

[INRI](#)
(freedom fighter)
08/23/05 06:55 AM



Venezuela, Cuba work to restore sight to millions of Latin Americans [Post [293908714](#)]

Category: News & Opinion (General) **Topic:** International Affairs

Synopsis: And they're doing it for free...which means they must be evil

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Chávez and Fidel on Aló Presidente

Extension of Mission Miracle to restore the sight of millions of Latin Americans

- Christened the Sandino Commitment, the program is to cover 600,000 patients per year in Cuban and Venezuelan facilities

BY ORFILIO PELAEZ AND PEDRO DE LA HOZ —Granma daily staff writers—

Cuba and Venezuela have sealed a commitment over the next 10 years to restore the sight of millions of Latin Americans who lack the economic resources for an operation, as part of the extension of the Mission Miracle program throughout the region.

This was announced by Fidel Castro and Hugo Chávez during edition No. 231 of the popular television space "Aló Presidente," transmitted from the Sandino municipality in the extreme west of the island's Pinar del Río province, where 150 homes have been rebuilt by a brigade from the homeland of Bolívar for families affected by recent hurricanes.

Christened the Sandino Commitment, the program proposes to attend to 600,000 patients per year in the Cuban facilities involved in the mission and in Venezuelan health centers to be brought into the humanitarian project, including military hospitals.

The determination to seal such an elevated commitment in this place acquired great symbolic value on being proclaimed in the locality of Sandino, named after the Nicaraguan hero assassinated in 1934, and in the heart of Villa Bolívar, the name of

the community built by Venezuelan soldiers.

Both presidents commented on the progress of the Mission Miracle program, and noted that Angel Quintero, the 50,00th Venezuelan patient to benefit from that cooperative project of solidarity, was operated on the previous day (August 20) in Cuba. Almost at the end of the TV program it was announced that the total of patients having undergone surgery had risen to 50,403.

As the two statesmen explained, some 100,000 Venezuelans with various eye diseases are to be operated on in Cuba this year, an achievement made possible by the efficiency of the island's ophthalmologic surgery.

Suffice it to say that on August 20 alone, 1,648 persons with sight problems underwent surgery, which gives some measure of the enormous effort being made by specialists in charge of the program.

Chávez and Fidel talked with Venezuelan patients undergoing this treatment in Cuban hospitals, some of them who have recently had operations, and who expressed their heartfelt gratitude at having recovered such a vital sense.

A call from the state of Caraboba in Venezuela shaped one of the most emotional moments of the Aló Presidente. Rotsell Loreto related how, after being rejected by doctors in a private clinic, she arrived in Cuba in a critical condition.

She explained that she was virtually paralyzed and catatonic as the result of rheumatoid arthritis and how the doctors and all the personnel at the Salvador Allende Hospital in Havana achieved her total recovery.

NOBEL PRIZE WINNERS DEMAND POSADA'S EXTRADITION

In another part of his weekly Sunday address, President Hugo Chávez read out a manifesto signed by Nobel Peace Prize Winners Rigoberto Menchú and Adolfo Pérez Esquivel; Literature, José Saramago and Nadine Gordimer; and acknowledged by academics Noam Chomsky and Salim Lamrani, calling for the extradition of the notorious criminal Luis Posada Carriles to face trial in Venezuela.

The statement referred to by Chávez calls on the U.S. government, in the name of the battle against terrorism, to make an example and extradite Posada to that country.

After praising the content of the manifesto, the Venezuelan president alluded to the insolent statement recently made in Paraguay by Donald Rumsfeld, U.S. defense secretary, referring to so-called evidence on the alleged intervention by Cuba and Venezuela into Bolivia's internal affairs, and the concern expressed by the U.S. government over the malevolent influence of Havana and Caracas in Latin America.

"In a gesture that we appreciate," stated Chávez, "Nicanor Duarte, the Paraguayan president, informed Rumsfeld that Paraguay maintains cordial relations with our two countries and recalled for him how many young people from that nation are studying in Cuba, while there are important agreements with Venezuela for supplies of oil."

The two heads of state agreed that U.S. imperialism is the real destabilizing influence in the world. In that context, Chávez recalled that the Washington government fuels coup d'états, invasions, violations and utilizes lackeys for its plans in many countries.

One of the most recent threats by the empire is aimed at the so-called decertification of Venezuela in the field of cooperation in combating drug trafficking, after which Caracas would cut links with the U.S. DEA. "I told William Brownfield, the U.S. ambassador, that I am not bothered whether his government decertifies Venezuela or not because it lacks the morals to do that," Chávez noted, going on to stress: "In real terms, it will be no use to them threatening us or invading us under that assumption; it will only serve for them to regret it, because they will regret it."

PETROCARIBE AT THE GATES OF ALBA

The Venezuelan leader also referred to the steps being taken by his government to promote the Petrocaribe initiative, which he described as a genuine mechanism of economic integration in the framework of the Bolivarian Alternative for the Americas (ALBA), directed toward cooperation in energy materials with the Caribbean nations of few resources that have been hit by the drop in the market of coffee, banana and other goods.

"We have already made a primary analysis of the issue, the conclusions of which show the need to construct installations and the rest of the infrastructure to guarantee the transportation and storage of fuel, with payment facilities for their acquisition," Chávez noted.

The majority of the Caribbean nations even lack deposits to store their fuel. Those small economies are the victims of the speculators who impose excessive prices on them for a barrel of oil and other products. Chávez explained that his government has activated an ALBA Caribbean Fund of \$50 million for credits and donations and even to build works such as hospitals and highways.

Likewise, the president announced that Venezuela is to loan oil to Ecuador to cover that nation's export commitments, interrupted on account of an internal situation of conflict. "Those commitments will be assumed by Caracas without Ecuador having to pay a cent.

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[lilmsnoitall](#)
(agitator)
08/23/05 07:19 AM

 **Re: Venezuela, Cuba work to restore sight to millions of Latin Americans** [To: [INRI](#) | Post [293908755](#), reply to [293908714](#)]
(Score: 1)

Bush, Blair and their sleazy admins are teaming together to restore the sight of the millions of blind Americans and Brits that think our global policy is for the good of all mankind.
It is interesting how a few people can lead the masses.
This article is probably written in good faith by a couple of little guy's who are just doing their job...I can only wonder if they realize that the role of a true government, selected by the people, is supposed to work for them and not against them.

It is truly the mindset of the human race that gets us so screwed up, when will we ever lose the Royalty/peon role?

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Post Extras:    

[Dunrobin](#)

(agitator)

08/23/05 09:41 AM



 **Re: Venezuela, Cuba work to restore sight to millions of Latin Americans** [To: [INRI](#) | Post [293908978](#), reply to [293908714](#)]
(Score: 2)

Quote:

And they're doing it for free...which means they must be evil

Sigh. *When* will people learn some basic economics, or even some rudimentary logic:

- (1) **Nothing** is "free" - someone, somewhere is paying for it in one form or another.
- (2) Governments, by definition, produce nothing; they only take.

So if a government is "giving away" *anything*, that means they had to steal it from someone else *first*, through the threat or use of force. It is **that** which makes them evil.

In this instance, what they are taking are the doctors' time and skills, which these government presume a right to do with as they please. *If* the doctors are getting compensated at all, the money they are paid with has been stolen from others through "taxation."

How many more people have to die before the State is stopped?

If something is wrong for an *individual* to do, then it is even **more** wrong for a *government* to do it.

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Post Extras:    

[AaaBanana](#)

(rebel)

08/23/05 09:42 AM

 **Re: Venezuela, Cuba work to restore sight to millions of Latin Americans** [To: [INRI](#) | Post [293908979](#), reply to [293908714](#)]
(Score: 1)

I was gonna say the same Blair & Bush united in "Shock n Awe" mission to empoverich millions with cluster bombs and depleted uranium and billions of people affected by the high oil price

On the other hand two third wold nation unites to help the most needy people in an entire continent what a contrast

Watch the whore media uttering a words about it.

A man who doesn't know where he is heading to the wind will never blow in his favourite direction

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[Dunrobin](#)

(agitator)
08/23/05 10:06 AM



 **Re: Venezuela, Cuba work to restore sight to millions of Latin Americans** [To: [AaaBanana](#) | Post [293908998](#), reply to [293908979](#)] (Score: 2)

I like Chavez for having the *cajones* to tell the American Empire to go to hell, but Chavez is no better - or, ultimately, different - than Bush or Blair. He's the head of a criminal gang, just as they are - nothing more.

The media won't be talking about this because this "program" will be going nowhere. I guarantee that it will vanish quietly into the night, just as soon as everyone gets distracted. It will fail, just as *every* government program fails. (For the basic reasons, see my other post, above.)

How many more people have to die before the State is stopped?

If something is wrong for an *individual* to do, then it is even **more** wrong for a *government* to do it.

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[AaaBanana](#)

(rebel)
08/23/05 10:06 AM

 **Re: Venezuela, Cuba work to restore sight to millions of Latin Americans** [To: [Dunrobin](#) | Post [293908999](#), reply to [293908978](#)] (Score: 1)

Your pessimism has ignored who will benefit from this action

Its the blind who will benefit and ,ost of them are poor people

the doctors will master their skills

your are a bit concerned who pays for it who cares as long as the blind see light at least the money is well spent don't you agree.

This is not a war it is a humanitarian action in a significant scale the people when they gain sight they will be more useful to every one including economy

the war profeteers are killing people and the president is giving them tax break

I think you should go to Cuba to sort out your blindness

A man who doesn't know where he is heading to the wind will never blow in his favourite direction

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[Dunrobin](#)

 **Re: Venezuela, Cuba work to restore sight to millions of Latin Americans** [To: [AaaBanana](#) | Post [293909052](#), reply to

(agitator)
08/23/05 10:27 AM



[293908999](#)] (Score: 2)

Pessimism has nothing to do with it. It's a question of morality.

Stealing is *wrong*. You do not have a right to steal from others. You may not steal to benefit yourself, and you may not steal to benefit others. If you do so, you have committed an evil act, regardless of your "justification."

Slavery is *wrong*. You do not have a right to enslave others to do your will. You may not enslave people to benefit yourself, and you may not enslave people to benefit others. If you do so, you have committed an evil act, regardless of your "justification."

If the doctors involved voluntarily donate their time and effort for the benefit of the poor, then may God bless them. But this is **not** a "voluntarily" cooperative effort; this is a government program, ultimately enforced by the threat (and/or use) of violence. That makes it immoral and wrong, regardless of what excuses may be used to justify it.

And trying to make yourself (Chavez and Castro) look good at the expense of others is especially evil.

How many more people have to die before the State is stopped?

If something is wrong for an *individual* to do, then it is even **more** wrong for a *government* to do it.

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Post Extras:

[petewagner33](#)
(insurgent)
08/23/05 10:32 AM



Re: Venezuela, Cuba work to restore sight to millions of Latin Americans [To: [Dunrobin](#) | Post [293909071](#), reply to [293908978](#)]
(Score: 2)

Your rudimentary logic wrecks of libertarian false assumptions. Putting men to productive/common good use is a role sometimes only gov't can play. Here, doctors' time and skills are employed to keep the money flowing. But have it your way, there's no operation to restore common sense.

Help Wanted: Hangman, Wash DC area, steady work, multiple openings, will train, equal opportunity employer.

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[INRI](#)
(freedom fighter)
08/23/05 10:38 AM

Re: Venezuela, Cuba work to restore sight to millions of Latin Americans [To: [Dunrobin](#) | Post [293909091](#), reply to [293909052](#)]
(Score: 2)

Soullessness hiding behind a spreadsheet.

Thanks for weghing in, Casper.



[Dunrobin](#)

(agitator)

08/23/05 10:43 AM



There is currently a rebirth among human beings of the ideas of peace, equality and the struggle against the exploitation of human beings by other human beings. -- **Hugo Chavez**

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 **Re: Venezuela, Cuba work to restore sight to millions of Latin Americans** [To: [petewagner33](#) | Post [293909106](#), reply to [293909071](#)] (Score: 2)

Quote:

Stealing is *wrong*. You do not have a right to steal from others. You may not steal to benefit yourself, and you may not steal to benefit others. If you do so, you have committed an evil act, regardless of your "justification."

Slavery is *wrong*. You do not have a right to enslave others to do your will. You may not enslave people to benefit yourself, and you may not enslave people to benefit others. If you do so, you have committed an evil act, regardless of your "justification."

Exactly which part of that do you fail to understand?

Quote:

Putting men to productive/common good use is a role sometimes only gov't can play.

I don't know about **you**, pal, but **I'm** not some kind of "resource" waiting around for someone to "put me to good use." I am a free man; I was born that way, and I intend to die that way. If you want to be a cringing slave, fine and dandy - but don't go trying to drag the rest of us down with you.

How many more people have to die before the State is stopped?

If something is wrong for an *individual* to do, then it is even **more** wrong for a *government* to do it.

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[INRI](#)

(freedom fighter)

 **Re: Venezuela, Cuba work to restore sight to millions of Latin Americans** [To: [Dunrobin](#) | Post [293909115](#), reply to [293909106](#)] (Score: 2)

08/23/05 10:46 AM



You be sure to get us the list of the Cuban doctors who don't want to help blind people.

There is currently a rebirth among human beings of the ideas of peace, equality and the struggle against the exploitation of human beings by other human beings. -- **Hugo Chavez**

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[Dunrobin](#)

(agitator)

08/23/05 11:38 AM



Re: Venezuela, Cuba work to restore sight to millions of Latin Americans [To: [INRI](#) | Post [293909240](#), reply to [293909115](#)]
(Score: 2)

Considering that every doctor in Cuba is undoubtedly well aware of their government's behavior over the past 45 years and the thousands who have been murdered for daring to resist it's dictates, I imagine they have *all* "volunteered."

How many more people have to die before the State is stopped?

If something is wrong for an *individual* to do, then it is even **more** wrong for a *government* to do it.

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[grizzle](#)

(agent provocateur)

08/23/05 11:41 AM



Re: Venezuela, Cuba work to restore sight to millions of Latin Americans [To: [INRI](#) | Post [293909247](#), reply to [293908714](#)]
(Score: 2)

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Now with the new Venezuelan broadcast network and this, they'll be able to see evil and hear evil! It must be stopped. Because, you see, without the idea of profit and loss, as in a socialist state, there is no way these operations can come to any good. See?
:)

[rachamim 18](#) is an IDF goon.

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Post Extras:

[Sept](#)

(truth-seeker)

08/23/05 11:55 AM

Re: Venezuela, Cuba work to restore sight to millions of Latin Americans [To: [Dunrobin](#) | Post [293909286](#), reply to [293908978](#)]
(Score: 1)

I could agree with you, generally speaking.

BUT, from what I have seen going on in Venezuela, Chavez appears to be on a totally different path. His school program

intended to make the poorest able to read and write is a good sign. That program was announced, implemented, and is now in full speed. Plus, evil politicians just LOVE illiterates, they are so much less danger to the establishment...

"By their fruits you shall know them"...

One of Chavez's fruits is the taxation of foreign companies pumping the venezuelan oil. So let's imagine his administration uses part of this corporate tax money for its ambitious health plan. Would you still claim that this plan can only be made possible through stealing?

Quote:

So if a government is "giving away" anything, that means they had to steal it from someone else first, through the threat or use of force. It is that which makes them evil.

You can change things if you have the balls.

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Post Extras:    

[petewagner33](#)
(insurgent)
08/23/05 01:24 PM



 **Re: Venezuela, Cuba work to restore sight to millions of Latin Americans** [To: [Dunrobin](#) | Post [293909469](#), reply to [293909106](#)]
(Score: 2)

So you're saying that even if all the people want their gov't to initiate a program that has failed to materialize without gov't action, it's "wrong"? Should the people not have this freedom of control over their fate? Must people become "slaves" to some dogmatic soulless system that masquerades as the end all? When they realize they are just pawns in the game, let them steal from the kings. Chavez is a good man. Robertson is a moral midget.

Help Wanted: Hangman, Wash DC area, steady work, multiple openings, will train, equal opportunity employer.

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