

THE WORKER 75¢

Special Edition

Newspaper of the Workers Party, U.S.A.

Vol. 40, Number 8

Statement of the Workers Party, USA Condemn the U.S. Military Occupation of Colombia Under the Pretext of “Humanitarian Aid”!

I. How Wall Street Bought Bogotá

To understand the current crisis, we must look at the specific political maneuvers that U.S. imperialism executed during the recent Colombian presidential election. Frustrated by years of diplomatic friction under progressive President Gustavo Petro, the U.S. monopoly capitalist class and its intelligence networks actively intervened to swing the country back into the neocolonial fold.

Petro's administration had promoted a paradigm shift in the fight against drug trafficking, implementing a "total peace" strategy that focused on negotiating with armed groups and providing financial incentives for small farmers to substitute coca with food crops.

However, U.S. and multinational interest groups launched a relentless campaign of threat inflation. When violence near the Colombia-Venezuela border displaced tens of thousands of people, the corporate press used the crisis to terrorize the public, claiming "democracy and free markets are under siege" and that Petro's peace negotiations had failed.

Emboldened by the CIA's brazen daylight executions on the high seas and kidnapping of Venezuelan President Maduro, Colombian reactionaries turned to a U.S.-trained political outsider: Abelardo de la Espriella, known by his militarist nickname "El Tigre" (The Tiger). De la Espriella is a millionaire lawyer who holds dual U.S. and Colombian citi-

zenship. Having never held political office, he ran on a campaign of anger and fear, adopting a military salute as his signature move. He openly aligned himself with Donald Trump, promising to cozy up to Washington, host U.S. troops, bomb jungle laboratories, and to build mega-prisons to house unpaid captive slave labor like the Terrorism Confinement Center (CECOT) in El Salvador.

Trump endorsed de la Espriella during the campaign, declaring that the demagogic, openly pro-dependence leader had the "total support" of the United States. Following a close and highly contested runoff election, de la Espriella took office on Friday, August 7, 2026. In his first address at his inauguration ceremony—which he pointedly held at the Pichincha Battalion in Cali to signal a hardline militarist stance—he vowed "total war" on narco-terrorism and declared that "the option of dialogue is completely exhausted."

Within hours of his taking office, the U.S. State Department announced a massive \$1 billion security assistance package for Colombia. Legally packaged as a "security package" to support de la Espriella's counter-terrorism campaign, the State Department claimed the funding would fight organized crime and "reduce illegal migration." In reality, this \$1 billion was a direct geopolitical down-payment. It was the entry fee to formally enroll Colombia in the "Shield of the Americas"—a Trump-backed regional security alliance (including Ecuador and El Salvador) designed to integrate Latin American mili-

taries directly under the command structure of the Pentagon.

II. The Chocó Earthquakes and the Palanquero Drones

While the political superstructure in Washington and Bogotá celebrated this new partnership, physical reality intervened. On Monday, August 10, 2026, a devastating 7.4-magnitude earthquake struck western Colombia. The epicenters were concentrated in the impoverished, majority-Black department of Chocó, severely damaging the major regional hubs of Cali and Pereira. The disaster left nearly 300 workers dead and 13,000 homes in ruins, leaving tens of thousands of families homeless, without clean water, electricity, or medical care.

Instead of organizing relief, de la Espriella's comprador regime immediately mobilized the coercive power of the state to execute a planned campaign of neocolonial annexation and class suppression. Bypassing Congress under the cover of a declared economic emergency, the administration welcomed foreign occupation forces into the country, unmasking the cynical "humanitar-

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**WorkerspartyUSACHicagoBranch
@gmail.com**

**P.O. Box 25716 - Chicago, IL
60625
(312) 834-7570
www.workersparty.org**

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ian" banner of earthquake assistance as a direct, physical cover for imperialist military intervention and primitive accumulation.

The deployment of these forces exposed the lie:

The Chocó Devastation: U.S. Southern Command (SOUTHCOM) did not deploy engineering battalions, heavy transport helicopters, or medical supplies to the ruined, muddy villages of Chocó. While local peasants dug through landslide rubble with their bare hands, U.S. forces bypassed the disaster zone entirely.

The Oil Field Deployment: SOUTHCOM forces were immediately dispatched to the Cusiana-Cupiagua oil fields in eastern Colombia, standing guard over the pipeline infrastructure of multinational energy corporations.

The Palanquero Surveillance Canopy: U.S. military personnel reinforced the high-tech surveillance canopy at the Palanquero CSL (Cooperative Security Location) Air Base.

At Palanquero, U.S. and Colombian officers do not coordinate food deliveries. Instead, they sit in air-conditioned intelligence fusion cells, staring at glowing computer screens tracking real-time coordinates. They launch MQ-9 Reaper surveillance drones that fly thousands of feet over local Colombian territories. These drones use high-tech target-identification sensors and infrared cameras to monitor extraction corridors and track local resistance coordinates, securing the flow of raw petroleum directly out of the ground and onto Wall Street's tankers. The U.S. military is not there to rebuild homes; it is there as an armed guard for transnational extraction.

III. Exposing the World Bank's "Miracle Fund" (Fondo Milagro) Debt Vehicle

While U.S. troops physically secure the oil fields, the financial arm of the empire executes a parallel heist. The World Bank dangled a \$450 million "Miracle Fund" (Fondo Milagro) under the pretext of earthquake recov-

ery. The corporate press and reformist politicians praised this "aid" as a vital lifesaver.

We must expose the "Miracle Fund" for what it actually is: a predatory debt vehicle of economic incarceration.

This fund is not a gift. It is bound to strict structural conditionalities. To access the money, Colombia was legally forced to dismantle capital controls, slash social services, and privatize public water and electricity grids. This turns vital municipal services over to Western corporate monopolies, driving up the cost of living for the already devastated working class.

Further, the debt is secured by a terrifying legal canopy. Under the jurisdiction of the World Bank's International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID), if any future Colombian government attempts to nationalize these services or reclaim its sovereign oil fields, the ICSID stands ready to execute devastating financial judgments. These judgments freeze Colombian state assets and bank accounts abroad to enforce the neocolonial debt trap. The "Miracle Fund" does not fund recovery; it funds the permanent enslavement of Colombia's economic base, showing how international finance capital subordinates local governments to Wall Street's stock exchanges.

IV. Our Anti-War Demands

For the anti-war movement in the United States, the lesson is clear: we cannot separate foreign policy from domestic class struggle. The same Wall Street banks that hijack our pension funds to finance global military speculation are the ones funding de la Espriella's military build-up. The same bipartisan ruling class that denies U.S. workers healthcare and affordable housing is the one sending \$1 billion to secure oil fields in Colombia.

We must turn our contempt for both capitalist parties—the Democrats and Republicans who systematically vote to fund the Pentagon war ma-

chine—into mass organization. We do not beg the local comprador regime in Bogotá for "humane reforms." Instead, as a vanguard operating inside the borders of the United States, we organize the domestic working class to direct its struggle directly against our own ruling class.

We must organize to put forward three unyielding, anti-imperialist demands on the U.S. government:

Immediate U.S. Arms Embargo: We demand the immediate and absolute termination of the \$1 billion security assistance package, and the cessation of all U.S. arms transfers, training, and military coordination with de la Espriella's militarist regime. Not a single bullet, helicopter, or dollar of American tax money should go to fund "El Tigre's" war on the Colombian working class.

Absolute Withdrawal of U.S. Forces: We demand the immediate withdrawal of all U.S. military personnel, Southern Command (SOUTHCOM) "advisers," and private mercenary firms from Colombian soil, and the complete dismantling of the U.S. MQ-9 Reaper drone and target-acquisition operations at the Palanquero CSL Air Base.

Cancellation of Neocolonial Debt: We demand the immediate, unconditional cancellation of all Colombian sovereign debt held by U.S. banks and international lending institutions, the complete rejection of World Bank "Miracle Fund" conditionalities, and the stripping of the ICSID's jurisdiction over the sovereign resources of the Colombian people.

Peace cannot be begged from the halls of Congress. It must be seized by organizing a mass, independent anti-imperialist front of the popular masses. By directing our collective energy straight upward to crush the home-grown war cartel, we break the back of the imperialist machine, enabling the workers of all countries to reclaim their own material bases of survival.