toward their profession. They, in turn, accuse him of using his stint at Stony Brook simply to enhance his leverage with Tufts (which offered Litvak a job this year).

At this point, the department has little choice but to start over. The university, in fact, has appointed an interim chair from the philosophy department and is getting ready to place another recruitment ad for the hot seat of permanent chair.

No word yet on when the advertisement for in-house psychologist will appear.

CHRISTOPHER SHEA

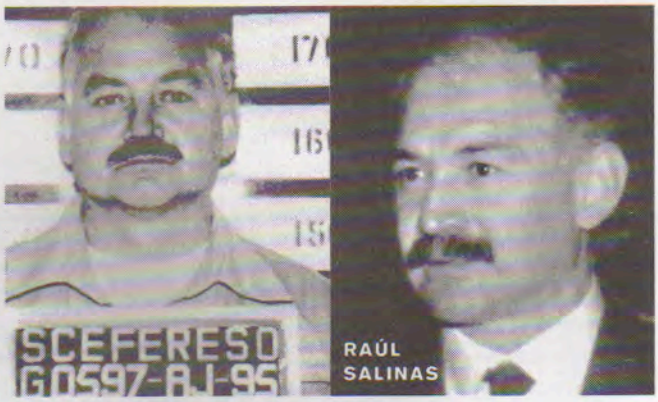
MY BROTHER'S KEEPER

IN WHAT *THE NEW YORK TIMES* reported as "the most important criminal verdict in modern Mexico," Raúl Salinas, the brother of former president Carlos Salinas, was sentenced on January 21 to fifty years' imprisonment for the 1994 murder of a high-ranking member of Mexico's ruling party. Until his January conviction, Salinas had been confined to a maximum-security prison outside Mexico City, a stark contrast, no doubt, to the pristine surroundings he enjoyed in 1992–1993 as a guest scholar at the Center for U.S.-Mexican Studies at the University of California at San Diego, the nation's leading outpost for academic research on Mexico.

In the wake of Raúl Salinas's murder conviction, some scholars are debating whether or not the center—and its founding director, Wayne Cornelius—acted appropriately in accepting him as a guest scholar. At issue is how Salinas, a civil engineer who accumulated $97 million in Swiss bank accounts and left a long trail of corruption and chicanery during his brother's regime (1988–1994), came to rub shoulders with leading academic specialists on Mexican affairs. The critics' theory is simple: By 1992, pervasive rumors and press accounts concerning Raúl's ties to crooked businessmen and narco traffickers made him a serious political liability for his brother. Hence his exile to beachfront La Jolla.

In 1992, Cornelius, a well-known expert on Mexican politics and an old friend and mentor of Carlos Salinas, agreed to accept Raúl as an unpaid guest scholar at the center. Defending his decision today, Cornelius explains via email that Salinas "(A) proposed a bona fide research project that was directly relevant to one of the center's principal research priorities at the time...(B) possessed professional credentials and experience relevant to the proposed project...and (C) had the resources necessary to carry out the proposed project, with no financial support from the center." According to Cornelius, all researchers who met these criteria were awarded guest-researcher status at the center—as long as office space was available.

On the question of whether he knew he was hosting a crook, Cornelius is more equivocal. "I had seen a couple of media references to criticisms being made in Mexico of Raúl's private business dealings," he affirms, but "they seemed to be no more serious than the accusations routinely made against members of an incumbent Mexican president's family."



Still, Cornelius was concerned enough about Raúl's prospective presence to consult with several "highly respected, politically independent academics" in Mexico about the decision. With one exception, his advisers told him that he had "no alternative but to accept Raúl's application, strictly on grounds of academic freedom."

At the center, however, Raúl's candidacy was controversial. "I very strongly expressed the opinion that Raúl should not be invited to the center," says Gabriel Székely, who served as associate director of the center from 1986 to 1991 and is now a journalist and consultant in Mexico City. Raúl came anyway.

Then, in December 1992, a leading Mexican intellectual, Adolfo Aguilar Zinser, paid a visit to La Jolla. In a lunchtime conversation on the center's front patio, with Raúl sitting a short distance away, Aguilar Zinser says he informed Cornelius's associate director that prominent businessmen in the industrial city of Monterrey, where Raúl had lived, had lodged complaints with President Salinas about his brother's abusive business practices. Aguilar Zinser, who is now a senator renowned for his anticorruption efforts, expressed his astonishment that the center had accepted Raúl, and he predicted that the guest scholar would wind up in jail.

However imprudent in retrospect, Raúl's presence in La Jolla was no accident. The relationship between Cornelius and Carlos Salinas dates back to the late 1970s, when Cornelius was teaching political science at MIT and Carlos was earning a doctorate in political economy at Harvard. Thanks to cross-registration privileges between the two institutions, Salinas was able to take Cornelius's courses at MIT. Over the years, Cornelius, a regular commentator on Mexico for *The Los Angeles Times*, did his part to advance the political fortunes of his former student. In October 1987, shortly after Salinas was declared the Mexican ruling party's presidential candidate, Cornelius penned an Op-Ed piece for the L.A. *Times* hailing "his superior intelligence, a prodigiously high energy level and a reputation untainted by corruption." The favor did not go unreturned: In 1991, according to *The New York Times*, the Mexican president attended a luncheon in San Diego that raised $87,500 for the center (most of whose budget comes from private foundations and UCSD).

Cornelius insists that Carlos Salinas "played no role" in the center's decision to accept Raúl

REUTERS/FLS/ARCHIVE

and that "Raúl made application directly to me." In so doing, Raúl was able to benefit from the center's dual admissions systems. Visiting fellows had to be approved by committee, while, "guest scholar" was a status reserved for individuals approved direcly by Cornelius.

Nevertheless, even critics agree that Raúl received no special treatment. Moreover, his résumé was not undistinguished. He had been a professor of engineering and economics at the National Autonomous University of Mexico, a construction company executive, and the occupant of several high-ranking government posts. (He was also a man of letters, having published two volumes of short stories along with a collection of love poems.) "He was a friendly, affable fellow," says Stanford historian Stephen Haber, who was a visiting research fellow the same year. "At the time, I took him seriously as a scholar."

How did Raúl Salinas, a civil engineer with a long trail of chicanery and corruption, come to rub shoulders with leading academics?

And, like a dutiful scholar, he got his work done. Much of his time was spent in the border state of Coahuila, where he was said to be doing fieldwork. The result of his labor was an oral report to the center's staff and a fifty-three-page working paper (co-authored with José Luis Solís González, a visiting research fellow) titled "Rural Reform in Mexico: The View From the Comarca Lagunera in 1993"; the paper was subsequently published by the center in its Transformation of Rural Mexico series.

The working paper summarizes a massive government survey of peasant opinion on the agrarian policy implemented by the Salinas administration, a policy designed to bring market-oriented reforms to the countryside. In particular, those reforms granted campesinos the right to buy and sell land previously considered communal property under the *ejido* (cooperative farming) system established by a populist regime in the 1930s. Some scholars have since wondered how much labor Raúl actually contributed to the report. "I would argue it was Solís who did most of the work," says Székely. "Given what we know about how active Raúl was in so many other things at the time, I wouldn't be surprised if he simply cosigned the paper. But one can't prove it."

Surprisingly, Cornelius's collaboration with Raúl did not end with his departure from the center. During the following academic year, Cornelius facilitated a second project for Raúl, which resulted in an obscure volume on Mexican telecommunications.

Why did Cornelius, who spent years building the center's scholarly reputation, continue to support Raúl's intellectual endeavors? He will not say, but critics suggest that it was part of an ill-fated attempt to bolster the center's finances, which were jeopardized by cutbacks in the University of California system in the early 1990s. "Cornelius had dedicated many years to getting funding from individuals and foundations," says Székely, "and it was not out of the question to think that by cultivating a relationship with the government of Mexico led by Carlos Salinas, he could get some of the funding needed to continue the center's work."

It's a compelling hypothesis, replete with irony: While attempting to maintain the center's economic viability, Cornelius, strapped for funds, put his faith in the Salinas brothers and saw his institution tarnished as a result.

Today, with Raúl behind bars (his sentence was recently reduced to 27.5 years) and Carlos living in exile, the center is under new leadership and in stable financial health. But Cornelius, who remains in La Jolla as the Gildred Professor of Political Science at UCSD, is contrite. "I regret Raúl's presence at the center," he states. "It has caused me deep personal and professional pain. There is no question in my mind that the Salinas brothers took advantage of the center's good offices and my good faith to help manage a domestic political problem."

SCOTT SHERMAN

THE SPAGHETTI FACTOR

THE WORDS "DOMESTIC violence" tend to conjure images of wounded women at the mercy of aggressive men. After all, police reports and court statistics indicate that in close to 95 percent of cases women are the victims and men are the perpetrators of domestic battery. But this past March, Erin Pizzey, who founded London's first battered-women's shelter in 1971, aired a startling documentary she had made on BBC2's *Counterblast* TV program. Men, the documentary indicated, are as often victims of domestic abuse as women. John Archer, the author of two books examining the origins of male violence, joined Pizzey on the air, claiming that fully one third of all domestic violence cases result in visibly injured male partners.

One might imagine that Archer is either a media hound or a men's movement ideologue. In fact, he is a professor of psychology at the University of Central Lancashire. Archer belongs to a circle of perfectly respectable,