

WHAT SHOULD BE DEMANDED FROM THE UNITED STATES

Fidel Castro’s Reflection on the Coup in Honduras

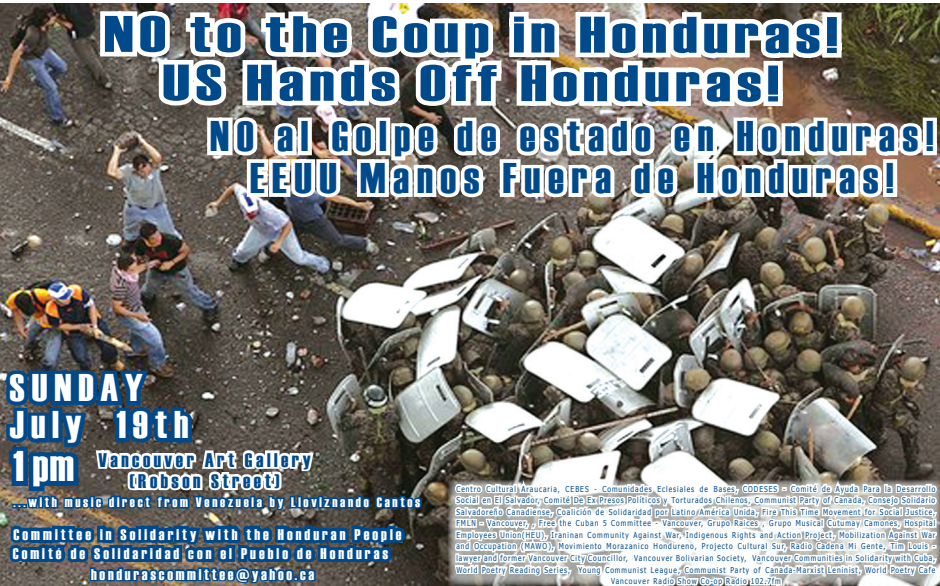
Costa Rica didn’t, nor could it, lead to peace. The people of Honduras are not at war, it’s just the perpetrators of the coup who are using weapons against the people. One should demand that they cease their war against the people. That meeting between Zelaya and the coup was only good for discrediting the constitutional president and wearing away at the energies of the Honduran people. World public opinion learned about what was happening in that country through the images broadcast by international television, basically Telesur, which without losing a single second, faithfully broadcast each one of the events happening in Honduras, the speeches made and the unanimous agreements of the international bodies against the coup.

The idea that the US ambassador in Tegucigalpa, Hugo Llorens, didn’t know about or discouraged the coup is absolutely false. He knew about it, just like the American military advisors who didn’t stop for a minute in their training of Honduran troops.

Today we know that the idea to promote a peace process from Costa Rica arose from the offices of the State Department, in order to contribute to the strengthening of the military coup.

The coup was conceived and organized by unscrupulous characters on the far-right, who were officials in the confidence of George W. Bush and had been promoted by him.

All of them, without exception, have a thick file of activities against Cuba. Hugo Lorens, the ambassador in



The world could watch the blows that rained down on men and women, the thousands of tear gas bombs thrown into the crowd, the rude gestures with weapons of war and the shots intended to intimidate, wound or murder citizens.

Honduras since the middle of 2008, is a Cuban-American. He is part of the group of aggressive US ambassadors in Central America, made up of Robert Blau, the ambassador in El Salvador, Stephen McFarland in Guatemala and Robert Callahan in Nicaragua, all

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LO QUE DEBE DEMANDARSE A ESTADOS UNIDOS

Reflexione del Compañero Fidel

La reunión de Costa Rica no conducía ni podía conducir a la paz. El pueblo de Honduras no está en guerra, solo los golpistas usan las armas contra él. A ellos habría que demandarles el cese de su guerra contra el pueblo. Tal reunión entre Zelaya y los golpistas solo serviría para desmoralizar al Presidente Constitucional y desgastar las energías del pueblo hondureño.

La opinión pública mundial conoce lo ocurrido en ese país a través de las imágenes difundidas por la televisión internacional, fundamentalmente Telesur, que sin perder un segundo transmitió fielmente cada uno de los hechos ocurridos en Honduras, los discursos pronunciados y los acuerdos unánimes de los organismos internacionales contra el golpe.

El mundo pudo apreciar los golpes que se descargaban sobre hombres y mujeres, los miles de gases lacrimógenos lanzados contra la multitud, los groseros gestos con armas de guerra y disparos para intimidar, herir o asesinar a ciudadanos.

Es absolutamente falsa la idea de que el embajador de Estados Unidos en Tegucigalpa, Hugo Llorens, ignorara o desalentara el golpe. Lo

conocía, al igual que los asesores militares norteamericanos, que no cesaron un minuto de entrenar a las tropas hondureñas.

Hoy se conoce que la idea de promover una gestión de paz a partir de Costa Rica surgió en las oficinas del Departamento de Estado, para contribuir a la consolidación del golpe militar.

El golpe fue concebido y organizado por personajes inescrupulosos de la extrema derecha, que eran funcionarios de confianza de George W. Bush y habían sido promovidos por él.

Todos, sin excepción, tienen un grueso expediente de actividades contra Cuba. Hugo Llorens, embajador en Honduras desde mediados del 2008, es cubano americano. Forma parte del grupo de agresivos embajadores de Estados Unidos en Centroamérica, constituido por Robert Blau, embajador en El Salvador; Stephen McFarland, en Guatemala, y Robert Callahan, en Nicaragua, nombrados todos por Bush en los meses de julio y agosto del 2008.

Los cuatro siguen la línea de Otto Reich y John Negroponte, que

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MAWO Statement on the Situation in Iran

HANDS OFF IRAN!

June 23, 2009
Vancouver, Canada

Since the June 12th 2009 Iranian election results, there has been constant coverage of opposition protests in Iran on every major Western news source, with all sorts of “experts” on the situation in Iran and statements from the leaders of imperialist countries, as well as countless cell phone videos replayed despite their origin and authenticity being unconfirmed. As the internal issues of the Iranian people are suddenly the prime concern of media outlets and imperialist governments, this begs the question, where is the coverage of the US atrocities in Iraq, or the Canada/US/NATO crimes in Afghanistan? Why do protests of civil dispute warrant a media frenzy, but there is barely any reporting on the US drone attack on Northwest Pakistan which on Tuesday June 22nd killed at least 80 Pakistani people? As was done with the May 4th US air strikes in Afghanistan which killed over 140 Afghan people, will this be excused by the US government with another claim of “mistakes?”



sweeping their own crimes under the rug. On Tuesday June 23rd, US president Obama said to the press that the Iranian government “must govern through consent, and not coercion,” and that “We mourn each and every innocent life that is lost.” Where is the consent of the American people, who have seen over 5000 American soldiers killed in the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, wars carried out without the consent of the American people and despite not only protests in the US but protests world wide. While Obama claims to mourn the reported 17 lives lost in Iran, where is his conscious for the 1.2 million Iraqi lives cut short by US war and occupation?

The government of Canada is also participating in this increased campaign to demonize the Iranian government. Foreign Affairs Minister Lawrence Cannon issued a statement saying Canada

“will continue to call for a fully transparent investigation into electoral discrepancies,” and “The Iranian people deserve to have their voices heard.” Yet the government of Canada upholds an illegitimate puppet government in Afghanistan, whose election under the barrel of the gun of foreign occupation was wrought with fraud and discrepancies. Not to mention, the illegal occupation of Afghanistan itself undermines any legal and fair election. Where is the voice of the majority of people in Canada, who for over three years, according to many independent and official polls, oppose Canada’s war in Afghanistan?

Perhaps most directly interfering of all was the statement on Sunday from German chancellor Angela Merkel, who was the first leader of a major Western power to publicly demand a recount. There are claims that there were election discrepancies, and there are claims that there were not – it isn’t the job of the German chancellor to judge which claim is correct, and it is not her job to demand a recount. Not only does the German chancellor have no clear evidence to claim a recount is in order, this is a direct interference into the internal matters of a sovereign country! If Ms. Merkel is suddenly so concerned about the votes of Iranians, why does she not care about the racist and vicious attacks

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MAWO Statement Against the Coup in Honduras

July 8, 2009
Vancouver, Canada

After two decades, reactionary imperialist forces with the help of a bankrupt and corrupt military establishment once again conducted a coup d’etat against the will of the people of Latin-America. On June 28th, the democratically-elected President of Honduras, Manuel Zelaya, was forced to leave his office by special army units. He was taken to Costa Rica and then Nicaragua. Honduran people were completely caught by surprise and shocked by the course of this brutality and suppression. The armed forces took over all the important institutions including the radio and television stations, and rapidly cut off all lines of communication in order to suppress the population and potential news leaks to outside of Honduras. People soon began to protest, and the illegal military junta found itself at odds with the resistance of the population against the coup. On July 5th, almost 200,000 people gathered in the airport outside of Tegucigalpa, the country’s capital, to welcome back their President who was unsuccessfully attempting to return to the country.

Zelaya was overthrown by military thugs because his line of progressive measures was helping people to improve their standard of living, and they were gaining confidence to fight for their rights - especially against imperialist domination. Since the military coup people have been resisting by strikes and all other forms of protest. Marches and rallies are happening



every day all across Honduras, and fighting the coup d’etat regime has become the main agenda of hundreds of thousands of people.

The coup d’etat will not succeed because the social movement for change in Honduras had already started before this coup. In fact, the military coup was the

response of the oligarchy and pro-imperialist army to stop or at least to slow down this progressive movement.

The coup d’etat has provoked worldwide condemnation from Venezuela, Bolivia, Cuba and other Latin American countries, as well as the European Union. The Organization of American States (OAS) has condemned this illegal action and called for the reinstatement of President Zelaya. The coup d’etat regime has been completely isolated and has no choice but to step down.

We strongly condemn this coup d’etat, as well as the brutal kidnapping and beating of the Cuban, Venezuelan and Nicaraguan Ambassadors to Honduras. We demand the immediate release of Patricia Rodas, the Foreign Minister of Honduras.

We invite all peace loving people in Vancouver, and Canada to join millions of protesters around the globe to condemn this coup and demand that President Zelaya be returned to office immediately

Imperialists Hands off Honduras!
Re-instate President Manuel Zelaya Right Now!

“What Should be Demanded of the US”
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appointed by Bush in the months of July and August of 2008.

The four of them follow the line of Otto Reich and John Negroponte who, together with Oliver North, were responsible for the dirty war against Nicaragua and the death squads in Central America that cost the peoples of the region tens of thousands of lives.

Negroponte was Bush’s representative at the United Nations, the US intelligence tsar, and finally under-secretary of State. Both he and Otto Reich, using different routes, were behind the coup in Honduras.

The base at Soto Cano in that country, home to the Joint Task Force-Bravo of the US Armed Forces, is the main point of support for the coup d’état in Honduras.

The United States has the dismal plan to create five more military bases around Venezuela, with the excuse of replacing the one in Manta, Ecuador.

The absurd adventure of the coup d’état in Honduras has created a really complicated situation in Central America that cannot be resolved with trickery, deceit and lies.

Every day we learn about new details in the US implication in that action that will also have serious repercussions in all of Latin America.

The idea of a peace initiative from Costa Rica was transmitted to the president of that country from the State Department when Obama was in Moscow and he was declaring at a Russian university that the only president of Honduras was Manuel Zelaya.

The perpetrators of the coup were in a predicament. The initiative transmitted to Costa Rica was seeking the goal of saving them. It is clear that every day of delay has a cost for the constitutional president and tends to dilute the extraordinary international support he has received. The Yankee manoeuvre does not increase the possibilities for peace, just the opposite, it decreases them, and the danger of violence grows, since the peoples of our America will never resign themselves to the fate that has been programmed for them.

With the Costa Rica meeting, the authority of the UN, the OAS and the other institutions that committed their support to the people of Honduras is being questioned.

When Micheletti, the de facto president, yesterday announced that he is willing to step down from his position if Zelaya resigns, I already knew that the State Department and the military in the coup had agreed to replace him and send him again to Congress as part of the manoeuvre.

The only correct thing to do at this moment is to demand that the government of the United States ceases its intervention, stops giving military aid to the coup and pulls out its Task Force from Honduras.

What they want to demand from the Honduran people in the name of peace is to deny all the principles for which all the nations of this hemisphere have fought.

“Respect for the rights of others

Fidel Castro Ruz, July 16, 2009 1:12 p.m.



“Lo que debe demandarse a Estados Unidos”
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junto a Oliver North fueron responsables de la guerra sucia contra Nicaragua y de los escuadrones de la muerte en Centroamérica, que costaron a los pueblos de la región decenas de miles de vidas.

Negroponte fue representante de Bush en las Naciones Unidas, Zar de la inteligencia norteamericana, y finalmente subsecretario de Estado. Tanto él como Otto Reich, por diversas vías, estuvieron detrás del golpe de Honduras.

La base de Soto Cano en ese país, sede de la “Fuerza de Tarea Conjunta Bravo” perteneciente a las Fuerzas Armadas de Estados Unidos, es el punto de apoyo principal del golpe de Estado en Honduras.

Estados Unidos tiene el tenebroso plan de crear cinco bases militares más alrededor de Venezuela, con el pretexto de sustituir la de Manta en Ecuador.

La disparatada aventura del golpe de Estado en Honduras ha creado una situación realmente complicada en Centroamérica que no se resuelve con trampas, engaños y mentiras.

Cada día se conocen nuevos detalles de la implicación de Estados Unidos en esa acción, que tendrá también seria repercusión en toda América Latina.

La idea de una iniciativa de paz a partir de Costa Rica fue transmitida al Presidente de ese país desde el Departamento de Estado cuando Obama estaba en Moscú y declaraba, en una universidad rusa, que el único Presidente de Honduras era

Manuel Zelaya.

Los golpistas estaban en apuros. La iniciativa transmitida a Costa Rica buscaba el objetivo de salvarlos. Es obvio que cada día de retraso tiene un costo para el Presidente Constitucional y tiende a diluir el extraordinario apoyo internacional que ha recibido. La maniobra yanqui no incrementa las posibilidades de paz, sino todo lo contrario, las disminuye, y el peligro de violencia crece, ya que los pueblos de nuestra América no se resignarán jamás al destino que les tienen programado.

Con la reunión de Costa Rica se cuestiona la autoridad de la ONU, la OEA y demás instituciones que comprometieron su apoyo al pueblo de Honduras.

Cuando Micheletti, Presidente de facto, proclamó ayer que está dispuesto a renunciar a su cargo si Zelaya renunciaba, sabía ya que el Departamento de Estado y los militares golpistas habían acordado sustituirlo y enviarlo de nuevo al Congreso como parte de la maniobra.

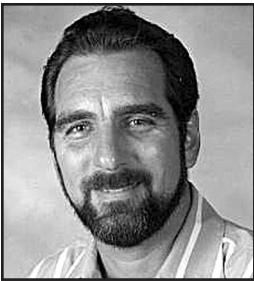
Lo único correcto en este momento es demandar del gobierno de Estados Unidos que cese su intervención, deje de prestar apoyo militar a los golpistas y retire de Honduras su Fuerza de Tarea.

Lo que se pretende exigir al pueblo de Honduras en nombre de la paz, es la negación de todos los principios por los cuales lucharon todas las naciones de este hemisferio.

“El respeto al derecho ajeno es la paz”, dijo Juárez.

Fidel Castro Ruz, July 16, 2009 1:12 p.m.

MESSAGE OF SUPPORT TO ZELAYA



From René González on Behalf of the Cuban Five

July 1, 2009
Reprinted from Daily Granma

Dear compañero Manuel Zelaya, the sole and dignified constitutional president of Honduras:

Profound indignation has shaken our cells in the face of the brutal coup d’état in your homeland, reminiscent of a past that is still fresh in the historic memory of Central America.

It would appear that the sinister failed plot in Caracas and then successfully applied in Haiti is now seeking, with its dress rehearsal in Middle America, to reverse the inevitable historic tendency of our peoples toward overcoming their neocolonial conspiracies. Today it is the turn of the Honduran people, under your dignified leadership and in an America that is no longer the same, to take up the honorable challenge of permanently interring fascism, as an instrument of the outdated reactionary oligarchies for whom homeland is synonymous with miserable privileges.

Like you, we know from first-hand experience the brutality of being awoken by armed guards,

being taken half-dressed from our homes, the ignoble utilization of judicial power to justify the crime, the employment of threats to demand renunciation, and of the starkest use of lies for perverse aims.

We also know of the joy inspired by the opportune combative expression of a daughter, the unconditional commitment of the family, or the clamor of universal solidarity, or the incomparable love of an entire people.

Identifying with your dignified position, a reflection of your moral superiority over the usurpers, we extend to you, from the empire’s prisons which, in the last 10 years, have never been able to incarcerate our dignity as revolutionary Cubans, the expressions of our unconditional support and the certainty that your people, armed with their own decency and their love of justice, will also overcome.

**A strong embrace from the Five.
Gerardo, Ramón, Antonio, Fernando and René**

June 28, 2009.

“HANDS OFF IRAN!”
continued from the front page...

on Turks and Muslims in Germany, and the 2.5 million out of 4 million Turks who can not vote because of Germany’s undemocratic and reactionary laws?

While imperialist countries are playing out the situation in Iran on an international stage, the rights of Iran, as a UN nation-state member and sovereign nation, are being violated according to the UN’s own charters and resolutions. According to resolution 52/119 adopted by the UN general assembly in December 1997, the UN resolved “Recognizing that the principles of national sovereignty and non-interference in the internal affairs of any State should be respected in the holding of elections.”

Iran’s elections and disputes are an internal matter, to be resolved by the Iranian people and not the governments of imperialist countries with agendas of dominating Iran and a track record of using internal issues to justify military invasion. The Iranian people and government do not need “Big Brother” to tell them what to do. Throughout history, the Iranian people have constantly been in movement for change. Since the Tobacco Movement against the British empire in 1891 to the present day, the great Iranian people have managed three revolutions and ten mass movements or national movements in Iran. With such a track record for Iran, what credibility does any imperialist country have to lecture the Iranian people on how to fight for their rights and how to achieve change? One truly wonders what arrogance, trickery and racism these imperialist countries display.

In this current time, the Iranian people will determine for themselves what they will do for the future of themselves and their nation. As peace loving people, let us turn our attention to these civilized criminals sitting in Washington and Ottawa, whose crimes in this new era of war and occupation are committed every day against the people of Afghanistan, Iraq, Palestine, Haiti, Pakistan, Cuba, Indigenous nations, and yes, also Iran. This is where our human obligation lies, in pointing the finger at the governments of the imperialist countries we live in, rather than countries under imperialist attack.

**Hands Off Iran!
No Imperialist Intervention in Iran!
Self-determination for Iranian People!**

Wednesday
July 29th
6:30pm

Joe’s Cafe
(in the large North Hall)
1150 Commerical Drive
(at William Street)

Ali Yerevani
Political Editor of
Fire This Time Newspaper

FREE PUBLIC FORUM

IMPERIALISM AND THE ELECTION CRISIS IN IRAN

**HANDS
OFF
IRAN!**

co-organized by:
Iranian Community Against War (ICAW)
<http://icaw.blogspot.com>
Mobilization Against War and Occupation (MAWO)
www.mawovancouver.org

US flags indicate US Army presence

**CANADA
OUT
OF
AFGHANISTAN!**

**INDEPENDENT PUBLIC INQUIRY INTO
THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA’S
WAR DRIVE IN AFGHANISTAN!**

Monthly Picket/Action!
**Thursday
July 23
4-5pm**
Canadian Armed Forces
Recruitment Center
620 Royal Ave., New Westminster
(Near New Westminster Skytrain and
Douglas College)
www.mawovancouver.org

Get involved

with MAWO!

Meetings
Wednesdays - 6:30PM
For location, please visit our website:
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