

TOWARDS SOCIALIST REUNIFICATION



**Movimiento de Liberación Nacional
Mexicano Commission**

TOWARDS SOCIALIST REUNIFICATION

The major threat against imperialism is the rising movements of national liberation. Led by a strategy of prolonged people's war, anti-imperialist anti-colonial revolutionaries are laying the foundations for a new world order. Colonial hegemony is being challenged in Azania, Namibia, Northern Ireland, Puerto Rico, Palestine and here in Occupied Mexico (currently known as the U.S. Southwest). A major obstacle to these liberation movements is the bourgeois, settler and colonialist hegemony that has been accepted both internationally and by some of the colonized people themselves. This, our second discussion document on the Mexicano National Question, further advances our position of socialist reunifications while challenging the U.S. settler colonialist view of History.

We dedicate this discussion document as a tribute to the memory of two Mexicano revolutionaries who have influenced our organizational development. Ricardo Flores Magon, deserves our honor, respect and continued struggle, for his leadership in the 1910 revolution. Magon was the first Mexicano revolutionary to openly and actively organize Mexicans, north of the militarily-imposed border, as part of the revolution occurring in the southern 30 states. Magon was the first Mexicano revolutionary to openly and actively organize Mexicanos, north of the militarily-imposed border, as part of the revolution occurring in the southern 30 states. Magon once stated; "THERE IS NOTHING SADDER IN THE WORLD, THAN TO SEE A SATISFIED SLAVE."

The other Mexicano revolutionary was closer to us both historically and politically. Florencio "Guero" Medrano was the leader of the United Proletarian Party of the Americas in the late 1970's. He was murdered by Mexican government forces in March of 1979. "Guero" recognized the importance of the struggle of Mexicanos within the borders of the U.S. and how it is related to the struggle south of the border.



LUCHAR POR UNA PATRIA REUNIFICADA Y SOCIALISTA O MORIR POR ELLA

History does not lie. Yet it takes on a different meaning with the significance we attach to a given historical event. Particularly, in the occupied territory, many forces want our people to accept the historical fact of the treaty of guadalupe hidalgo and the fact that we live within the current boundaries of the U.S. to limit our struggle. This position stems from an acceptance of the settler colonialist view of history and negates our historical obligation. History, however, has taught us that clarity requires an analysis of the developmental process and not just an acceptance of a historical fact. An understanding of the developmental process that occurred in the occupied territory leads us to our historical obligation: the socialist reunification of Mexico.

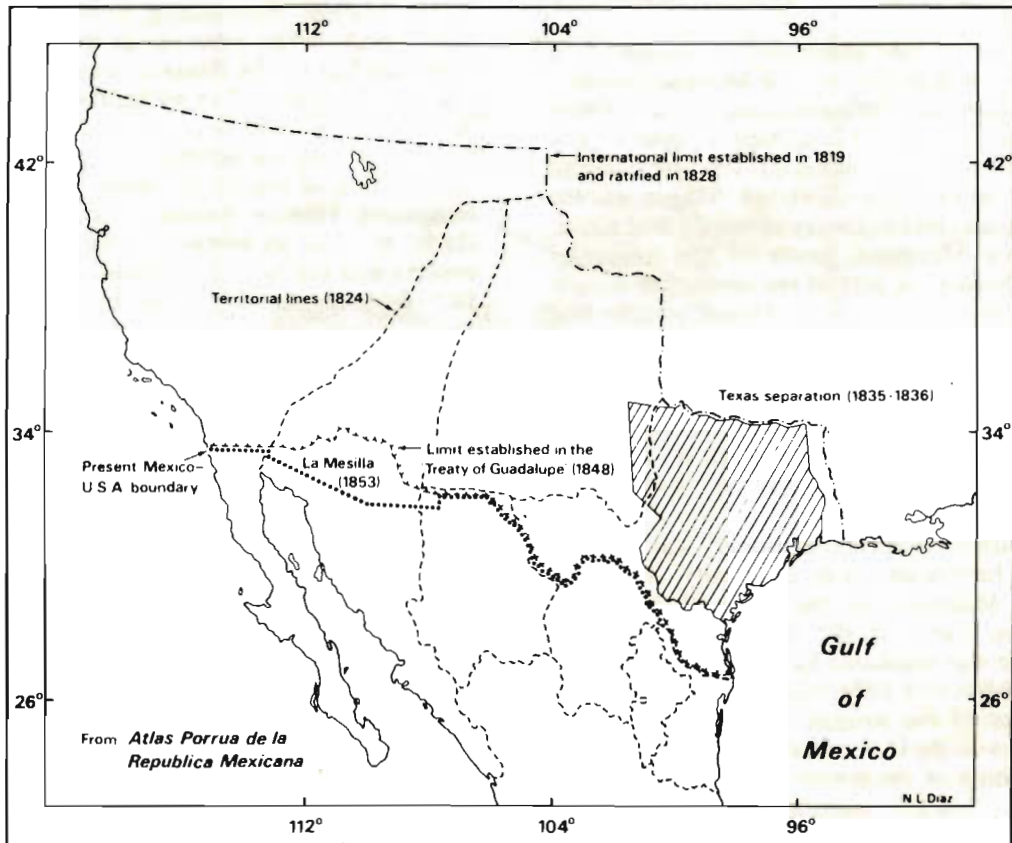
It is estimated that 20 million Mexicanos currently live in what is known as the "U.S. Southwest." Various projections state that by the year 2000, our people will constitute over 50% of the population in this geographical area. The majority of our people are denied adequate housing, education, medical care, human and democratic rights. We are constantly terrorized by the police and by the MIGRA (INS). Our people live in a colonial relationship to the U.S. federal state. However, as a result of an expansionist war, 50% of the Mexican National Territory was forcibly annexed to the U.S. federal state. It is these two facts that lay the foundation for our position of socialist reunification of Mexico.

I. NATIONAL FORMATION

In 1821, Mexico attained its independence from Spain. For the previous 300 years, Mexico then known as *Nuevo Espana*, was a colony of Spain. At this time, Mexico stretched from the northern boundaries of California into Central America. Two years after gaining independence, the Central American area separated from Mexico forming 5 different nation-states. The remaining geographical area consolidated as the Mexican nation. This developmental process was however, interrupted by U.S. military intervention of 1836 and again in 1846-48. Prior to the U.S. military intervention, despite the long distances between regional centers and Mexico City, this geographic area was recognized as the nation of Mexico. Also significant in this regard is the fact that military personnel were assigned and dispatched from Mexico City. These decisions affected "social economic rights, town lay-out, land tenure, irrigation, Indian relations, trade and military organization." As early as 1822, Mexican Independence

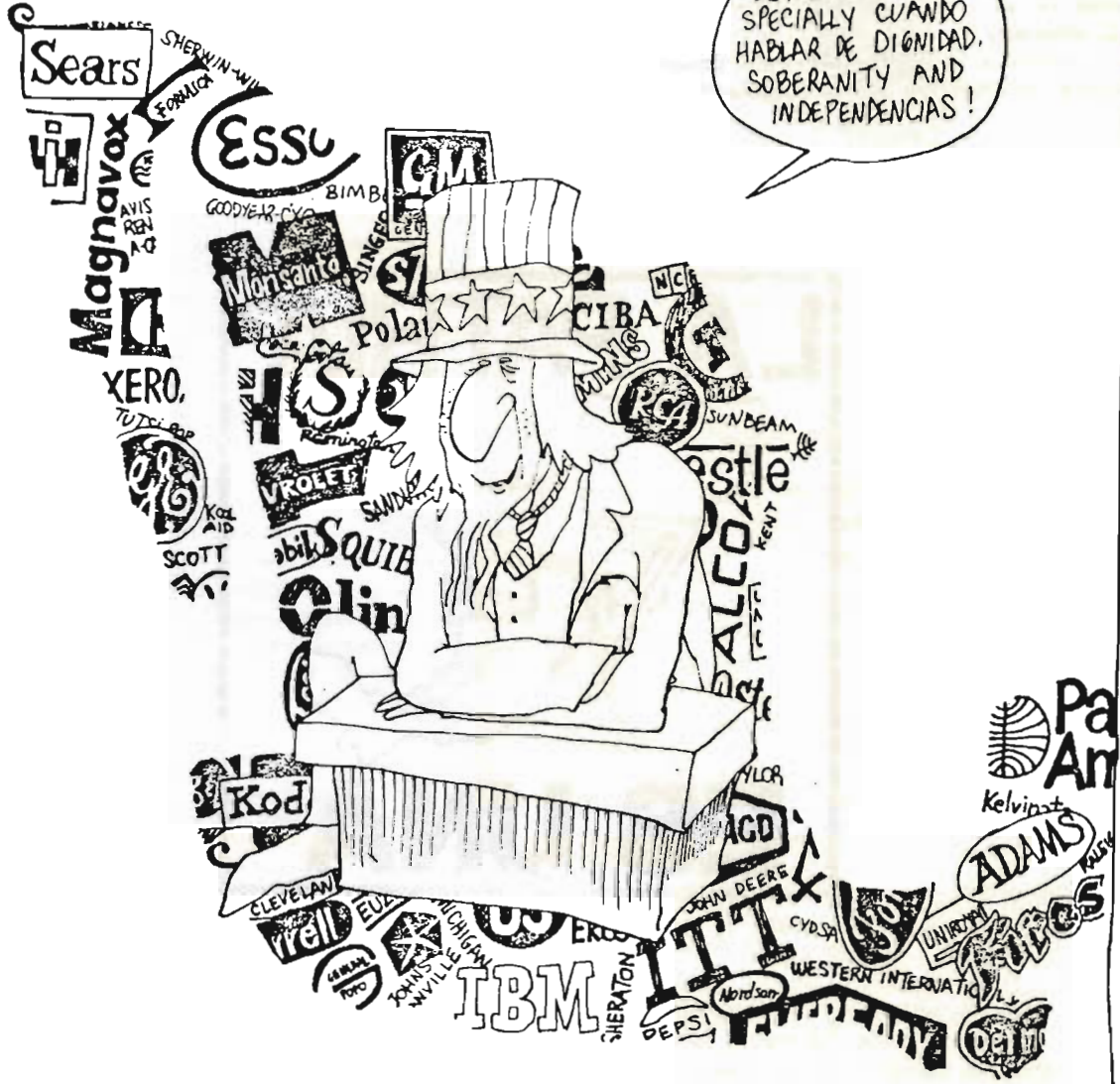
Day 16 de Septiembre was already celebrated in the occupied territories. After Mexican independence, men from California, Texas, *Neuvo Mexico* served in the Mexican Congress. Economic trade and development also was tied to the economy of the southern states. Economically, politically and militarily the northern territories were an integral part of the Mexican nation.

During these 300 years of colonization, a new nationality was born. From the inter-mixing of Spaniards, Indians, and African People the Mexican nationality was born. Despite regional differences between someone in Alta California, someone in *Nuevo Mexico*, someone in Texas-Coahuila and someone in Mexico City, the majority of the people were Mexicans. There were however, racial and class divisions which coincided. At the top of the social ladder was the *Espanol* followed by the *criollos*, the remaining 80% of the population was made up of the Indian and Mexican peoples.



History of the United States-Mexico Boundary

OH, I LOVE
ESTOS MEXICANS.
SPECIALLY CUANDO
HABLAR DE DIGNIDAD,
SOBERANITY AND
INDEPENDENCIAS!



Meanwhile, on the eastern coast of what was to become the U.S., the original 13 colonies were winning their independence and consolidating as a federation. Even in 1776, when independence was won from England, the 13 colonies did not constitute a nation in the historical definition of the word. Each colony as a result of its historical development functioned independently. The first attempt at unification were the articles of confederation. This failed in favor of the stronger-worded constitution. This establishes that the U.S. from its beginnings was a "federation" of states. That is, the states voluntarily agreed at least until the U.S. Civil War, to function as a federal state. The land base of this federation continued to expand first with the Louisiana purchase in 1803, the acquisition of the Floridas in 1819 and the forced annexation of over 50% of the Mexican National Territory between 1836 and 1853.

A New "U.S." nationality was not born in the federated U.S. The white Anglo-saxon and Anglo-Celtic immigrants did not "merge" with the Native American population, the Black population nor with the Mexican population. The white immigrants, however, did merge with each other. The resulting "white settler society" has grown and prospered as a result of the near total elimination of the indigenous population, the colonial subjugation and enslavement of Black people and the colonization annexation of the Mexicano people. Native American, Black and Mexicano people have been treated as less than human beings. "White Supremacy", the ideology of the white society has helped U.S. imperialism to grow at the expense of Third World Nations and peoples.



II. U.S. INTERVENTION

Since the first U.S. settler-colonists entered Mexico, the U.S. has distorted the historical development of the Mexican nation. The first attempts in the 1820s to purchase Mexican land proved fruitless. The first U.S. ambassador to Mexico, Joel Poinsett, attempted in 1825 to buy Texas, California, Nuevo Mexico, and parts of Sonora and Coahuila. He repeated his offers in 1827 and 1829 to buy Mexican territory. Because of his continuous interference in Mexican affairs, the Mexican government requested his recall.

Because of the previous lack of colonization by Mexicanos into the Eastern area of Texas shortly

after independence in 1822, the Mexican government granted permission to Stephen F. Austin to settle that area. The settlers were required to become Mexican citizens and swear allegiance to the Mexican government. This allegiance only lasted temporarily until the Anglo settlers felt confident that their numbers could sustain a secessionist movement which culminated in 1836 with the independence of Texas. However, the Mexican government did not recognize the independence of Texas and even warned the expanding U.S. that Texas' annexation would lead to a full-scale war.

In 1845, the U.S. annexed Texas as a state, and the stage was set for the next yankee invasion of Mexico. This war of aggression lasted from 1846 to 1848. This war saw Santa Fe, Los Angeles and Mexico City occupied by the U.S. Army. As a result of these military defeats, Mexico was forced to sign the treaty of guadalupe hidalgo. This illegal treaty forced Mexico to give up one-half of its national territory. Again in 1853, with the Gadsen Purchase, Mexico lost more land to the expanding U.S.

This war of annexation was justified by the doctrine of "Manifest Destiny." This doctrine was used to explain the taking of territories that would furnish raw materials-lands for cultivation, forests, mines, as well as the necessary labor power for continued economic exploitation and

development. The United States had become aware of the vast resources of Mexico-both it's natural resources and human labor that was needed for the continued development of the United State's expanding economy. All of the land eventually stolen from Mexico has proved to be rich in natural resources, including, gold, silver, oil and water. Not to mention the rich agricultural areas of California. As well as access to the Gulf of California and the Pacific Ocean. The end of this was found between 75,000 and 116,000 Mexicanos in the occupied territory.

Despite the military conquest and the treaty of guadalupe hidalgo, Mexicanos in the occupied territory resisted the occupation. The first military governor of Nuevo Mexico was killed during a rebellion. The invading army suffered various



defeats at the hands of Mexicanos protecting their homeland. Various individuals resorted to armed struggle to defend their land from the encroachment of the Anglo invaders. Armed organizations such as las Gorras Blancas were formed to protect the Mexicano people.

The Anglo colonization of the occupied territory took different forms in direct relationship to the population of Mexicanos and the natural resources discovered in a given geographical area. California, where the Mexican population was sparse and the discovery of gold caused a large influx of Anglo immigrants, became a state in 1850. Meanwhile, Nuevo Mexico and Arizona which had large Mexican populations did not become states until 1912. This allowed for a sufficient number of Anglo settlers to arrive so as not to have two "Mexican" states admitted to the federation.

After the war of annexation, the Mexicanos, who remained in the occupied territory and those who have come afterwards, have been treated as less than human beings. We have received the same treatment at the hands of the yankee settler-colonialists, that colonized people around the world have received from the colonizer. We have lost the land that we owned before the war of annexation. We have been denied housing, education, medical care and even the most elemental democratic and human rights. The yankee settler has sought to eliminate our national language, history and even our culture. In essence, the Mexicano people living in the occupied territory are a colonized people.

Yankee interference in our national development did not end with the Gadsen purchase. During the Porfiriato, the U.S. was granted concessions to build all the northern railroads in Mexico. This exposed the mineral wealth of the interior of Mexico to exploitation by U.S. corporations. Between 1882 and 1889 between one-fifth and one-seventh of the total land surface of Mexico came under the control of U.S. companies. By the end of the Porfiriato in 1910, Mexico accounted for 2/3rds of all U.S. investments in Latin America.



Today, 2/3rds of all Mexico's imports and exports are to the U.S. Between 25 and 30% of Mexico's external debt is owed to the U.S. Thus we can see that Mexico is a dependent capitalist state.

In 1914, during the Mexican revolution, U.S. Marines occupied the port City of Vera Cruz, lasting from April to November. Again in March of 1916, U.S. federal troops invaded Mexico, this time in pursuit of Francisco Villa. These forces were removed in Feb. of 1917. During the Mexican revolution, the U.S. government kept one-quarter of its army on our border to contain the revolution.

III. TOWARDS SOCIALIST REUNIFICATION

The Mexicano people, living in the occupied territory have not become a separate and distinct nationality. We have not merged into the so-called U.S. "melting pot". A brief review of the objective conditions facing Mexicano people in the occupied territory will confirm this. It will show that we are a colonized people. Nor are we a national minority. A national minority is recognized as an "ethnic subdivision of another nation". The U.S. is a federation of captive nations or more correctly an empire. The Mexican nationality and nation were formed prior to the consolidation of the U.S. federation. Thus, we cannot be considered an "ethnic subdivision" of the U.S. To do so ignores our historical development as a people and the forced annexation of 50% of our national territory. Despite 147 years of colonialism, we have remained a Mexicano people.

Our Mexicanidad has been constantly re-enforced. There were no border stations that counted the migration of our people until 1894. The border patrol itself was not established until 1924. Previously, our people entered the occupied territory at will. The migration of our people has been continuous.

In 1847 the Mexican population of Texas has been estimated at between 4,000 and 23,200. In the next fifty years, Mexican migration accounted for 70,000 people to Texas. The population ratio in Texas became 1 resident Mexicano for 3 migrants. In 1849, the population of "Mexican residents" in California has been estimated at the low figure of 7,500 to a high figure of between 9,100 to 14,300. During this same year, Mexican migration to California is estimated at between 8,000 to 25,000.

The 1850 U.S. Census recorded 18,317 Mexican-born residents. In 1870, the U.S. recorded 5,162 Mexican migrants, yet the census for this same decade shows an increase of 26,000 Mexican-born residents. The 1900 census showed 103,410 Mexican-born residents. In Nuevo Mexico, 20,000 Mexican-born residents were recorded, this amount equals 1/2 of the total Nuevo Mexico population of 1805. During the Mexican revolution of 1910, 10% of Mexico's population of 15 million migrated to the occupied territory. In 1910, there were 162,959 persons whose parents were born in Mexico. This figure represents that at this time over one-half of the Mexican population was either a "migrant" or the offspring of migrants.

During the 1920's, more than half a million Mexican migrants came into the "occupied territory". As a result of the depression and labor organizing by Mexicanos, during the 1930's, 300,000 Mexicanos were deported. In Los Angeles alone, because of the militancy of Mexican workers, 75,000 Mexicans were deported. During the 1940's, with the Mexican and U.S. government Bracero program over 430,000 Mexican migrants came to the occupied territory. During this same time period, 800,000 Mexicanos were deported. Since the number of deportations only represents the number captured, it is safe to assume that there were many other migrants who continued to escape the dragnets of the Migra. Through the 1950's, 3 million Mexicanos became "legal" immigrants. At the same time, the government deported 3.4 million Mexicanos. This massive deportation offensive racistly called "Operation Wetback" was led by a white supremacist military general. The migration of our people has been constant even during the 1960's and 1970's, despite new programs to deport our people. This brief overview shows that the militarily-imposed border has not been able to destroy our roots as a Mexicano people.

The Mexicano people who have migrated to the "southwest" have not consciously migrated to "recapture" the occupied territory. Rather, they have come in search of work. Our people from the southern 30 states must migrate because the dependent capitalist government of the south is unable to provide sufficient employment for our people. This inability results because of the U.S. manipulation and control of the Mexican economy. Through the Partido Revolucionario Institucional (P.R.I.), the Mexican National Bourgeois in order to obtain some of the profits from the exploitation of Mexicano workers facilitates this manipulation. U.S. control over the Mexican economy has distorted our national development. Thus the current migration of Mexicanos cannot be said to be voluntary, rather it is a result of U.S. imperialist control over our homeland. Those of us who migrate must be seen as forced exiles from a dependent economic nation, as such we do not stop being part of the Mexican nation. On crossing the militarily-imposed border into the occupied territory, we do not lose our Mexicanidad.

Since 1836, the U.S. has sought to destroy and distort the Mexican nation. Today, 20 million Mexicanos in the occupied territory live in a colonial relationship to the U.S. federal state. South of the militarily-imposed border, 70 million Mexicanos live in a capitalist state dependent on the U.S. economy for its survival. The only resolution to the problem facing the Mexicano people is the socialist reunification of our homeland.



¡SOLO LA REUNIFICACION NACIONAL!