

Manifest Destiny Alive: Mexico Under Threat Again

By Antonio C. Cabral, San Antonio, Texas

The Nazi propaganda minister, George Goebbels, said if you repeat a lie often enough, it becomes the truth. Several U.S. Congressmen are implementing this theory by repeating lies about Mexico's President Manuel Lopez Obrador and the spread of drugs throughout the U.S. (None talk about the U.S. drug cartels who warehouse, pack and distribute cocaine and fentanyl to all U.S. cities). To his credit, President Biden and his Administration have remained above such malicious campaign of deceit.

The U.S. Right Wing in general and the Republican Party in particular hope that their misinformation campaign will convince the U.S. public to support their proposal to send U.S. troops or use weaponized drones to attack Mexican territory. Their real ultimate goal is to destabilize Mexico, discredit Obrador's anti-corruption reforms and to prepare Mexican voters for a U.S. financed massive publicity campaign to support a specific candidate in their 2024 election. In other words, the U.S. extreme Right wing want a candidate loyal to U.S. corporate interests and who will reverse all the progressive reforms implemented by the Obrador Administration since 2018.

These are the facts:

Since his term of office began in December 1, 2018, President Obrador has sent Marines to control ports of entry including the major seaports like Manzanillo and Lazaro Cardenas. He did that upon discovering that all those ports were under the control of violent gangs and had been throughout the presidency of Felipe Calderon and other past presidents. Those presidents were elected through documented electoral fraud and while in office sold many of Mexico's natural resources including mines, transportation, gas and oil, telephone systems, etc to foreign buyers. Most of the billions of dollars paid by those foreign interests ended up in those presidents' pockets. That fact has been proven repeatedly through the years.

Nevertheless, U.S. Representatives Dan Crenshaw (R. Texas) and Michael Waltz (R. FL) shamelessly and publicly said that



: Mexican President Andres Manuel López Obrador rebuked calls from some U.S. lawmakers advocating military action in Mexico against drug cartels, describing the proposals as threats to Mexican sovereignty.

allowing President Lopez Obrador to continue reforming the electoral system in Mexico would undo the governing systems established by those corrupt presidents.

Just one concrete example: Representative Crenshaw has told various U.S. media that the U.S. must send troops to "destroy the cartels" as if Mexico is some type of U.S. colony. He has also sent a televised message to the cartels promising that "...we are coming for you, your mansions and your money....". In addition he has defended previous presidents, particularly Felipe Calderon, for, according to Crenshaw, carrying out a war against the cartels and being an honest president.

Felipe Calderon's well-documented corrupt actions are too long to list here but an example of Crenshaw's lies that Calderon fought the cartels was exposed on February 21, 2023, when a New York City jury found Genaro Garcia Luna guilty of drug trafficking and taking bribes from drug cartels. He was charged with receiving

around \$274 million dollars in cartel bribes from 2001 thru 2012 when he was the head of the Federal Investigative Agency, the equivalent of the FBI, under President Vicente Fox of the PAN party, another corrupt president, and then as the secretary of public security under Felipe Calderon. To this date, Felipe Calderon has refused to admit knowing anything about Garcia Luna's collusion with the drug cartels, but he has been travelling all over the world supposedly to avoid arrest by U.S. or Mexico's federal agents.

In their malicious attacks against Mexico's much needed reforms, Right Wing Congressmen like Crenshaw, and others keep praising Calderon and other corrupt presidents with allegations based only on lies and/or convenient ignorance of the facts.

Like novelist Robert Hanlon explained: "Never attribute to malice what can be explained by stupidity."

The unmitigated hypocrisy of those congressmen has also infected Democratic Senator Bob Menéndez (D.NJ), the chair of the powerful Senate Foreign Affairs Committee, who told the

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Major General Gideon Pillow's division Attacks of the Mexican strongpoint at Chapultepec during Major General Winfield's Scott's final drive on Mexico City, 13 September 1847, as depicted in James Walker's 1848 oil on board, *Pillow's Attack Advancing Through the Woods of Chapultepec*. (Army Art Collection)

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media "...I'm running out of patience..." (with Obrador)...and threatened that the U.S. may "...have to intervene..."

Menéndez, Jason Smith (R-MO) complain that Obrador is not stopping the drugs coming into the U.S., that he is refusing to buy any more corn from the U.S. and they use recent anti-Obrador protests to suggest that "we have to do something" to protect the U.S. Representative Chip Roy (R.-TX) actually introduced legis-

lation that declares Mexico's cartels as terrorists thus setting the necessary groundwork to justify U.S. armed intervention in Mexico. He was followed by Senator Lindsey Graham (R.S.C.) who said that he "...is prepared to introduce legisla-

tion to set the stage ..." to invade Mexico. Even the discredited Attorney General under Donald Trump got into the act by telling the media, "We have to deal with this group (the narcos) like we dealt with ISIS..." ISIS is the terrorist group the U.S. used as a justification to invade and destroy Iraq. Note: ISIS still exists but U.S. oil corporations now control Iraq's oil resources.



After U.S. Representatives Dan Crenshaw (R. Texas) and Michael Waltz (R. FL) called for troops to be sent into Mexico, national figures like Lindsey Graham and former Attorney General Bill Barr began calling for U.S. intervention in Mexico.

Here's why all those agitating and false allegations should be condemned by U.S. voters and the general public:

Mexico has arrested, in the past 4 years, the highest number of drug lords than any previous president did. For example, in 2022 President Obrador sent Marines to arrest Rafael Caro Quintero the drug lord who was the most wanted fugitive by the U.S. accused of having killed a DEA agent but had evaded capture by all the previous presidents. .

Another important historical fact that all those hypocritical congressmen don't mention is how their political predecessors in the Republican Party helped create those cartels a fact that was exposed during Iran-Contra hearings. Oliver North and other high-ranking officials during the Ronald Reagan administration used the CIA to pay millions of dollars for drugs that during the 1980s flooded U.S. impoverished neighborhoods primarily in Los Angeles and the profit went to the Contras who were fighting the Sandinista government that Ronald Reagan wanted to overthrow. (Read the whole shameful history in the archives of George Washington University at nsarchive.gwu.edu). The 1980s Iran-Contra scandal became known in 1996 when journalist Gary Webb kept investigating and writing about it even after receiving anonymous death threats. In 2004 he was found dead at his home and the ruling was that he shot himself twice in the head with a .38 caliber gun.

Obrador did issue a presidential mandate prohibiting the importation of corn from the U.S. However, he explained that U.S. corn is toxic because it is genetically modified (GMO) and has harmed the health of millions of Mexican consumers. He proposed funding for small Mexican farms to increase their natural production of white corn that is proven to be safer for human

consumption. U.S. environmentalists have been demanding for many years similar changes here in the U.S. but political powerful agricultural corporations like Monsanto have blocked it.

Another argument made by the Republican congressmen who want to send troops to Mexico is that a recent protest in Mexico against Obrador's reforms are opposed by many Mexicans. They cite a November 2022 march against a new law that will reform the Instituto Nacional Electoral (INE). They argue that the law will "destroy" the INE so that Obrador can run for president again in 2024, when in fact Obrador has stated repeatedly that



he will not run and the INE reforms will only reduce by 1,200 the 17,000 highly-paid "INE advisors" and will also require the INE count all the votes immediately after the elections and not take days claiming computer failure which has been used

in the past to hand the presidency to Salinas de Gortari, to Calderon and other corrupt presidents.

According to investigative columnists in Contra Linea, Sin Embargo and also payment receipts presented by the Obrador Administration, organizers of the November protest are groups from the Right that have a well-documented shady history of being financed by the U.S. National Endowment for Democracy (NED) and the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID). Here's some of those organizers and the funds they received between 2018 and 2019 for their anti-reforms actions:

- Mexicanos Contra la Corrupcion received \$14 million pesos
- Mexico Unidos Contra la Delincuencia received over \$1 million
- Grupo Evalua received \$2 million

All these facts support the claim made by the 70% of Mexican voters who support the Obrador Administration that oligarchs from the Mexican Right united with and supported by U.S. corporate interests including the oil and gas industries have engaged in a media campaign to destabilize the Obrador Administration and prepare the massive media propaganda campaign to ensure that no other progressive is elected as president of Mexico in 2024 or ever again and that the economic reforms instituted by the Obrador administration will be reversed at any cost.

That's the bottom line. That's the motivation of Mexico's Right wing elements and, with the help of the extreme Right in the U.S. Congress, they will continue with their misinformation and lies.

U.S. activists and people of conscience who want world peace and for the U.S. congress and presidents to fix the many economic and social crises we have, and the drug trafficking by home-grown U.S. drug cartels, must not remain silent. A good start can be to talk and write the truth.

Let's all live by the advice from Eric Blair (pen name George Orwell): "*In a time of universal deceit, telling the truth is a revolutionary act.*"

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