

NOTES

1. "Americans should never underestimate the constant pressure on Canada which the mere presence of the United States has produced. We're different people from you and we're different because of you ... Living next to you is in some ways like sleeping with an elephant. No matter how friendly and even-tempered is the beast, if I can call it that, one is affected by every twitch and grunt." Cited in John M. Kirk and Peter McKenna, Canada-Cuba Relations: The Other Good Neighbor Policy (Gainesville: University Press of Florida, 1997), p. vii.

2. See Homero Campa, "México-Cuba. Contigo a la distancia," Foreign Affairs en español, summer 2002 (www.foreignaffairs-esp.org/search/printable.asp?i=20020501FAEnEspEssay8478.xm... 4/1/2003 (Eight pages in total).

3. In fact U.S. Secretary of State Dean Rusk confided to an American journalist: "When we were discussing the breaking of relations at the foreign ministers' meeting ... We decided it would be in the best interests of all our countries if one country maintained relations with Cuba and acted as a listening post for all of us. That country was Mexico." Cited in Carl Migdail, "Mexico, Cuba, and the United States: Myth Versus reality," Cuba's Ties to A Changing World, ed. Donna Rich Kaplowitz (Boulder: Lynne Rienner, 1993), p. 207.

4. See Carl Migdail, "Mexico, Cuba, and the United States: Myth Versus Reality," Cuba's Ties to a Changing World, ed. Donna Rich Kaplowitz (Boulder: Lynne Rienner, 1993), p. 201.

5. Cited in Migdail, p. 205.

6. This section is based largely on the insightful comments in Homero Campa, op. cit.

7. Cited in Campa, op. cit.

8. See Larry Birns and Matthew Ward of the Council on Hemispheric Affairs, "Jorge Castañeda—A Retrospective. The Decline and Fall of the Mexican Foreign Minister," Hispanicvista, January 30, 2003, p.5 (<http://www.hispanicvista.com/html2/020303fc.htm>)

The report continues: However, under Castañeda, Mexico's relationship with the rest of the region nose-dived as the country's once-famed independent foreign policy was unceremoniously cashiered in favor of a role of dependency on Washington regarding crucial geo-political issues. Sadly, during this period Mexico has become increasingly "NAFTA-ized,"—more inclined to relate to Washington's priorities rather than to those of its fellow Latin Americans". Ibid., p.5.

9. Fernando Solana, President of the Foreign Relations Commission of the Mexican Senate, emphasized this aspect when discussing the Helms-Burton law: "Evidently there are some people who attach a different dimension to the problem of Helms-Burton. However, this legislation is not merely an issue of business—it is also a problem of dignity and national sovereignty. That is how we need to understand it, and to confront it." Fernando Solana Morales, "La Ley helms-