The concept of nation emerged from the combination of common elements such as history, language, culture, costumes, laws, institutions and others related to the material and spiritual life of human communities. Bolivar, who worked the great heroic deeds that made him known as “The Liberator” during his struggle for the freedom of the peoples of the Americas, urged them to create what he called “the greatest nation in the world: less for its extension and riches than for its liberty and glory.”

In Ayacucho, Antonio José de Sucre waged the last battle against the empire that for more than 300 years had transformed much of this continent into a royal property of the Spanish Crown.

That was the same America that tens of years later, after being dis- vided in part by the rising Yankee imperialism, was called by Marti “Our America.”

We should remember once again that on May 19, 1895, a few hours before dying in combat for the independence of Cuba, the President, General Secretary, Staff of the Communist Party, Cde. Fidel Castro Ruz, said: “We are not going to discuss the reasons:...

The agricultural and slave States of the North that exploited wage labor in an attempt to create other States to protect their economic interests. In 1848 Mexico was robbed of more than 50 per cent of its terri- tory and the war of conquest launched against that country that was then militarily weak. The conquerors occupied the capi- tal and imposed humiliating peace conditions. Mexico’s big reserves of oil and gas, which remained in the territory that was robbed, would later be supplied to the United States for more than a century and in part they continue to be so now.

In our country we do not grow our food because of the vast territory that the United States occupies, but a large number of people are unemployed, which is causing a great tragedy. Venezuela and Colombia were born together in the history of the Americas, after the battles of Boyacá and Carabobo, under the leadership of Simon Bolivar. The true objective the US pursues is to control the economic resources, the markets, and to struggle against social changes. Was there any need to reanimate that which was de-mobilized after the Second World War, now, more than 60 years later, after the cold war is over and the USSR no longer exists? The argu- ments used for the installation of seven air and naval bases in Colom- bia are an insult to international law.

History will not forgive those who have been so dastardly to their own people and to those who resort to the exercise of sovereignty as a pretext to legitimize the presence of Yankee troops. What type of sovereignty they refer to? Is it the one conquered by Bolivar, Sucre, San Martín, O’ Higgins, Morelos, Juárez, Thouless, and Marti? No, it would have accepted such a repug- nant argument to justify the grant- ing of military bases to the Armed Forces of the United States, an empire far more dominant, powerful and universal than the Crowns of the Iberian Peninsula.

If as a consequence of such agree- ments promoted illegally and without consulting the public opinion of the American peoples, none of them would agree with the presence of Yankee mili- tary bases; none of them will fail to express its solidarity with the peoples of Latin America that is attacked by imperialism. Marti felt great admiration for Bolivar, and he was not wrong when he said: “And that is why Bolivar is in the sky of America: vigilant and frowning, still wearing his campaign clothes, and if I did not do, still remains undone today: because Bolivar still has things to do in the Americas.”

The President, General Secretary, Staff and all members of the Mine Workers Union wish to congratulate His Excellency, President Hifikepunye Pohamba on his 74th birthday anniversary.

We wish him continued strength, health for many years to come.

May you continue to lead our nation towards a future filled with peace and opportunities.