

Interventions by Compañeras Margaret Kimberley and Jemima Pierre of the Black Alliance for Peace at the Press Conference of the North American Solidarity with Nicaragua.

January 12th, 2022

Margaret Kimberley

Black Alliance for Peace

Greetings,

I'm Margaret Kimberley, Executive Editor of Black Agenda Report. I am here with Dr. Jemima Pierre as a member of a Black Alliance for Peace delegation. It's an honor to again join an international group who realize the importance of seeing Nicaragua for ourselves. Despite what we are told by U.S. presidents and their corporate media stenographers, we know that Nicaraguan voters freely made their choice in the most recent presidential election. We know that there are a variety of political parties here and that all had the opportunity to campaign freely and make themselves known to the people of this country. All information to the contrary is false, and is used to make aggression towards Nicaragua acceptable to people in the U.S. and gain their consent for criminal actions.

Nicaraguans have a right under international law to elect the government of their choice without fear of aggression by other nations. The imposition of unilateral coercive measures, sanctions, are a violation of international law, including the Geneva Conventions, which prohibit collective punishment against civilian populations. Sanctions severely limit the ability of the targeted country to meet its people's needs and are war by other means, and a violation of human rights.

As an organization committed to reviving the Black radical tradition, and committed to an anti-imperialist stance, the Black Alliance for Peace is always ready to defend human rights.

This hemisphere in particular has been viciously targeted by the U.S. government and its vassals in the European Union and United Nations. The Organization of American States should be a platform for discussion and consensus building but it is a U.S. invention and operates under its thumb. The U.S. congress overwhelmingly approved the RENACER Act which legitimizes the regime change effort, and makes a mockery of claims that the U.S. acts as a democracy. From Haiti to Nicaragua to Venezuela to Cuba, millions

of people in this hemisphere live under U.S. dictates masquerading as democracy in action.

Black Alliance for Peace is committed to giving voice to the peoples of targeted nations and to providing insights and analysis that people in a supposedly free country are deprived of. Our mission demands that we do no less. Thank you.

Jemima Pierre

Black Alliance for Peace

My name is Jemima Pierre, I am the Haiti/Americas Coordinator for the Black Alliance for Peace. I too am honored to join my colleague, Margaret Kimberley, and this international solidarity group in support of the Nicaraguan people's continuous struggle for self-determination.

I am also speaking as a person born and raised in Haiti, a country impacted by the more than 218 years of continuing U.S., Canadian, and European aggression. Over the years, we have seen Haiti used as the testing ground for western imperial maneuvers. In the past decade, in particular, the US government, along with the Organization of

American States have tried to destroy Haiti's nascent revolutionary movement that emerged after the Duvalier dictatorship. In the process, they have staged political and electoral coups in Haiti, installing one unpopular puppet after another. So we Haitians know clearly about the hypocrisy of the U.S and EU governments in attempting to denounce Nicaragua's democratic processes. We only need to point to what the US and OAS have done, successfully, in Haiti, and that is: destroy its democracy and undermine its struggle for self-determination. We cannot let this happen in the rest of the region.

For BAP, Haiti is the real and symbolic ground in which resistance is being waged once again to liberate the territory from foreign control and to serve as a strategic space for supporting the still unfulfilled anti-colonial struggle of the Caribbean and the broader Americas region.

Black, Brown, and colonized peoples in the Americas have been consistent victims of the United States and the west, of efforts to undermine socialist democracies, to thwart off any progressive efforts, and to suppress the will of the masses of the people. This is

true from Colombia to Haiti, Honduras to Brazil, Cuba to Venezuela, Grenada to Nicaragua.

We, the Black Alliance for Peace, are African revolutionaries committed to a People(s)-Centered Human Rights (PCHR), that center self-determination, social justice and socialism. Our support for Nicaragua and other countries fighting to maintain sovereignty, is not only an issue of solidarity but also one of common struggle.

This is why we salute the people of Nicaragua! And we see the rousing victory of the Sandinista revolution as a model and hope. It is a revolution that we promise to continue to defend.

All power to the Nicaraguan people! Long live the Revolution!