

The Lyndon LaRouche-El Heraldo file

Over the past two weeks, charges by former U.S. presidential candidate Lyndon H. LaRouche that National Security Adviser Zbigniew Brzezinski was responsible for fomenting the "Iranization" of Mexico have reverberated throughout the Mexican political scene.

In the following chronology, the continuing coverage of the LaRouche charges in one of the leading Mexican dailies, El Heraldo, is seen in counterpoint to efforts by the U.S. embassy to hush up the story.

Heraldo, a right-wing paper, has been known for its pro-U.S. outlook. Observers see its coverage of the LaRouche charges as part of a larger story than the newspaper's declared preference for Reagan. These observers believe a nationalist grouping, possibly tied to a faction of the military, may be using this channel to relay an important danger signal to Washington that U.S. policy is on the brink of disaster far greater than generally believed. But there is no sign Washington is listening.

Aug. 11: As the U.S. Democratic presidential convention gets underway, *El Heraldo* runs a New York-dated article by correspondent Leopoldo Mendivil under the 8-column, banner headline, "Brzezinski Tries to Destabilize Mexico: LaRouche." The key charges:

"The National Security Council, directed by Zbigniew Brzezinski, has attempted to carry out a policy of destabilizing Mexico to achieve the 'Iranization' of this country, which could lead at some point to a military occupation, especially of Mexico's oil-producing areas. This 'Paddock Plan,' as the project is called, is based on the premises of the Trilateral Commission, and is designed to achieve a rapid decrease in the Mexican population by the end of the century and to guarantee the U.S.'s energy supplies. All of this is occurring in the midst of what the [Carter] administration and other liars claim is an imminent reduction in oil resources, said Lyndon LaRouche. LaRouche is one of the possible winners of the Democratic presidential nomination, should that party's national convention decide today to free its delegates. . . .

"LaRouche, who has formed a widespread international political intelligence network, and who is linked to the proposal for the creation of the European Monetary Fund, has attacked the Carter administration with weapons and arguments that even the Republicans have not used—among them LaRouche's statements that document the links that exist between a number of members of the White House staff and the mafia and the big drug runners.

"LaRouche is the only candidate who, in his political platform, has referred at length and in depth to relations between Mexico and the United States."

Mendivil then quotes extensively from the section on Mexico in LaRouche's 1980 Draft Democratic Party Platform, *The Next 50-Year Economic Boom*, especially the section in which LaRouche denounces Brzezinski's Presidential Review Memorandum-41 (PRM 41), the document that proposes "a policy of forcing Mexico into perpetual underdevelopment and poverty of its people...."

Aug. 12: *El Heraldo's* lead editorial demands investigation of LaRouche's charges—and reveals something the U.S. embassy is very unhappy to see in print:

"... The United States embassy in our country yesterday sent this newspaper documentation with which it seeks to discredit the statements by LaRouche. . . .

"Independent of LaRouche's identity, the charges have been made and they merit a clarification from the White House. LaRouche denounced the existence of a Memorandum 41, which has already been much talked about in our country.

"In that memorandum, prepared by Brzezinski's group, a political strategy is proposed which would constrain Mexico to perpetual underdevelopment and the poverty of its people. The objective is to 'Iranize' our country such that, in the long run, a military intervention could be justified.

"LaRouche also presents some of the points of the 'Paddock Plan,' a project for the genocidal reduction of the Mexican population by the end of the century. . . .

"These charges, come from where they may, seem to

us extremely serious. In effect . . . there is a plan to keep us in underdevelopment in order to take advantage of our energy resources. . . .”

Aug. 12: A spokesman for the LaRouche campaign apprised of the contents of the *Heraldo* editorial, charges the U.S. embassy with “deliberately disseminating false and libelous reports to the Mexican press regarding the campaign and background of Mr. LaRouche.” He adds that “The Carter administration is illegally using the American diplomatic mission to conduct ‘dirty tricks’ against LaRouche to further his own partisan electoral campaign.”

In response to LaRouche campaign inquiries, a top official of the U.S. embassy confirms that the embassy has indeed disseminated an unsolicited packet of press clippings on Mr. LaRouche. The official states “I am aware that we sent information” to *El Heraldo*, and that “we may have sent it without their requesting it.”

Aug. 13: Spokesmen for a large number of Mexico’s political parties comment on the LaRouche charges. The spokesman for the ruling PRI party states he awaits further information before judgment. All the opposition parties agree the accusations have merit, except the Mexican Communist Party, which comes to Brzezinski’s defense. PCM leader Pablo Gómez, interviewed in *Excelsior*, declares that “I don’t think the U.S. government, whether it is Reagan or Carter, wants to destabilize Mexico. It is in their interests for Mexico to be stable.”

Aug. 14: The Mexico desk of the U.S. State Department calls LaRouche headquarters in New York requesting full materials on LaRouche’s background and his statements on U.S.-Mexico relations.

Aug. 15: Asked at a Mexico City press conference about the LaRouche charges of “Iranization,” U.S. Ambassador Nava states that he knows of LaRouche, but that he is a “minor contender” in the U.S. elections and that his statements “have no importance.”

Aug. 21: Returning to the theme, *Heraldo* writer Mendivil reviews the embassy efforts to discredit LaRouche and notes that he had done some homework before filing the original story:

“Among other things [LaRouche] has done, he participated in a movement to set up what could become a kind of European Monetary Fund, against the International Monetary Fund, which would serve principally to promote the development of the underdeveloped countries, not as Good Samaritans, but from the perspective that if the great industrialized countries want to continue being that in the medium- and long-term, they must assure that they have buyers of their products. And a bunch of starving, miserable, impoverished, penniless and over-indebted countries obviously couldn’t be that.

“LaRouche, in fact, was presidential candidate for the U.S. Labor Party in the 1976 elections and then

applied for membership in the Democratic Party. And the Democratic Party accepted him.

“ . . . This reporter is sure the U.S. embassy in Mexico will manage to understand this. And, let’s hope LaRouche says other things which have to be brought to the light of day.”

Aug. 23: *El Heraldo* runs an op-ed by Luís Felipe Bravo Mena titled, “Nothing New, But . . . Pay Attention to the LaRouche Charges.” Representing an anti-LaRouche faction, Bravo nevertheless makes clear that the charges must be followed up:

“In order to judge the truth of LaRouche’s charges, it is necessary to warn that LaRouche is the world leader of an extremely strange international movement which operates in the United States, Germany, Canada and Mexico

“We consider that LaRouche’s charges could be colored by some exaggeration and a certain distortion, but should not go unnoticed or be dismissed by the Mexican authorities. There must be some truth on them in light of the fact that government birth control policies—which push pills and abortion—have been imposed on us by high financial policy circles in the U.S. It is also known that our oil wealth has whetted the appetite of the worst North American political tendencies.

“ . . . Curiously, those involved in provoking problems are the official trade unions and the Mexican Communist Party. It wouldn’t be too strange if it turned out that . . . the professional agitators of the Communist Party were the ‘long arm’ of Brzezinski for putting the PRM 41 into practice.”

Aug. 25: At the State Department noon briefing, deputy spokesman David Passage is asked if the State Department has yet reprimanded the officials at the U.S. embassy in Mexico who supplied *El Heraldo* the defamatory accounts on LaRouche. Passage states he has no information on the matter and will initiate inquiries, but adds, “I would like to point out that . . . one of the functions of our embassies overseas is to provide information to foreigners. Typically, to avoid the U.S. government’s preparing material, we take available material that we can send.”

Aug. 25: Mendivil, continuing the *Heraldo* series, notes that the U.S. embassy had hurried to discredit “the accuser and not the accusation” in relation to the LaRouche charges. Now, Ambassador Nava’s own statements tip the balance, says Mendivil:

“In his presentation to the Lion’s Club [Aug. 21—see accompanying story] Nava said, ‘Mexico today is the battleground of the major powers.’ And if the country which he represents is one of the greatest of these major powers, then there is no need to search further. The ambassador has confirmed the charges of his fellow American LaRouche.”