

Salinas de Gortari: Wall Street's 'reformer'

by Carlos Méndez

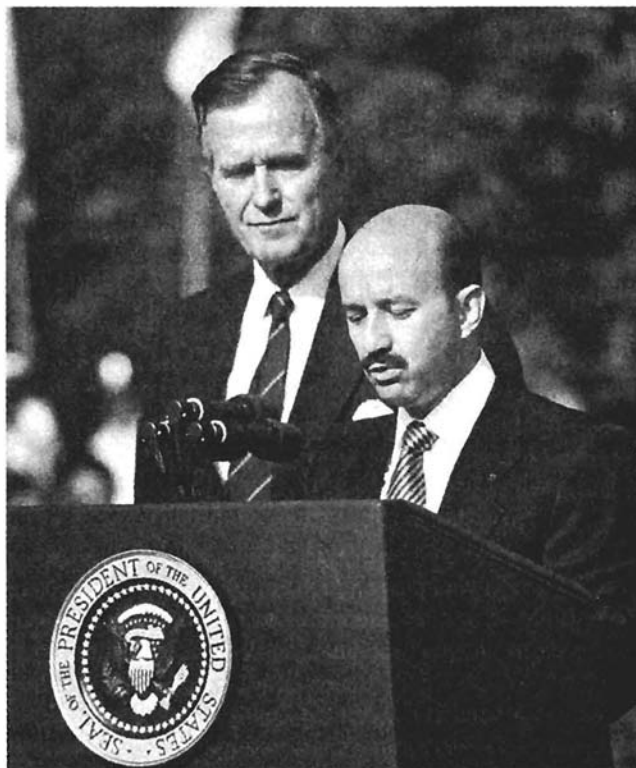
The man who brought Mexico to the brink of disappearing as a nation-state, both economically and politically, is George Bush's friend and ally, Carlos Salinas de Gortari, President of Mexico from 1988 to 1994.

Salinas is a highly unstable, supremely corrupt individual. A pro-Zapatista and radical Maoist, Salinas was not only allied with George Bush's narco-terrorist operations within his government, but he destroyed the economy of Mexico, and handed over to his friends the most important companies to be privatized. By this means, and through other maneuvers—such as the protection of drug-money laundering—Salinas created a new group of billionaires virtually overnight, some of them accused of being accomplices of assassinations (such as his brother Raúl), and many others who are now fugitives from justice. Things reached such a point that the former deputy attorney general, Mario Ruiz Massieu, currently charged with drug trafficking and money laundering, has said that the nearly \$10 million he had deposited in Texas banks, was given to him by President Carlos Salinas himself, and that he had done the same for other people as well.

Although he was driven from the country in disgrace shortly after leaving office, Salinas today still controls the single most powerful political machine in Mexico. It is his control over corrupt politicians and law enforcement officers, his protection of the drug cartels and their assassination squads, his sponsorship of the Zapatista and other insurgencies, his deployment of billions of dollars of dirty money, and, above all, his alliance with Bush and the financiers of Wall Street (Salinas sits on the board of directors of Dow Jones, publisher of the *Wall Street Journal*), which has made Mexico virtually ungovernable for President Zedillo today.

Even from his self-imposed exile in Dublin, Ireland, Salinas has been able to push the country to the brink, working through long-standing allies such as the sinister Manuel Camacho Solís. But his current activities are nothing more than a continuation of the job he began when he was President, as Wall Street's "Great Reformer."

Salinas is very well-known internationally for his role in the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), and for the other neo-liberal economic reforms of the IMF which he imposed in Mexico, in partnership with Bush, and which led to the explosion of the debt bomb in that country in December 1994. Less well-known, but of equal importance, is the fact that Salinas undertook a series of disastrous "political



Partners in crime: George Bush and Carlos Salinas de Gortari, 1989.

reforms," under the argument that, if the Mexican political system were not dismantled, his neo-liberal structural reforms of the economy would not last. Specifically, during this government, Salinas did everything possible to destroy the PRI ruling party, and to replace it with the "parallel party," Solidarity, or Pronasol (National Solidarity Program), in which he gave positions to a large number of "ex"-terrorists and "ex"-communists of every stripe.

Throughout his Presidential term, Salinas virtually co-governed with the opposition PAN party, especially those layers of it which, like him, are politically close to Bush and Washington's International Republican Institute (IRI), and share their obsession with "globalization" and British-style "free trade" and "democracy."

One of the top "globalizers" in the PAN, who remains a major force in that party today and has undisguised Presidential ambitions, is the current governor of the state of Guanajuato, Vicente Fox. Fox is a Mont Pelerinite New Ager, who participated in the 1996 meeting in San Francisco of the Bush-Gorbachov "State of the World Forum," and then hosted a follow-up meeting of the Forum in 1997 in Guanajuato. The Forum, founded in 1992, describes itself as "a multi-year global initiative to focus on the fundamental challenges and opportunities confronting humanity as we enter the next phase of human development. . . . We are experiencing the birth of the first global civilization." The stars of the Forum's 1995

conference were none other than George Bush and Margaret Thatcher.

The 'technocrats' vs. the 'dinosaurs'

From the very beginning of his government, Salinas began to drive out of power the nationalist politicians and leaders of the PRI, and to replace them with his "technocrats." Virtually his first political act in office was the blow he dealt the leader of the oil workers union, Joaquín Hernández Galicia, "La Quina," who was jailed on false charges (and remains in jail today).

Salinas's offensive against the PRI nationalists, which the press dubbed the battle of "the technocrats vs. the dinosaurs," had its counterpart at Pronasol, which was created by Salinas as an apparatus, under his control, to replace the PRI. Endowed with huge sums of money—some of it clean, most of it not—Pronasol grew to become a monstrous national apparatus capable of mobilizing diverse sectors of society behind the Salinas agenda. For example, many of the founders of the Zapatista insurgency emerged from networks liberally sponsored by Pronasol.

Salinas himself admitted that this was his strategy, during a private presentation given at Harvard University, his *alma mater*, in May 1996, according to the Mexican magazine *Proceso* of June 24, 1996. According to eyewitnesses quoted by *Proceso*, Salinas spoke a great deal about Pronasol to the Harvard professors present: "Yes. Surprisingly, he described it as the greatest achievement of his government, even beyond NAFTA . . . or his privatization policy."

Proceso added that, "according to the source, Salinas said that Pronasol was conceived as part of a 'strategy to replace the PRI.' Did he say when he was going to carry out this plan? 'Yes, he said that it was a medium-term strategy.'" *Proceso* went on to report how Salinas had targetted the PRI "dinosaurs," which he called the "nomenclatura," for elimination, noting that "this 'nomenclatura' was rebuilding its positions and awaiting the best moment for reversing the economic strategy and the changes that he had promoted."

Proceso noted that the Harvard meeting, held May 16, 17, and 20, was private, and that it was organized by professors John Womack of the History Department and Robert M. Unger of the Law School. Womack, the international expert on Emiliano Zapata, had been Salinas's professor, and has defended both Carlos and his imprisoned brother Raúl, on numerous occasions. Manuel Camacho also acknowledges Womack as one of his mentors.

In an interview with the newspaper *El Financiero* of Sept. 26, 1996, Womack said that Salinas's social liberalism was the "self-organization of civil society," an idea which Salinas put into practice through his Pronasol program.

A few weeks after his visit to Harvard, Salinas met in Dublin, Ireland with Manuel Camacho and with political scientist Jorge Castañeda. Almost immediately afterwards, the rumor began to circulate in Mexico that President Ernesto

Zedillo would resign the Presidency. In a mid-June edition of the magazine *Impacto*, its director Juan Bustillos Orozco said that as soon as Castañeda returned to Mexico, the rumor began to spread, while Camacho and his San Angel Group spread the same rumor in Washington, D.C.

Everything indicates that Salinas continues to coordinate this plan with his old ally, George Bush. In February 1996, Mexican journalist Manú Dornberier reported in the newspaper *El Financiero* that she had accidentally run into former President Salinas in the Bahamas, where he had met with President Bush and with former U.S. Treasury Secretary Nicholas Brady. According to Dornberier, Salinas, who was at that time living in Cuba, met with Bush on Feb. 3, at Brady's vacation home in Nassau on New Providence Island. Dornberier said that the newspaper *The Nassau Guardian* had published a full-color photograph of Bush. It is also reported that when she arrived in Nassau, a small 30-seater jet from Cubana de Aviación airline was in the hangar area. She gave it no thought at the time, but Cuban businessmen familiar with Salinas's presence in Cuba, commented that the Bahamas are Salinas's gateway to and from Cuba.

Camacho: Britain's 'wannabe' viceroy

by Carlos Méndez

Manuel Camacho Solís, an ambitious, unbalanced, and obsessive individual, is the ideal puppet for the British plan to destroy Mexico, because he is a puppet "with initiative," who is obsessed with becoming President—or dictator, or viceroy. Closely associated with the globalist networks of the United Nations, Camacho can be credited with first bringing the mega-speculator and drug legalizer George Soros into Mexico in the late 1980s. Since that time, Soros has built up sizeable financial and political holdings in Mexico, which are today often deployed by the Camacho machine for the goals he and Soros share.

Especially with Carlos Salinas de Gortari's forced departure from Mexico in early 1995, Salinas's long-time friend and ally, Manuel Camacho, has become the visible political figure around whom revolves Britain's plot to destroy Mexico. In the course of his long political career, he has been the secretary general of the PRI, ecology minister, mayor of Mexico City, and Special Commissioner for the Chiapas negotiations.

For decades, Camacho has argued the necessity of getting rid of the PRI, in order to destroy the Mexican state—although