

**New York Congressman CHARLES RANGEL**, Chairman of the Select Committee on Narcotics Abuse and Control, is one of the strongest opponents to the legalization or decriminalization of the sale and use of illegal drugs in America today. Traffickers involved in the production, sale, and use of marijuana, cocaine and heroin probably view Congressman Rangel as the enemy. During a recent appearance on an ABC Television network special on the legalization of drugs hosted by **Nightline's** Ted Koppel, Rangel vigorously challenged the proponents of legalization. Elected to a ninth term, Rangel, a former U.S. Attorney, represents the largest black Congressional district in the country including the neighborhoods of East and Central Harlem and the upper West Side. He is also a member of the powerful House Ways & Means Committee and is a Deputy Whip for the House Democratic Leadership. Congressman Rangel lives in New York with his wife, Alma, and their two children.

(over)

**MS. CLARA LOPEZ OBREGON** is President of the City Council of Bogota, Colombia. The first woman to hold that position, she is one of the most prominent women in Colombian politics. Since the declaration of the "war on drugs", Americans are increasingly aware of the intimate link between drug use in the U.S. and drug production in Colombia. Lopez is deeply concerned about the drug related violence and human rights violations facing citizens in both countries. Aware that her outspoken criticism has placed her on a number of hit lists in Colombia, she continues to confront the issue. Ms. Lopez is a graduate of Harvard University and has served as a Special Assistant for Economic Affairs to the President of Colombia. She is touring the U.S. under the auspices of the Third World Women's Project at the Institute for Policy Studies.

**BRAD WILLIS** has been a broadcast journalist for the past 15 years, the last 3 for WBZ TV-4 in Boston. His objective reporting has resulted in numerous awards. Brad was the recipient of the Columbia Dupont Award -- considered the Pulitzer Prize of television journalism -- for reports on the Afghan War. He also received an award from the National Association of Black Journalists for reports on Apartheid in Southern Africa.

(over)