Home > Cynthia's Remarks To Second Continental Conference Of The Americas Against "Free Trade" And Privatizations

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Cynthia McKinney  Segundo Encuentro Continental de los Trabajadores  Mexico City, Mexico  April 4, 2008

Brothers and Sisters in the Movement

I am happy to be here in Mexico City where the people all over Latin America are on the move:

On the move for justice, self-determination, and peace.

I love that you have created a Power to the People movement with your votes that is stronger than the mightiest military force on the planet!

With the power of your vote you have taken your countries back. Now, all we have to do is to count all the votes in the United States and Mexico!

In the 2000 U.S. Presidential election, an estimated six million people went to the polls and voted, but their votes weren't counted.

In 2000, and again in 2004, Democrats helped to install Republicans into power rather than fight for the victory that the voters had given them.

As a result of this kind of collusion, the Democratic majority in our Congress has failed to impeach Bush. They have failed to institute a livable wage, stop the multiple wars the U.S. is fighting right now, and they have failed to protect human rights anywhere in the world, including even at home.

That's why I left the Democratic Party.

I refused to become complicit in war crimes, crimes against humanity, crimes against the peace, spying on the American people, and ripping our Bill of Rights to shreds.

And so I declared my independence from the U.S. leadership that gave us tax cuts for the wealthy and a country 53 trillion dollars in debt and Hurricane Katrina.

To my brothers and sisters at this Conference and in the United States, I say:

Hands off Haiti!

Hands off Bolivia, Nicaragua, and Argentina now making a claim for the Falklands!

Hands off Venezuela and Ecuador!

No to Plan Mexico; No to Plan Colombia! Hands off Pemex!

And finally, it was on this date, 40 years ago, that Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was murdered.

We now know that Dr. King was murdered as part of a conspiracy that included his own government. Hatched in the bowels of the Pentagon, where so many other regime change operations have been hatched, the government of the United States launched regime change at home on Black America. We blacks in the United States have long known the pain and the consequences of having authentic leadership snatched from us; of having someone else pick our leaders before we pick them ourselves.

I am proud to join this international movement for self-determination; for justice and for peace. Despite today's difficulties, we must never let our dream be deferred. We in the U.S. gain inspiration from your successes here so we can carry the struggle to every nook and cranny of the United States.

Que vivan los pueblos de America!