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The Chavez Code: Cracking U.S. Intervention In Venezuela



The Chávez Code

Cracking US Intervention in Venezuela

Eva Golinger

foreword by Saul Landau



Synopsis

Perhaps no world leader is better placed to challenge the global authority of the United States than Hugo Chavez, the populist leader of Venezuela. As the head of one of the world's largest oil-producing countries, Chavez has been instrumental in raising world oil prices, undermining the control and profits of the multinational oil companies, and introducing innovative plans to use the wealth from this natural resource to help the impoverished-rather than the already powerful-in his own country and around the world. As the popularly elected president of one of South America's largest democracies, his strong resistance to the Bush administration's Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA) has severely set back, if not derailed entirely, the US's long-held hemispheric agenda. When in 2005 Bush ally and Christian fundamentalist Pat Robertson called for Chavez's assassination ("It's a whole lot cheaper than starting a war"), public outcry forced some questions: Was that, in fact, a CIA goal? Did the US have plans to invade Venezuela (as Chavez alluded to receiving intelligence about on Nightline in September 2005)? And exactly what was the extent of US knowledge of or involvement in the April 2002 coup against Chavez? (He was back in power within two days, after 250,000 took to the streets in Venezuela to protest.) Venezuelan-American attorney Eva Golinger and journalist Jeremy Bigwood have used the US Freedom of Information Act to obtain government documents about US intervention in Venezuela. The Chavez Code contains this irrefutable evidence that, at the very least, the US knew about the plot to overthrow Chavez before it happened. The history of US interventions across Latin America, the suspicious blacked-out lines and pages, and the ongoing investigation suggest an even darker tale.

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Customer Reviews

Well written, with the solid evidence, this the political survival guide to the land of the next oil war.

--Greg Palast, author of the New York Times bestseller, *The Best Democracy Money Can Buy*

--This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

Eva Golinger was educated at Sarah Lawrence College and the City University of New York Law School. Her investigation into US involvement in the coup against Chavez has been covered by major media throughout the US and in Venezuela. She divides her time between New York and Caracas. *The Chavez Code* is her first book.

Good reading and also a good introduction to what has been happening south of the border for a long time. The US is not what virtually all think it is and the writer does a good job of bringing this to the fore as it relates to Venezuela. Highly recommended for those who do not wish to always remain an ostrich as well as researchers of US South/Central American policies (as well as others). I gave it a 4 instead of 5 only because it would not likely engage a large audience.

Pretty much everything you hear in the news has been slanted toward: U.S. = good, Hugo Chavez = bad. This historical look at a great leader gives you a different perspective. A perspective that makes you realize that the U.S. is really only interested in Venezuela because of its vast oil reserves. Hugo Chavez was able to be elected democratically many times by his own people, but used a socialist economic model to bring the devastated lower class a lifestyle they could only dream of...education, health care, and a way to make a decent living. The U.S. hated Chavez because he would not give up his iron grasp on his country's resources for their own benefit. We can only hope that Venezuela will fare as well in the future. It will depend on continued resistance to the mega-powers of U.S. corporate and government intrusion on their rights to govern their own country and control their own future and hopefully, in alliance with the other South American countries. I highly recommend this book for an insight into the real world of life in Venezuela.

Love hate relationship with this book by Golinger. I believe it very convincingly shows the meddling in Venezuelan affairs and the lack of transparency in our news. I always Hate to find things are not as they are purported to be by the media.

This book is for those you really want to know what is going on in the world, specially in South America. They say that we are ruled by dictators, that's not right, dictators were those that old North America governments put into our countries 30 - 40 years ago. This book shows how the dirty hands of the US are deep involved trying to stop the democratic process that are occurring in South America, in this case, how they try to overthrow democratic elected president Hugo Chávez Frias. The people of Venezuela support president Chávez, they know that he is doing the right thing to benefit the whole country.

The book is well researched and backed by official documents. The facts seem to irritate some people. The US was a shining example in the 50's, it has since become like a big locust, it reaches around the world consuming natural resources at an alarming rate, destroying the environment as it does so. Relegating the peoples of their own countries to second class status. Deposing democratically elected leaders. All for the purpose of capitalism, not democracy. This is not about the spread of Democracy or Socialism, particularly when the US is known to incite insurrection against a democratically elected leader and throw its support behind military dictators who commit human rights violations such as Marcos, Pinochet, Noriega, Franco, etc. Greed. This is all about control of world resources and the US companies are losing control around the globe. When they are not allowed to consume someone else's resources at will, the Govt. quickly moves to label that leader in an unfavorable manner, then tries to depose him or her. We would think in the year 2007 the US would have grown up to a point where it simply trades for goods instead of trying to control all goods. In South America, Hugo just happens to be the most outspoken of the various Presidents. Another problem for the US is that Chavez and the Iranian Pres both want to change selling their oil from the petrodollar (US dollar) to the Euro. (Btw, Saddam made that same threat.) All of a sudden these two have become the biggest threats to democracy? More like a huge threat to US dollar which has been backed by oil since the changeover from the gold standard in the 70's. I'd like to see your next book delve more into the oil situation and how its sale is tied to the US dollar. I think it would give people a better understanding of why the US meddles in other country's internal affairs, particularly OPEC member and resource rich countries.

If you've ever doubted that the US played a part in the Venezuelan coup against Chavez, or suspected that the charges against the US were trumped up by the left, read this and weep. The Freedom of Information Act has released documents that cannot lie, that reveal the extent to which

we were complicit once again in trying to overthrow a democratically elected government. This is a fabulous book, and the author has paid a high price for speaking truth to power. You can read this with complete confidence that in these pages is at least a part of the truth.

More than 1/3 of this book is copies of requests to the CIA for information related to their supposed actions against Chavez. Then there are copies of the CIA's boilerplate responses of not confirming or denying anything. Obviously it all proves nothing but for certain mental defectives it's a big deal. Venezuela of recent years has a bad habit of making absurd claims that only suckers and idiots could possibly believe. Bus driver Maduro has claimed on national t.v. that President Obama sent agents to Venezuela that, in fact, poisoned and killed Chavez. Evidence has long been promised and, of course, never delivered. One comedian lost his job on t.v. after repeatedly making fun of the promises to provide proof of the murder. The Venezuelan economy is in free-fall and we can only hope the recent sacking of Marxist fanatic Giordani ("The Monk") from Maduro's cabinet marks the start of some financial sanity. If not, Venezuela is heading for financial disaster. In conclusion, this book is strictly for useful idiots, it doesn't document anything and it's a big load of garbage. Try another, far better book, "The Revolutionary Has No Clothes." It discusses this pathetic book and the whole phony "coup" of April 11, 2002.

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