

LETTER

"PEOPLE POWER"

On July 2 this year Mexico held presidential elections. The winner was declared to be the protege of Washington, the Harvard educated close friend of President Bush, Felipe Calderon. This result, however, was so obviously rigged that "crowds of protesters [have been] squatting in Mexico City for weeks protesting against alleged vote-rigging". There is, however, practically nothing in the western media about these protests—no "mainstream BBC bulletin live from among the massive crowds". All there has been is occasionally "commentators who celebrated Ukrainians blocking the main thoroughfares of Kiev [during the US-inspired 'Orange Revolution', which claimed that the US-backed candidate Yushchenko had only lost because of ballot rigging] *condescend to jeer at Mexico's sore losers and complain that businessmen are missing deadlines because dead-enders with nothing better to do are holding up the traffic*" (Quotations are from Mark Almond, history lecturer at Oxford University, writing in *The Guardian* of 15 August 2006, "People Power" is a global brand owned by America').

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London