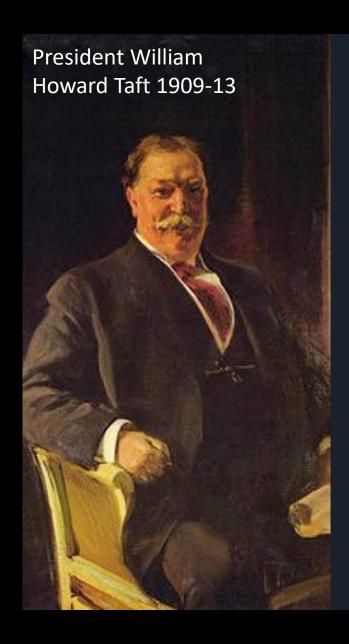
Attacks on Nicaragua and the role of the United States





Which US president said this?

In Nicaragua, we will:

"no longer tolerate a... despot"

"no longer appease dictators"

Nicaragua faces a

"reign of terror"

"serious human rights abuses"

Nicaragua's government is:

a "brutal and oppressive" regime

"the cause of immense human
suffering"



A century of US interventions in Nicaragua

1909 – overthrow of President Zelaya

1909-33 – US occupation; ended by Augusto César Sandino

1934 – Sandino assassinated

1936-79 – Somoza dictatorship

1979 – Sandinista revolution

1980-90 – US-sponsored Contra war

2007 – Sandinistas return to power

2010 onwards – US strategy to undermine Sandinista government



	1980s	2010
Direct military attacks (mining of ports)	\checkmark	×
Proxy war		×
Provoke internal violence	×	\checkmark
Economic sanctions	\checkmark	\checkmark
Sanctions against individuals	×	\checkmark
Manipulate international bodies (UN, OEA, etc)	\checkmark	\checkmark
Manipulate human rights reports	\checkmark	\checkmark
Fund local NGO 'pro-democracy' activity	\checkmark	\checkmark
Take advantage of natural disasters (Covid, etc)	×	\checkmark
Manipulate international media	?	\checkmark
Social media campaigns	×	\checkmark
Split the left	×	\checkmark
Trade embargoes?	•	•

Types of US intervention – 1980s and 2010 onwards



Illegal US sanctions

- NICA Act blocks aid and loans via international institutions
- Sanctions against individuals and corporate bodies
 - Sonia Castro former health minister
 - Ramon Avellan head of the Masaya police







STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

2020 No. 279

OVERSEAS TERRITORIES

The Nicaragua (Sanctions) (Overseas Territories) Order 2020

Made - - - - 11th March 2020

Laid before Parliament 18th March 2020

US AID strategy to undermine

At least \$170 million to finance Sandinista government 2010-2020 political parties, NGOs and opposition \$96 million to projects with media





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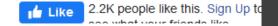
OUR RESEARCH

GET INVOLVED

ABOUT US

Laying the groundwork for insurrection: A closer look at the U.S. role in Nicaragua's social unrest









Organization Considered to receive USAID Fund

INTRODUCTION

U.S. FY 2020 - 2021 foreign assistance includes fund to support the restoration of democracy and human rights in the region, with special focus on Cuba, Nicaragua, and Venezuela.

ORGANIZATION	OBJETIVE	NAME	TOTAL FUND	DATE
Fundación Fénix	Resiliencia comunitaria	Fénix	U\$ 499,560.00	2020-2021
Asociación Aldea Global	Incentivo para la Democracia	Aldea Global	U\$ 475,122.00	2021
Asociación Centro Jurídico Popular	Agentes de auditorias Social y fiscalización política	CJP	U\$ 400,175.00	2020-2021
Fundación para la Autonomía y el Desarrollo de la Costa Atlántica	Programa Educación Para el Éxito	FADCANIC	U\$ 457,759.00	2020-2021

Latest examples of US AID funding

\$13m for 2020/21

Where did the new money go?

- \$3,875,000 to the Chamorro family one of most powerful in Nicaragua
- Jaime Chamorro Cardenal owner of *La Prensa*
- Carlos Fernando Chamorro owner of *Confidencial*
- Juan Sebastian Chamorro likely presidential candidate - his NGO FUNIDES spread wildly exaggerated forecasts of the effects of Covid

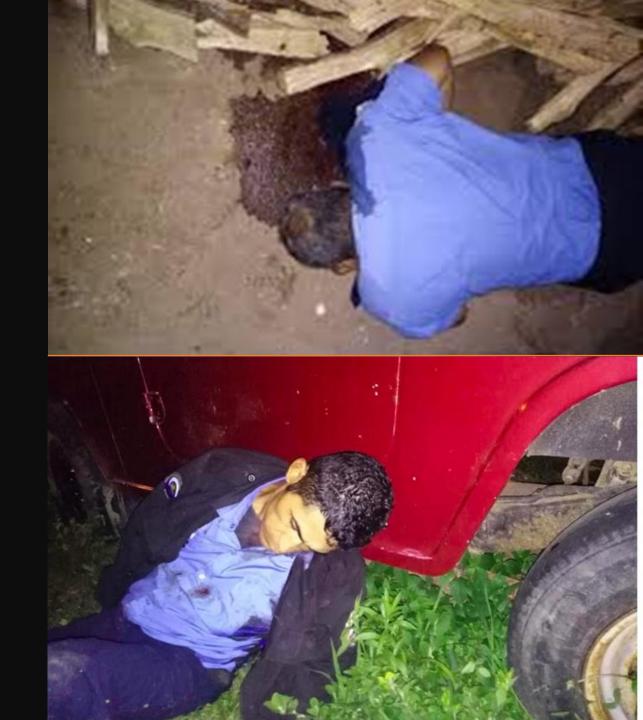


Where did the new money go?

Movimiento Campesino - \$438,132

Responsible for the roadblocks in central and eastern Nicaragua April-July 2018

Responsible for attacks on police stations including Morrito, July 12 2018 – four dead, nine kidnapped and beaten



Where did the new money go?

Nicaraguan Association for Human Rights

Headed by Alvaro Leiva

Received \$701,032

Seen here after the kidnap, torture and burning to death of police officer Gabriel de Jesús Vado Ruiz in July 2018 – trying to cover up the evidence



Where is the money going now?



'RAIN' - Responsive Assistance in Nicaragua – March 2020

Create "the environment for Nicaragua's transition to democracy"

Work goes ahead "regardless of the result of the 2021 election, even in the event of the Sandinistas 'winning fairly'."

Total cost unknown but includes \$504,000 in grants to be made to NGOs

Protests against the government in April-July 2018

- Orchestrated by opposition groups financed by the US
- Began as protests against Indio Maiz fire
- Then against social security changes quickly turned to demands for regime change
- Deaths of police, government supporters, bystanders and protesters
- Kidnapping, torture and 'disappearances'
- Burning down of public buildings; ransacking of businesses
- Burning of media offices such as Radio Ya
- Threats and attacks against Sandinistas
- Blocking the streets and major highways
- All blamed by local and international media and human rights groups on government supporters





Essential reading!

THE REVOLUTION OR COUP? A READER

Downloadable at www.nscag.org