

VENEZUELA REGIME CHANGE

Latin America Weighs the Consequences

Several Caribbean leaders spoke the end of September at the U.N. General Assembly, each supporting the end of the blockades against Venezuela. Meanwhile the make-believe President, Juan Guaido had his request for "humanitarian aid" refused by the UN. He was told that such requests should come from the government of Venezuela. The UN has recognized Nicolas Maduro as the legitimate President of Venezuela.

Prior to the 40th Regular Meeting of the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community (Caricom) in July, the bloc's Secretary General Irwin LaRocque said that despite divergences the 15 member-countries are united in their stance on key issues regarding Venezuela.

"There is a common view on a number of issues that we adhere to very, very strongly. The principle of non-interference and non-intervention. The issue that there must be a dialogue between the opposition and the government. LaRocque told reporters.

The Secretary-General emphasized the importance of a "peaceful resolution" and the "recognition of the constitution and the rule of law, all of which are principles that up to this day, every single member state, whether they recognize Juan Guaido or not, or they recognize President Maduro or not, adhere to."

Speaking at the UN, the first woman Prime Minister of Barbados, Mia Mottley, stated that "The people of Venezuela must be allowed to decide their own future in accordance with the principles of the United Nations Charter, the principles of non-intervention, non-interference, prohibition of the threat or use of force, respect for the rule of law, human rights and democracy." She went on "We salute the government of Norway for walking the walk and taking leadership in facilitating these talks," some of which have taken place in Barbados.

The dialogue between the Venezuelan government of Nicolas Maduro and opposition parties resulted in the recent peaceful release of the National Assembly Vice President Edgar Zambrano. Zambrano played an important role in the failed coup attempt on Maduro last April led by the self-declared interim president, Juan Guaido.

Antigua and Barbuda Prime Minister Gaston Browne agreed that "countries are interfering in Venezuela and trying to create regime change, but this goes against all international standards and laws." The Antigua and Barbuda leader went on to say that his nation "condemns the use of TIAR against Venezuela."

Last week at the Organization of American States' (OAS) assembly, 12 U.S.-aligned countries voted in favor to activate the Inter-American Treaty of Reciprocal Assistance, known as TIAR, or Rio treaty, against Venezuela, responding to an earlier request by the United States, Venezuela's opposition leader Juan Guaido's National Communication Center announced in a tweet. Uruguay was the only nation that voted against, while Trinidad and Tobago abstained. Cuba did not vote because it does not participate in the treaty, despite formally remaining a signatory.

The treaty allows member countries to "identify and designate persons and entities" related to Nicolas Maduro's government "involved in crime networks," according to Colombian Foreign Minister Carlos Holmes. The treaty parties can sanction or extradite identified officials or seize their assets, Holmes said. "During the meeting, there was no discussion regarding a military intervention in Venezuela."



The invocation cited a Venezuelan military exercise near the Colombian border and Maduro's alleged support to Colombia's opposition FARC group, despite Caracas's pledge to help Bogota make peace with FARC. Venezuela's military exercises began as a protective measure against training camps set next to the border which Caracas claims trains attackers against the government.

Colombia President Duque had cited a report submitted to the UN "irrefutable and conclusive proof that corroborates that the dictatorship supports criminal and narco-terrorist groups that operate in Venezuela and try to attack Colombia." Duque held up the 128 page dossier which, it turned out included years-old uncredited photos from various news agencies. However, a few hours later, the Colombian media and the international news agency AFP denied the photographs used.

"The Ministry of Defense called us and apologized for that photo of the Catatumbo and that they had located in Venezuela. There they told us that there were two more photos of AFP, one in Choco and another taken in Guaviare, none of the three taken in Venezuela," said Florence Panoussian, director of AFP for Colombia and Ecuador.

Now Duque has dismissed the head of Intelligence and Counterintelligence General Oswaldo Peña Bermeo. The general command of the Military Forces admitted in a statement that the photo of the massacre used by Duque was in fact from Catatumbo, Colombia.

What effect this will have on TIAR's resolution is yet to come. But Prime Minister of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Ralph Gonsalves concurred with his fellow Caricom leaders by immediately saying during his address that "the solutions to the conflicts in Venezuela will be only through the facilitation of a peaceful road and it is necessary to respect their sovereignty." He too condemned any rhetorical or actual "military intervention" in Venezuela. He called out general assembly members for being complicit in the "sustained attempt of a regime change through an illegal economic blockade against Venezuela" he called "eerily similar to the one against Cuba" which U.N. nations each year vote to end.

A Radical Remix of UN, twitter, Telesur & Sputnik News

HAITIAN PUPPET PRESIDENT GOING DOWN

On Friday, Sept. 27, Haiti experienced one of the most massive protests ever in the country's recent history. People took to the streets, called by the opposition, to demand the immediate resignation of United States backed President Jovenel Moise. The marches have been ongoing for two weeks. and have degenerated into violent acts, especially in the capital Port-au-Prince.

The paralyzed capital Port-au-Prince has been the scene of looting, cars and buildings set on fire, including a police station in the impoverished Cite Soleil neighborhood, to which security agents had fled before the eruption of an angry mob.

Protesters blocked main avenues in Port-au-Prince, using makeshift barricades, stones, fences, and burning tires, in the effort to remove Moise. The U.S. asset is blamed by the opposition for the deep political, social and economic crisis endured by the Caribbean nation.

The main demonstration brought together thousands of people who marched armed with sticks, tree branches, stones, and even machetes in the direction of the wealthy southeastern neighborhood of Petion-Ville

where Moise's residence is located. Some attacked shops and vehicles on their way. The police used tear gas and other gears to scatter the people upon their arrival in Petion-Ville where a strong police line was established to protect the route leading to the residence of the president, located on a hill.

This huge mobilization came two days after Moise delivered a rare televised speech to the nation appealing for calm, proposing to form a government of national unity and begging the people for a "truce." In the last couple of days, he has made several changes within his government and provincial administrations in an attempt to find common ground with the political opposition. Despite this desperate attempt, opposition parties - which have been boycotting the government for weeks - along with Haitians in the streets, decided to maintain their call to protest.

"People believe that Jovenel Moise has failed in his mission," said opposition figure Jude Celestin to local media, urging for the president to step down. "Jovenel Moise must leave. He is no longer our president. He is unable to provide solutions to our problems," a protester, Judelin Pierre told the Spanish news agency, EFE.

Friday's protests come after weeks of a dangerously deepening crisis where Haitians are facing severe shortages of oil, power, and food, while senators from the opposition blocking the nomination of Moise's choice of Prime Minister, William Michel and his new government. Last Monday, another hearing to try to appoint the premier almost ended in tragedy when a senator from the ruling party opened fire to disperse an opposing crowd gathered in front of the parliament.

Though Haitian people have accumulated discontent with Moise's policies for years, the current turmoil started in July 2018 when the president attempted to stop energy subsidies, a decision pressured by the International Monetary Fund. Though the plan was canceled, anger persisted and intensified some months later as accusations, involving Moise and his allies, emerged of corruption and misuse of public funds including financial aid received from Venezuela.

Christian Noda,

Colombian El Espectador & Agencia EFE, S.A. the major multimedia news agency in Spanish language and the world's fourth largest wire service

DEATH OF A REVOLUTIONARY

Robert Mugabe passed away last month and not a word in any of his obits was complimentary. Why? Mr. Mugabe **liberated Zimbabwe** from the treacherous Rhodesian government, **risking life and limb** on many occasions and **spending ten years** of his life in a rat infested prison, **educating himself** in economics and the law. Once in power, he instituted free public education for all children from ages of 5 to 16, re-distributed land to small farmers and required employers to **actually pay their workers** in money, unlike his neighbors, most notably South Africa, where you can be made to toil for room and board and no pay.

He was a **PanAfricanist**, who re-made Zimbabwe into a Marxist state and kept the peace in his country by quelling any violence between the majority *Shona* tribe and the minority *Medebele*'s.

He liked to point out that more people were murdered in Oakland California every year than in his country. He struggled under the yoke of **oppressive interventionist boycotts**, much like Cuba, but still managed to stay in power for close to 40 years, even though the country was ravaged by the AIDS epidemic, crumbling infrastructure and no foreign investments.

He was the first African president to demand payment up front from foreign NGOs claiming to help in disaster relief when they would merely photograph trucks and supplies moving off boats to the stricken area, only to **load it all back** on the boats in two or three days, after the photographers took pictures to distribute to the western press in an effort to raise money for disaster victims that never got there. He called it a cottage industry, but his worst offense was **stripping valuable farm land** from wealthy British overlords and giving it to his fellow belligerents. When the British demanded payment, Mugabe said he would pay them in full for whatever they paid for the land plus interest for all the intervening years. He then asked how much they paid for the land and **the answer was zero**. Mugabe mused, when foreign powers took something that didn't belong to them, they acquired it, but when the rightful owners wanted it back, they called it stealing.

This was the crux of the problem, he dared to call the colonialist **what they really were**. The choice was to give the country back to the Europeans and keep them wealthy, or take the land back and even if it grew fallow, the native Zimbabwe population were no worse off than when all their land was mono-cropped and the food exported. Mugabe's big crime was exposing the colonialists for the racist gangsters they really were. **RIP**

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