



Que Son Muchas las Razones Porque Hay Guerra En México

Las fuerzas del gobierno mexicano han recuperado tres los tres pueblos que habían sido asaltados por los rebeldes "zapatistas", manteniendo en su poder otras localidades fronterizas con Guatemala, en una zona predominantemente selvática.

Miles de soldados se desplazaron el día primero de enero al estado sureño de Chiapas, donde campesinos agrupados en el autodenominado "Ejército Zapatista de Liberación Nacional", (EZLN), sostienen enfrentamientos con tropas de gobierno mexicano.

De acuerdo a los datos el total de personas muertas en los enfrentamientos alcanzaba un total de 150 entre rebeldes y efectivos de las fuerzas de seguridad, desde que los "zapatistas" iniciaron su lucha armada el día de Año Nuevo.

En última noticia el Presidente de México anunció un cese de fuego y ordeno una nueva comisión para investigar que es necesario para mejorar la vida de los Indios de la región. La prueba de dichos indios fue la principal razón porque los rebeldes pelean.

Ayer miércoles, el Representante Estadounidense Joe Kennedy y activistas pro los derechos humanos, llegaron a México para investigar abusos hacia los Indios a manos del ejército federal.

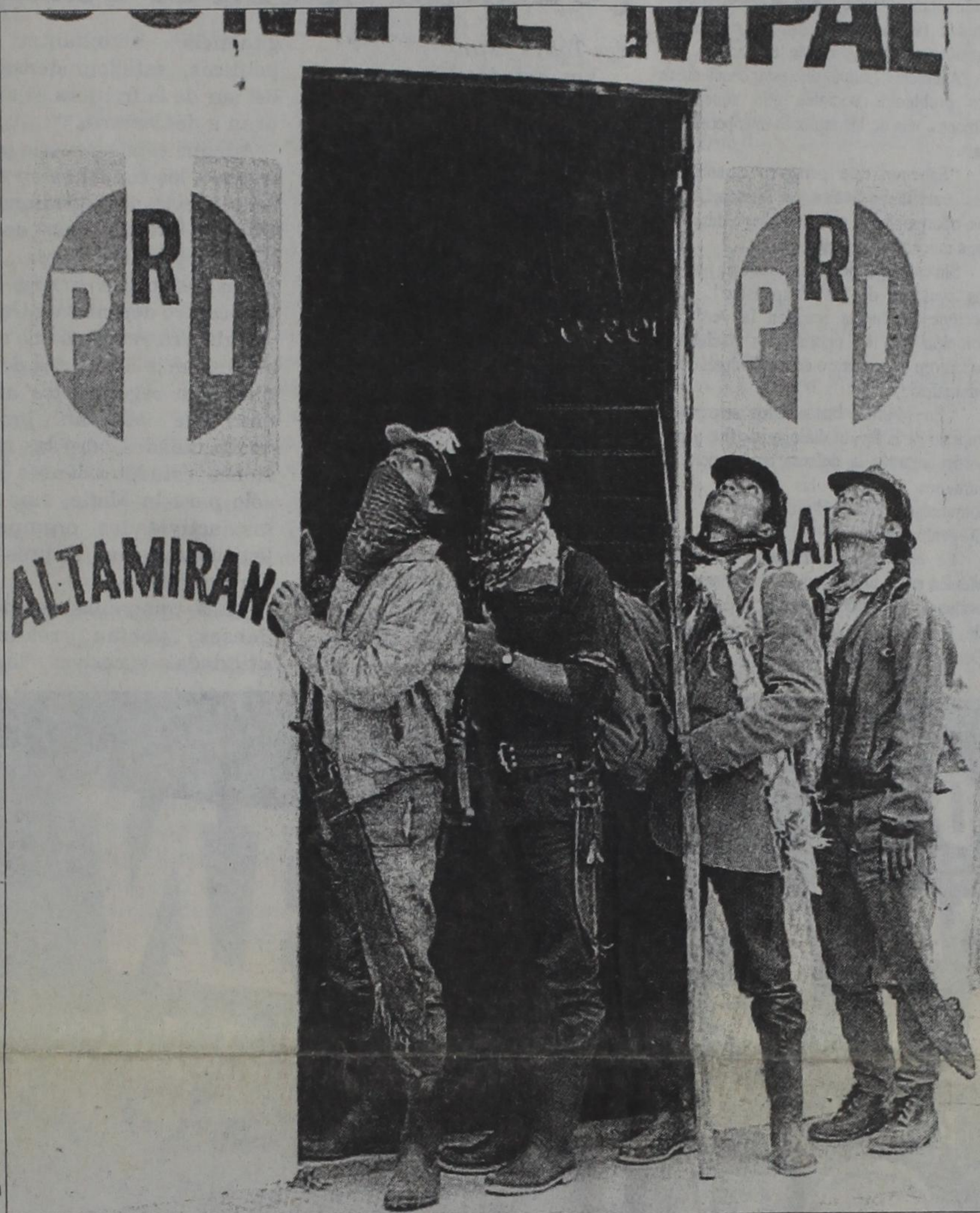
"Los que nos concierne más es que se han reportado abusos contra los Indios y que se ha reportado por oficiales de la iglesia que se han ejecutado participantes en la rebelión," dijo Kennedy.

Kennedy, representante de Mass. dijo que una junta el Presidente Carlos Salinas de Gortari había declarado que el gobierno mexicano "llegaría al punto final de los abusos y que trabajaría para impedir la prueba" en el estado de Chiapas.

Kennedy ha fijado una junta con

el Obispo Samuel Ruiz, quien ha sido designado como mediador entre el gobierno y los miembros del EZLN para discutir las demandas de los Zapatistas de terminar la pobreza.

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Los motivos de la lucha, aseguran los rebeldes al sur de México, son por las demandas que el gobierno no ha satisfecho: trabajo, justicia, democracia, tierra, techo, alimentación, independencia, paz y libertad.

Equina Política

In an interview with El Editor Francisco J. Gutiérrez, candidate for Justice of the Peace Precinct 3, related that he has been campaigning steadily since filing and has received positive responses from various segments of the community. He added that "some former political foes have contacted him and thrown in their support. "One of the main things that they were concerned about was the fact that they did not like the idea of two members of the same family being in local political offices at the same time."

Gutiérrez said that the decision to run for office was not hard to make. "Since I ran for the City Council post, many people have been asking me to run again. When Judge McKinley decided not to run I saw it as an opportunity to again try and serve my community."

Gutiérrez is a native of Lubbock and has continually been active in the community. "My involvement is extensive. I feel that this is very important. How can we ask people to vote for us if they know nothing about us and how we work for the betterment of our city?" Gutiérrez asked.

Gutiérrez stressed that one thing that people must understand is that it is not necessary to be an attorney to be Justice of the Peace.

"I think that it might be a disadvantage to be an attorney. The J.P. office is the only position within the judiciary that is available to the common man where the concerns of the people can be addressed effectively and equitably."

Gutiérrez is running in the Democratic Primary election which will take place on March 8 against Aurora Hernandez.

Esquina Política is a new column that will be published each week in order to inform our readers as to issues and candidates in the upcoming election.

Bolder Congressional Hispanic Caucus Frames '94 Agenda

By Patricia Guadalupe

Emboldened by their unprecedented influence in the first session of the 103rd Congress, the 17 Hispanic voting members in the U.S. House of Representatives intend to test their new-found respect some more when the body reconvenes Jan. 25.

Fifteen of the 17 are active participants in the Congressional Hispanic Caucus.

According to CHC Chairman José Serrano (D-N.Y.), the group intends to use its new clout and higher visibility to impact upcoming votes on health care, welfare reform and immigrant rights.

Its vote could be crucial if action on each of these issues is decided by narrow margins, as many predict will happen.

"Our top three priorities will have to be assuring that our agreements on the health care plan are implemented, having an influence on welfare reform, and restraining as much as possible the damage many have tried to inflict on immigrants through policy changes and program cuts," Serrano says.

In its commitment to include undocumented immigrants in health care reform, the caucus will be bucking both White House and Congress-

sional pressures. It is also working on legislation to repeal employer sanctions provisions of the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986. The sanctions heighten discrimination against all Hispanic job-seekers, according to federal surveys.

Mario Moreno, regional counsel for the Washington

office of the Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund, grades its members -- 12 Democrats and three Republicans -- as "very effective in framing the agenda for the Hispanic community."

"They've staked out the issues and legislation of concern to us as Hispanics," he says.

Frank Cota-Robles Newton, executive director of the National Hispanic Leadership Agenda, credits the articulate Serrano for setting a more aggressive tone for the group. "This is definitely a time when people are taking the caucus seriously," he says.

The creation of several new majority-Hispanic congressional districts in 1992 helped lead to an increase of Hispanic full-voting members from 11 to 17 that November. Eight new Hispanic faces (two replacing incumbent) appeared in the House. Xavier Becerra and Lucille Roybal-Allard from California; Frank Tejeda and Henry Bonilla from Texas; Luis Gutiérrez (Illinois); Robert Menéndez (New Jersey); Lincoln Diaz-Balart (Florida); and Nydia Velázquez (New York).

Notes Ruth Pagani, director of advocacy and public policy at the National Puerto Rican Coalition, "Not only are there more members, but the members are dispersed among some of the most important committees and subcommittees."

Bonilla joined Serrano, Ed Pastor (Ariz.) and Esteban Torres (Calif.) for example, on the powerful Appropriations Committee, and three others, Gutiérrez, Roybal-Allard and Velázquez, served on the influential Banking, Finance and Urban Affairs Committee, headed by Rep. Henry González (Texas).

The three Latina members met in April with First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton to discuss health care needs of Hispanic women and children. Roybal-Allard, who initiated the meeting, points out that input at the beginning of the process, rather than the end, is critical.

Newton attributes the caucus' effectiveness in part to a greater sense of its national prominence. "Previously, Hispanics, like many in Congress, didn't look beyond their districts." This past year, he says, members spoke out regularly on such issues as Latina health, immigrant rights and backlash against immigrants.

Serrano assesses, "We became so efficient at staying on top of legislation and making our views known to the leadership that they learned to count us in, in a way they never had before."

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News Briefs

Armed Feds Help Families Move Into Vidor

The New York Times reports that federal marshals and local police stood guard while federal housing officials helped move four black families into Vidor, TX's all-white public housing complex. The East Texas town has not had a permanent black resident in more than 60 years. It was also the first time since the mid-60's that the federal government has used an armed escort to force the integration of a housing project.

Federal officials said that 18 of the white residents, unprovoked, held a welcoming party for their new neighbors. Several Vidor Village residents said they were tired of portrayals of Vidor as a bigoted town and that they wanted integration to work. Many blamed outside Klu Klux Klan groups for previous trouble at the complex. However, one unidentified man expressed resignation, "There isn't anything we can do about it anyway. This is the future. This is the way the government says it's going to be."

"Double" Minority Equity Issues

The Wall Street Journal's "Business & Race" column reports that new studies are debunking the popular belief that "double minorities"- black women, have an advantage in the workplace.

Audrey Murrell, a professor of organizational behavior at the University of Pittsburgh's business school, said her study of U.S. Census figures and other data shows that black women don't receive an extra boost from company employment policies favoring minorities and females. In fact, she says, it takes 10 months for black women to earn what white females and black males make in eight months and white males earn in six months.

The pay gap, says Murrell, stems from women's overrepresentation in lower-paying service jobs, as well as placement in occupations at the bottom of corporate organizational charts.

Ella Bell of MIT's Sloan School of Management says the "double minority" stigma actually divides black and white women in the workplace. In a study of female managers, Bell found that black respondents felt more isolated and that they had less organizational support than white women. Bell also added that black women, sensitive to historical images of subservience to powerful white men, shy away from white male mentors.

Clinton Marks Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday in D.C.

The New York Times reports that President Clinton marked the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday holiday by promoting several of his administration's domestic policy initiatives.

Clinton spoke at Howard University to an audience of students and prominent African-Americans, declaring that "the absence of discrimination is not the same thing as the presence of opportunity." Clinton said, "As I come home on this Martin Luther King Day from a trip that fought for democracy and economic progress and security, I have to ask myself, 'How are we doing on these things here at home?'"

"If democracy is the involvement of all of our people, if it is making strength out of our diversity, if we want to say to the people in the troubled areas of Europe: 'Put your ethnic hatreds behind you. Take the differences - the religious differences, the racial differences, the ethnic differences, of your people, and make them a strength in the global economy', surely we must do the same." Clinton said he came home from his trip thinking "I am so proud of the fact that I had the chance to be President at a time when the United States was leading an agreement with Russia and Ukraine and Belarus, and Kazakhstan to dismantle weapons of mass destruction - But we can't get guns out of our own schools." Clinton said, "We could be asked, I think, by Martin Luther King, 'How come this is so?'"

At the end of his speech, Clinton tried to emphasize his urban policy agenda by announcing that the application process is now underway for the government's new empowerment zone development program and by calling attention to the new national service program. Clinton also signed a memorandum on fair housing enforcement.

Clinton on Building Diversity in the Courts

The Washington Post reports after 12 years in which Republicans devoted attention to stocking the federal bench with conservative jurists, President Clinton has been slowly working to reverse the conservative tilt.

Clinton made his mark early on by selecting Ruth Bader Ginsburg, the first Democratic Supreme Court nominee in 30 years. And in the lower courts, Clinton has named more women and minorities than any other president. But for the moment, says the Post, Clinton's stamp is barely discernable. After a year in office, Clinton placed only 28 judges on the 837 member federal judiciary, despite more than 100 vacancies. "He is still faced - a year into his presidency - with a bench that has changed very little," said Nan Aron of the Alliance for Justice, a group that monitors judicial selection.

In contrast, Jimmy Carter had 31 judges appointed by the end of his first year, and Ronald Reagan had 41. Clinton aides and others attribute Clinton's relatively low number to delays in getting an attorney general and other Justice Department officials; FBI and ABA background checks; and to mandatory Senate waiting periods for acting on nominations. But administration officials say that with 20 nominees awaiting Senate action, and more expected at the rate of a dozen per month, that backlog should be cleared by mid summer.

Clinton's cabinet is the first in history that is not composed of a majority of white men. And although he had been criticized for delays in naming people to fill sub-Cabinet and other posts, Clinton has assembled record numbers of female, African-American, Hispanic and other minority appointments. Three fourths of the administration's judicial nominees have received the top American Bar Association rating of well-qualified and more have backgrounds with a greater emphasis on public service than private legal practice.

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Guerra en..

Viene de la página 1

La rebellion en México ya lleva y el subsecretario de gobierno de Chiapas, Julio Cansino, informó que además de Ocosingo, el ejército recuperó Las Margaritas y San Cristóbal de las Casas, 700 kilómetros al sureste de la ciudad de México.

La críticas y razones porque se lanzaron los "Zapatistas" encontra el gobierno de México y se teme que habra fuertes castigos encontra los rebeldes.

Un comandante rebelde identificado como "Moisés" dijo a la prensa que los "zapatistas" someterán a un "juicio sumario" al ex gobernador Absalón Castellanos, de 70 años de edad, acusado de "masacrar a indígenas y campesinos durante su gobierno" en la década pasada.

Castellanos, un general retirado, fue secuestrado el pasado domingo y transportado a Guadalupe Tepeyac, cerca de la frontera con Guatemala, donde los rebeldes se apoderaron de un hospital.

Por su parte, el "teniente Manolo" del Ejército Zapatista aseguró que su lucha tiene la finalidad de terminar con la pobreza extrema y con la marginación que sufren los indígenas.

Puntualizó que todos los miembros de su organización -que tomó su nombre en honor a Emiliano Zapata, heroe de la Revolución Mexicana-, son mexicanos que fueron entrenados en las selvas chiapanecas. "Manolo" señaló que los alzados poseen armas "reglamentarias, de acuerdo con las leyes de la guerra, y son las suficientes para continuar la lucha y seguir el camino hacia el centro del país".

La Secretaría de Gobernación dijo, en la ciudad de México, que los rebeldes son "una mezcla de intereses y de personas tanto nacionales como extranjeros" que "muestran afinidades con otras facciones violentas" que operan en América Central.

Previamente, fuentes militares de



Guatemala indicaron que guerrilleros de ese país estarían respaldando el alzamiento en Chiapas, lo cual fue negado por los insurgentes guatemaltecos.

La Secretaría de la Defensa dijo que los "zapatistas" lanzaron un segundo ataque contra el campo militar de Rancho Nuevo, que comenzó el lunes por la noche y terminó horas después.

En las cercanías de la localidad de Rancho Nuevo, dos automóviles que transportaban a periodistas fueron alcanzados por el fuego, desconociéndose quiénes fueron los atacantes. Un corresponsal del diario capitalino La Jornada, Ismael Romero, resultó herido levemente.

Fuentes de San Cristóbal de Las Casas dijeron que helicópteros artillados atacaron posiciones rebeldes en los alrededores de esa ciudad, pero de inmediato no se informó sobre el número de bajas.

El EZLN atacó el domingo por primera vez Rancho Nuevo, base de un batallón de infantería, apoderándose después de más armas al asaltar la cárcel de San Cristóbal de las Casas, de donde liberaron a 179 presos, secuestrando además, al alcalde de la prisión, Timoteo Gómez, quien al cierre de esta edición, continuaba en poder de la guerrilla.

Antes de abandonar el lugar, colocaron carteles que rezaban: "nos vamos a Tuxtla (la capital de Chiapas) "no queremos TLC, queremos la libertad".

Gobierno dispuesto al diálogo

El gobierno del presidente Carlos Salinas de Gortari ofreció iniciar un diálogo para lograr una solución a los problemas que han provocado el alzamiento de indígenas.

"En ninguna región de México existe diferencia superior a nuestra capacidad de diálogo, ni distancia capaz de afectar nuestra unidad fundamental", dijo el mandatario mexicano ante un grupo de legisladores.

Asimismo, Salinas dijo estar conciente de los problemas sociales que aquejan a Chiapas, una de las regiones más pobres del país.

"Sabemos que persisten carencias y desigualdades; sabemos que los beneficios y las oportunidades no son todavía tangibles para muchos", comentó.

Sin embargo, destacó que ello no justifica las acciones de los "zapatistas". "Las acciones violentas retrasan la verdadera solución de las necesidades sociales y oscurecen el encuentro de las divergencias", puntualizó.

"En México buscaremos siempre el imperio de la ley, el diálogo pacífico y muy particularmente la defensa de los derechos humanos en todas las acciones de la comunidad", añadió el presidente.

EU evalúa violencia
La embajada de Estados Unidos en México envió un equipo de cinco personas a evaluar la situación de violencia desatada el fin de semana, reveló en Washington, el Departamento de Estado.

Al mismo tiempo, el vocero del

Departamento, Michael McCurry, dijo no creer que los ataques lanzados por el denominado "EZLN" estén vinculados con la entrada en vigencia del Tratado de Libre Comercio para América del Norte entre ese país, Estados Unidos y Canadá.

Por otra parte, la embajada ha estado en contacto directo con algunos estadounidenses, turistas o residentes en la zona de combate, quienes indicaron que se encontraban a salvo a pesar de la lucha que ha tenido lugar en la región, dijo McCurry. La prensa norteamericana opina

"El alzamiento de un grupo rebelde en el estado mexicano de Chiapas debe ser investigado imparcialmente", comentaba un editorial del diario The Washington Post.

La aparición del Ejército Zapatista de Liberación Nacional ha causado vergüenza al gobierno del presidente Carlos Salinas de Gortari, afirmó el editorial publicado el pasado 4 de enero, sobre los hechos que han dejado aproximadamente 150 muertos.

El periódico dijo que se han tejido diversas teorías acerca de los motivos para la

acción rebelde, inclusive la puesta en vigencia de la Zona de Libre Comercio de América del Norte.

"Pero no se necesita una elaborada teoría para entender el dolor en Chiapas. La principal amenaza para la democracia en América procede ahora de la corrupción del poder y de la brecha entre los ricos y los pobres".

México, agregó, no se está deshaciendo por los efectos de la Zona de Libre Comercio con Estados Unidos y Canadá, sino que el bloque comercial es más bien parte del remedio para los males de esa nación.

Tras decir que en los sucesos de Chiapas Salinas ha tenido responsabilidad, el Post señaló que el gobierno mexicano debe proceder estrictamente de acuerdo con la ley en el sofocamiento de la rebelión y en el proceso judicial que habrá luego.

A su vez, un editorial publicado en el New York Times se decía que "Si México desea ocupar un lugar entre las democracias de América del Norte, debe cerrar urgentemente la brecha entre la economía y la política, y entre los dos Méxicos reflejados

tras los violentos enfrentamientos registrados.

El diario indicó que debajo de la sociedad moderna, de mercado libre, que está siendo formada por el presidente Carlos Salinas, hay otro México de agricultura de subsistencia y de indígenas.

Ese otro México también es el de Emiliano Zapata, el heroe de la revolución de 1910 que abogaba por la entrega de tierras a los campesinos.

Ese otro México está representando por Chiapas, el empobrecido estado fronterizo con Guatemala, donde guerrilleros indígenas, invocando a Zapata, ocuparon varias poblaciones y se enfrentaron al ejército dejando decenas de muertos, dijo el diario.

El Times agrega que "esta rebelión embarazosa de los olvidados, desafía al gobierno de Salinas en dos temas delicados: responsabilidad en el uso de la fuerza militar y policial, y compasión por los mexicanos más interesados en mantener un estilo tradicional de vida frente al desarrollo capitalista veloz"

¿Cuando Se Ira el Yanqui a Casa?

Por Tony Castro

Los Estados Unidos nunca tuvieron una oportunidad mejor de ganancia con un país amistoso al sur de la frontera.

Las barreras de comercio derumbándose. Tremendas oportunidades para las inversiones aguardando a los negocios y a la industria estadounidense.

Nuevas fortunas a punto de hacerse. Nuevos mercados donde la mano de obra barata significa ganancias más abundantes.

Entonces ocurre lo inesperado. Un pequeño ejército desaliñado de guerrilleros campesinos lanza una revolución violenta.

Pero a medida que la revuelta amenaza con socavar, si no es que destruir, las llamadas reformas económicas y las

ganancias abundantes, los políticos estadounidenses y del sur de la frontera se apresuran a descartarla.

Aunque este escenario se asemeja a los combates en el estado mexicano meridional de Chiapas entre tropas del gobierno y guerrilleros indígenas, es lo que ocurrió hace casi cuatro decenios en Cuba.

Cuba era entonces uno de los vecinos más amistosos de este país, con reglamentos aflojados que ofrecían grandes oportunidades para las inversiones estadounidenses -- no sólo para la Mafia, sino para las actividades organizadas legítimas de las empresas de Fortune 500.

Las compañías estadounidenses venían realizando utilidades excesivas, lo cual

era una de las razones por las que la mayoría de los dirigentes políticos de los Estados Unidos apoyaban a la dictadura corrompida de Batista que explotaba a la población campesina de Cuba.

La revolución de Fidel Castro no fué un levantamiento súbito y cataclísmico. Comenzó lentamente, con su ejército campesino tomando una población o dos aquí, entregándola, yendo a esconderse y por último triunfando después de varios años tumultuosos en los cuales el odio a Batista quizás si era sobrepasado solamente por el desprecio hacia el "yanqui" imperialista.

Ahora, con un espanto de algo parecido, un escenario con demasiadas semejanzas espectrales viene desarrollándose en México. Contra el trasfondo del controvertido Tratado Norteamericano de Libre Comercio, los campesinos que protestan están viendo a NAFTA como un golpe de explotación más. Y propinada por los yanquis de seguro.

En Nueva York, consultores y expertos gubernamentales de alto precio aseguran a Wall Street que no hay razón para el pánico; que no hay necesidad de preocupación sobre las inversiones a largo plazo en México; que la noción de una revolución en esta época en aquel país es ridícula.

Quizás sea así. Estos son, después de todo, campesinos faltos de instrucción y de habilidades que combaten en contra de las tropas más modernamente equipadas y mejor adiestradas que el conocimiento y los testaferreros del Tío Samuel pueden producir.

¿Suena eso también como el escenario que se desdobló en Viet-Nam?

En Viet-Nam, como en México a la vuelta del siglo, Cuba en el decenio de 1950 y México nuevamente ahora, la preocupación apremiante de los nobles campesinos era tan básica como el deseo de un pedacito de la roca, un pedazo de tierra que pudieran llamar propio.

"Los campesinos tienen un punto legítimo," dice el ex-Embajador de los Estados Unidos en México, Julián Nava. "Ellos deberían poseer legalmente la tierra que trabajan." Pero trágicamente, lo que podría haber sido la solución hace sólo unas pocas semanas, puede no ser ya suficiente.

La revuelta campesina empezó el 1x de Enero, el día en que NAFTA entró en vigor. En su declaración de guerra, los guerrilleros del Ejército Zapatista de Liberación Nacional mencionaron a NAFTA como un ejemplo de la influencia extranjera cada vez mayor en México y a una política económica que favorece a los ricos.

Han transcurrido casi 13 años desde que pasé ocho días viviendo con una pequeña banda de revolucionarios mexicanos, y entrevistándolos, en las montañas más allá de Acapulco, en el estado de Guerrero.

Ellos estaban cambiando la protección del sendero de la heroína en México por armas suministradas por los traficantes de narcóticos estadou-

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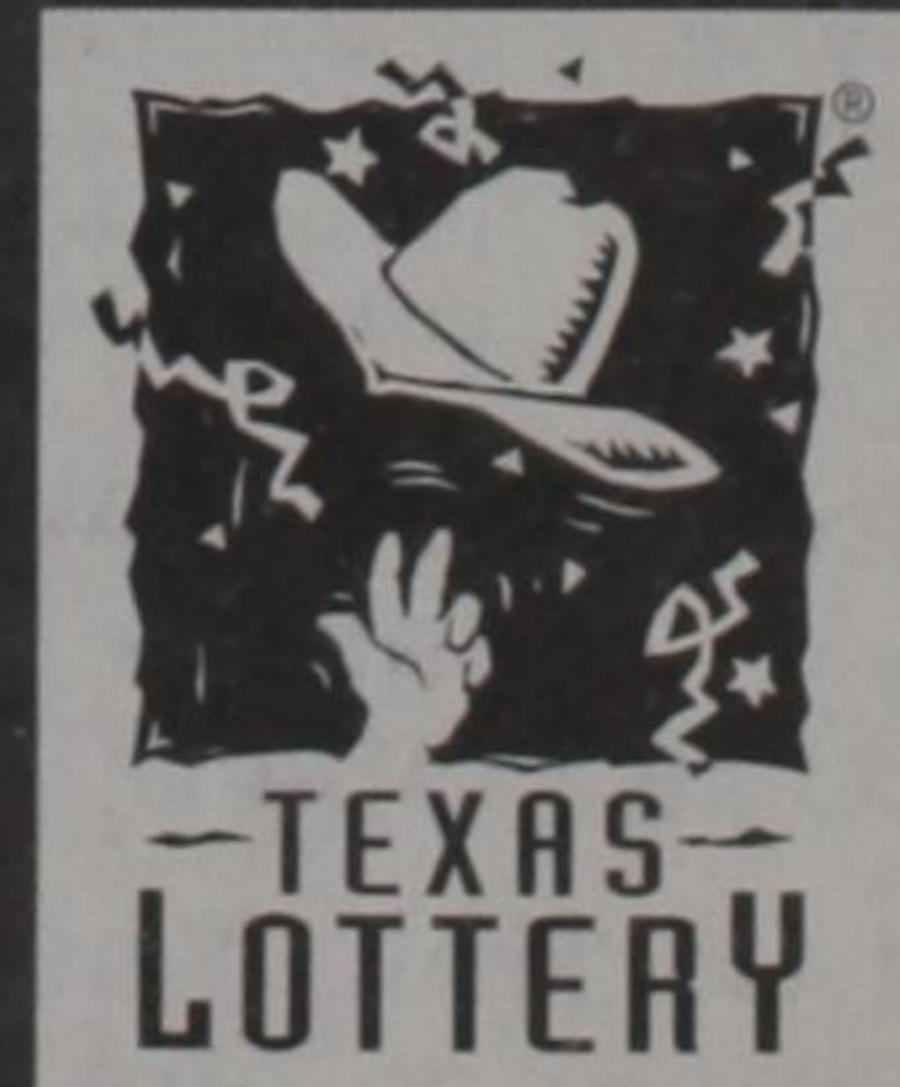
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¿Por Qué Hay Revolución en Chiapas?

Por Nephthali De León

"Han matado al general Zapata, ahora todos somos Zapatistas." Estas fueron las palabras, según John Womack, autor del libro *Emiliano Zapata*, de un campesino de Morelos, estado del legendario caudillo indígena. Zapata fué el indio sureño que se levantó en armas con sus vecinos y labradores del campo contra el gobierno de sus tiempos (revolución de 1910).

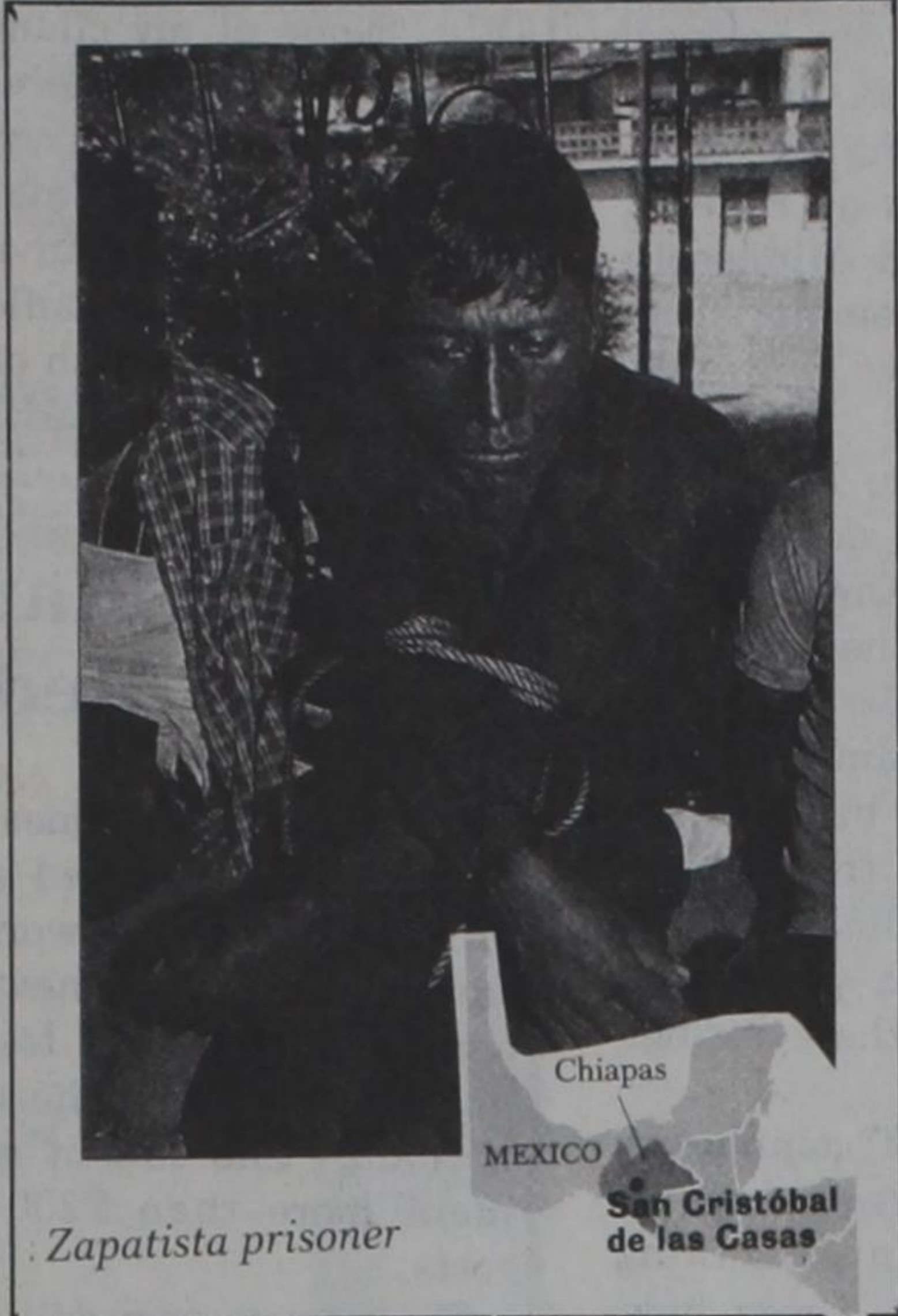
Pero no solo el norteamericano Womack reconoció que la semilla de la lucha por la justicia y dignidad humana siempre estaría latente en el suelo Mexicano. el propio Mariano Azuela, autor Mexicano, dejó muchos imágenes de una revolución vuelta corrupta e incompleta en su libro *Los de Abajo*.

Las moscas, siempre las moscas. Este es el imagen más repetido en este fuerte y honesto libro del popular escritor del pueblo. ¿Y acaso no es cierto que las moscas siempre rondan lo hechado a perder?

Lo que sucede hoy es lo que siempre ha sucedido en la experiencia Mexicana: dominación, represión, abuso y traición. esto no es de parte del vulgo, la población Mexicana que es honesta y trabajadora. Despues de todo, el partido que ha regido control y dominio ha sido el partido de la revolución, el PRI, Partido Revolucionario Institucional.

La sangrienta búsqueda de tierra, justicia y libertad, como lema de los caudillos rebeldes, pronto se tornó en asesinato y traición en los tiempos de la revolución de 1910. Huerta tomó el poder, mandó asesinar al padre intelectual de la revuelta, Francisco Madero el 22 de Febrero de 1913. Para el colmo, el embajador Americano, Lane Wilson, reportó a su gobierno en Washington, la razón "oficial." Se dijo que Madero y sus compañeros trataron de escapar de su lugar de "arresto." Para el pueblo Mexicano esta fué una de las más viles mentiras de la historia. Poco después Guajardo traicionó a Zapata quien fué acribillado en Chinaméca en 1919. años más tarde el propio Pancho Villa también sería emboscado y asesinado en Parral, Chihuahua.

Se caula que más de un millón de Mexicanos (uno de cada 15, perdieron sus vidas entre los años 1910-1917 cuando se ratificó la constitución al cesar la



Zapatista prisoner

Chiapas
MEXICO
San Cristóbal de las Casas

revolución.

Aunque obviamente no se puede culpar las faltas de hoy a la corrupción y crímenes de ayer, esta fué la base de lo que se volvería el partido que tomaría poder total de la vida política, económica, cívica y cultural del pueblo actual Mexicano. Por algunos 60 años, el PRI ha sido la única fuerza política que rige y controla la vida de todo Mexicano.

El sacrificio y entrega total del pueblo Mexicano se destiló al arrebato de todo poder por unas cuantas familias (muy pocas mismas también controlan el poder político que se ejerce entre las naciones del mundo. Y Estados Unidos es un gigantesco poder en el mundo.

Desde aquellos tiempos, tiempos aún antes de la revolución, México y E.U. han tenido una relación no agradable para el vecino del sur. Para comenzar, E.U. devoró la mitad del antiguo México, que era lo doble de su tamaño presente. Esta mitad se volvió el sur y suroeste de los E.U. Años después, en 1917, durante la revolución, el propio general Pershing fué enviado por el Presidente Wilson a capturar a Pancho Villa. No pudo ni con la mejor caballeriza, con trocas de motor, y aviones, capturar a Villa y sus Dorado. Este mismo Pershing, después de su fracaso con Villa, fué comandante supremo de las fuer-

zas Americanas durante la primera guerra mundial.

La derrota de Pershing en su búsqueda de Pancho Villa sería vengada por alguien al hacerle una cobada emboscada al carismático hombre del pueblo, Pancho Villa, cuyo nombre verdadero era Doroteo Arango Arambula.

Esto es algo de la base que es la historia que no llega al presente.

Entra el siglo 21, 1994, y la realidad de NAFTA, o sea el TLC, Tratado de Libre Comercio entre México, E.U. y Canada. Claro que el poderío central en éste caso, es el de los E.U.

T.L.C., Tratado de Libre Comercio. ¿Comercio? ¿Para Quien? Pues para los que tengan con que hacer comercio. Y para los que tengan con que mantener esos comercios vivos.

Los problemas de 1910, los de 1848, los de cualquier año aún existen: un gobierno lejos del pueblo y un poderoso vecino al norte listo para apoderarse de lo que pueda o lo que quiera. Tan abierta es la colusión entre el poderío Mexicano y el Tío Sam que las familias acomodadas, inclusive las familias de los gobernantes Mexicanos, por lo regular se educan en las mejores y mas costosas escuelas del vecino norteamericano.

Es por eso que "los de abajo," los del extremo sur de México vuelven a resucitar el espíritu y cuerpo del legendario indio sureño emiliano Zapata.

En este caso, son los indios Mayas del estado de Chiapas que se levantan en armas. Pero en todo México, y en México fuera de México y entre los pueblos Chi-

canos forzados a venir al mundo por medio de un tratado entre Mexico/E.U. firmado el 2do de Febrero de 1848 (el Tratado de Guadalupe Hidalgo), -- en todos estos pueblos aún se encuentran las palabras del indio campesino Emiliano Zapata. "Es mejor morir de pié que vivir de rodillas."

En las palabras de la poeta Chicana, Carmen de la Madariaga, en su poema titulado, "Cara Mística, Encaje Cósmico," ella dice: "la dignidad e identidad van mano en mano.../ somos el águila y nopal/ la cobija del pobre/ Villistas, Zapatistas/ mensajeros de lo cierto/ que liberan la humanidad!"

Nephthali DeLeón es poeta, escritor, muralista y artista originalmente de Lubbock y ahora trabajando desde San Antonio.

into Mexico's heroin trail for weapons from U.S. drug dealers, arming themselves for a revolutionary war they said they knew would come one day when the dreaded yanqui invaded.

I heard similar anti-Yankee rhetoric in the days I spent the following year with Salvadoran rebels on the hillside of that country's Usulután Volcano.

In El Salvador especially, I came to the conclusion that whatever little hope the rebels held for change from an already oppressive government completely eroded with the increasing presence of U.S. interests, military as well as ec-

onomic.

I wonder if the arrival of NAFTA in their homeland -- in the eyes of Chiapas peasants -- is seen as what U.S. military "advisers" once were in Vietnam and El Salvador.

I recall what guerrilla leader Joaquín Villalobos said to me as he explained why he was fighting his war.

"Change," he said, "isn't revolution when all you change is the mask the oppressors wear."

(Tony Castro, author of "Chicano Power: The Emergence of Mexican America," was nominated for the Pulitzer Prize for his reporting on Central American revolutionaries for the Los Angeles Herald Examiner.)

Bishop Parrilla, A 20th Century Las Casas

By Antonio M. Stevens-Arroyo

It seems an act of Divine Providence that the death in Puerto Rico on Jan. 3 of Bishop Antulio Parrilla coincided with the uprising of peasants in Chiapas, Mexico.

Bishop Parrilla had been arrested once by the U.S. government for defending the rights of the poor. In addition to fighting for Puerto Ricans, he embraced the struggle of Mexican Americans, because he had a sense of "la gran familia latina."

After the pro-César Chávez group, Católicos Por La Raza, had been forcibly expelled from the midnight mass of Christmas 1969 under orders from Cardinal James Francis McIntyre of Los Angeles, Parrilla celebrated mass on an empty lot near St. Basil's Church in public solidarity with the struggle of Chicanos for a progressive Catholic Church.

Born in a rural town of Puerto Rico in 1919, the future Bishop Parrilla was drafted and served in the U.S. Army from 1943 until 1946. After that, he decided to become a priest and later a Jesuit.

He was stationed in Havana in 1957 when Cuban revolutionaries were struggling in the hills against the corrupt Fulgencio Batista regime. As

Crazy Horse

By Stephen C. McIntyre

Have you ever watched "Saturday Night Live?" Nothing is sacred on that late Saturday night show. They have poked fun at almost everyone and everything. Well...almost. I have never seen them go after: Martin Luther King, Robert F. Kennedy, or Cesar Chavez.

On the front page of Sunday's Lubbock Avalanche-Journal it was announced that all city employees might get a one-time \$400 bonus. It was explained that there was a budget surplus and the workers were doing a good job. At the end of the article it was mentioned that the city attorney was going to receive a \$9,000 pay raise to increase his salary to \$73,500.

Why isn't the city attorney in the same line with the rest of the city employees with his hand out hoping that he might get a \$400 bonus? In the meantime, the Lubbock Public Employees Union continues to organize and sign up more city employees as members.

- 1/22 1968 B-52 carrying four nuclear bombs crashes off Greenland
- 1973 Supreme Court legalizes abortion
- 1/23 1890 173 Blackfeet, 140 women and children, massacred in Montana by the U.S. Army.
- 1907 Charles Curtis of Kansas becomes first Native American U.S. Senator
- 1964 24th Amendment (anti-poll tax)
- 1/25 1787 Shay's Rebellion protests the imprisonment of Massachusetts farmers for debts
- 1890 United Mine Workers formed
- 1/26 1983 President Reagan says it is "very hard to justify the existence of the corporate income tax."

There will be a volunteer orientation and information meeting of folks interested in Lubbock Habitat For Humanity on Tuesday, January 25, at 7 p.m. at the Lutheran Center, 2615 19th Street at the rear of the building. They are looking for carpenters, plumbers, painters, and anyone interested in helping Habitat For Humanity build houses for families and for our communities.

Some of you may recall the Special Prosecutor Lawrence Walsh spent years and around \$35 million going after the folks that were guilty in the Iran-Contra scandal. Walsh is a former federal judge and a Republican.

During the course of the investigation he obtained 14 indictments that ended in 11 guilty pleas or convictions. Two of the convictions, most notably Ollie North, were overturned on appeal and five of the cases were wiped out by George Bush's last minute presidential pardons.

The report, the full story as best can be pieced together despite the coverup, pardons, and lies, is ready for release but, according to news reports, Ronald Reagan, Edwin Meese and Ollie North are trying to block the story from getting to the public.

Ollie North is especially interesting. It has been reported that the former Marine colonel has made millions going around the country telling his version of the facts. he is currently running for the U.S. Senate in Virginia as a super-patriot and All American boy. He was in Lubbock not too long ago making money off his fame in the Iran-Contra scandal.

The report should be published and soon. We have listened to the self-serving version of the facts of the Reaganistas for years. Those three should not be able to tie up the truth in the courts. If they disagree with anything that is said by Judge Walsh they can always stand up in front of the cameras and repeat their tired coverup story.

Whatever happen to honor and the truth?

El Editor Newspaper

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Editor/Publisher: Bidal Aguero

New York at Nativity Mission on the Lower East Side of Manhattan. Parrilla wrote extensively against government-directed programs of forced birth control and sterilization in Puerto Rico. As director of Catholic Action on the island, he over-

Continua Pagina 5

Chiapas - When Will The Yanqui Go Home?

By Tony Castro

The United States never had a better opportunity to make a financial killing with a friendly South-of-the-Border country. Trade barriers crashing. Tremendous investment opportunities awaiting U.S. businesses and industry. New fortunes about to be made. New markets where cheap labor means fatter profits.

Then the unexpected happens. A small, disheveled guerrilla army of peasants launches a violent revolution. But just as the revolt threatens to undermine, if not destroy, the so-called economic reforms and fat profits, U.S. and South-of-the-Border politicians hastily dismiss it.

Although this scenario resembles the fighting in the southern Mexican state of Chiapas between government troops and Indian guerrillas, it is what occurred almost four decades ago in Cuba.

Cuba then was one of this country's friendly neighbors, with relaxed regulations offering great opportunities for U.S. investment -- not only for the Mafia, but for the legitimate, organized activities of Fortune 500 companies.

U.S. companies in Cuba were making outrageous profits, which was one of the reasons most U.S. political leaders supported the corrupt Batista dictatorship that exploited Cuba's peasant population.

Fidel Castro's revolution wasn't one sudden, cataclysmic upheaval. It began slowly, with his peasant army taking over a town or two here, surrendering it, going into hiding, and finally triumphing after several tumultuous years in which hatred of Batista perhaps was superseded only by contempt for the imperialist "yanqui."

Now, with an eeriness of deja vu, a scenario with too many haunting similarities to Cuba is playing out in Mex-

ico. Against the backdrop of the controversial North American Free Trade Agreement, protesting peasants are viewing NAFTA as one more slap of exploitation. And by the yanquis, at that.

In New York, Wall Street is being assured by high-priced consultants and government experts that there's no cause to panic; there is no need for long-range investment concern about Mexico; the notion of a modern-day revolution in that country is ludicrous.

Perhaps it is. These are, after all, uneducated, unskilled peasants fighting the most modernly equipped, best-trained troops that Uncle Sam's know-how and surrogates can produce.

Does that also sound like the scenario that unfolded in Vietnam?

In Vietnam, as in Mexico at the turn of the century, Cuba in the 1950s, and Mexico again today, the noble peasants' pressing concern was as basic as the desire for a small piece of the rock, a piece of land they could call their own.

"The peasants have a legitimate point," says former U.S. Ambassador to Mexico Julian Nava. "They should rightfully own the land that they work." But tragically, what might have been the solution just a few weeks ago may no longer be enough.

The peasant revolt began Jan. 1, the day NAFTA took effect. In their declaration of war, Zapatista National Liberation Army guerrillas cited NAFTA as an example of growing foreign influence in Mexico and an economic policy that favors the rich.

It has been almost 13 years since I spent eight days living with and interviewing a small band of Mexican revolutionaries in the mountains beyond Acapulco in the state of Guerrero. They were trading protection

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Hispanic Diaspora Fuels Hope, Hostilities

(Second of two parts)

By Christian R. Gonzalez

Although the doors to many communities are starting to open to first-time Latino residents, experts and community leaders contacted by Hispanic Link say the hinges remain tight.

From 1980 to 1990, the United States experienced a 53 percent increase in its Latino population, largely attributed to high birth rates and immigration. This triggered a diaspora into communities that never before had substantial Latino populations.

Overall, Latinos settling in those communities have found better schools, lower crime rates and a higher quality of life than what they often left behind in large urban areas. But they're also struggling with a lack of government services, unresponsive and unprepared school systems, and even outright hostility.

"The reality is these cities and communities, rural or urban, are not prepared for these Latinos," says Leo Cardenas, director of the U.S. Department of Justice's Community Relations Service regional office in Denver, which monitors race relations and tensions.

He adds that the "re-invention of government" plan introduced by Vice President Al Gore will verify the need for bilingual services at local, state and federal levels. "The top of this will be recognition that this new population is here and it's visible."

Lack of services to Spanish speakers in their native language is not uncommon,

explains Harry Pachon, president of the Tomas Rivera Center, a Hispanic policy research organization in Claremont, Calif.

"That's the paradox of social service," he says. "The bureaucracy is not delivering bilingual and bicultural services. It's interesting that any bank-teller machine will offer you service in Spanish. If you ask the same thing of the government, it's considered a wasteful practice."

In Minnesota, which experienced a 68 percent jump in its Latino population in the '80s, Spanish calls to 911 must be routed through California for an interpreter, says Roy Garza, director of the Spanish Speaking Affairs Council in St. Paul.

Trends do not look encouraging for bilingual education. Efforts to establish effective programs are piecemeal and often half-hearted, say experts contacted by Hispanic Link.

Peter Negroni, superintendent of Springfield, Mass., schools, which has seen its Hispanic student population grow 56 percent since 1983, says bilingual education still faces a fight there. "There has been a renaissance of the at-

tude: 'Why do we need bilingual education? We didn't have it before.' I answer them: 'Your grandparents didn't have penicillin. Do you not want it?'"

As the nation's 27 million Latinos continue to spread out, they are met with overt hostility in some communities.

Annabelle Jaramillo, executive director of the Oregon

Commission on Hispanic Affairs, says that several anti-Hispanic groups, with names such as Whites Against Beans, have formed in that state. White parent groups are organizing in some communities to keep undocumented children out of public schools. She recounts that in a rural town, a sign in a restaurant reads: "No Mexicans or Dogs Allowed."

Minnesota's Garza identifies similar sentiments thriving in the upper Midwest: "There may not be signs, but you know you're not welcome. You see it every day, not only from the government, but from banks, stores and even barber shops."

Negroni notes in Massachusetts: "Under economic conditions existing here, it is very difficult to accept new people, and it's no different for Puerto Ricans. There is a negative attitude of what Puerto Ricans represent, and therefore we're not easily taken into the mainstream."

In many of these communities Latinos have begun forming their own economic base by opening small businesses such as tiendas and restau-

rants. The struggle for political empowerment may be more daunting. Community leaders in such states as Kansas, Iowa, Oregon and Minnesota observe that developing Hispanic voting blocs will take time.

Some measure of success has already been achieved in Garden City, Kan., where Dennis Mesa is the first Hispanic to serve two terms as mayor. "Our community has come a long way, but Hispanics have to grab the reins of public responsibility," he says. The Latino population grew 105 percent there during the '80s.

Churches and community organizations also play an important role in smoothing the transition for those newcomers who lack a sound financial base. In addition to monetary and food donations, churches in many communities provide Latinos with spiritual help in their native language.

In Oregon, Jaramillo says, there are a number of rural food share projects targeted specifically to the needs of their new Latino neighbors.

News Briefs

DC. "None of my clients have ever turned down any raise or overtime to get more money from the earned-income tax credit." For most, he says, the tax credit is an afterthought. Nonetheless, The Wall Street Journal says the expanded credit may make an inviting target as the search for ways to cut the budget intensifies. Some conservatives are lumping the earned credit with other welfare spending programs such as Food Stamps and AFDC, and have set their sights on capping them all.

HHS Plan for Electronic Medicare Bills

The New York Times reports that HHS Secretary Donna E. Shalala announced a new \$19 million contract that will provide the groundwork for electronic billing of all Medicare claims. The new Medicare Transaction System will use "state of the art technology to replace the forms and the hassles that have characterized Medicare in the past," said Shalala. She said it will eventually help save the government more than \$200 million per year in administration costs.

The new system will allow health care providers to obtain information instantaneously about a patient's eligibility, prior claims and other insurance coverage. By the time the system is fully operational, the Health Care Financing Administration expects all Medicare claims to be submitted electronically and paid by electronic fund transfers to providers' bank accounts. The system will be also compatible with the President Clinton's proposed health security card, said Shalala.

GTE Government Systems Corp. of VA as awarded the six year contract. The new system is scheduled to go on line starting in 1997 and installed nationwide by late 1998.

New Insurance Health Care Ads

AP reports that the Health Insurance Association of America has launched a new \$1.3 million campaign attacking President Clinton's health plan. Its latest "Harry and Louise" ads charge that the White House would create "another billion dollar bureaucracy" run by "tens of thousands of new bureaucrats." The ads will be aired on radio in 14 states between now and Feb. 18.

The insurance industry spent \$10 million on two previous ad campaigns. Both President Clinton and Hillary Rodham Clinton accused the insurers of distorting their proposal in the ads and using scare tactics.

Study Finds Prenatal Care Unequal

AP reports that new research published in the American Journal of Public Health shows that physicians may be less likely to tell black women to quit drinking and smoking during pregnancy than they are to tell white women. "These are basic things that everybody should get," said Dr. Milton Kotelchuck of the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. "It's a very disturbing finding, to imply that all prenatal care isn't equal."

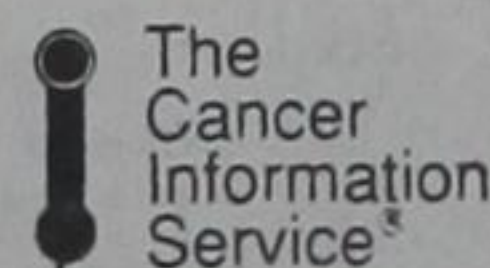
Kotelchuck and Dr. Michael Kogan of the National Center for Health Statistics analyzed a 1989 government survey of 8,310 new mothers, all of whom received some prenatal care. Thirty percent of the women had babies with low birth weight. Half the women were black. The black women were 20% more likely than whites to report never being told to quit smoking, although the majority of both groups had heard the message. Thirty-six percent of the black mothers said they weren't told to quit smoking, compared with 29% of the whites. The study also found that black women were 30% more likely to say they weren't told to quit drinking, the study found. Forty percent of the black women said they weren't told, as did 30% of the whites.

"Is it because of implicit racism? That's probably too strong," Kotelchuck said. "But it is possible that people treat their clients differently on the basis of their social class." Other theories considered: Doctors who treat poor women may feel overwhelmed and may not have enough time with expectant mothers; Doctors may not give the advice clearly enough; Or women simply may forget it, Kogan said.

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EL EDITOR ANUNCIARSE



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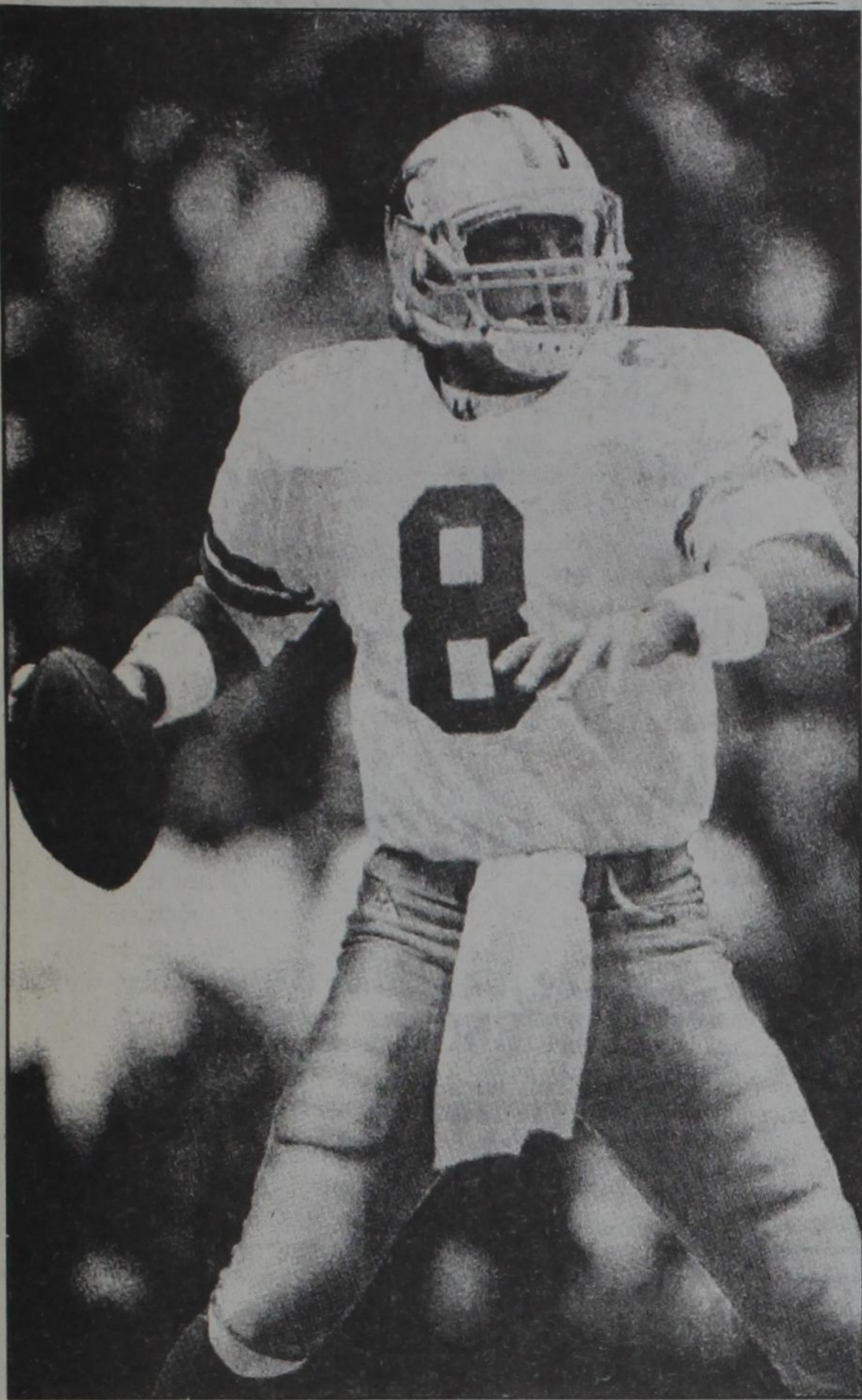
olvide registrarse para el sorteo de dos boletos para asistir a el Tejano Music Awards en San Antonio. Pase y comparte de el ambiente y festividades

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SUPERBOWL?

Lubbock football fans will gather this weekend to see if the Cowboys will return to the SuperBowl for the second year in a row and most people are betting that they will. Here are some comments from our readers:

Lalo Ontiberoz: No problem. The Cowboys are going to run all over Steve Young and his boys from California. They think the earthquakes shook them up, wait til the Cowboys hit them.

Smoking Joe Black: The Cowboys better be careful. They have to come out playing as hard as they can because those 49ers can be dangerous. It's going to be a close game but the Cowboy will definitely win.

Councilman T.J. Patterson: What Cowboys? They have been lucky all year long and their luck is going to run out this weekend against Steve Young and the 49ers.

Mike Medrano at Billy's Auto: I glad the Playoffs and the SuperBowl are here because of all the parties. Who cares who wins, as long as my numbers come up.

G Man: Cowboys all the way. And remember - No lana, No gana!

Mary Jane Gutiérrez: Does football season start this week?

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BISHOP PARRILLA, A 20TH CENTURY LAS CASAS

saw the establishment of countless cooperatives for poor farmers until 1965, when he was named bishop.

Antulio Parrilla was the first U.S. bishop to publicly denounce the war in Vietnam. Based on his own experience in the Army, he instructed recruits how to protest. He traveled to the United States to visit in prison with Bobby Seale of the Black Panthers and with the five Puerto Rican nationalist prisoners, who advocated the violent overthrow of the U.S. rule of Puerto Rico.

During the 1970s, he provided leadership to META, an ecumenical apostolate among Puerto Rican migrant farm workers in Connecticut and New Jersey.

In 1979, Bishop Parrilla participated in a peaceful demonstration against the U.S. Navy's bombing exercises of Vieques, Puerto Rico, when he landed on the beaches with a select group of independentistas. He was arrested and brought to federal court on charges of trespassing.

Bishop Parrilla's defense was that he had not trespassed on Navy land because, he said, a clause of the Treaty of 1898 gave ownership of the beaches to the "people of Puerto Rico." The federal judge ruled that ownership of the beaches was inadmissible evidence and he sentenced Parrilla to jail.

These events took place at the time that Pope John Paul II was en route to Puebla, Mexico, and someone in the Carter White House saw the incongruity of the President greet-

ing the pope while the United States had sentenced a Catholic bishop to jail on trumped-up charges. Parrilla was unceremoniously released and the charges dropped.

The conservative bishops of Puerto Rico never supported Parrilla -- not politically, not ecclesiastically, not financially. He was reduced to living off his earnings as a columnist and the sporadic contributions of friends and family. For at least the last 15 years of his life, he lived the lot of the poor he so strongly defended.

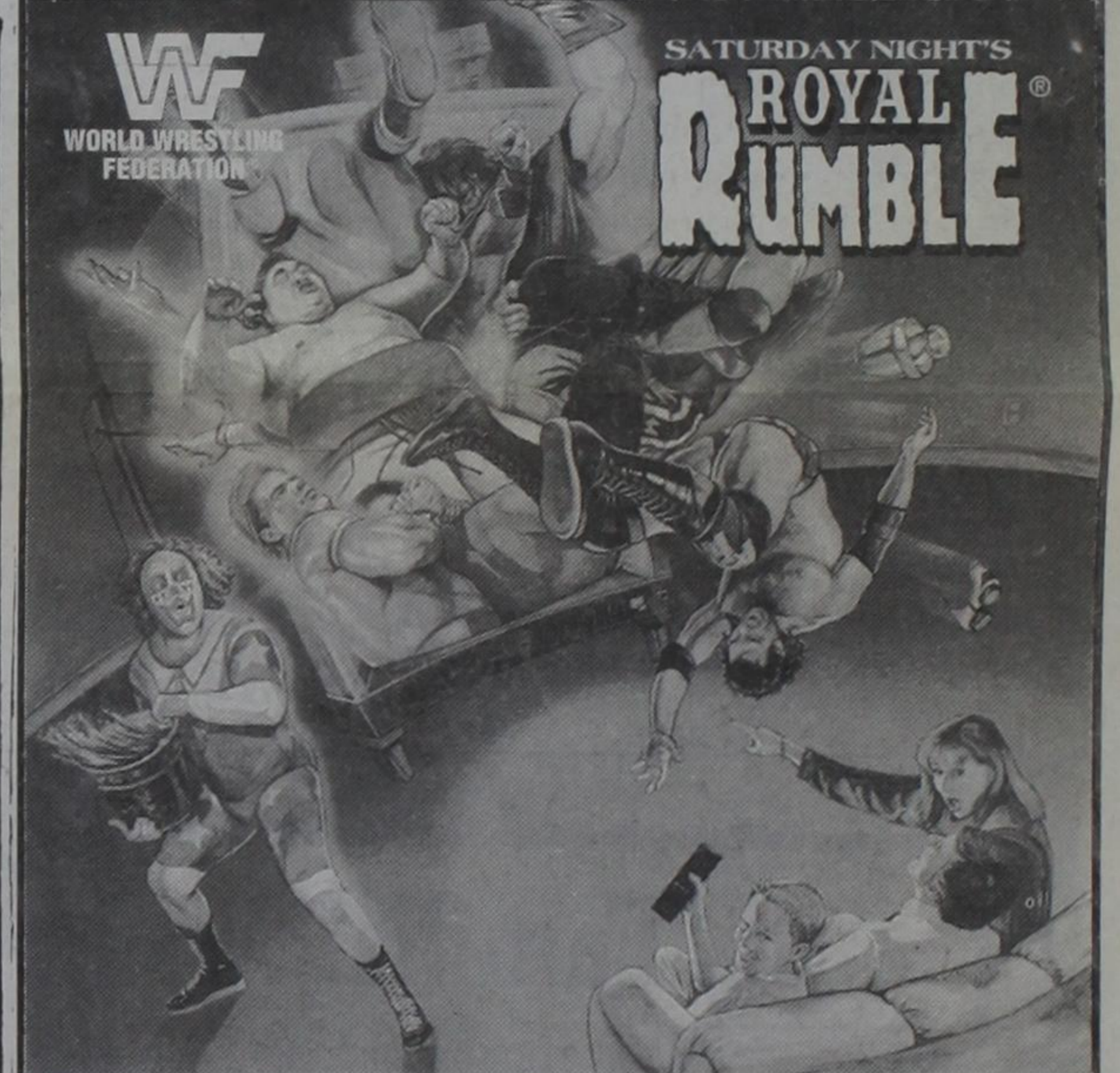
Antulio Parrilla was a 20th century version of Bartolomé de Las Casas, the legendary first Bishop of Chiapas and renowned defender of the natives against the abuses of the Spanish conquest.

Parrilla spent a lifetime supporting those oppressed, like the Indian farmers of Chiapas. Unlike so many church leaders who seek a low profile or non-controversial positions on important issues, Bishop Parrilla understood the Gospel to include confrontation.

His was a solitary voice "crying out in the wilderness." Even those who strongly disagree with his politics will be made poorer by the loss of his religious commitment.

(Dr. Antonio M. Stevens-Arroyo is professor of Puerto Rican Studies at Brooklyn College, City University of New York, and a senior scholar at the Bildner Center for Western Hemisphere Studies in New York City.)
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Por Sra. Sofia Martinez

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No debes de poner de pretexto tu pobreza, porque aquellos tambien eran pobres, nacidos de padres pobres. Tampoco debes decir: "que no sabes nada," porque tampoco aquellos sabian mucho. Ni te escondas detras de tu debilidad fisica, porque tambien Timoteo era debil y muy seguido estaba enfermo.

Todos podemos ayudar al proximo con tal que cumplamos con nuestro deber. No ves los arboles que no dan fruto, con frecuencia son solidos, hermosos, altos, grandiosos y esbeltos? Pero si tuvieramos un huerto, prefeririamos tener granados y oovos que den fruto antes que otros arboles, que se ven bonitos, o que si dan frutos son pocos y chiquitos. Asi son aquellas gentes que nomas se preocupan de ellos mismos, que por su egoismo, solo son aptos para el castigo. Los arboles buenos, tambien, sirven para construir casas o edificios para que vivamos. Semajantes eran

aquellas virgenes de la parabola, castas, sobrias, engalanadas, pero, eran inutil para los demas y fueron castigadas. Asi son los que no alimentan con su ejemplo el cuerpo Místico de Cristo.

fijate que ninguno es acusado de sus pecados, aunque sea un fornicador o un perjurio, a no ser que no hay ayudado a los necesitados. Asi era aquel que enterro su talento, mostrando una vida intachable, pero inutil para los necesitados. Puede llamarse cristiano, hijo de Dios, el que actua de esa manera. Si la levadura mezclada con la harina no transforma toda la masa, no es buena levadura. Y, un perfume que no esparce olor, no es buen perfume.

No digas: "No puedo influir en los demas", porque si eres cristiano de verdad es imposible que no puedas influir en los demas. Las propiedades de las cosas naturales no se pueden negar: lo mismo sucede con esto que afirmamos, pues esta en la naturaleza de cristiano obrar de esta manera. No ofendas a Dios con una injuria. Si dijeras que el sol no pued elucir, ofendes a Dios haciendolo mentiroso. Es mas facil que el sol no luzca ni caliente que un cristiano deje de dar luz; mas facil que esto seria que la luz fuera oscuridad. si ordenamos nuestra conducta como Dios manda, todo lo demas marchara naturalmente. No puede ocultarse la luz de los Cristianos Catolicos, no puede esconderse una lampara tan gigante y tan brillante.

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CUBA, VIET-NAM, AHORRA CHIAPAS ... ?CUANDO SE IRA EL YANQUI A CASA?

Successful legislation in which the caucus was instrumental included the "Motor Voter" bill, which allows voter registration at state motor vehicle offices, the hotly-contested budget bill and the North American Free Trade Agreement.

Indeed, it was Torres who introduced the North American Development Bank, the financing mechanism for the trade pact that Clinton eventually endorsed, bringing at least three undecided Hispanics on board.

New Mexico's Bill Richardson, named in '93 as Chief Deputy Majority Whip, was the only member of the House Democratic leadership to fight for NAFTA. He is credited with playing a key role in its passage.

For the first time, 12 Democratic members of the Hispanic Caucus met with President Clinton to base their support of his budget package on his backing of their agenda. The three Puerto Rican members of Congress -- Gutiérrez, Serrano and Velázquez -- successfully fought to limit cuts to Section 936, which provides tax incentives to U.S. businesses operating in Puerto Rico.

The caucus as a body also introduced such legislation as the Minority Health Opportunity Act, which calls for in-

BOLDER CONGRESSIONAL HISPANIC CAUCUS FRAMES '94 AGENDA

nidenses, armándose para una guerra revolucionaria que dijeron que ellos sabian que vendria un día, cuando el temido yanqui invadiera.

Escuché una retórica anti-yanqui semejante en los días que pasé al año siguiente con los rebeldes salvadoreños en la ladera del volcán de Usulután, en su país.

Especialmente en El Salvador, llegué a la conclusión de que cualquier poca esperanza que tuvieran los rebeldes por el cambio de un gobierno opresor, se desvaneció completamente con la presencia cada vez mayor de los intereses estadounidenses, militares así como económicos.

Me pregunto si la llegada de NAFTA a su patria -- a los ojos de los campesinos de Chiapas -- se ve como lo que fueron una vez los "asesores" militares de los Estados Unidos en Viet-Nam y El Salvador.

Recuerdo lo que me dijo el dirigente guerrillero Joaquín Villalobos mientras me explicaba por qué él estaba librando su guerra.

"El cambio," dijo él, "no es revolución cuando todo lo que cambia es la máscara que llevan los opresores."

(Tony Castro, autor de "El Poder Chicano: El Surgimiento de la América Mexicana," fue postulado para el Premio Pulitzer por su reportaje sobre los revolucionarios centroamericanos para el "Los Angeles Herald Examiner.")

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creased funding for statistical research on Hispanics, and a bilingual education bill seeking increased funding for disadvantaged students and high poverty school districts. Congress is expected to vote on those bills during the upcoming session.

The caucus didn't act in lock-step on every issue. Its Mexican-American members voted 9-2 for NAFTA, while the three Puerto Ricans and three Cubans voted against it.

The Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute's issues conference in September attracted constituents nationwide. In addition to providing a forum on Hispanic concerns, it helped build a stronger alliance with the Congressional Black Caucus and its 40 members. After the CHC event, black caucus chairman Kweisi Mfume, who participated, promised that his group would support the Hispanic caucus' bilingual education bill.

(Patricia Guadalupe, of Washington, D.C., covers Capitol Hill for Hispanic Link Weekly Report, Latino USA radio and the Radio Bilingue network.)

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