

By the way...



President Bush and
Colombian President
Uribe

Venezuela shares a border with Colombia. The President of Colombia is Alvaro Uribe.

Human Rights Watch's specialist on Colombia, at a House Foreign Affairs hearing on April 24 testified, "Colombia presents the worst human rights and humanitarian crisis in the Western Hemisphere." adding, "Colombia is currently the murder capital of the world for trade unionists,".

In March, the LA Times revealed that "the CIA has obtained new intelligence alleging that the head of Colombia's U.S.-backed army collaborated extensively with right-wing militias that Washington considers terrorist organizations, including a militia headed by one of the country's leading drug traffickers.

However, since Uribe fights popularly supported leftist rebels, and since he opens Colombia's resources to exploitation and allows the profits to be exported as well, the U.S. corporate elite loves him. Colombia continues to receive the most U.S. aid of any country outside the Middle East and Afghanistan. It gets upwards of \$700 million a year. Thankfully, our democratic Congress, under Senator Patrick Leahy's leadership is beginning to reverse this trend, and has held off on \$55 million this year.

Who we are

The Project for the OLD American Century is a grass-roots organization that strives to protect and strengthen democracy primarily by disseminating unreported and underreported news stories from a perspective untainted by political or corporate sponsorship.

The Project was founded in 2002 in response to the neoconservative movement and the damage it has done to our foreign and domestic policies and a compliant corporate media that refused to make these problems prominent in our national consciousness. We felt it our duty as patriots to create a web-based independent media outlet where we can not only debunk the myth of the liberal media but expose the corruption and cronyism taking place at the highest levels of government and corporate power.

The Project for the Old American Century conducts its own research and compiles dossiers made available to the public both via the web or in print free of charge. Topics include conflicts of interest inside government agencies, specific profiles of top public officials, data acquired through the Freedom of Information Act, and much more. Visit our website for daily news and commentary.

Project for the Old American Century

www.oldamericancentury.org

PO Box 33
Le Mars, Iowa
51031

Creeping socialist dictatorship In Latin America?



Venezuelan President Hugo
Chavez

Another informative
pamphlet from the
Project for the Old
American Century

www.oldamericancentury.org

Informing you
to empower you

Hugo Chavez



Chavez was elected to power in 1998 with 65% of the vote on a campaign centering on promises of aiding

Venezuela's poor majority. Shortly into his first term, he survived a US-backed coup, in which the first acts of the coup plotters was to suspend the constitution and begin arresting people who had voted for Chavez. The coup against the democratically-elected Venezuelan government was approved and supported by the government of the United States, acting through senior officials, including Otto Reich and convicted Iran-contra figure and George W. Bush's "democracy 'tzar'" Elliott Abrams, who have long histories in the U.S.-backed "dirty wars" in Central America in the 1980s, and links to right-wing death squads working in Central America at that time.

Chavez's first act upon putting down the illegal coup, was the restoration of the constitution.

In 2002 he survived the US-orchestrated attempt to cripple the Venezuelan economy (where factory owners and landlords literally locked most of the workers OUT of the factories, in order to kill the economy).

After surviving that... he won a US-orchestrated recall referendum with 60% of the vote.

Through out this term, Chavez initiated major projects to finally link the country's major cities by highways, and started investing heavily in NON-oil projects, such as manufacturing and technology... so that Venezuela wouldn't have a 'one-trick pony' economy.

Chavez maintains his overwhelming popular support by introducing domestic programs calls "Bolivarian Missions". One such mission was a project to restore the eye sight of 10,000 people across the Caribbean and Latin America, for whom technology existed to fix their blindness, but who were too poor to afford the operations.

Another mission was to put in universal literacy programs to send teachers into the slums to teach EVERYONE how to read and write, raising Venezuela's literacy rate from 65% to 99% in just a year and a half.

Additionally, Chavez channeled the oil revenues from the State-owned oil company to finance deploying 20,000 doctors to the poor areas of Venezuela, Bolivia, and Ecuador, to begin providing free health care to people who had never before seen a doctor.

As a result Chavez won yet another election, with 75% of the vote... because the US-backed opposition decided to sit out the elections in an attempt to cast doubt on the legitimacy of the vote.

So, because the opposition sat out a vote... Chavez has overwhelming majority support in the Congress.

Hugo Chavez continues to use the country's oil wealth to help benefit the citizens of that nation... rather than allowing it to flow into the offshore accounts of Exxon-Mobile and BP.

70% of his country was in poverty when Chavez took office, and had been ruled over by a tiny US-backed elite for 50+ years... now that the vast majority of the nation has true representation in government and a share of the nations resources, the U.S.

corporate elite and their puppets will never win a free and fair election in Venezuela again.

So... the only way for the old power elite, and the US corporations that back them, to regain control of the nation's resources is via the US Marines paying a visit. But the Marines are busy elsewhere, so the only thing that the corporate elite can do is propagandize and convince the public that Chavez is a threat that must be met in the future.

Thus we have the mainstream corporate media serving as a platform for neocons smearing a popularly elected president with 70% approval ratings as a "dictator".

In closing, remember this: The business elite of the United States has been overthrowing democratically elected regimes and installing corporate friendly dictators in Latin America since the late 1880's. And the latest propaganda effort directed towards Chavez is just priming the public for more of the same.

Project for the Old American Century

PO Box 33
Le Mars, Iowa
51031

Visit us online for daily news headlines, online discussion and media archives:
www.oldamericancentury.org