Namibia Today
Friday 08 - 14 Thursday October 2010
5

Piedad Córdoba and Her Fight for Peace

By Cde. Fidel Castro Ruz

Three days ago, there was news printed that the Attorney General of Colombia, Alejandro Ordóñez Maldonado had removed the prestigious Colombian Senator Piedad Córdoba from her post and disqualified her from carrying out political office for 18 years, because of her alleged promoting and collaborating with the FARC (the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia).

Faced with such an unusual and drastic measure taken against an elected post in the highest legislative body of state, Piedad has no alternative but to appeal to the very Attorney General who produced the measures. It was logical that such arbitrariness would cause a mighty rejection, expressed by a wide range of political personalities, among them former prisoners of war, the FARC and relatives of those who had been liberated, thanks to the senator, former presidential candidates, persons who had held that high office, others who were or still are senators or members of the legislature.

Piedad Córdoba is an intelligent and brave person, a brilliant leader with well-articulated thoughts. A few weeks ago she visited us in the company of other distinguished personalities, among which was a remarkably honest Jesus priest. They came spurred on by a profound desire to seek peace for their country and they were requesting Cuba's collaboration, remembering that for years, and at the instance of the government of Colombia itself, we let our territory and our collaboration for the setting things right took place in our capital between representatives of the Colombian government and the National Liberation Army.

However, I am not surprised by the decision taken by the Attorney General who obliterates the official policy of that country which is virtually occupied by Yankee troops.

I don't like hearing my words, and I shall say what I am thinking. Just one week ago, the general debate of the 65th Session of the United Nations General Assembly was about to begin. For three days they had been discussing the alarming Millennium Development Goals and on Thursday September 23rd the General Assembly was commencing with the participation of the heads of State or officials of each country. The first to take the podium would be, as is customary, the UN Secretary General and immediately afterwards, the President of the United States, host country of the Organization and the presumed master of the world. The session was beginning at 9 am. Logically, I was interested in hearing what the illustrious Barack Obama, Nobel Peace Prize laureate, would have to say as soon as Ban Ki-moon had concluded. I can still remember that CNN (Spanish or in English would be broadcasting Obama's speech, generally a brief one. It was on that channel that I heard the presidential candidates deliberating in the city of Las Vegas two years earlier.

The time came, minutes went by and CNN was running the apparently spectacular news about the death of a Colombian guerrilla leader. That was important, but not particularly transcendental. I stayed in front of finding out what Obama would say about the extremely serious problems besetting the world.

Could it be that the state of thought is such, in which both of them are fools around and making the Assembly wait? I asked that the other TV be turned on to CNN in English and there too, not one word about the Assembly. So, what was CNN talking about? It was broadcasting news and I was waiting for news from Colombia to end. But 10, 20, 30 minutes went by, and there was more of the same. They were talking about incidents in a huge range of conflicts of life in the jungle. I exist by these bases.

Namibia's Constitution states that the country will be sovereign, meaning herself without interference from outside. Namibia's political independence will not be real and stable as long as there are external forces bent on dictating to the leaders what must happen and what not, especially if these forces have puppets in Namibia through whom they can rule the country from behind the scenes in order to continue unfeathered super exploitation of the country's natural resources.

Long live the struggle for self-rule!

advantaged fooling many non-suspecting Namibians into taking him as the natural successor of Nujoma. All his "concern" about democracy, youth unemployment and the rest is just a smokescreen behind which he is hiding his real intentions of taking Namibia to puppetry.

After his expulsion Hilpó came out openly in his hatred of Swapo and Sam Nujoma. Even now that he has formed an alliance with the RP de- clared aim is to fight Swapo. Fighting the liberation movement in Southern Africa is a trade mark of imperialist papets like Uitvoer en Rnenor en with which Hilpó strategised in Bel- giun last year how to bring about a regime change from par- titoic to treasonous ones.

The present international strategy Germany which organised the Belgium meeting, through its neo-colonial driver, the Conrad Adenauer Stiftung (KAS), is the same ones that have been fighting against Namibia's inde- pendence under Swapo. It is common knowledge that the South African colonial regime and the western imperialist countries have been collaborating closely to fight Swapo from two fronts, home and abroad.

Their puppets, the RP and RDP are now joined into one force to continue the historical campaign to unseat Swapo. It is no surprise. It was just a matter of time before similarity came out in the glaring light day. If there was no Swapo to fight from within Hilpó and Mudge would have sat together in the DTA from the very start.

If ever you thought Hilpó was a freedom fighter deserving of being President of Swapo and Namibia, consider this. How does a man who for years has been a prominent and promot- ing leader of a gallant liberation movement, Swapo, lower him- self to appear in the same picture with Dírk and Henk Mudge as allies in the fight against Swapo? The answer is he did not lower himself: he has just shown his real face: a puppet of imperialist altruism! You can't hide forever! History has a way of revealing the truth in the end. You can fool some people some of the time but you cannot fool all people all of the time! Time is a merciless judge and time will reveal more of what lies underneath the surface of the RDP-RP united assault against Swapo.

However, I am not surprised by the decision taken by the Attorney General who obliterates the official policy of that country which is virtually occupied by Yankee troops.

I don't like hearing my words, and I shall say what I am thinking. Just one week ago, the general debate of the 65th Session of the United Nations General Assembly was about to begin. For three days they had been discussing the alarming Millennium Development Goals and on Thursday September 23rd the General Assembly was commencing with the participation of the heads of State or officials of each country. The first to take the podium would be, as is customary, the UN Secretary General and immediately afterwards, the President of the United States, host country of the Organization and the presumed master of the world. The session was beginning at 9 am. Logically, I was interested in hearing what the illustrious Barack Obama, Nobel Peace Prize laureate, would have to say as soon as Ban Ki-moon had concluded. I can still remember that CNN (Spanish or in English would be broadcasting Obama's speech, generally a brief one. It was on that channel that I heard the presidential candidates deliberating in the city of Las Vegas two years earlier.

The time came, minutes went by and CNN was running the apparently spectacular news about the death of a Colombian guerrilla leader. That was important, but not particularly transcendental. I stayed in front of finding out what Obama would say about the extremely serious problems besetting the world.

Could it be that the state of thought is such, in which both of them are fools around and making the Assembly wait? I asked that the other TV be turned on to CNN in English and there too, not one word about the Assembly. So, what was CNN talking about? It was broadcasting news and I was waiting for news from Colombia to end. But 10, 20, 30 minutes went by, and there was more of the same. They were talking about incidents in a huge range of conflicts of life in the jungle.

I exist by these bases.

Namibia's Constitution states that the country will be sovereign, meaning herself without interference from outside. Namibia's political independence will not be real and stable as long as there are external forces bent on dictating to the leaders what must happen and what not, especially if these forces have puppets in Namibia through whom they can rule the country from behind the scenes in order to continue unfeathered super exploitation of the country's natural resources.

Long live the struggle for self-rule!

I observed other embarrassing TV news from the United States warmly re- ceived Uribe in Washington and encouraged him to give classes on "democracy" at an American University.

Uribe was one of the principal creators of the paramilitary, whose members are responsible for the boom in drug trafficking and the deaths of tens of thousands of people. It was Barack Obama with whom Uribe signed the hand- ing over of seven military bases and virtually any part of Colombian territory, for the installation of Yankee armed forces and men and equipment. The country is full of clandestine cemeteries. Through Ban Ki-moon, Obama granted Uribe immunity, appointing him, no less, as deputy chair- man of the commission inves- tigating the attack of the fleet of the swift "laurel" which hit the Palestinians besieged in Gaza.

In the final days of his presi- dency, Uribe had already orga- nised the campaign that the GPS in the new boots needed by the Colombian guerrilla movement.

When the new Colombian president traveled to the US to speak at the General Assembly, he knew that the operation was underway, and when Obama learned of the news of the murder of the guerrilla he warmly hugged Santos.

I wonder whether on that oc- casion they said anything at all about respecting the decision made by the Colombian Auton- ome declaration Uribe's authori- tization to establish Yankee mili- tary bases to be illegal. The crude murder was backed up by CNN.

I have criticized the FARC. In a Reflection I publicly expressed my disagreement with the holding of prisoners of war and the sacrifices meant for them by the tough condi- tions of life in the jungle. I ex- plained the reasons and the ex- perience we acquired in our struggle against them.

I was critical of the strategic concepts of the Colombian guerrilla movement. But I never denied the revolutionary nature of the Colombian armed forces.

I believed, and I believe, that Marulanda was one of the most distinguished of the Colombian and American guerrilla fighters.

When many of the names of the mediocre politi- cians are forgotten, Marulanda will be acknowledged as one of the most distinguished guerrilla fighters for the well-being of peasants, workers and the poor of Latin America.

The prestige and moral au- thority of Piedad Córdoba has multiplied.