

**Topics**

- **Federal police linked to Marti kidnap case**
- **Security Secretary Garcia Luna in the spotlight**
- **Owner of top newspapers flees to Texas**
- **Teachers strike over merit exams**
- **Dueling celebrations of Mexico's Independence**

**Key Dates**

- 9/15: Independence Day**
- 9/28: Coahuila state elections**
- 11/14: Deadline for budget approval**

One of the **Fernando Marti kidnap suspects**, Lorena González Hernández, was revealed to be a deputy inspector in the anti-kidnap squad of the **Federal Preventive Police (PFP)**. Undersecretary of Police Intelligence and Strategy Facundo Rosas initially denied that González was a member of the force, but the press revealed documents that confirm that she has been working at the PFP under Rosas since Oct. 2007 and has been working in one or another of the federal police agencies since 1999. The revelation forced Security Secretary Genaro García Luna to defend his Undersecretary by saying that “there is no reason why he should resign” and attacking the media. (Universal 9/12, Reporte Indigo 9/11-12).

The *Templo Mayor* column noted: “Despite being considered ‘untouchable’ just a few weeks ago, **Genaro García Luna today looks more fragile than Humpty Dumpty**....It is not just because one of those responsible for the kidnap of Fernando Marti worked at the PFP, and in the anti-kidnap squad, but—even worse—because the Secretary tried to hide it...There are people who say that this weakens Felipe Calderon’s initiative to create a national police force.” (Reforma 9/11)

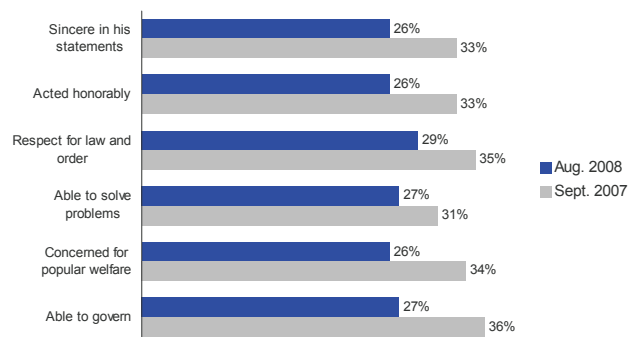
**Alejandro Junco**, the owner and publisher of several of Mexico’s top newspapers, including *Reforma* in Mexico City and *El Norte* in Monterrey, has **reportedly moved to Texas** with his family in response to recent threats. In a letter to Nuevo Leon Governor Natividad Gonzalez (PRI), Junco said he considers himself a “refugee” and said that he faced the dilemma of either “compromising the editorial line of the paper or protecting my family.” (Reporte Indigo 9/12)

**Striking teachers** from the state of Morelos marched on Mexico City and closed the Mexico-Cuernavaca highway. They are demanding the resignation of Teachers’ Union head Elba Esther Gordillo and revocation of the teacher merit exam provision contained in the “Alliance for a Quality Education” pact signed last May by Gordillo and the Government. Since the start of the school year in late August, the strike has prevented some 400,000 students in the state from starting classes. The Alliance agreement requires teachers to pass an exam in order to get teaching positions; many teaching jobs are currently inherited, sold, or otherwise transferred.

For a second year in a row, there will be **dueling Independence Day celebrations** in Mexico City’s Zocalo tonight. The leftist FAP alliance will give their *Grito*, or “Cry of Independence,” first. They have committed to leave the Zocalo by 10pm, opening the way for President Calderón to give the traditional *Grito* from the balcony of the National Palace at 11pm. (Reforma 9/14)

**Polls**

**How much do you believe that President Calderón is or has shown**  
(% answering "very much" or "a lot")



The recent GEA-ISA national survey showed a generalized deterioration in the strength of support for President Calderón. The proportion of persons showing strong endorsement of the President’s performance across a variety of categories fell across the board by 4-9% compared to September 2007. (www.isa.org.mx)