

# MAJOR AGREEMENTS WITH MEXICO RECEIVE MINOR ATTENTION

By Patricia Guadalupe

In a clear sign of increasingly close relations between the United States and Mexico, an elaborate welcoming ceremony on the White House South Lawn greeted Mexico President Ernesto Zedillo during his first U.S. state visit Oct. 10.

Participants that crisp, sunny day saw and heard five military bands, a fife-and-drum corps dressed in revolutionary garb, dozens of schoolchildren waving tiny Mexican flags, a 21-cannon salute, both national anthems and presidential speeches.

A state visit is the highest honor the United States accords a foreign head of state. It is a tacit indication the United States supports and agrees with the foreign government's policies and direction. Officials of foreign governments on not-so-friendly terms have to settle for an "official" rather than "state" visit, without all the pomp and circumstance.

Zedillo's two-day stop in the capital showed all the signs of two leaders on friendly terms. They emerged from private meetings with accords on issues that significantly affect both countries: immigration, anti-drug programs and the environment.

The presidents agreed to begin in January a pilot program in the San Diego area to deport undocumented Mexican workers to their hometowns, rather than just dropping them

across the border. The U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service estimates that more than 10,000 persons repeatedly cross the line illegally in that area. The cost of flying the undocumented to Mexico's interior will be borne by the United States and the program is voluntary. If successful, it could be implemented in other

range a \$70 million loan from the Export Import Bank so the Zedillo government can purchase radar and other equipment.

The two leaders also agreed to finance a joint environmental survey of the 2,000-mile-long border. The survey will examine emissions from two energy plants in northern Mexico that environmental groups contend send high levels of pollutants to communities on both sides of the border.

Zedillo presented Clinton with a \$770 million check as the first payment of the \$20 billion line of credit the United States extended to Mexico in response to the peso's collapse late last year. The Zedillo administration has used \$12 billion and told the Clinton administration it would not need the other \$8 billion.

While in Washington, Zedillo met with Mexican-American members of the U.S. Congressional Hispanic Caucus and several national Hispanic leaders, including Rep. Henry Bonilla (R-Texas) and Raúl Yzaguirre, president of the National Council of La Raza.

In another significant policy shift, Zedillo told the group that because of anti-immigrant legislation in the U.S. Congress, he is leaning toward supporting a Mexican legislative measure that would change the Mexican constitution and recognize dual nationality for Mexican legal immigrants residing in the United States and elsewhere. Many legal immigrants never apply for U.S. citizenship because they are afraid of losing their rights as Mexican citizens in case they decide to return to their homeland.

The nationality legislation is presently bogged down in the Mexican Congress over discussions on whether dual nationals abroad would have

border communities.

"The Mexican government is taking concrete steps to fight border crime, prevent alien smuggling and close illegal gateways to our country," Clinton said. The agreement is a particularly important shift for Mexico, which historically has opposed another government's involvement within Mexican territory.

To combat escalating drug trafficking, Clinton agreed to rent 12 helicopters to Mexico for its drug interdiction program and to help ar-

Continued Page 5



"El Respeto Al  
Derecho Ajeno  
Es La Paz"  
Lic Benito Juarez  
ESTABLECIDO 1977  
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## EL EDITOR

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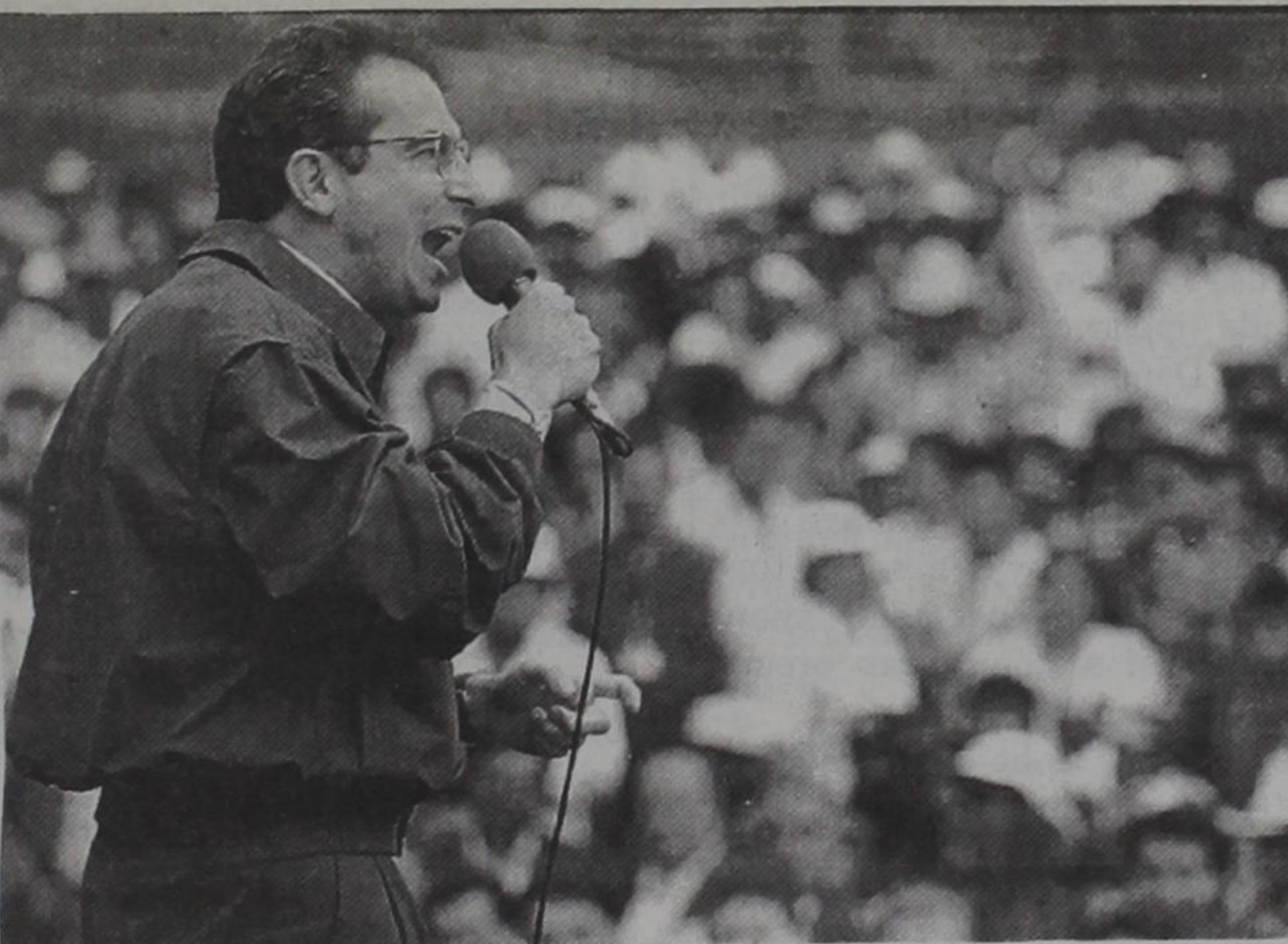
# Acuerdos Reciben Poca Atencion

Por Patricia Guadalupe

En una clara señal de la creciente relación estrecha entre Estados Unidos y México, el presidente Ernesto Zedillo fue recibido el pasado 10 de octubre en Washington en una ceremonia repleta de "pompa y circunstancia". Cinco bandas militares, un cuerpo de músicos con vestimenta de la era revolucionaria estadounidense del siglo 18, niños con banderitas mexicanas, y como es normal, 21 cañonazos anunciaron la llegada de Zedillo a Washington, su primera visita de estado.

Una visita de estado es el mas alto honor que Estados Unidos concede a una mandatario del extranjero. Es un indicación indirecta que el gobierno estadounidense generalmente apoya y está de acuerdo con la política y dirección de ese gobierno. Líderes de otros países que no gozan de una relación tan estrecha con Estados Unidos y se encuentran de visita en Washington tienen que conformarse con una reunión "oficial" y no "de estado".

La visita durante dos días del mandatario mexicano demostró cada señal de una relación amistosa y estrecha con su homólogo estadounidense. Los dos mandatarios llegaron a varios acuerdos sobre temas que directamente afectan ambos países: inmigración, el medio ambiente y programas para combatir el narcotráfico. Los presidentes Clinton y Zedillo acordaron comenzar en enero un programa piloto en la zona fronteriza de San Diego para deportar trabajadores indocumentados a sus pueblos natales en vez de seguir con la política actual de dejarlos en la frontera. La agencia federal (E.E.U.U.) de inmigración y naturalización calcula que mas de 10,000 personas cada año cruzan la frontera ilegalmente repetidas veces en esa zona. Es un programa voluntario y los vuelos serán pagados por Estados Unidos. De ser exitoso, el programa se pudiera ex-



tender a otras ciudades fronterizas con un alto índice de indocumentados. El presidente Clinton comenta que el programa ayuda a frenar el cruzar repetidas veces ilegalmente. "Trabajando con México, hemos hecho importantes avances para prevenir la inmigración ilegal...El gobierno mexicano concretamente está trabajando para combatir el crimen en la frontera, prevenir el tráfico de personas y cerrar entradas ilegales a nuestro país", dijo. Este acuerdo es un importante cambio para México, porque siempre ha estado en contra de la intervención extranjera en lo que considera asuntos internos. En otro acuerdo, este para combatir el creciente narcotráfico, el presidente Clinton acordó alquilar 12 helicópteros y ayudar a organizar un préstamo de \$70 millones a México, del Banco de Exportación e Importación para facilitar la compra por parte del gobierno Zedillo de radares y otros equipos bajo un programa anti-droga. Los dos presidentes también acordaron llevar a cabo un estudio ambiental sobre la frontera donde examinarán dos fábricas en el norte de México que ambientalistas alegan contaminan comunidades en ambos lados de la frontera.

Zedillo también presentó al presidente Clinton un cheque

de \$770 millones, el primer pago de los \$20 mil millones de la línea de crédito ofrecida a México a raíz de la caída del peso el año pasado. El gobierno de Zedillo ha usado \$12 mil millones y Zedillo le indicó a Clinton que no necesitaría los \$8 mil millones restantes. También durante su visita, Zedillo se reunió con congresistas mexicanoamericanos y varios líderes hispanos, incluyendo al representante republicano Henry Bonilla de Texas y Raúl Yzaguirre, presidente del Consejo Nacional de La Raza. En otro cambio político de mayor importancia, Zedillo le comentó al grupo que pudiera apoyar un cambio a la constitución mexicana que otorgaría la doble nacionalidad a inmigrantes legales mexicanos que residen en Estados Unidos y otros países. La discusión en el congreso mexicano sobre el proyecto de ley de la doble nacionalidad actualmente gira en torno al derecho del voto de los que residen fuera de la República. México no reconoce votos "en ausencia"; hasta los mismos ciudadanos tienen que estar presentes en el país para votar ese día. En la reunión con los líderes latinos, Zedillo le comentó a Baldemar Velásquez, director del Comité Organizador de Trabajos Agrícolas, en el estado de Ohio, que

"seriamente considera" apoyar legislación para requerir que mexicanos con permiso para trabajar temporalmente en Estados Unidos formen parte de un sindicato. Velásquez le dijo a Weekly Report, "Lo único que queremos es asegurar que nadie sea explotado, como con el antiguo programa bracero." El congreso estadounidense está discutiendo volver a comenzar el programa de los años 40 y 50, el cual fue criticado por fomentar abusos.

Mientras el Presidente Clinton elogió a su homólogo mexicano y llamó la visita "muy productiva", Zedillo tuvo menos suerte con el liderazgo congresional y la prensa que cobre la Casa Blanca. El presidente de la cámara de representantes, el congresista republicano Newt Gingrich del estado de Georgia, rechazó un pedido del grupo de congresistas hispanos de dejar que Zedillo hablara ante una reunión conjunta de ambas cámaras del congreso. Su horario no lo permitía, dijo Gingrich, pero el presidente del grupo hispano, el congresista demócrata Ed Pastor del estado de Arizona, dijo, "Si él (Gingrich) hubiera dejado que Zedillo hablara, congresistas que no conocen bien su país pero siguen haciendo decisiones, tendrían mayor información para poder votar de manera informada."

Y durante una conferencia de prensa con ambos presidentes, fueron los periodistas mexicanos y los de medios hispanos en Estados Unidos los únicos en dirigir preguntas sobre la visita y las pláticas de los mandatarios. Los demás, anglosajones de los medios de mayor importancia, decidieron ignorar el tema principal y enfocaron sus preguntas sobre tales asuntos como Bosnia y el juicio del futbolista O.J. Simpson.

Read  
El Editor

# News Briefs

## Bill Reversing Migrant Worker Protection Passed

The House voted Tuesday to reverse a Supreme Court decision that had been viewed as a major victory for migrant farm workers, reports Associated Press.

By voice vote, the lawmakers passed a bill aimed at overturning the court's March 1990 ruling that migrant farm workers injured on the job may sue their employers in federal court even after receiving workers' compensation benefits.

Under the legislation, workers' compensation would again become the exclusive remedy for workplace injuries under the Migrant and Seasonal Agricultural Worker Protection Act.

The bill, which has not yet been considered by the Senate, was a compromise between Republicans who pushed the legislation and Democrats who initially opposed it. In its current form, it would increase from \$500 to \$10,000 the limit on damages payable under the migrant worker protection law in certain cases, including those in which a worker was injured or killed because an employer was a repeat violator of a safety standard.

Bruce Goldstein, an attorney for the Farmworker Justice Fund, said the group was "disappointed that farm workers are losing an important tool." He added, however, that given the Republican majority in Congress, the compromise bill was "the best they could hope for."

The bill also would require employers to provide migrant farm workers information on whether they are covered by workers' compensation and how to file a claim.

Rep. Major Owens, D-N.Y., noting the bill's compromise provisions, called it "a cease-fire in this unfortunate war against workers" that he said has been waged by the GOP-controlled House Committee on Economic and Educational Opportunities.

The Supreme Court's unanimous decision in a Florida case, Adams Fruit Co. vs. Barrett, said states don't have the power to ban such lawsuits by making workers' compensation laws the sole legal remedy available.

## Report: Families Rebounding

After two decades of declining numbers, two-parent families are on the rebound, according to a Census Bureau report. But the increase is slight and still far out-paced by the growth in single-parent homes, reports Associated Press.

Married-couple families with children, whose numbers had steadily fallen by almost 1 million between 1970 and 1990, showed an increase of nearly 600,000 in 1994.

But nearly one-third of all American families with children were headed by a single parent in 1994, according to the survey. Those numbers have steadily increased from 13 percent in 1970, to 22 percent in 1980, and 28 percent in 1990; the figure rose to 30.8 percent in 1994.

The survey found sharply higher numbers among black families, where 65 percent of homes with children are today headed by single parents. Among whites, the figure is 25 percent.

"This message of continued growth in single-parent families means this is a crazy time for Congress to be cutting child care systems, a crazy time for them to be shortchanging women who need child support," said Deborah Weinstein, a family-income analyst for the Children's Defense Fund.

The Washington group is fighting GOP proposals to deny cash welfare to unwed teen-age mothers and charge fees to poor women seeking state help with child-support collection.

Among other findings from the March 1994 survey of 58,000 households:

-There were about 9.9 million single mothers heading households with children in 1994, compared to 1.6 million single fathers.

-Single fathers were twice as common in white families (accounting for 16 percent of all white single parents) as in black families (accounting for 8 percent of all black single parents).

-Of the 11.4 million single parents, 9 million owned or rented their own home, 1.8 million lived in a relative's home and 650,000 lived in the home of a non-relative.

-The number of families with three or more children at home, which fell from 10.4 million in 1970 to 6.5 million in 1990, rebounded to 7.1 million in 1994.

## GOP Senate Tax Cut Gives Credit for Kids

Republican tax-writers in the Senate have agreed to a seven-year, \$245 billion package of tax cuts that includes a \$500 per child tax credit for most families, significant reductions in capital gains taxes and a break for corporations, reports the Chicago Tribune.

Friday's presentation of the majority's tax plan was the first step down a tortuous road for the tax bill, which has drawn nearly universal opposition from Democrats and the White House and only grudging support from some Senate Republicans.

The tax package must be approved by the full Finance Committee - a formality since the Republicans hold a majority and then placed in a huge reconciliation bill that includes the welfare and Medicare programs among others.

Majority Leader Bob Dole (R-Kan.) said he expects the tax package to go to committee next week and the reconciliation bill to be voted on by Oct. 24.

The highlight of the package is the \$500-per-child credit for families, a provision that is also the centerpiece of the House's tax-cut bill. The House bill makes the \$500-per-child credit available to taxpayers with adjusted gross income of up to \$200,000 per family. The Senate set its caps for the credit at \$75,000 a year in taxable income for a single parent and \$110,000 for couples.

The lower caps were meant to help rebut charges by Democrats that the Republicans' tax plans favored the well-to-do.

## Panel OKs Medicaid Compromise

Republicans on the Senate Finance Committee agreed to a compromise Tuesday that would let states decide who qualifies for guaranteed Medicaid coverage for the disabled, reports Associated Press.

The original Republican plan to convert Medicaid to block

# El Secreto Oscuro Mexicano

Por Bárbara Renaud González

¿Cuántos mexicanos fueron elegibles para la Marcha de un Millón de Hombres?

"Agustín Lara no es negro ... no es verdad lo que dicen", anuncia mi madre a su regreso de Veracruz. "Mami" acababa de visitar el hogar del finado compositor en la costa oriental de México, y había visto las fotografías de la familia legendaria. "No hay sangre negra".

De modo que no hay negrura, "de seguro"

Para nosotros, no es bueno el ser negro. Si se nos pregunta, podemos recordar nuestra hispanidad a la letra. En alguna parte de la familia tenemos a un papá Tomás o a una mamá Chenchá con ojos azules. Y el tío Encarnación tenía los ojos verdes, ¿recuerdan? ¡Ahí está!

Es sólo más fácil el ser latino si se es blanco. Y llegamos a serlo casándonos. Según dice un informe del Censo de 1993, un tercio de los latinos se casan con blancos. Para muchas familias, esto es lo más elevado. Es casi tan bueno como obtener un título universitario.

¡Ay, qué bonitos niños vas a tener". Y no podemos esperar para exhibir a los "Casparitos".

Y si el casarse con un blanco es el premio, imagínense lo que será el casarse con un negro. Menos del tres por ciento de los latinos se atreven a casarse en familias negras. Piensen en el escándalo y lo que dirán los vecinos. A las latinas jóvenes se les prohíbe absolutamente -- "vale más que no" -- salir con negros. Si se hace esto, se podría anun-

ciar al mundo que una es una "pecadora usted-sabe-qué". Y ningún latino decente la querrá a una nunca más.

De modo que éste es un secreto de familia que ahora se ha revelado. Pero como cualquier buen secreto, no sabemos todo el relato.

Es como una "noche de ronda". Así como tenemos a los parientes españoles de quienes jactarnos, también tenemos una relación consanguínea con África. La herencia negra de México no está aislada en Veracruz ni en la Costa chica -- nuestra palabra clave para "los negros". Estos llegaron con los conquistadores en 1519. Y, para 1529, los españoles trajeron a los africanos esclavos porque los indígenas estaban muriendo debido a la Conquista.

Para 1650, más de 150,000 negros y mulatos vivían en México, una cifra que realmente sobrepasó a la inmigración española. Estos "negritos" tampoco se fueron. Se mezclaron como café con chocolate.

La mezcla subsiguiente de pueblos hizo de México una nación de mestizos. Y una noche criolla también. Una contradicción a pesar de su triunfo de pueblos. Porque todavía había que ser español para ganar privilegios y situación.

Bajo este sistema de clases, se creía que los hijos de negros e indígenas combinaban lo peor de ambos pueblos. La Iglesia creía que esas uniones eran peligrosas, ya que "reforzaban la adhesión de los indígenas al paganismo y quizás si hasta los infec-

tarían con la infidelidad del islamismo". Los españoles se casaban con indígenas todo el tiempo, pero no se suponía que los indígenas se casaran con negros.

Aunque los latinos y los negros puedan llevar vidas separadas en Texas, no siempre ha sido así. Debido a las concesiones de tierras impresionantes a los anglo-americanos que querían asentarse en el estado de Texas mexicano, los negros esclavos formaban parte del comercio ilícito que hizo que Texas fuera ganancioso para los precusores. Muchos de estos negros escaparon rápidamente y huyeron a México o a la aldea indígena más cercana. En verdad, la mezcla de razas fué tan real y palpable que enfermó de asco a los recién llegados anglo-americanos.

Cuando México prohibió la esclavitud en 1829, los

soñadores anglo-americanos estaban listos para rebelarse. Para la fecha en que México se dió cuenta de que había perdido el control de Texas, era demasiado tarde. A medida que el estado de Texas debatía la cuestión de la esclavitud durante la Guerra Civil, los seminole negros se dirigieron a México en busca de refugio por la pérdida de sus tierras. Con el tiempo, 3,000 de ellos se asentaron permanentemente en México, lejos del Río Grande.

De modo que, ¿era Agustín Lara negro? Piénselo bien. Sería una mentira increíble que el hombre que definió el romance en México fuera negro, ¿no es verdad?

Prometa no decirlo.  
(Bárbara Renaud González, de Dallas, Texas, es una escritora por cuenta propia que aporta comentarios periódicamente al "Dallas Morning News" y a la estación de la radio pública KERA.) Propiedad literaria registrada por Hispanic Link News Service en 1995.

## PRESS RELEASE

South Plains Coalition for the Prevention of Child Abuse Presents: *Raising Kids Without Raising Your Voice with Michael Roberts, Ph.D.*

When: Tuesday, October 24, 1995

Where: Broadway Church of Christ

1924 Broadway

Lubbock, TX

Purpose: This workshop is being offered to professionals and other interested individuals to heighten knowledge and skills in working with children.

## Progressive Left Struggles for Political Purpose Political analysis from The Chicago Tribune

Ross Perot's embryonic Independence Party hopes to occupy the disaffected political center in 1996. Parties on the disaffected right hope to support an independent Pat Buchanan candidacy, if Republicans spurn him again.

But what about the disaffected progressive Left, pushed out of the media limelight by the Right; out of the grass roots by the Christian Coalition; out of the Democratic Party by a centrist President Clinton, and out of consciousness by progressive liberals? "I think it's tragic that so many of us who care about progressive values have been asleep at the wheel, and shame on us," said Tom Andrews, president of People for the American Way, an organization that promotes liberal causes.

Dan Cantor, national director of the New Party, is convinced there will be no serious third party progressive challenge in the elections next fall. "It has taken progressives a long time to get as weak as they are. It is going to take some time to get our strength back," Cantor said. He questions whether the progressive Left can mobilize itself to speak to the center, "not just to themselves." Rare past efforts at presidential election year coalition-building on the progressive-liberal-Left have been likened by some to a circular firing squad.

But there have been renewed calls this year for a progressive third party, and a determination by some not to give away support in 1996 to the Democratic Party's candidate as the lesser-of-two evils.

"If the Democratic Party isn't going to stand up for the working peoples' interests, then those interests aren't going to stand up for (the Democratic Party)," said Jim Hightower, a former Texas agricultural commissioner and a founder of Democrats 2000, an organization that promotes progressive and populist ideas within the Democratic Party.

Hightower, who views the nation's political division in terms of up and down, not left and right, said he sees movement for a progressive, independent political party gaining steam.

Just how much steam is the question. There is talk of coalitions and alliances among several small parties and organizations, such as the Greens, the Patriot Party of Virginia (a '92 Perot spin-off), the New Party, the Labor Party Advocates, and the California Peace and Freedom Party. "We're organizing around the notion that it's time for working people to have an alternative political instrument," said Tony Maz-

zocchi, an organizer of the Labor Party Advocates and assistant to the president of the Oil, Chemical and Atomic Workers Union.

Some of the small parties met in June at the Third Parties '96 meeting in Washington, D.C. Others met at the Independent Political Summit in Pittsburgh in early August. Then on Aug. 14, a fiery call for a new American populist movement, 100 years after the original, appeared in The Nation magazine.

"Why is there no longer any mass democratic organization we can trust and through which we can act together... (to advance) working Americans' interests, aspirations and hopes?" asked the author, Texas Monthly editor Ronnie Dugger.

Dugger, who called not for a political party, but for a "Citizens Alliance" movement, received one of the biggest reader responses in The Nation's history.

He said his goal is to get the disparate parties and organizations of the "Balkanized" Left to come together to form, "one broad coalition where the Democratic party used to be."

The Pittsburgh and Washington gatherings were focused on creating a third party and fielding a presidential candidate.

The Third Parties '96 gathering, attended by Greens, New Party people, and the Patriot Party of Virginia, produced a call for a coalition party, tentatively called "The New Mainstream." The organizers drafted a "common ground" declaration of principles and positions, and formed a search committee for potential candidates. They plan to meet again in January.

"A lot of our folks already have ballot access," said Linda Martin, a key organizer of the gathering. She sees a chance for candidates to at least get noticed in a four-way race, assuming Perot or Powell enters the campaign.

A consensus emerged in Pittsburgh for a single national platform for local slates of candidates, regardless of their present party, and a pledge to support a single independent progressive party when 1 million signatures are collected for its creation. Such a party would fund social programs by cutting the military budget, and work for full employment and universal health-care coverage. Potential candidates include Hightower, Jerry Brown, Ralph Nader and Jesse Jackson, who alienated many in the progressive Left in 1988 by his decision to drop his Rainbow Coalition candidacy and support the Democratic nominee.

"In the last presidential election people were going with the lesser evil with Bill Clinton. Now they don't have the stomach for that anymore," said Marsha Fine-land, state chair of the California Peace and Freedom Party, which grew out of the tumult of the late 1960s.

Nader said he does not see a presidential candidate emerging on the progressive Left unless Clinton fails to veto the half-dozen bills opposed by the progressive wing of the Democratic party.

Among them are the bills dealing with telecommunications, security fraud deregulation, legal services and welfare reform. "If he doesn't draw a line in the sand on these things," Nader said, "then it is as if he is just a Republican president, so what's the point?"

Nader said he plans to be organized for the possibility of running for president on the California ballot next year, "to steer the agenda into corporate power-abuse issues."

Not since Barry Commoner and the Citizens Party in 1980 have diverse interests on the progressive Left united to field a presidential candidate. That effort yielded 230,377 votes in the 29 states where it was on the ballot.

The big problem for such efforts is money. Only organized labor, with 15 million members nationally, still has money to spend. In the congressional elections of 1994 it gave \$43 million in PAC contributions.

"Where are the Democratic figures who can go out and speak for workers' rights?" said John Jordan, project coordinator for the 750,000-member Laborers International Union. "For a lot of us in labor, it's enormously frustrating," he said. "Everyone is rethinking options right now."

Jackson, who has worked to keep his labor ties strong, is pondering either a primary challenge to Clinton, or a post-convention independent run for the presidency that could draw progressive-Left support, a spokesman said.

But some doubt Jackson's Rainbow Coalition has the national infrastructure to do the job.

The progressive Left has another problem: lack of bottom-up grass-roots organization, an area where they have been badly outdone by the Christian Coalition.

"With the demise of unions, the Left has been struggling to find that kind of organization," said John Coleman, a University of Wisconsin political scientist. "So far all they have are organizations of true believers, not enough to get together and make a difference in an election."



Sittin' Here  
Thinkin'  
THE NO FRONTIER

By Ira Cutler

Throughout history when people got fed up and angry, when they saw no opportunities available to them to live a better life, when they just got bored and wanted to break out, then they could head out over the next hill or the next ocean and start all over. This is how human culture spread, how America came to be, and to a large extent how society could deal with the people who just did not fit in. The story of the American West, of Australia, of a lot of places at some time in their history, is one of misfits designing a society that fit their temperaments and points of view. Pulling up stakes was also the way that groups escaped from brutal persecution and so the Jews left Egypt, the Pilgrims left England and the Mormons left what was then the United States.

Part of our problem today is that the globe is so crowded that there is no place to go. In times past the Branch Davidians could have gone a lot further than Waco to escape the government. The people who are so nuts as to blow up trains might have gone on down the road and created their own country. The unemployed young men in our cities who are angry and estranged from our society would have, in previous times, gotten on a covered wagon and headed west. The existence of a frontier provided a way, for individuals and for society, to relieve pent-up frustrations before they reached a boiling point.

Today the world's population is growing exponentially and no one is creating any more land. We have figured out agricultural methods to feed more and more people but cannot figure out how to give people more room to breathe, to think, to be different. Lack of physical space inevitably creates a need for enforced uniformity -- you cannot dance in a crowded elevator without disrupting the other passengers. We will never again have the sheer space available to be nomads or colonists or explorers, as long as we stay on Earth.

And so this is a column about Space and its exploration and the relationship between Space and social policy and Presidential politics.

The current state of Space exploration is appalling. In the past it was within the means of individuals or small groups to strike out across the frontier. One could buy a wagon or a boat or could even just walk. The exploration of Space is too complex and expensive for individual or even corporate effort and so requires the involvement of national governments. Today the United States is the only nation in a position to do much in space and, like most other issues which fall prey to American politics, the Space program lacks vision and creativity and a sense of long term purpose.

The politicians currently in charge see Space through two very narrow windows: military and commercial. The military window is about the Star Wars missile defense system which Republicans swear to as a Ronald Reagan tribute even though it is considered by most experts to be impractical and wasteful. The commercial window to date is about more cost effective ways to broadcast increasing amounts of bad television.

But no one is looking at or talking about space in terms of the health, well-being and survival of the species. Our politics is about a candidate's promises to do small things in the first hundred days in office or during their two or four year term. The really big issues, the important ones, defy hundred day or four year attention and require much longer term vision and attention.

Our next President will leave office, incredibly, in the next millenium. Thousand year markers do not come up very often and we should use this next one to challenge ourselves and our political candidates to think about what kind of world we hope and expect to see in the year 2100 and in the year 3000.

In my mind there are two 1000 year issues of importance: the environment and Space and they are interrelated in very practical ways. The environmental issues are by themselves hopeless in the long term. We will, sooner or later, use up this planet and make it unlivable. But by being environmentally more disciplined and intelligent we may be able to delay the date on which the planet becomes a disposable throw-away. We can delay our departure date but, when that date comes up, we had better have the means already in place to go elsewhere.

Looking at the thousand year issues has two practical short term values as well. I believe that the best and most important role for the United Nations is not peace keeping but rather is Space exploration. An all-nations project towards Space might have the ability to bridge nations and create a sense of humanity that would far outstrip the Olympics and any cultural exchange programs.

The second near term value is a little more difficult to express. I read, as you might have guessed, a good deal of science fiction and I enjoy it greatly. The writing, at its best, can be enormously creative. Part of the reason that this genre is so appealing is that the boundaries within which the writer must work are so elastic. In science fiction you can invent a new species, you can have characters that live forever, you can design a society that best illustrates the point you want to make or that accommodates the story you want to tell.

In a similar way committing to a world goal of colonizing Space would open our minds to an enormous number of related possibilities for community structures, economic systems, human relationships and all the rest of what makes up our lives. Going to another planet, after all, is starting over in spades and we would not want to carry along all our sad, tired baggage of intolerance, fear and injustice. We could talk, at least, about leaving it all behind with the pollution and about how we would do things differently.

Ira Cutler, says he's seeking a semi-legitimate outlet for thoughts and ideas too irreverent, too iconoclastic, or just too nasty for polite, serious, self-important company. He promises us a Monday column most weeks. More recently Ira has become involved in communicating in another way, through speeches which he calls Standin' Here Talkin'.

## El Editor Newspaper

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Editor Publisher

Bidal Aguero

# El Editor's LATEST Deportes - Sports LO MAS RECIEN

## Homecoming See You at the Game

**Texas Tech Football Facts ...**  
 "I was just trying to help Dane Johnson and he just gave the ball. I felt like Forrest Gump ... run, run, run." Texas Tech defensive end Allen Wallace on completing a 76-yard interception return touchdown with a handoff from Johnson.



The No. 25-ranked (AP) Texas Tech Red Raiders (3-2) will host the Rice Owls (1-4-1) in a crucial Southwest Conference clash Saturday starting at 2 p.m. at Jones Stadium. A crowd of 35,000 is expected for the Red Raiders' Homecoming contest and Rice's final scheduled appearance in Lubbock.

While the main priority is to remain in the thick of the Southwest Conference championship race, Texas Tech also will attempt to keep a pace of streaks intact. A victory would give the Red Raiders seven consecutive SWC victories at home -- its longest

string since entering the SWC in 1960. Tech's current string of six straight conference home wins matches streaks in 1993-94, 1986-88 and 1973-74. And in all home games, Tech will risk a seven-game winning streak starting after last year's Nebraska game. Only once since 1960 has a Raider outfit

won more in a row at home -- 11 in 1973-74. Texas Tech's streak of seven home wins in a row matches those established in 1986-87, 1976-76 and 1965. Tech's mark for straight home wins is 13 (set in 1939-42).

In what probably will be the final meeting between the two schools for a number of years to come, Texas Tech leads the series 24-20-1 and is in front in SWC matchups 23-11-1. However, Rice has won three of the last five contests, all in Houston. In games played in Lubbock, Tech is 12-6, last losing in 1985.

**Ticket Information:** Tickets to the game can be purchased at the Texas Tech Ticket Office weekdays from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Tickets will be on sale Saturday starting at 9 a.m. at the Texas Tech Ticket Office. Tickets will go on sale at the gates at 11:30 a.m. and the gates will open at 12:30 p.m. Prices are \$20 for premium sideline seating and \$7 for end zone seating. Discount tickets are available except on game day for as much as 50 percent off.

Last year in what must have been one of the most frustrating losses for the Red Raiders under Dykes, Rice pulled out a 24-21 victory in Houston with 10 points in the last 5:34 of play. With Zebbie Lethridge knocked out of the game in the first half, Rice converted a pass interception into a field goal and then recovered the ensuing kickoff to set up an 11 yard TD pass from Josh LaRocca to Ed Howard. Marcus Coleman had his fourth career pass interception TD -- setting an SWC record.

One of the conference's major surprises the past two weeks has been true freshman Michael Perry. A reserve defensive back, Perry was moved into the backfield and has 184 combined rushing yards against Texas and TCU on just 19 carries. Linebacker Larry Izzo leads the Owl defense with 11.7 tackles per game.

Last week the No. 25-ranked Raiders exploded for their most points in 10 years (Tech 63, TCU in '85) in crushing Arkansas St. 63-25. After trailing 17-14 midway through the second quarter, the offense posted five unanswered touchdowns to notch their seventh straight home win. Tech averaged an impressive 8.2 yards per snap in rolling up 527 yards in offense.

"We weren't real crisp at times but the intensity and the effort were there so that's good. That was our best offensive production in a long time and we had some big plays in the kicking game. It's a good win," said Dykes on the Arkansas state game.

On Rice game, Spike said "this is a tremendously big game for us. They beat us last year and the tloss wound up keeping us from winning the championship outright. Coach FHatfield will have his team well prepared. It probably will go right down to the wire like our other two conference games have this year."

grants would have eliminated any federal entitlement to coverage for needy people, including the disabled, leaving it to the states to decide.

But Sen. John Chafee (R) and Sen. Jay Rockefeller, D-W.Va., won a last minute change on Sept. 29 preserving the federal guarantee for children 12 and younger and pregnant women living in poverty, and for the disabled. They left the definition of disabled to be decided later.

The states will have to go through public hearings to determine which disabled people qualify, said an aide to Sen. William V. Roth, R-Del., the Finance chairman.

Currently, those with a mental or physical disability that prevents them from getting employment can qualify for Medicaid.

The House version of the Medicaid reforms, approved by the Commerce Committee last month, eliminates all federal entitlements to coverage.

### Study: U.S. Quality of Life Falls

An index of government data on social problems reveals the social health of the United States declined in the first year of the Clinton administration, even as the economy improved, reports Associated Press.

Researchers at Fordham University say their index reveals a startling trend over the past 20 years: The nation's quality of life has come unhinged from its economic growth.

"We really have to begin to reassess this notion that the gross domestic product - the overall growth of the society - necessarily is going to produce improvements in the quality of life," said Marc Miringoff, director of Fordham's Institute for Innovation in Social Policy at Tarrytown, N.Y.

Miringoff's institute has issued an Index of Social Health for the past nine years, using data - mainly government statistics - that go back to 1970. The index tracks how well American society is doing in 16 areas, including infant mortality, drug abuse, unemployment, access to affordable housing and the gap between rich and poor.

In six categories, the index hit its lowest point ever in 1993: children in poverty, child abuse, health insurance coverage, average weekly earnings (adjusted for inflation), out-of-pocket health costs for senior citizens, and the gap between rich and poor.

For instance, Miringoff said, 22 percent of the nation's children were living below the poverty line in 1993, up from 14.9 percent in 1970. Average weekly wages, calculated in 1987 dollars, were \$255, down from \$299 in 1970. He said he wasn't sure what had caused the drop, but that it might be a reflection of federal cuts in social spending.

Miringoff said the index has plotted dramatic improvements over the years in several areas, such as poverty among the elderly, infant mortality and the high school dropout rate. But they are outweighed by the decline in other categories of social health.

He criticized government leaders for focusing on the nation's economic growth to the exclusion of social health, and said they were increasingly out of touch with the lives of everyday citizens.

"It's almost like flying an airplane, and the airplane is America, and we're looking at one gauge - gross domestic product - and we're saying, 'Gee...it's growing and we're going where we want to go.' And yet, in the plane, there's an increasing sense that something's wrong and the pilots don't know why the passengers are complaining all the time."

## Ethnic Groups Ponder Series

Her hero, Mickey Mantle, died this year and her beloved Dodgers were swept out of the playoffs by the Cincinnati Reds. What could possibly be worse for Suzan Shown Harjo?

Try a World Series that features the Cleveland Indians and Chief Wahoo against the Atlanta Braves and the Tomahawk Chop.

"It's sort of like drive-by racism, with bullets for an unintended victim," said Harjo, director of the Morning Star Institute in Washington that promotes Native American cultures and traditions.

American Indian groups have vehemently protested the use of Indian nicknames, mascots and, worst of all, the chanting and whooping they say is demeaning to native cultures.

In a season already filled with replacement spring training and a season cut to 144 games because of the strike, baseball fans who find the nicknames and images offensive are getting the worst of both worlds.

"I was listening to the radio and one of the sports commentators said, 'When they do the Tomahawk Chop, which Indians are they cheering for?'" said Ray Apodaca of the Administration for Native Americans. "I expect to see a lot of things that are going to be offensive in characterizations."

Chief Wahoo belongs to Cleveland, a red-faced, smiling Indian who adorns everything from hats to shirts to placards that fans wave. Cleveland had a huge symbol of Chief Wahoo outside old Cleveland Stadium; he didn't make the move to Jacobs

Field. There were some protests of the symbol during playoff games.

"There's not really much to say that hasn't already been said," said Indians vice president Bob DiBiasio. "As long as Mr. Jacobs owns the team, Chief Wahoo will be our logo."

Chief Noc-A-Homa used to banter about a tepee beyond the outfield fence in Atlanta's Fulton County Stadium. The mascot left before the 1986 season because of a salary dispute with the Braves.

Now, the Braves are known almost as much for the Tomahawk Chop as they are for having the best pitching staff in baseball. Who can forget Braves owner Ted Turner, Jane Fonda and former President Carter doing the chop during the 1991 playoffs?

"It constitutes an unwarranted attack on us as a people in the same way that little black Sambo was an affront to African-Americans and the Frito Bandito was an affront to Chicanos," said Harjo, a native Oklahoman and member of the Cheyenne-Arapaho tribe.

"America can survive and flourish without its racists toys."

Cleveland got its nickname in 1915 during a newspaper name-the-team contest. Indians was suggested because of Louis Francis Sockalexis, a Penobscot Indian who was the first Native American to play pro baseball.

The Braves, who first played in Boston, were once owned by John Ward and James E. Gaffney, "chieftains" in the Tammany Hall organization. The team was called

Braves because they worked for these chiefs, not because of any Indian association.

If the names were supposed to be harmless, some feel the actions are not.

"A lot of negative reaction is in the way the image is portrayed," Apodaca said. "It's offensive to see people dressed in chicken feathers, painted in what they call war paint, doing tomahawk chops and war whoops. None of that is Indian, and all of it is very demeaning."

Harjo takes offense even though none may be intended. "Somehow, malice with no aforethought is worse," she said.

An Indians-Braves World Series could lead to an interesting dilemma for The Oregonian and the Minneapolis Star-Tribune, two newspapers that have banned the use of Indian nicknames in their sports columns.

Paul Gelormino, deputy sports editor of The Oregonian, said the paper would continue to refer to the teams as Cleveland and Atlanta. Any reference to Chief Wahoo or the Tomahawk Chop will be avoided.

"If nothing else, they're pretty much cliches in a sense," Gelormino said. "Even if that wasn't our policy, we'd pretty much stay away from it anyway."

And Harjo says she'll stay away from the World Series. Any other teams beside Cleveland and Atlanta, "then I would have a choice to be a part of it," she said.

"I'll just ignore it," she said. "And it has nothing to do with the strike or the game, because it's a game I love."

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# A MESSAGE TO THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES

## From Subcomandante Insurgente Marcos

Brothers and Sisters:

I take this opportunity to send this message to you the people of the United States of America.

The end of the 20th century already suggests what the 21st century will be like. All over the world, rebellions that differ in degree and intensity, in ideology and goals, remind us that there are hopes above and beyond political and economic systems, that there are hopes for human beings that raise them above plants and animals, and sometimes above themselves.

In Mexico, since Jan. 1, 1994, an insurrection has existed, primarily indigenous in origin. The characteristics of this rebellion make it unique. It would be difficult to find in history a more burdened walk of people throughout the world.

The principal characteristic of this rebellion is to give voice to the people. Having exhausted all legal means to express their desires, the indigenous Mexicans had to resort to the use of force in order to be heard.

We rose up in arms. This is how we came out from under the veil of falsehood and hypocrisy which covered our land. We rose up with a few old weapons. The government of Mexico responded with all its power, with the best and most advanced military technology. The government of the United States supported that military response. Months later, the economic crisis in Mexico, a crisis which did not disappear, ended up exposing the last veil of falsehood under which it hid.

One man, the one to whom the North American government gave its unconditional support, was glorified as an example of modern leadership to the world. Today he has been repudiated by millions of Mexicans.

The government of the United States has made more than a few mistakes in its foreign policy. When this occurred, it has usually resulted from the government of the United States' support for the wrong individual. There are many examples of this in the history of the United States.

In the first half of this decade, the United States government made such a mistake when it supported Carlos Salinas de Gortari in Mexico. It made the mistake by signing NAFTA, which did not have the support of the majority of North American citizens and which brought with it an execution order for the indigenous people of Mexico.

On that morning in 1994 we rose up in arms. We rose up not for power, not because of orders from abroad. We rose up in order to say we are here.

To the Mexican government, our gov-

ernment, we had been forgotten and subjected to a genocide without bullets or bombs. We were subjected to annihilation by disease, misery and abandonment. The government of the United States became an accomplice of the Mexican government in this genocide. With the signing of NAFTA, the government of the United States gave its approval for the assassination of millions of Mexicans.

Were the citizens of North America aware of this? Were they aware that their government had signed agreements for mass murder in Mexico? Did they know that the United States government supported a criminal?

That man has gone, but we remain. Our demands have not been resolved and our weapons continue saying "we are here" to the government, to the people of Mexico and the people and government of the rest of the world. We patiently waited, hoping that the new government would listen to us and respond.

But within the dark chambers of the North American power structure, someone decided that the worst threat to the United States of America would be an uprising of the indigenous people of the southeast of Mexico. From this darkness came the order: finish them off! They put a bounty on our dark skin, on our culture, on our words, but most of all a bounty on our rebellion.

The North American government decided again to support a man who would continue the politics of lies perpetrated by his predecessor, who had suppressed democracy, liberty and justice for the people of Mexico. Millions of dollars were made available to this man and his government. Without the approval of North American citizens, a large loan, unprecedented in history, was given to the government of Mexico.

Not for the improvement of the lives of Mexican citizens, not for the democratic political life of the country, not for the development of the economy which would support manufacturing and other projects.

This money is for speculators, for corruption, for falsehoods, and for the annihilation of a group of rebels, Indians in large part, poorly armed, poorly equipped, but worthy rebels and human beings.

So much money to support such lies can only be explained because of fear. But what does your North American govern-

ment do?

Should the North American people fear, on the other hand, money which serves as the modern armament and the sophisticated technology of drug dealers? Should the citizens of North America fear the consequences of a dictatorial party in Mexico? Should North American citizens fear the violence which causes hopelessness and the absence of democracy, liberty and justice?

Today, the North American government which has for decades promoted democracy around the world is the primary support for dictatorship born early in the beginning of the 20th century, and now proposes to end the century with the same lie supporting a government against the will of Mexican people.

Sooner or later, in spite of the support of the North American government, in spite of millions of dollars, in spite of a multitude of lies, that dictatorship which darkens the Mexican sky will come to an end. The people of Mexico will find the path which will achieve democracy, liberty and justice to which they have a historical right.

Americans:

Many have been the attacks by political leaders of the United States against the

Mexican nation. In their analysis, they have pointed out the stupidity and corruption of the Mexican government (stupidity

and corruption that has grown and been supported by the North American government) and they identify this as reflective of all those people under the Mexican flag. They are wrong. Mexico is not its government. Mexico is a nation that aspires to be sovereign and independent, but in order to be, must be free of dictatorship and raise over the land the universal flag of democracy, liberty and justice.

Fomenting the racism, the fear and the insecurity, the major political leaders in

the United States have offered economic support to the government of Mexico in order to control the violence and unrest provoked by the economic conditions.

They offer to construct absurd walls in order to stop the crossing of those millions of Mexicans who seek a better life across the northern border.

The best wall against this massive immigration to the United States is a democratic, free and just government in Mexico. If Mexican citizens would find this in their own land, they would not feel obliged to look for work in other countries. Supporting the dictatorship party system in Mexico, any man, regardless of his name, sees that the North American government actually supports an uncertain and troublesome future. By supporting the people of Mexico in their desire for democracy, liberty and justice, the people of North America would honor their own history and their own human condition.

Today, in 1995, and after 20 years and thousands of dead and wounded, the North American government realizes that it made a mistake becoming involved in the Vietnam war. Today in 1995 the government of the United States has become involved in the dirty war of the Mexican government against the Zapatista people. This support includes war armament, military advisers, covert actions, electronic spy systems, finances, diplomatic support, and activities of the Central Intelligence Agency.

Little by little, the government of the United States has begun to involve itself in an unequal war headed for disaster by those who carry it out, the government of Mexico. Today, in 1995, 20 years before 2015, it is possible to stop and not repeat the errors of other years. Is it necessary to wait until the year 2015 for the government of the United States to recognize that it had been an error to involve itself in the war against the Mexican people?

This is the time for the people of the United States to fulfill their historic obligation to the people of the South. It is not a time to make a mistake by supporting the wrong individual. The government of the United States should not support a man but instead the people of Mexico in their struggle for democracy, liberty and justice. History will show without a doubt on which side the people and the government of the United States stood, on the side of reactionary dictatorship and one man or on the side of democracy, the people and progress.

Health and long life to the people of the United States of America from the mountains of the Mexican Southeast.

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# UN MENSAJE AL PUEBLO DE LOS ESTADOS UNIDOS

## Por Subcomandante Insurgente Marcos

Hermanos: Aprovecho la oportunidad de dirigir este mensaje a ustedes, al pueblo de los Estados Unidos de América.

El final del siglo XX anuncia ya lo que será el siglo XXI. En todo el mundo, rebeliones que difieren en grados y matices, en ideologías y proyectos, nos recuerdan que hay anhelos que están por encima de sistemas políticos y económicos. Que hay aspiraciones que pertenecen al ser humano y lo elevan sobre plantas, animales y, no pocas veces, sobre sí mismo.

En México, desde el primero de enero de 1994, existe una rebelión mayoritariamente indígena. Las características de esta rebelión la hacen original. Será muy difícil encontrar un referente histórico, en el fatigado andar de los pueblos del mundo, con el que se pueda comparar.

La característica principal es que una rebelión para hablar. Agotadas las vías legales para hacerse escuchar, los indígenas mexicanos tuvieron que recurrir al argumento de las armas para hacerse oír.

Nosotros nos alzamos en armas. Así fue como descorrimos el velo de falsedad e hipocresía que cubría nuestro suelo. Nos alzamos con pocas armas, viejas e inservibles. El gobierno mexicano nos repondió con todo su poderío, con lo mejor y más avanzado de su técnica militar. El gobierno norteamericano apoyó la respuesta militar. Meses después, la crisis económica de México, la crisis que nunca desapareció, terminó por roer las últimas capas de la mentira que lo ocultaba. Y un hombre, al que el gobierno norteamericano dio su apoyo incondicional y presentó como ejemplo de líder del mundo moderno, es ahora repudiado por millones de mexicanos.

El gobierno de los Estados Unidos se ha equivocado, no pocas veces, en su política exterior. Cuando esto ha ocurrido, se debe a que el gobierno de los Estados Unidos se equivoca de hombre al que apoyar. Ejemplos sobran en la historia.

En la primera mitad de esta década, el gobierno norteamericano se equivocó al apoyar a un hombre en México, a Carlos Salinas de Gortari. Se equivocó al firmar un NAFTA que no tuvo el apoyo mayorit-

ario del pueblo norteamericano y que significó una orden de ejecución sumaria en contra de los indígenas mexicanos.

En el amanecer de 1994, nosotros nos alzamos en armas. Nos alzamos no por el poder, no por mandato extranjero. Nos alzamos para decir "aquí estamos".

El gobierno mexicano, nuestro gobierno, nos había olvidado y estaba dispuesto a un genocidio sin balas ni bombas, estaba dispuesto a aniquilarnos con la muerte calla-

ron facilitados a este hombre y a su gobierno. Sin la aprobación del pueblo norteamericano, un préstamo enorme, sin antecedentes en la historia, fue otorgada al gobierno de México. No para mejorar las condiciones de vida del pueblo, no para la democratización de la vida política del país, no para la reactivación económica promoviendo fábricas y proyectos productivos. Este dinero es para la especulación, para la corrupción, para la simulación, para el aniquilamiento de un grupo de rebeldes, indígenas en su inmensa mayoría, mal armados, mal alimentados, mal equipados, pero bien dignos, bien humanos.

Tanto dinero para financiar la mentira sólo se puede explicar por el miedo. Pero, ¿a qué le teme el gobierno norteamericano? ¿A la verdad? ¿A qué el pueblo norteamericano se dé cuenta de que su dinero sirve para apoyar la dictadura más antigua del mundo moderno? ¿A qué el pueblo norteamericano se dé cuenta de que sus impuestos pagan la persecución y la muerte de los indígenas mexicanos?

¿A qué le teme el pueblo norteamericano? Debe el pueblo norteamericano temer de nuestros fusiles de madera, de nuestros pies descalzos, de nuestros cuerpos rotos, de nuestra lengua, de nuestra cultura? ¿Debe el pueblo de los Estados Unidos de América temer de nuestro grito que demanda democracia, libertad y justicia? ¿No son estas tres verdades el fundamento que animó el nacimiento de los Estados Unidos de América? ¿No son la democracia, la libertad y la justicia derechos de todo ser humano? ¿Cuántos millones de dólares justifican que se niegue, a cualquier ser humano en cualquier parte del mundo, su derecho a ser libre en el pensamiento que anima palabras y acciones, a dar y recibir lo que con justicia merece, a elegir democráticamente a sus gobernantes y el rumbo colectivo?

¿Debe el pueblo norteamericano temer, en cambio, el dinero, el moderno armamento, la sofisticada tecnología del narcotráfico? ¿Debe el pueblo norteamericano

temer la complicidad del narcotráfico y los gobiernos? ¿Debe el pueblo norteamericano temer las consecuencias de una dictadura de partido en México? ¿Debe temer la violencia que suele provocar, irremediablemente, la falta de democracia, de libertad y de justicia? Hoy, el gobierno norteamericano, el que se preció por décadas de promover la democracia en el mundo, es el principal sosten de una dictadura que, nacida a principios del siglo XX, pretende terminar la centuria con la misma mentira gobernando en contra de la voluntad de los mexicanos.

Tarde o temprano, a pesar del apoyo del gobierno norteamericano, a pesar de los millones y millones de dólares, a pesar de los toneladas de mentiras, la dictadura que ensombrece el cielo mexicano habrá de ser borrada. El pueblo de México encontrará los cauces para lograr la democracia, la libertad y la justicia que, por derecho histórico, merece.

Americanos:

Grandes y no pocos han sido los ataques de personalidades políticas de Estados Unidos en contra de la Nación Mexicana. En sus análisis señalan la torpeza y corrupción del gobierno mexicano (torpeza y corrupción que han crecido y se sostienen a la sombra del apoyo del gobierno norteamericano) y las identifican con todo el pueblo que se cobija bajo la bandera mexicana. Se equivocan. México no es su gobierno. México una Nación que aspira a ser soberana e independiente, y para serlo debe librarse de una dictadura y levantar en su suelo la universal bandera de la democracia, la libertad y la justicia.

Fomentando el racismo, el temor y la inseguridad, los grandes personajes de la política en Estados Unidos ofrecen apoyo económico al gobierno mexicano para que controle por la violencia el descontento en contra de la situación económica. Ofrecen engrosar más aún absurdos muros con los que pretenden frenar la búsqueda de vida que lleva a millones de mexicanos a intentar cruzar la frontera norte. El mejor muro en contra de la inmigración masiva a los Estados Unidos es un régimen democrático, libre y justo en México. Si los mexicanos encontraran en sus tierras lo que hoy se les niega, no se verían obligados a buscar trabajo en otros países. Apoyando a la dictadura del sistema de partido en Estado en México, cualquiera que sea el hombre y el nombre que tenga, el pueblo norteamericano apoya un futuro incierto y angustioso. Apoyando al pueblo de México en sus aspiraciones por democracia, libertad y justicia, el pueblo

norteamericano hace honor a su historia... y a su condición humana.

Hoy, en 1995 y después de 20 años y decenas de miles de muertos y heridos, el gobierno norteamericano reconoce que se equivocó al involucrarse en la guerra de Vietnam. Hoy, en 1995, el gobierno norteamericano ha empezado a involucrarse en la guerra sucia del gobierno en contra del pueblo zapatista. Apoyo de material de guerra, asesores, acciones encubiertas, espionaje electrónico, financiamiento, apoyo diplomático, actividades de la Agencia Central de Inteligencia. Poco a poco, el gobierno norteamericano empieza a meter sus manos en una guerra desigual y condenada al fracaso para quien la lleva adelante; el gobierno mexicano. Hoy, en 1995 y 20 años antes del 2015 y decenas de miles de muertos y heridos, el gobierno norteamericano reconoce que se equivocó al involucrarse en la guerra de Vietnam. Hoy, en 1995, el gobierno norteamericano ha empezado a involucrarse en la guerra sucia del gobierno mexicano en contra del pueblo zapatista. Apoyo de material de guerra, asesores militares, acciones encubiertas, espionaje electrónico, financiamiento, apoyo diplomático, actividades de la Agencia Central de Inteligencia. Poco a poco, el gobierno norteamericano empieza a meter sus manos en una guerra desigual y condenada al fracaso para quien la lleva adelante: el gobierno mexicano.

Hoy, en 1995 y 20 años antes del 2015, es posible detenerse y no repetir el error de otros años. No es necesario esperar al año 2015 para que el gobierno norteamericano reconozca entonces que fue un error involucrarse en la guerra contra el pueblo mexicano.

Es hora de que el pueblo de los Estados Unidos, cumpla con su compromiso histórico respecto a su vecino del sur. Ya no equivocarse respecto al hombre al que hay que apoyar. Apoyar no a un hombre sino a un pueblo, al pueblo de México en su lucha por la democracia, la libertad y la justicia.

La historia apuntará, implacable, de que lado estuvieron el pueblo y el gobierno norteamericano. De lado de la dictadura, de un hombre, de la reacción. O del lado de la democracia, de un pueblo del progreso...

Salud y larga vida al pueblo de los Estados Unidos de América. Desde las montañas del Sureste Mexicano.

Propiedad literaria registrada por Hispanic Link News Service 1995. Distribuido por the Los Angeles Times Syndicate





## Un Rayito De Luz

by Sofia Martinez

¿Crees que Dios te creó por amor y te ama como Padre?  
 ¿Crees que Dios está presente en el mundo y lo transforma?  
 ¿Crees que El nos ama a todos, especialmente a los pobres y a los pecadores?  
 ¿Crees que El tiene un plan de felicidad, paz y justicia para todos nosotros?  
 ¿Crees que todos somos hijos del mismo Padre Dios?  
 ¿Crees que el Bien siempre triunfará? ¿Crees que tanto amó Dios al mundo que le envió a Su Hijo Único, no para condenarlo, sino para salvarlo?  
 ¿Crees que Jesús, Hijo único de Dios y único Mediador entre Dios y nosotros, es capaz de salvar al mundo? ¿Crees

que resucitó y está vivo para siempre?

¿Crees que en Su muerte en la cruz murió también el pecado?

¿Crees que Jesucristo tiene todo poder en el cielo y en la tierra?

¿Crees que Jesús es la única respuesta y solución efectiva para los problemas del mundo? ¿Crees que hoy, y aquí, Jesús puede darle sentido a tu vida?

¿Crees en el Espíritu Santo, fuente de Nueva Vida?

¿Crees que el Espíritu Santo todo lo transforma y santifica?

¿Crees que dirige a los creyentes y se hace presente en el amor?

¿Crees en la unidad y en la santidad del Cuerpo de Cristo?

¿Crees que la Madre de Jesús es también Madre nuestra?

¿Crees que todo lo que haces a un hermano necesitado se lo haces a Jesús?

¿Crees que un día vas a participar totalmente de la resurrección de Jesús,

¿Crees que Jesús va a regresar triunfante a la tierra?

## The Mexican Dark Secret

By Barbara Renaud González

How many Mexicans qualified for the Million-Man March?

"Agustín Lara is not black... It's not true what they say," my mother announces on her return from Veracruz.

Mami has just visited the late composer's home on Mexico's eastern coast, and had viewed the legend's family photographs. "No hay sangre negra." (There is no black blood). So there is no blackness, por seguro.

For us, it is not good to be black. If you ask, we can remember our Spanishness on cue. Somewhere in the family we have a Papá Tomás or Mamá Chenchá with the blue eyes. And Tío Encarnación had those sad green eyes, remember? So there.

It is just easier to be Latino if you are white. And we get that by marrying it. According to a 1993 census report, about one-third of Latinos marry whites. For many families, this is the ultimate. This is almost as good as getting a college degree. "Ay, que bonitos niños vas a tener." (What beautiful children you are going to have). And we can't wait to show off the little Casparitos.

And if marrying white is the prize, imagine what marrying black is. Less than 3 percent of Latinos dare to marry into black families. Think of the escándalo and what the neighbors will say. Young Latinas are absolutely -- vale más que no -- prohibited from dating black men. If you date one, you might as well announce to the world that you are a you-know-what peccadora. And no decent Latino will ever want you again.

So this is a family secret, now revealed. But like any good secrets, we don't know the whole story.

It's like a noche de ronda. Just as we have those Spanish relatives we love to brag about, so do we have a blood relationship with Africa. The black heritage in Mexico is not isolated to Veracruz or the Costa Chica -- our code word for los negros. Blacks arrived with the conquistadores in 1519. And by 1529, Spaniards brought enslaved Africans because the Indians were dying from the Conquest.

By 1650, more than 150,000 blacks and mulattoes lived in Mexico, a figure that actually surpassed Spanish immigration. These negritos didn't just go away, either. They blended in like café con chocolate.

The subsequent mixing of peoples made Mexico a nation of mestizos. And a noche criolla as well. A contradiction despite its triumph of peoples. Because you still had to be a Spaniard to gain privilege and status.

Under this class system, the children of blacks and Indians were thought to combine the worst of both peoples. The Church felt that such unions were dangerous, as they would "reinforce the Indian's attachment to paganism and perhaps even infect him with the infidelity of Islam." Spaniards married Indians all the time, but Indians were not supposed to marry blacks.

While Latinos and blacks may lead separate lives in Texas, it has not always been so. Because of the massive land grants to Anglos who wanted to settle in the Mexican Texas, enslaved blacks entered as part of the illicit trade that made Texas profitable for the pioneers. Many of these blacks promptly escaped and fled to Mexico or to the nearest Indian village. Indeed, the miscegenation was so real and palpable that it made the new Anglo arrivals sick with disgust.

When Mexico prohibited slavery in 1829, the Anglo dreamers were ready to rebel. By the time Mexico realized she had lost control of Texas, it was too late. As the state of Texas debated the slavery question during the Civil War, the black Seminoles crossed into Mexico seeking refuge from the loss of their lands. In time, 3,000 of them settled permanently in Mexico, far from the Río Grande.

So, was Agustín Lara a negro? Piénsalo bien. Think about it. It would be an incredible mentira -- a lie -- for the man who defined romance in Mexico to be black, verdad?

Promise not to tell.  
 (Barbara Renaud González, of Dallas, Texas, is a free-lance writer who contributes commentaries regularly to the Dallas Morning News and public radio station KERA.) Copyright 1995, Hispanic Link News Service. Distributed by the Los Angeles Times Syndicate

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**From Pg. 1**

the right to vote in Mexican elections. Currently, Mexico does not recognize absentee ballots, including those of Mexican citizens living abroad.

In his meeting with Hispanic leaders, Zedillo told Baldemar Velásquez, president of the Ohio-based Farm Labor Organizing Committee, that he would "seriously consider" supporting legislation to require that any Mexican worker admitted to the United States as a temporary/seasonal worker be part of a union. Velásquez told Hispanic Link, "All we want is to make sure no one gets exploited, as in the old bracero program." The U.S. Congress is considering legislation to reintroduce the program that was widely criticized in the 1940s and '50s as abusive to workers.

While President Clinton heaped accolades on his Mexican counterpart and called the visit "extremely productive," Zedillo had less luck with U.S. congressional leadership and the White House press corps. House Speaker Newt Gingrich (R-Ga.) turned down a request from the Hispanic Caucus to allow Zedillo to address a joint session of

Congress, citing "scheduling problems." He chose instead to hold a short private meeting.

Caucus chairman Ed Pastor (D-Ariz.) called it a short-sighted decision. "If President Zedillo had been given the chance to talk, he could have informed the Congress where Mexico is politically and economically. That way members who have very limited knowledge of that country but are nonetheless making decisions could be better informed on how to vote," he said.

And in a packed news conference, only the correspondents from Mexico and U.S. Hispanic press showed any interest in issues developed during the presidents' meeting. The White House press corps didn't ask a single question relating to it. They preferred to quiz Clinton on everything from Bosnia to the O.J. Simpson trial.

"It's all very ironic," said NCLR's Yzaguirre, "Congress says it supports Mexico and votes for NAFTA, but it adopts this anti-immigration posture because it's politically expedient. Then many perpetuate that and other incorrect images (of Mexico) by ignoring the facts and everything else."

(Patricia Guadalupe covers Congress and the White House for Hispanic Link and two national radio networks. Copyright 1995, Hispanic Link News Service. Distributed by the Los Angeles Times Syndicate)

**EN LA CORTE DEL DISTRITO DE ESTADO UNIDOS POR EL DISTRITO DEL SUR DE TEXAS DIVISION DE LAREDO**

BERENE MURILLO, de parte de ella y toda otra persona similarmente situada,  
 Demandantes,

Causa No. L-93-111

v.

Texas A & M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM y DR. EDWARD A. HILER, Director de la estacion de experimentos agricolas de Texas,  
 Demandados.

**AVISO DE ACUERDO DE ACCION DE CLASE**

**ATENCION: ESTE AVISO ES PARA TODO TRABAJADOR AGRICOLA QUE HAYA TRABAJADO EN UNA ESTACION DE EXPERIMENTOS AGRICOLAS DE LA UNIVERSIDAD TEXAS A & M DENTRO DEL PERIODO DEL DIA 2 DE JULIO DE 1990 AL 21 DE JULIO DE 1993.**

**PROPOSITO DEL AVISO**

El día 10 de agosto de 1993 una trabajadora agricola representada por Texas Rural Legal Aid sentó una demanda de parte de ella y todos los trabajadores que trabajaron en una estacion de experimentos agricolas de Texas dentro del periodo del día 2 de julio de 1990 al 21 de julio de 1993. El acuerdo propuesto de la demanda beneficiara a mas de 400 trabajadores.

Si usted trabajo en una estacion de experimentos agricolas dentro del periodo del día 2 de julio de 1990 y el 21 de julio de 1993, usted debe firmar una forma de Prueba de Reclamo para recibir beneficios de este acuerdo.

**REQUERIMIENTO PARA OPTAR**

Al recibir la aprobacion final de la Corte, Texas Rural Legal Aid distribuirá el dinero del acuerdo. Usted puede recibir beneficios de este acuerdo SOLAMENTE si usted opta en este acuerdo firmando el Reclamo de Prueba bajo juramento. Puede obtener las formas de Reclamo de Prueba llamando a Texas Rural Legal Aid al numero 1-800-369-0585. Usted puede usar su propia forma de reclamo, pero cada forma debe ser firmada ante un notario publico y debe contener la informacion siguiente:

- (1) Nombre;
- (2) Seguro Social;
- (3) Fecha de nacimiento;
- (4) Direccion;
- (5) Estacion de Experimentos agricola donde trabajo;
- (6) Nombre de Supervisor;
- (7) Fechas de empleo;
- (8) Responsabilidades de empleo;
- (9) Nombre de algunos companeros de trabajo;
- (10) Nombre de companero de trabajo que compartio recibos con usted; y
- (11) Cantidad de dinero recibido.

La forma de Prueba de Reclamo debe ser mandada a: Texas Rural Legal Aid, Inc., Joaquin Amaya, Jr., P.O. Box 1658, Plainview, Texas 79072.

La forma de Prueba de Reclamo debe de recibirse no mas tarde de noventa (90) dias de la fecha 15 de agosto de 1995 del aviso de la clase, o para el día 13 de noviembre de 1995. Si la Prueba de Reclamo la recibe Texas Rural Legal Aid despues de la fecha, el reclamo no sera valido.

Los demandados en la demanda tienen el derecho a oponerse a su Prueba de Reclamo.

**HISTORIA DE LA DEMANDA**

La demanda fue sentada por una trabajadora agricola quien fue empleada por la Estacion de Experimentos Agricolas en Halfway, condado de Hale, Texas. La demanda fue sentada por la trabajadora como accion de clase para ella y para todos los demas trabajadores similarmente situados en las estaciones de experimentos dentro del periodo del día 2 de julio de 1990 al 21 de julio de 1993.

La trabajadora agricola alega en su demanda que ella fue clasificada como contratista independiente en lugar de una empleada durante su trabajo en la estacion de experimentos.

Debido a la clasificacion equivocada, ella tuvo que pagar algo de los impuestos de seguro social del empleador y termino ganando menos del sueldo minimo. Al haber sido clasificada como contratista independiente tambien en la desanimacion aplicar por sus beneficios de desempleo. Tambien alega que ella no recibio ninguna declaracion por escrito de las condiciones de trabajo y ningun recibo de pago apropiado.

Los demandados, el sistema de la universidad de Texas A & M y el Dr. Edward A. Hiler, Director de Texas Agricultural Experiment Station, contestaron todos los alegatos de la demandante. Aun mas, los demandados mantienen que ni la universidad ni la estacion de experimentos estan sujetos a las provisiones del Acta de Proteccion de los Trabajadores Agricola y Migrante. Los demandados ademas sostienen que ellos tienen derecho a la Enmienda Once y estan protegidos por Inmunidad Soberana.

No obstante, en esfuerzo de buena fe para resolver esta disputa, los demandados estan de acuerdo con el acuerdo propuesto. Este acuerdo no es una admision de culpabilidad por parte de los demandados. Mas bien, es para que los partidos resuelvan sus diferencias sin tener que hacer gastos de litigio de clase. El acuerdo propuesto provee el remedio para todos los reclamos de la demandante. Siendo que el acuerdo afectara a muchos trabajadores, estos trabajadores tienen el derecho a decidir si quieren oponerse.

**DISTRIBUCION DEL ACUERDO**

Al llegar a la aprobacion final de la Corte, Texas Rural Legal Aid es responsable por la distribucion de su dinero. Texas Rural Legal Aid le mandara su dinero por correo a la direccion que aparece en su Prueba de Reclamo, si usted sentó una forma de Prueba de Reclamo a tiempo y esta forma es aprobada por los Demandados o por la Corte.

**RESUMEN DEL ACUERDO PROPUESTO**

**Danos Monetarios**

Para compensarlos por sus danos de sueldo minimo, la mayoría del los miembros de la clase recibirán veinte y dos punto noventa y cinco por ciento (22.95%) del pago total ganado en la estacion de experimentos agricolas del día 2 de julio de 1990 al 21 de julio de 1993.

Los miembros de la clase que trabajaron en la estacion de El Paso o Pecos bajo los contratistas de trabajo agricola Mario Garcia, Waldo Garcia, Sonya Garcia, o Tomas Salgado recibirán el ocho punto setenta y ocho por ciento (8.78%) de su pago total desde el día 2 de julio de 1990 a 21 de julio de 1993.

Cada miembro de la clase recibirá ciento veinte dolares (\$120.00) como pago por haber perdido beneficios de desempleo.

Correccion de Archivos

La estacion de experimentos agricolas de Texas reportara al IRS los sueldos totales ganados por cada uno de los miembros de la clase. La estacion remitira al IRS, de parte de cada uno de los miembros de la clase, todos los pagos necesarios para que cada miembro de la clase reciba el credito apropiado en su archivo del Seguro Social.

**OBJECIONES AL ACUERDO**

Si usted se opone el acuerdo, usted debe sentar una objeccion por escrito en la Corte y envíe su escrito a: Sra. Rosie Rodriguez, Court Clerk, P.O. Box 597, Laredo, Texas 78042. Cualquier objeccion debe ser sentada en la Corte no mas tarde que noventa (90) dias de la fecha 15 de agosto de 1995 del aviso de la clase, o para el día 13 de noviembre de 1995.

La Corte conducira una audiencia de todas las objeciones recibidas a tiempo. Un aviso de la fecha y tiempo de cualquier audiencia se le mandara a aquellas personas que hayan mandado sus objeciones a tiempo.

**DERECHO A ENTRAR EN SU PROPIA DEMANDA**

Cualquier persona que no entra en esta demanda tiene el derecho de sentar su propia demanda con su propio abogado.

**ACEPTACION DEL ACUERDO**

Si usted senta una forma de Prueba de Reclamo a tiempo, si el Reclamo es aprobado por los demandados o por la Corte, y si el acuerdo es aprobado por la Corte, entonces usted recibira beneficios del acuerdo propuesto. Entonces usted renunciara sus derechos de demandar a la universidad de Texas A & M por las violaciones recibidas por esta demanda.

**PARA MAS INFORMACION**

Este es unicamente un resumen del acuerdo propuesto. Cualquier miembro de la clase puede saber mas sobre el acuerdo propuesto, o obtener una copia del acuerdo propuesto, llamando o escribiendo: Texas Rural Legal Aid, Inc., Joaquin Amaya, Jr., P.O. Box 1658, Plainview, Texas 79072. El numero gratuito es 1-800-369-0585.

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