propios esfuerzos y unidos salvaremos la independencia de México, haciendo triunfar, no sólo a nuestra patria, sino a los principios de respeto y de inviolabilidad a la soberanía de las naciones.

Lo que buscaba para México el patricio, era además de una victoria militar, un triunfo político, para demostrar al mundo que en el país existía un gobierno constituido fuertemente apoyado por el pueblo y capaz de enfrentarse a la primera potencia de la época.

Zaragoza fortificó febrilmente la ciudad de Puebla, en donde acordó resistir después de la batalla a las cumbres de Acultzingo, donde sufrieron un revés las fuerzas mexicanas, cinco mil hombres esperaban el ataque de siete mil franceses al mando de Lorencez.

El Cinco de Mayo de 1862, a las 12 del día, se rompió el fuego de cañones por ambas partes. Los franceses arrojaron miles de granadas sobre los cerros de Loreto y Guadalupe, fortificados por Zaragoza. Atacaron con mas de cuatro mil hombres durante tres horas.

Los soldados del primer ejército del mundo llegaron hasta los fosos de Guadalupe y estuvieron a punto de tomar la posición, pero fueron rechazados tres veces por los aguerridos mexicanos, quienes los hicieron huir a las cuatro de la tarde en completa retirada.

Los franceses tuvieron en su ataque unos 700 muertos y heridos, según parte del cuartel general mexicano: llevaron una lección muy severa; pero en obsequio de la verdad se batieron como bravos muriendo gran parte de ellos en los fosos de las trincheras de Guadalupe.

A las cinco de la tarde de ese Cinco de Mayo, Ignacio Zaragoza envió un telegrama al ministro de



## VIVA EL 5 DE MAYO

guerra:

"Las armas nacionales se han cubierto de gloria, puedo afirmar con orgullo que ni un sólo momento volvió la espalda al enemigo el ejército mexicano, durante la larga lucha que sostuvo".

El General Felipe Berriozabal,

uno de los héroes de la jornada hizo notar que el gran triunfo de la Armada Mexicana, fue en el aniversario de la muerte de Napoleón Primero y que esa batalla honrará siempre a México, sean cuales fueren los sucesos posteriores.

## Cinco de Mayo Activities

Special events are bountiful in Lubbock and West Texas this week with activities commemorating the 5 de Mayo celebration.

Included in the events is everything from softball tournaments to concerts featuring some of Texas' best entertainers. The following is a list of events.

**May Fest. - Being held at the South Plains Fairgrounds lasting today until Sunday May 7th. Free Tejano Concerts everyday.**

**Majic 93.7 Backyard Bash** features top name groups in the Tejano music industry. (See ad for details.)

**Cinco de Mayo Softball Tournament is happening at Lubbock Berl Huffman Park. Teams from throughout West Texas will be competing for awards. Admission free.**

## Tornado Victims Memorial

The American G.I. Forum will be having a memorial service on May 11 in honor of all the victims of the May 11, 1970 tornado. Relatives and friends are invited and encouraged to attend. Services will be at the Ave Q and Broadway site at 6 p.m.

"El Respeto al Derecho Ajeno es La Paz."  
"Respect for the Rights of Others Is Peace"  
Lic. Benito Juárez

# EL EDITOR

Vol XXIII No. 32

Week of May 4 thru May 10, 2000

Lubbock, Tx,

## THE FIFTH OF MAY

Por Raul L. Contreras

A great deal of blood drenched Mexico's soil to uphold a political principle of the United States of America on the 5th of May, Cinco de Mayo, 1862, and none of it was American. It was mostly French, and it was the first defeat of the French Army in 50 years.

The victors? Mexicans armed with half-century old rifles; and, Mexicans armed with machetes. Mexicans who had thrown out their Spanish masters forty years before in a decade-long War of Independence.

The beneficiaries? Mexican self-determination; Latin American self-determination; and American pride, dignity and position in world affairs. When American Secretary of State James Monroe bravely proclaimed that European powers could not reimpose their monarchical or other systems on any country in the Americas, neither he nor the thirty-year-old United States could do anything to back up his "MONROE DOCTRINE".

Nevertheless, the Doctrine was respected by European powers until Communists took over Cuba in 1959, with one glaring exception, the 1862 French invasion of Mexico.

More beneficiaries? Abraham Lincoln and his struggle to keep the Union whole as the great Mexican victory prevented European royalty from flooding the American Civil War with munitions for the Confederacy. And, American soldiers who swiftly made their way to Mexico when the Confederacy had been defeated to join the Mexican Army; as well as every American who savors freedom today.

Freedom won, in part, by Mexican teenaged soldiers in the mountains 100 miles east of Mexico City 138 years ago on the 5th of May, Cinco de Mayo.

Cinco de Mayo does not celebrate Mexican Independence Day; it commemorates the Battle of Puebla between 6,000 French soldiers and 2,000 Mexican allies and 4,850 Mexican soldiers under the command of Texas-born General Ignacio Zaragoza.

Following the same route Spaniard Hernando Cortes took in 1519 from the Gulf of Mexico towards Mexico City and American General Winfield Scott took in the Mexican American War in 1848, French General Charles Ferdinand Latrille, Count of Lorencez, marched his soldiers into the Mexican mountains hoping to engage the Mexican soldiers of President Benito Juárez in one decisive battle. He did and he lost.

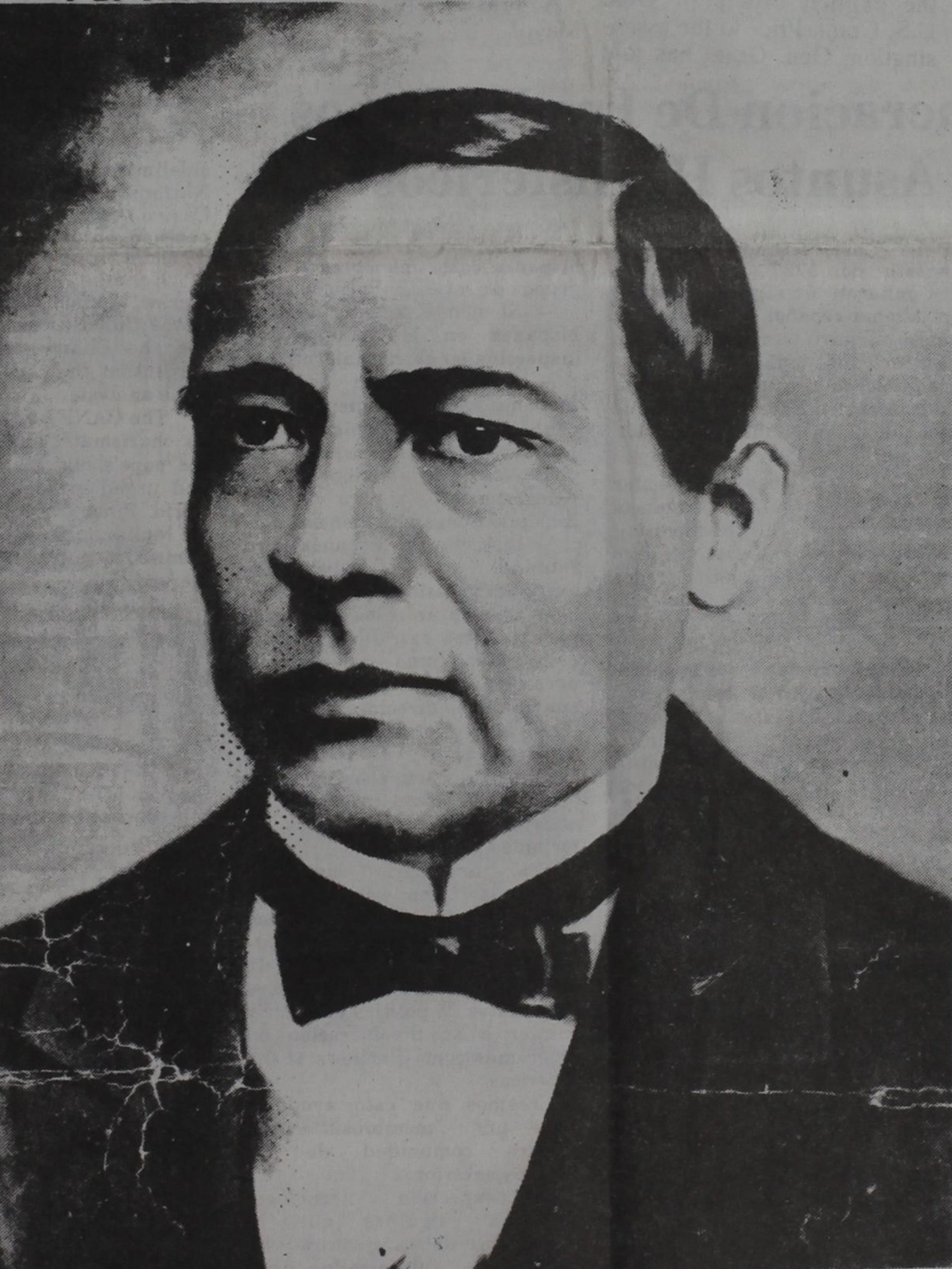
On the 4th of May, General Zaragoza ordered Colonel Porfirio Díaz, later Mexico's President and dictator for thirty years, to take his cavalry several miles away from the city of Puebla to be used as a battle reserve.

The Count divided his forces and sent one column to chase Díaz's cavalry and his main column to attack two forts guarding the city of Puebla. The evening of May 4th was used by both sides to prepare for battle.

Confessions were heard, letters written, rifles cleaned and prayers uttered by Mexican citizen-soldiers who knew the army they faced hadn't lost a battle since Waterloo, fifty years before. The

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# FREEDOM IS NEVER FREE



## BENITO JUAREZ

**CINCO DE MAYO** se ha convertido en un grito de guerra. Conmemora el valor de un puñado de gente que pagó un precio alto por su victoria en el pueblecito de Puebla, Méjico en 1862. Es el sacrificio sostenido por todos los méjico-americanos que han peleado en cada batalla desde la Primera Guerra Mundial hasta la Tormenta del Desierto. La libertad nunca se consigue de forma gratuita. Requiere la valentía y el sacrificio de gente dispuesta a pagar el precio máximo para mantener nuestro mundo libre y seguro.

Felicidades de Parte de  
*El Editor Newspapers*

## News Briefs

### Latinos Value College Education More Than Whites

Philadelphia, - According to one survey, almost two-thirds of Latino parents with high school-age youth say a college education is the most important ingredient to a young person's success.

The report, conducted by a non-profit group called Public Agenda, found that the general public now sees a college education "has replaced the high school diploma as the gateway to the middle class." The general public also acknowledged that poorer people "have a tougher time" getting a college education.

According to the group's findings, 65 percent of Hispanic parents say a college education is the most important ingredient to a child's success, compared to 44 percent of African American parents and 32 percent of white parents.

This, of course, suggests that Latino and African American parents --two groups whose children do not attend college in levels comparable to whites-- value a college education more than whites.

Also this result, Public Agenda argues, "conclusively eliminates" the notion that a reason why Latinos and African Americans do not go to college in higher rates is that minority parents simply do not value education as much as whites.

This survey is the result of 1,015 telephone interviews, 202 of which were from Latino parents, using a random selection of households. The survey had a three percent margin of error.

### Tito Puente in Stable Condition After Heart Trouble

Philadelphia, - Tito Puente, the "King of Latin Music" remains in a hospital in San Juan, Puerto Rico, after experiencing an atrial fibrillation of his heart Saturday.

Puente was scheduled that night to perform at the Centro de Bellas Artes in Santurce along with the Puerto Rico Symphony Orquesta, when during rehearsal he complained of having problems breathing.

Cardiologist Miguel Campos said in a press conference that his prognosis is "excellent" and that he expects a full recovery in a few days. Meanwhile, Puente will stay in the hospital for evaluation.

The 77-year-old Puente, who still maintains a rigorous touring schedule, was named just last week a

"Living Legend" as part of the U.S. Library of Congress' Bicentennial celebration. Other recipients of this award included Gen. Colin Powell, Gloria Steinem, Harry Belafonte and Barbra Streisand.

En Nueva Dia (Puerto Rico) contributed to this report

### Navy Ships Steam Toward P.R.

Washington, - U.S. government officials confirmed Friday evening reports that two Navy ships had left the coast of North Carolina with a contingent of approximately 1,000 Marines in anticipation of an FBI-led operation to remove protesters on the Puerto Rican island of Vieques.

The amphibious warships USS Bataan and USS Nashville had left their home port of Norfolk, Va on Thursday before picking up the Marines in Morehead City, N.C. They are expected to be in the vicinity of Vieques by Sunday.

The Justice Department, which is planning the removal with the FBI and the Coast Guard, has said that that no military forces are to be used in the removal operation and that Puerto Rican police would provide crowd control. However one government official who spoke to the Associated Press on the condition that he not be identified, said the Marines would be brought in to secure the perimeter of the bombing range after the protesters were removed.

Navy officials had no comment on the military operation, which could happen as early as Monday. Neither did Gov. Pedro Rossello, whose January deal with the U.S. government would resume the Navy's military operations for an extra \$40 million in aid to Vieques.

"Ask the Navy," Rosello told reporters in San Juan who repeated questions about the raid.

Protesters, some of whom have been camped on the island for nearly a year, said that they weren't afraid.

"A thousand Marines is nothing. They could put 10,000 Marines in there and they wouldn't stop the protests. They can't stop it," 73-year-old Korean war veteran Pablo Hernandez told the AP.

"If they take out 100 people, 200 people will come: If they take out 200, 500 will come," said protester Luis Acevedo. "They're not going to have enough room in the prisons for all the people."

Asked about the possibility of a violent confrontation with the protesters, White House Press Secretary Joe Lockhart would say only that the government expects Puerto Rico to live up to its agreement to allow the Navy to resume using the range.

"We have reached an agreement, now sometime ago, and I'm just not going to speculate on, you know, any law enforcement aspect of it," Lockhart said.

Although defiant, Vieques Mayor Mruela Santiago urged protesters to avoid violence and not to resist arrest.

"I don't want anybody in Vieques to receive any injury or blow from resisting the forces that are going to dislodge them," said in an interview with WAPA radio.





# Gloria a Los Heroes De la Batalla de Puebla

By Raoul Lowery Contreras  
In the final scenes of "Born in East L.A.," Cheech Marin's hit movie, he and his girlfriend climb up through a Los Angeles street manhole into a Cino de Mayo parade. Bewildered, she asks, "What's the parade?" He replies, "It's for Cinco de Mayo." She asks, "What's Cinco de Mayo?" He shrugs, "I don't know, but we have a parade for it every year."

On the 5th of May, 1862, from dawn until dark, 4,850 ill-equipped untrained teen-aged Mexican soldiers thrashed 6,000 invading French soldiers and 2,000 battle-tested Mexican reactionary allies. Only 250 casualties were suffered by the Mexicans in contrast to one-eighth of French forces killed or wounded. French conquest of Mexico was stopped cold in the mountains east of Mexico City. French dreams of empire would have to wait.

This Battle of Puebla on the 5th of May, Cinco de Mayo, 1862, is a tiny footnote in world history: Nevertheless, it is commemorated by 90 million Mexicans, 16 and a half million Mexican Americans and millions of our friends and neighbors throughout the United States. Why? It is not Mexican Independence Day.

There are a number of reasons, most symbolic. Napoleon III's invasion of Mexico was a direct violation of United States policy, the anti-European Monroe Doctrine. Busy with Civil War, President Abraham Lincoln pledged his support to Mexico's first Indian president, Benito Juarez, imposed an arms embargo on Mexico, then allowed Juarez's agents to buy guns. Buoyed by Lincoln's support and help, the Mexicans fought with every

resource available. Lincoln needed a Mexico free of French domination, fearing unlimited arms shipments through a royal Mexico into Texas to the Confederacy from a sympathetic Napoleon III.

By defeating the French on Cinco De Mayo, Mexico handed Lincoln a year's delay in



Primeros combates entre mexicanos y franceses, cerca de Orizaba

French aid to the Confederacy through Mexico. During that year (May 1862 through April 1863), many key Civil War battles were fought on Southern territory, with Confederate victories in most of them.

Nevertheless, when the South tried to break out of its own territory, the Union forces defeated and contained it. The Confederacy was effectively defeated at Gettysburg in 1863, thus preserving the Union.

The United States, therefore, owes an incalculable debt of gratitude to the 4,850 Mexican soldiers at Puebla.

The French won the second Battle of Puebla in 1863 and then occupied Mexico City. But the year was lost. And Americans noticed Mexican victory on Cinco De Mayo and headed to Mexico to join the fight.

Taking advantage of American sympathies, Juarez's decree of Aug. 11, 1864, offered foreign volunteers regular

Mexican army pay (10 pesos a month) and land, with no necessity of Mexican citizenship. Many Americans responded and went to Mexico -- a few to the French -- most to Juarez. The American Legion of Honor was formed by Americans with their own officers and colors. U.S. involvement accelerated

President Lincoln that he did not consider the Civil War completely terminated while the French remained in Mexico. Side by side with Mexicans, Americans fought the French and earned the right to be -- and were -- present at the final defeat on the French puppet, Emperor Maximilian. In fact, Maximilian surrendered to the American unit's commander, Col. George Green. As a unit, they marched in Juarez's Mexico City victory parade on July 8, 1867. The long, bloody war was over.

Nineteenth-century Americans fought in the Mexican army against the French; to pay us back, 20th-century Mexicans walked across the border after Pearl Harbor to join in the fight against Japan and Germany.

Example: A couple of years ago, a prominent Mexican businessman died peacefully in his sleep in Tijuana. Among his effects, his son found a locked trunk in which was carefully packed a United States Army paratrooper uniform (101st Airborne) and several medals for bravery, including a Silver Star heroically earned in 1944's Battle of the Bulge, Hitler's final frenzy.

What was a Mexican teen-age volunteer doing in Belgium's Ardennes Forest, fighting in an American uniform in one of the most glorious battles in American history?

MR. LINCOLN, WE ARE HERE!

The struggle for freedom by Americans and Mexicans knows no border, and that, Cheech Marin, is why we celebrate Cinco. Next time someone asks what a Cinco de Mayo parade is for, tell them. A toast! Viva Cinco de Mayo!

with the Confederate defeat and Lincoln's assassination. At the urging of Gen. U.S. Grant, new President Andrew Johnson sent Gen. Phillip Sheridan and 100,000 troops, including 25,000 "colored" to the Texas border "to protect American interests."

Dashing back and forth across the Rio Grande under the watchful eyes of battle-hardened American soldiers, Mexican guerrillas harassed French and reactionary troops. Openly, Sheridan "condemned" rifles, artillery and military supplies and ordered them left unguarded in wagons on the border.

Many Frenchmen died, killed with "condemned" American rifles and bullets. Many more died at the hands of mustered out American combat veterans who were allowed to buy their rifles and ammunition for \$6 at the explicit orders of Gen. U.S. Grant. Prior to the assassination, Gen. Grant has told

## QUICK IMPROVEMENT IN CUBA-US TIES APPEARS UNLIKELY

By Jim Lobe

WASHINGTON, - Despite strong public support for returning Elian Gonzalez, the six-year-old Cuban boy who survived the shipwreck that killed his mother, to his father, few analysts here believe that a quick improvement in US-Cuban ties is in the offing.

And while the hard-line Cuban-American exile community, which wanted Elian to remain with the family of his great-uncle, Lazaro Gonzalez, in Miami, appears more isolated than at any time since the aborted Bay of Pigs invasion almost 40 years ago, its ability to prevent a major rapprochement between Washington and Havana remains formidable.

"While they've discredited themselves with the larger public and centrist forces here," says Geoffrey Thale, a Cuba analyst at the Washington Office on Latin America (WOLA), a human rights group, "the fact is they retain influence with key people in Congress." Of these, the most important are Republicans, particularly House Speaker Dennis Hastert and the Majority Whip, Tom DeLay.

Thale and other analysts believe that the dramatic custody battle over Elian could modestly accelerate an ongoing process toward the eventual normalization of relations between the United States and Cuba. But that process, which received a most important boost with Pope John Paul II's visit to the island two years ago, will take more time, they say.

"Before Elian arrived, there was already a shift in public opinion, on Cuba policy," says Julia Sweig, a Cuba expert at the influential Council on Foreign Relations (CFR). "Elian will accelerate that to a certain extent, but it will take a while before it comes out in a major policy change."

Sweig, who expects President Bill Clinton to ease restrictions on travel and the shipment of money and goods to Cuba as early as this summer as part of a pre-existing policy to promote people-to-people contacts and family re-unification, adds that any major new steps toward normalization will probably have to wait at least for the inauguration of a new president next year.

But even that is unlikely, given the positions on Elian's fate taken by both major presidential candidates. Vice President Al Gore broke with the administration on the issue by echoing Texas Governor George W. Bush's demand that Elian's case be settled by a family court in Florida, rather than by the Justice Department's Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS).

"Every single one of the (presidential) candidates had a position that was equal to or to the right of [Lazaro's] family," according to Richard Nuccio, who handled Cuba on Clinton's National Security Council in the mid-1990s.

In part, that is because it is an election year, and Cuban-Americans, who have generally voted as a bloc, is considered a swing constituency in two key swing states: Florida and New Jersey. Neither party is eager to alienate them.

Nuccio agrees, however, that the influence of hard-line anti-Castro forces here was already on the wane before Elian was found drifting on an inner tube in the Caribbean last November and taken to Miami. "I think they may continue to win some battles, but they're losing the war, the war being their ability to block some sort of constructive engagement policy toward Cuba," he says.

That was shown most dramatically last year when the Senate voted 70-28 to exempt sales of food and medicine from the 40-year-old trade embargo against Castro's government.

The bill was backed by an unprecedented coalition of the food, exporters, other big business interests, led by the US Chamber of Commerce, church organizations, including the Catholic Bishops' Conference, a formidable political force in its own right, and smaller groups which have long favored normalizing ties with Havana. The Clinton administration, which has always been reluctant to antagonize the Cuban-American community, remained studiously neutral.

The Republican leadership in the House of Representatives sidelined the measure after furious lobbying by the Cuban American National Foundation (CANF), by far the strongest of the anti-Castro exile groups. Despite the public's rejection of CANF's position on Elian, the same fate is expected to befall a similar measure this year, according to Congressional aides.

Nonetheless, the margin by which the Senate passed the bill marked a major defeat for the CANF and other hard-line elements in the Cuban-American community, and they may have intended to use the Elian case as a way of recovering from the growing perception that their political clout had diminished, according to some analysts.

The CANF has been weakened primarily by the death in 1997 of its charismatic founder, Jorge Mas Canosa. That was followed by the pope's historic visit during which he condemned the embargo and urged greater contact between Cubans and the rest of the world. Since then, travel to the island by prominent citizens, such as Muhammad Ali and even the head of the US Chamber of Commerce and the Republican governor of Illinois, has increased markedly.

"I think the hard-liners saw Elian as a human symbol to mobilize public sentiment once again against the Cuban dictatorship," says Thale. "But, if anything, it backfired. They were portrayed by the media as taking extreme and unrealistic positions on what most people saw as a very straightforward proposition of reuniting a son with his father."

The CANF played a major role in Elian's custody fight, virtually from the moment he was transferred by the INS to Lazaro's custody five months ago. It has reportedly bankrolled Lazaro's legal representation throughout the case, as well as the trip here this week of Lazaro, his family and friends in their so far unsuccessful quest to visit Elian, who was taken from his house by armed INS agents and US marshals early Saturday morning, to be reunited here with his father, Juan Miguel.

Lazaro and his supporters suffered a further setback Thursday when an appeals court rejected their effort to gain visitation rights to Elian and to have a third party appointed as the boy's legal representative. The ruling appeared to support the Justice Department's long-standing position that only Elian's father, Juan Miguel, may speak for him in court.

Juan Miguel, who traveled from Cuba to Washington three weeks ago after gaining assurances from the Justice Department that they would return Elian to his custody, has kept Elian shielded from the media since they were reunited. After several days at a guest facility at Andrews Air Force Base, federal marshals took them to a private estate in eastern Maryland where they have been joined by several of Elian's cousins and friends from Cuba. Juan Miguel has pledged to remain here at least until the appeals court disposes with an asylum claim signed by Elian and submitted by Lazaro's attorneys.

Opinion polls published this week have shown that two-thirds of the public believes that the Justice Department was right in reuniting Elian with his father and taking custody away from Lazaro. A similar percentage said they believe Elian will be better off returning to Cuba than remaining here - a major change from January when the public was split down the middle on that question.

But that still won't translate into swift - as opposed to gradual - US-Cuban rapprochement, according to Nuccio. "Those who count them out are doing a lot of wishful thinking," he says. "The Cuban-American leadership has excelled at grassroots and Congressional politics, and there is absolutely no one at this point on the other side of issue that is capable of doing the kind of work they do."

"We may go through a waiting period of sorts in which the old [hard-line] forces [against engagement] can't win the day, but no new ones can either."

**El Editor Newspapers**  
is a weekly bilingual published every Thursday by Amigo Publications in Lubbock, Texas, 1502 Ave. M, 79401. Tel. 806-763-3841. Subscribing \$40 per year payable in advance. Opinions and commentaries expressed by guest columnists do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the publisher or of advertisers.  
Editor/Publisher: Bidal Agüero  
Business Manager - Olga Riosjas Agüero  
Subscriptions - Bob Craig - Circulation - Joe Shelby

## Dos Voces Sobre La Involucracion De Los Hispanos Estadunidenses en Los Asuntos Hemisfericos

(Los siguientes son extractos de los discursos emitidos por la Secretaria de Estado Madeleine Albright, y por Frank Gómez, fundador y presidente del Consejo Hispano sobre Relaciones Internacionales (HCIR en inglés), ante diplomáticos y dirigentes hispanos el 26 de abril.

Ambos hablaron en el cuarto banquete anual de galardones a la dirigencia, efectuado en el Salón de las Américas de la Organización de Estados Americanos en Washington, D.C. Gómez presentó a la Secretaria Albright el Galdarón de Dirigencia Internacional de la organización del año 2000. Sus comentarios fueron editados por Camilo Smith-Monteleagre.)

### "No Puedo Decirles Que Estoy Satisfecha"

Por Secretaria de Estado Madeleine Albright.

Espero que esta noche podamos concordar en dos cosas. Primera, los asuntos interamericanos pertenecen al nivel más alto de las prioridades de política exterior de Estados Unidos. Y segunda, los hispanoamericanos deben estar en el nivel más alto de los elaboradores de cursos de acción que fijen esas prioridades.

Como secretaria de estado, he sido privilegiada al trabajar con el ex-embajador Bill Richardson, el secretario auxiliar interino Peter Romero, el embajador Luis Lauro, la secretaria auxiliar adjunta Lula Rodríguez y muchos otros funcionarios superiores de ancestro hispano. Pero no puedo decirles que estoy satisfecha con el grado de representación, porque no lo estoy.

En el Departamento de Estado, nos hallamos en medio de una campaña agresiva de reclutamiento y proyección exterior que está llevándonos en la dirección correcta. El número acertado de nuevos funcionarios y especialistas del servicio exterior con antecedentes hispanos ha aumentado notablemente desde los años anteriores. Pero todavía tenemos mucho trecho por recorrer.

De modo que les digo:

Continúen apremiándonos para hacer más.

El año pasado, cuando presenté mi testimonio anual sobre "el estado del mundo" en el Capitolio, no empecé por Europa y Asia, como es costumbre que lo hagan los secretarios de estado. En vez de eso, comencé por las Américas. Lo hice porque creo que la seguridad, prosperidad y libertad futuras de Estados Unidos dependen de nuestras asociaciones en este hemisferio.

Nos ha animado, por lo tanto, que especialmente durante el decenio anterior, la democracia haya estado en marcha por toda la región. El último golpe militar exitoso en la América Latina tuvo lugar hace dos docenas de años. Todos los gobiernos de las Américas, exceptuando al de Cuba, fueron electos por sus pueblos.

Al mismo tiempo, muchas naciones han trabajado arduamente para devolver al sector privado las empresas de propiedad estatal, reformar sus sistemas reglamentarios y modernizar sus economías. En casi toda la región, los aranceles han disminuido; las inversiones han aumentado; los dictadores se han ido y los demócratas están en el gobierno.

Las relaciones internacionales se componen de hacedores. Y en todo lo que ustedes hagan, espero que me acepten y cuenten conmigo como una aliada.

Las personas de origen hispano merecen su lugar legítimo en la mesa de los que elaboran los cursos de acción de Estados Unidos. Y nuestras asociaciones con nuestras naciones hermanas de las Américas harán mucho para determinar el futuro de Estados Unidos.

### "Procuramos Una Asociacion Sostenida y Duradera"

Por Frank Gómez, presidente del Consejo Hispano sobre Relaciones Internacionales

Señora secretaria, a nosotros, en el Consejo Hispano sobre Relaciones Internacionales, nos gusta mencionar la carta de Thomas Jefferson a su sobrino

Peter Carr, fechada el 10 de agosto de 1787. El escribió: "Confieran una gran atención al idioma español, y esfuércense para adquirir un conocimiento exacto del mismo. Nuestra comunicación futura con España y la América Española hará que ese idioma sea una adquisición valiosa."

Hace dos años, al recibir nuestro Galdarón de Dirigencia Internacional, Bill Richardson, secretario del gabinete, declaró que para el año 2005 Estados Unidos tendrá un comercio mayor con latinoamérica que con Europa y Japón combinados.

Las principales organizaciones hispanas apoyaron sólidamente al Tratado de Libre Comercio. Ellas apoyan su extensión a otras naciones. Y la mayoría apoya a la autoridad de negociación "fast track" y a la propuesta Zona de Libre Comercio de las Américas.

Después del Huracán Mitch, la Liga de Ciudadanos Latinoamericanos Unidos (LULAC, en inglés) despachó cerca de 80 profesionales médicos bilingües a Honduras. Luego del Huracán Georges, los latinos de Nueva York y otras zonas se movilizaron para enviar cientos de miles de dólares en ayuda.

Estas acciones presagian un papel de bienvenida cada vez mayor para los hispanoamericanos en asuntos del hemisferio y en el terreno internacional en general.

Los hispanoamericanos han demostrado habilidades e intereses que pueden contribuir en una medida considerable al adelanto de nuestros objetivos globales de política exterior. Pero procuramos una asociación sostenida y duradera.

Estamos listos para ayudar. Más específicamente, y para fortalecer nuestro papel, daríamos la bienvenida a las medidas siguientes:

-- El uso de la capacidad de proyección al exterior del Departamento de Estado para destacar a los funcionarios hispanos como ejemplos para animar al reclutamiento;

-- El uso de los funcionarios hispanos actuales y jubilados para intensificar el reclutamiento de hispanoamericanos;

**FELICIDADES A TODOS**  
Cinco de Mayo  
EL EDITOR  
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# History of the 5 of May

From Page 1

French prepared for battle as only professionals can, for they knew they hadn't lost a battle since Waterloo and, brimming with professional confidence, they prepared to win.

The rains came. Heavy torrential rains. Then, before dawn, came the Indians, the Indians for whom there were no rifles, only machetes. They also brought their cattle with them, cattle they stampeded through the French troops causing the professional soldiers to scatter, giving Zaragoza time to reposition his cannon and troops.

The Mexicans waited. Dawn came. Onward came the French through the mud, to be slaughtered. Porfirio Diaz and his cavalry, probably some of the best cavalry in the world, attacked the French sent to hunt him down.

When the sun went down, that 5th of May, 1862, almost a thousand French were killed or wounded. Diaz was chasing French late into the night. The Indians scoured the Killing Fields and retrieved

French rifles, then melted back into the hills. The Hills from which they would wage a guerilla war for the next five years.

With tails between their legs, the French retreated to the coast to await 30,000 More men; to wait for a year. They would return, and they would win the second battle of Puebla. They would chase Benito Juarez to within yards of the American Border. They would bring Prince Maximilian from Austria and crown him Emperor of Mexico. They would occupy most of Mexico.

They came, they told the world, to collect legal debts. The reality was, however, they came because the United States of America was busy disembowling itself and couldn't enforce its Monroe Doctrine. But when America defeated its domestic enemies it turned a jaundiced eye towards the French interlopers on its southern border.

Thousands of combat-veteran Americans, an-

swering Juarez' 1864 call for volunteers, rushed across the border to help the very army and country they had fought less than twenty years before in America's bloodiest war ever. Armed with weapons covertly supplied by the U.S. and protected by U.S. soldiers in Texas, Mexicans and their American volunteers took the offensive. It was now only a matter of time.

When the war ended in 1867, Juarez led his Army into Mexico City, an Army which included an American Legion of Honor. Though long and bloody, the war's end began on the 5th of May 1862 at the Battle of Puebla and continued through victory because, as one French General put it, "Bah! Every Mexican is a guerillero, either he has been or he will be".

True, General. Every Mexican...every American...is a "guerillero" for freedom. The 5th of May, like the 4th of July, is proof.

## Two Voices On U.S. Hispanic Involvement In Hemispheric Affairs

(Following are excerpts from remarks by Secretary of State Madeleine Albright and Frank Gómez, founder and chairman of the Hispanic Council on International Relations, made to diplomats and Hispanic leaders on April 26. They spoke at the council's fourth annual leadership awards banquet, held at the Organization of American States' Hall of the Americas in Washington, D.C.)

Gómez presented Secretary Albright with the organization's 2000 International Leadership Award. Their comments are edited here by Camilo Smith-Montealegre.)

### "I Cannot Tell You I Am Satisfied"

By Secretary of State Madeleine Albright

I hope tonight we can all agree on two things.

First, Inter-American affairs belong in the top tier of U.S. foreign-policy priorities. And second, Hispanic-Americans belong in the top tier of policymakers setting those priorities.

As secretary of state, I have been privileged to work with former Ambassador Bill Richardson, Acting Assistant Secretary Peter Romero, Ambassador Luis Lauro, Deputy Assistant Secretary Lula Rodríguez and many other senior officials of Hispanic heritage. But I cannot tell you I am satisfied with the degree of representation, because I am not.

At the State Department, we are in the midst of an aggressive recruitment and outreach

campaign that is moving us in the right direction. The number of new foreign service officers and specialists with a Hispanic background is up sharply from prior years. But we still have far to go.

So I say to you, keep pressing us to do more.

Last year, when I presented my annual "state of the world" testimony on Capitol Hill, I did not begin with Europe and Asia, as it is customary for secretaries of state to do. I began, instead, with the Americas. I did so because I believe the future security, prosperity and freedom of the United States depends on our partnerships in this hemisphere.

We have been encouraged, therefore, that especially during the past decade, democracy has been on the march throughout the region. The last successful military coup in Latin America took place two dozen years ago. Every American government except for Cuba's was elected by its people.

At the same time, many countries have worked hard to privatize state-owned enterprises, reform their regulatory systems and modernize their economies. Almost across the region, tariffs are down; investments are up; dictators are out; and democrats are in.

International relations is comprised of doers. And in all that you do, I hope you will accept and count upon me as an ally.

Persons of Hispanic heritage deserve their rightful place at the table of those making U.S. policy. And our partnerships

with our fellow American nations will do much to determine the future of the United States.

### "We Seek a Sustained, Enduring Partnership"

By Frank Gómez, chairman of the Hispanic Council on International Relations

Madame Secretary, we in the Hispanic Council on International Relations are fond of quoting Thomas Jefferson's letter to his nephew Peter Carr of August 10, 1787. He said: "Bestow great attention on the Spanish language and endeavor to acquire an accurate knowledge of it. Our future connection with Spain and Spanish America will render that language a valuable acquisition."

Two years ago, upon receiving our International Leadership Award, (Cabinet Secretary) Bill Richardson stated that by the year 2005, the United States will have more trade with Latin America than with Europe and Japan combined.

Key Hispanic organizations strongly supported the North American Free Trade Agreement. They support its extension to other countries. And most support fast-track negotiating authority and the proposed Free Trade Area of the Americas.

After Hurricane Mitch, the League of United Latin American Citizens dispatched some 80 bilingual medical professionals to Honduras.

Following Hurricane Georges, Latinos in New York and other areas mobilized to send hundreds of thousands of dollars in aid.

These actions portend an increasing, welcome role for Hispanic Americans in the affairs of the hemisphere, and in the international arena in general.

Hispanic Americans have demonstrated skills and interests that can contribute in significant measure to the advancement of our global foreign-policy objectives. But we seek a sustained, enduring partnership.

We stand ready to assist. More specifically, and to strengthen our role, we would welcome:

- Use of the State Department's outreach capability to highlight Hispanic officers as role models to encourage recruitment;

- Use of current and retired Hispanic officers to intensify recruitment of Hispanic Americans;

- Naming of more Hispanics to review and promotion panels;

- Naming of more Hispanics to overseas inspection teams;

- Naming of more Hispanics to commissions;

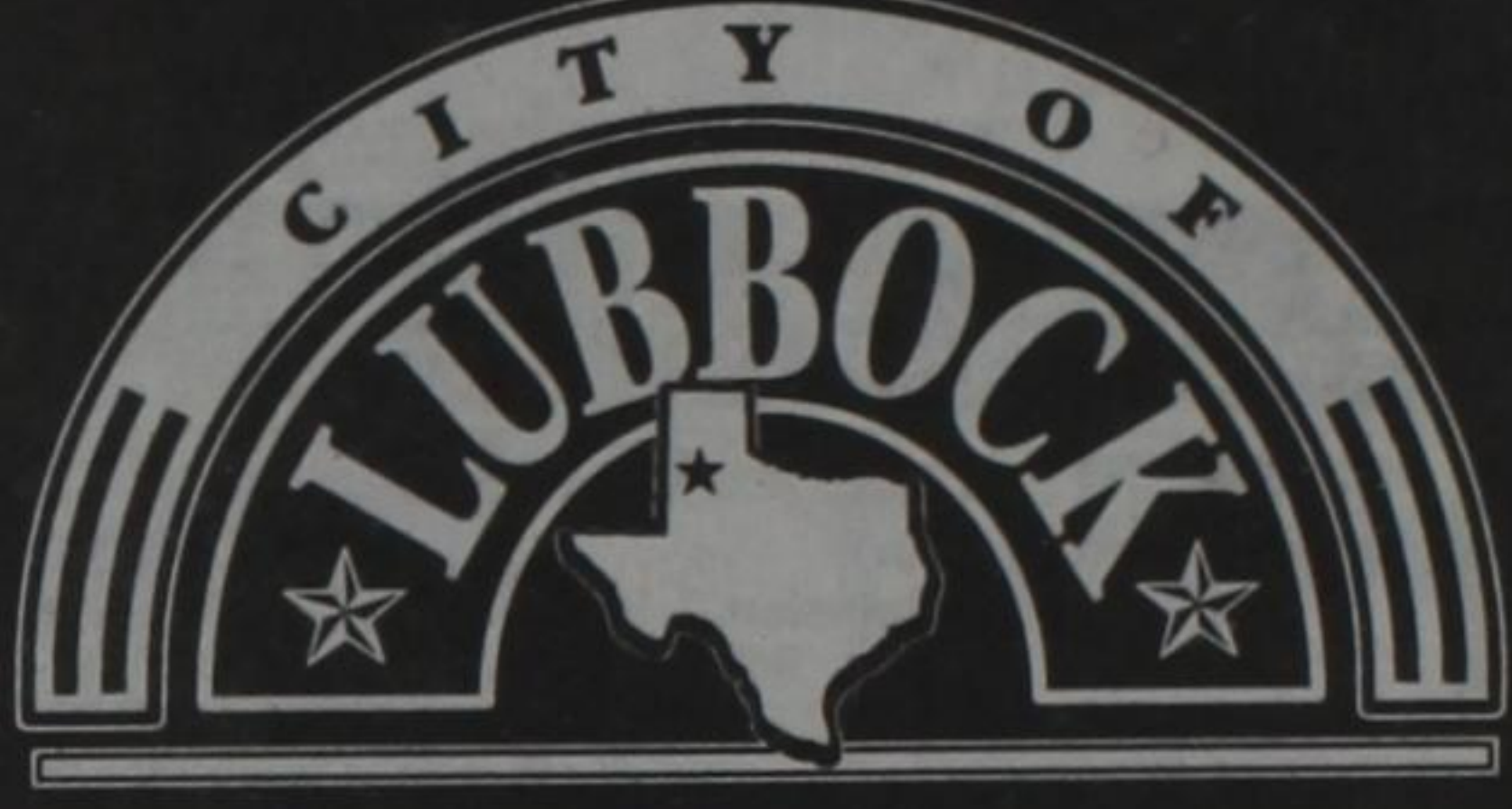
- Naming of Hispanics to election observer teams and to delegations for presidential inaugurations;

- Inviting Hispanics to meet with visiting foreign leaders;

- Encouraging the Democratic and Republican institutes for international affairs to add Hispanics to their boards; and

- Efforts by other foreign-

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affairs agencies to surpass your record in Hispanic appointments.

Madame Secretary, in such a partnership, we recognize our responsibility to give. We have conducted programs throughout the country to inform Hispanics about foreign-policy issues and encourage their involvement in such programs as the Partners of the Americas.

This, we believe, helps to create a "constituency" for our foreign affairs community.

The term "appropriate technology" means that technology must fit the level of development of the receiver. In

business, an opportunity abroad may be too small for a multibillion-dollar corporation; but it might be just right for a Hispanic-owned firm -- what we might call "appropriate investment."

Were such investments to accelerate, benefits would accrue to all. The Hispanic-American private sector has the expertise, the technology and the capital to assist in countless ways.

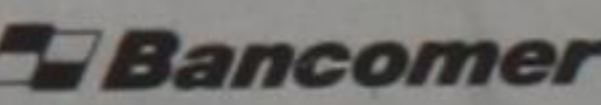
We seek a seat at the table of opportunity.

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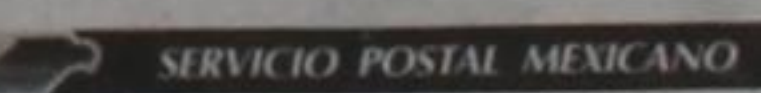
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# Return Trip to the Alamo

By Victor Landa

How can I say this without sounding flippant? I'm over it. The last time I walked into the Alamo was years ago. I was younger and distinctly demonic. At least that's how I felt.

I remember standing behind a group of tourists who were listening reverently to a red-coated, white-haired tour guide describe a painting that took up the better part of a rear wall inside the Alamo building.

The guide spent a big part of his tour in front of that painting -- John Wayne as Davy Crockett, swinging his trusty rifle "Old Betsy" against an onslaught of wild Mexicans in blue uniforms who had climbed the revered walls of the Alamo with fire in their eyes and lust for blood in their veins. I remember how it made me feel. Small and fire-eyed myself. And I resolved never to go back. As far as I was concerned,

the Alamo perpetuated a myth I wanted no part of. A myth that denigrated, that demonized and diminished me because I was of Mexican heritage, because my skin is brown and because I looked like the devils in blue uniforms who dared defile the sanctity of that image of John Wayne as Davy Crockett. For as long as I could remember, the names of William Travis and Crockett were synonymous with heroism and ultimate sacrifice. The name of General Antonio López de Santa Anna conjured images of cowardly treachery, of conceit and arrogance. In the Alamo myth, I was the enemy.

Much of that myth was formed in my mind by the movie, the one filmed close to the border in Bracketville, where hundreds of brown San Antonians were recruited and paid union scale to act as marauding Mexican soldiers. The heroes were larger-than-life characters who spoke eloquently of freedom, wore coon-skin hats and drank whiskey between bouts of bravado. The Mexicans were the anti-heroes. They were subservient little men who scampered around in the presence of "the Duke," or they were voluptuous women with wanting eyes.

It wasn't until recently, at the suggestion of my children, that I wandered into the Alamo once more. A second invasion, a retaking of the hallowed shrine of Texas independence, my children and I, hand in hand. "Do you know what happened here?" I asked them. "Oh yeah, we learned about all of this in fourth grade," my daughter said. She proceeded to enlighten her third-grade brother about the public-school version of Texas history.

I walked them over to the wall, the one that had held the painting of "The Duke Crockett" slaying horrible Mexicans, ready to gauge my children's response. But the painting was gone. Instead, my son walked over to an array of newly placed plaques with the names of the known Alamo defenders, in alphabetical order.

"Look," he said, "here are some from Texas." I read the names: Juan Abamillo, Juan Badillo, Carlos Espalier, Gregorio Esparza, Antonio Fuentes, José María Guerrero, Damacio Jiménez, Toribio Losoya, Andrés Nava. I said them slowly, softly to myself, savoring the roundness of the vowels.

"Finally," I thought, and that was all. Outside there is a museum where there wasn't one before. Inside, it features a display honoring the contribution of Juan Seguín to the cause of Texas independence. It includes the names of more than 70 Mexicans who fought with him. In the courtyard, there is a display of the history of the Alamo. It informs us that among the grievances against the Mexican government was the limit imposed on immigration into Texas. History books record that the authoritarian government of Santa Anna had imposed Spanish as the official language of Texas. So Travis, Bowie and Crockett died for open borders and language rights? They fought side by side with the Fuentes and Nava and Esparza? This is an Alamo I can live with -- without the myth of the

movie or the belittlement. Should I ask for more? Maybe another display that shows how after Texas independence was won with the blood of our heroes, the vast, lawful Mexican land holdings were systematically stolen from their rightful owners in the Texas courtrooms. One step at a time. For now, at least, the movie myth is gone. (Victor Landa is news director of the Telemundo affiliate KVDA-TV60 in San Antonio, Texas.) (c) 2000, Hispanic Link News Service, Distributed by Los Angeles Times Syndicate.



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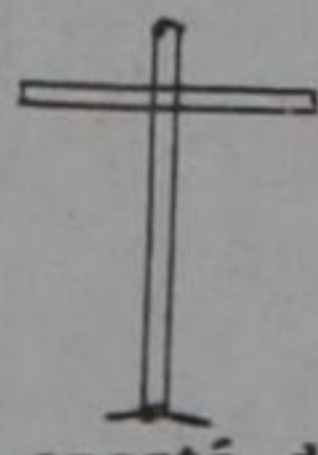
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ESTA ES LA SEPTIMA Y ULTIMA PALABRA QUE CRISTO HABLO EN LA CRUZ, Y EN SU VIDA.



Tales son las palabras con que nuestro Salvador se apartó de su vida terrenal, que en la misma hora del holocausto en el templo de Jerusalén; que ahora también el sacrificio de los siglos era ofrecido en la colina que se levantaba fuera del real; que las lamentaciones inspiradas por el profeta Jeremíasno bastarían en todos los hijos de los hombres para llorar aquel delito. Y aún así en aquellos instantes fueron pocos los apercebidos y entendidos de un desenlace tan fatal para la hija de Sión. vemos que cuando murió jacob fue uniforme su llanto en todos sus desen-dientes, de igual manera cuando murió José, fue la misma cosa. Y cuando Moisés murió el llanto fue universal. Y ahora muere el Rey de reyes, el Profeta de profetas, Sacerdote de sacerdotes, ¡El inocente! ... y no hay quien lllore. Ingrata multitud; ¿Así pagas al Autor de la vida todos sus beneficios? Con una oración dirigida al Padre había iniciado la serie de palabras en la cruz. De la misma manera inboca a su Padre para dar fin a los elocuentes discursos de amor entre los hombres. Muy de acuerdo estuvieron sus palabras últimas, no solo con los dichos de su boca sino también con su conducta y práctica en los días de su humanidad. Y como en otras ocaciones y en esta última frase, Cristo cumple con la profecía del Sal. mesiánico. Notémos que el Evangelio que nos lega esta noticia nos dice con toda claridad que: "Clamando a gran voz" (Cristo clamó a gran voz) Por lo cual sin duda podemos ver que en ello nos da Jesús la prueba más patente de su hmanidad perfecta que le animó hasta el último instante. Pues él era la simiente de la mujer, y como ordi-nariamente ha sucedido con todos los hombres fue necesario que probase una vez la muerte, dejando la norma de la humanidad. Y ahora se dirige a su padre con aquellas palabras que eran tan peculiar o usadas de sus labios, la palabra "Padre." Cuántas veces había usado esta palabra. "En la casa de mi Padre" "Voy a mi Padre" "A vuestro Padre" "Padre te doy gracias que me has oído" Y por última vez ahora le llama PADRE no le llama Dios mío como le llamó cuando dijo "¿Porqué me has esparado?" Pues entonces estaba muriendo como un pecador, por los pecadores. pero ahora está muriendo como un hijo obediente, el inocente Cordero. Fue aquel en verdad un gran clamor, a tal grado que el velo del templo se rompió de arriba a bajo, y en aque-llos mismos momentos tembló la tierra y las piedras se hendie-ron, "y abrieronse los sepulcros,y muchos cuerpos de santos que habían muerto se levantaron" "y aparecieron a muchos. (Qué susto) Mt.27:52,53 Esta y otras cosas acontecieron cuando Cristo estaba de la cruz pendiente, y al dar su espíritu. Este espíritu fue el alma humana que entregaba en las manos de su Padre, pero ésto nó como como consecuencia de la vida de pecado como los hombres.Sino en expiación del pecado. Todos nosotros poseemos un espíritu el cual también se comprende como alma. Según Gén.2:7 Pero Ec.12:7 le llama espíritu. Y Pablo en Tes.5:23 nombra los tres elementos de que está hecho el hombre dice que éste tiene espíritu alma y cuerpo. Eclesiastés dice que el espíritu volará a Dios quien lo dió. Pero Pablo amonesta que espíritu alma y cuerpo deben de guardarse sin reprensión para la venida de nuestro Señor Jesucristo. Y como nadie sabemos cuando pasaremos de esta vida, nuestro espíritu alma y cuerpo deben estar preparados, y preparados ¡YA!... Es menester que estos tres elementos estén preparados para que estén en las manos del Señor. Físicamente no tenemos que morir para poner nuestro espí-ritu alma y cuerpo en las manos del Señor, pero espiritualmente sí tenemos que morir al mundo para poner nuestro espíritu alma y cuerpo en las manos del Señor. (El problema de algunos es que le dan al Señor el espíritu; y el alma y el cuerpo lo dejan para ellos. MAÑOSOS) Pero hoy mismo podemos decir Padre en tus manos encomiendo mi espíritu. No tenemos que esperar hasta la muerte. ¿Cómo puede el pecador encomendar su espíritu a Dios? El hombre puede encomendar su espíritu a Dios durante su vida terrenal, por medio de la preparación para la hora de la muerte. ¿Cómo se puede conseguir esta preparación? Contesto: Por medio de Cristo. El dice: "Yo soy el camino la verdad y la vida, y nadie viene al Padre, sino por mí" Jn.14:6 Luego Pablo confirma ésto en 2Co.5:17 "Si alguno está en Cristo, nueva cria-

tura es." Y Cristo dijo: "No te maravilléis de que te dije; os es necesario nacer otra vez" Jn.3:7 Cristo sigue diciendo: "Y yo les doy vita eterna y no pereserán jamás" Jn.10:28 Y Sal.91:14 dice: "Por cuanto en mí ha puesto su voluntad, yo también lo libraré" resumiendo todo en una palabra: De la manera que el hombre sabe que su espíritu no va a quedar en las manos de las grogas, el adulterio, o en las manos del pecado, o en las manos de Sa-tanás o simplemente al aire; es vieniendo de acuerdo a la Escri-tura de Dsios como Cristo vivió. En las Escrituras había muchas cosas que Dios quería que se cumplieran en Cristo, y todas se cumplieron. ¿Porqué? Porque Cristo vivió de acuerdo a las Es-crituras. Pero qué lamentable es decir que hay gente que no vive de acuerdo a las Escrituras. Pues así como había muchas cosas que Dios quería que se cumplieran en Cristo, así hay muchas cosas en la Escritura que Dios quiere que se cumplan en noso-tros, ¿se cumplirán? Contesto: de la única manera que se pueden cumplir, es si podemos vivir de acuerdo a las Escrituras. Dios dijo a Josué "el libro de aquesta (esta) ley nunca se apartará de tu boca: antes de día y de noche meditarás en él para que guardes y hagas conforme a todo lo que está en él escrito; por-que entonces haras prosperar tu camino, y todo te saldrá bien." Josué 1:8 Por lo que vemos que es una imperiosa necesidad vivir e acuerdo a las Escrituras para que nuestro espíritu esté en las manos de nuestro Padre (no en las manos de María) "Padre en tus manos encomiendo mi espíritu" dijo nuestro supremo Maes-tro. Y estas palabras fueron dichas al inclinar su cabeza, en se-ñal de completa sumisión al Padre. Y retirándo su cabeza de los títulos que el mundo le había otorgado, el egoísmo en donde había recibido y sentido el reproche y el colmo de los ultrajes de los malvados. Pero a la vez con sus brazos abiertos en forma de invitación, como diciendo: "Venid a mí todos los que estáis tra-bajado y cargados, que yo os haré descansar" Mateo 11:28 Y hay que endender ésto, que no hay invitación que supere a la invita-ción de Cristo. Aún que es cierto que vivimos en los tiempos de las invitaciones; pues en ningún tiempo antes ha habido tantas invitaciones como lo hay hoy día. Llegan las invitaciones hasta la puerta de nuestras casas, por la televisión, la radio, por correo, por teléfono, en persona. de ventas de carros, casas, mue-bles, cines, bailes, cantinas, bodas y de toda invitación que nos dicen venid. Pero ninguna de esas invitaciones, y ni todas jun-tas; hacen tanto bien a nuestras almas, como la invitación de Cristo. Porque todas esas invitaciones nos invitan para cargarnos mas la invitación de Cristo nos invita para hacernos descansar. Hay que haya aceptado una de esas invitaciones del mundo, y ha regresado a su casa en un ataúd. Y otros no han regresado jamás. Pero no así la invitación de Cristo, Cristo te invita para darte vida eterna, y hacerte descansar, e invitarte a encomendar tu espíritu en las manos de su Padre; pues para eso dijo: "Padre, en tus manos encomiendo mi espíritu." ¿Lo aceptará? Haslo hoy.

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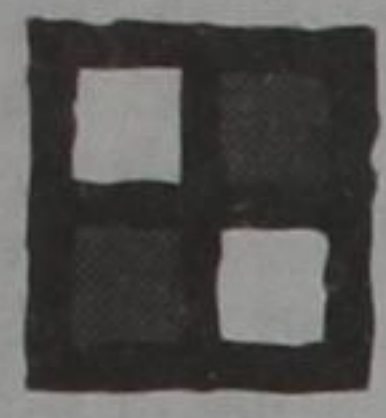
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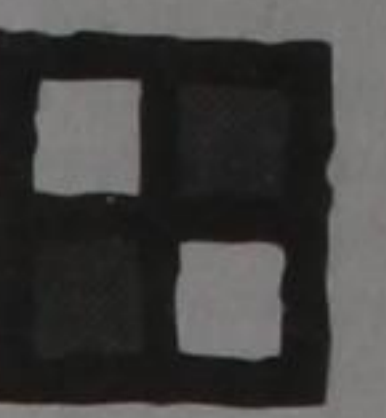
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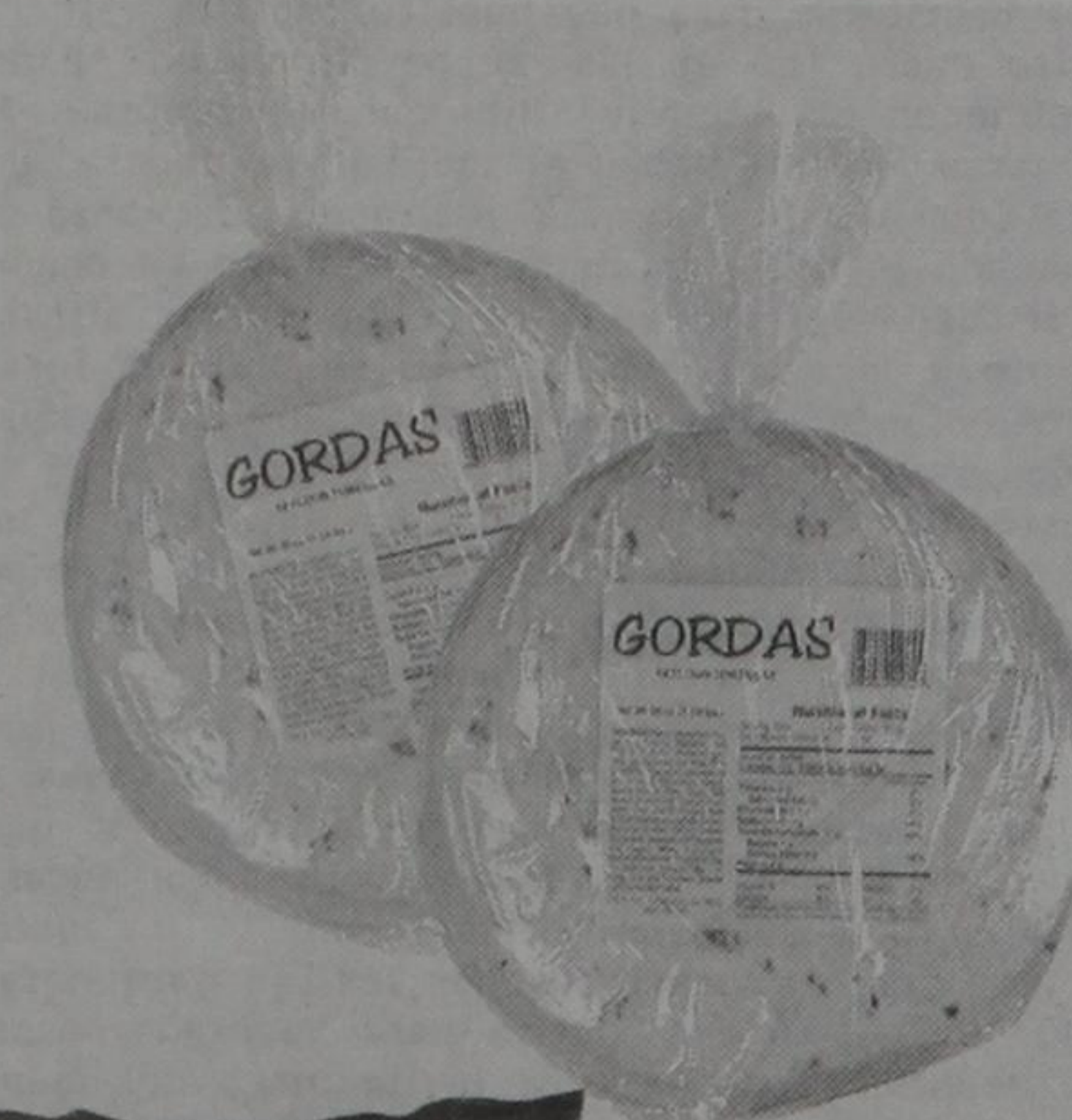




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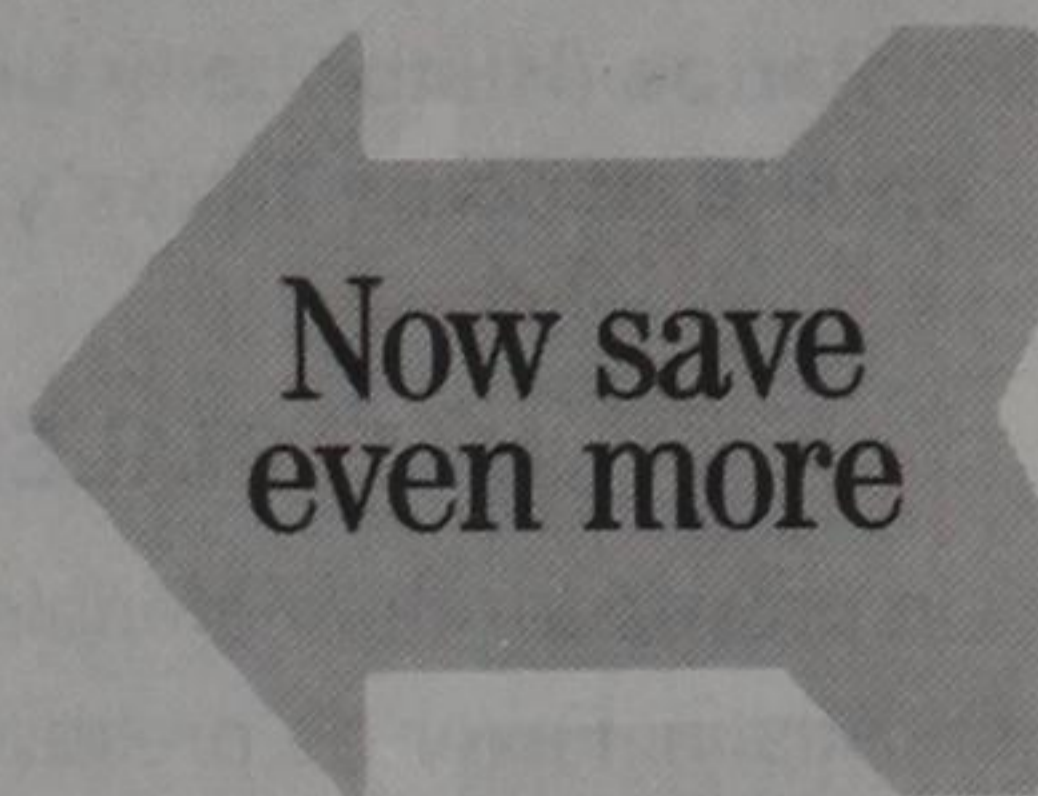
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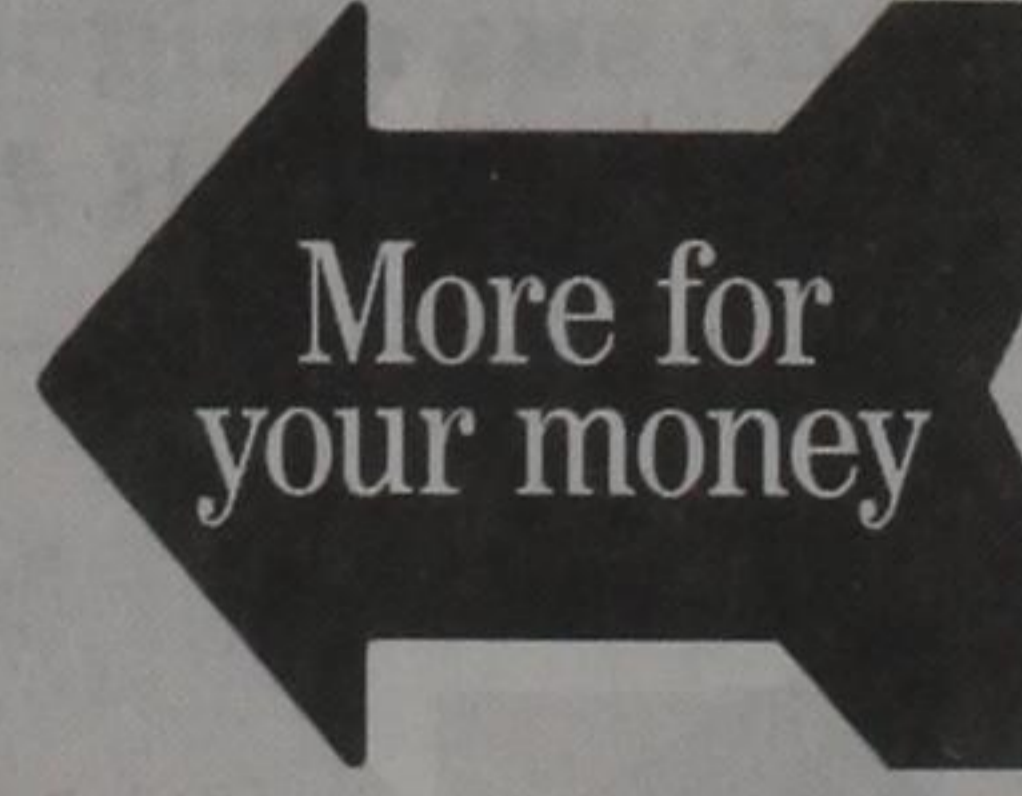
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