



ARTISTS VS BLOCKADE / OCTOBER / 2024



CUBA'S REPORT*

Between March 2023 and February 2024, the Government of the United States maintained the policy of maximum pressure against Cuba, with the rigorous application of the economic, commercial and financial blockade as its cornerstone. The unilateral measures with the greatest impact on the Cuban people and economy remained unchanged, which continued to reproduce and aggravate the devastating effects of this unilateral coercive system, the longest and most comprehensive in history.

The inclusion of Cuba in the United States State Department's unilateral list of countries alleged to be sponsors of terrorism, the possibility of bringing actions in United States courts under Title III of the Cuban Liberty and Democratic Solidarity (Libertad) Act of 1996 (the Helms-Burton Act), sanctions or threats of sanctions against shipping, transport, insurance or reinsurance companies involved in the supply of fuel to Cuba, intense and meticulous interference with Cuban financial transactions and the consequent obstacles to the supply of top-quality resources, and the fact that the country continued to be included in other unilateral lists were confirmed as the most severe measures.

In May 2024, the Government of the United States ceased the arbitrary and unjustified practice of classifying Cuba as a State that does not fully cooperate with United States counter-terrorism efforts. That unilateral classification had been yet another slander but had had no practical impact, since it had not entailed unilateral coercive economic measures. Consequently, the withdrawal of the classification did not result in the easing or lifting of any of the measures that are part of the blockade or of the additional coercive measures stemming from the inclusion of Cuba in the spurious unilateral list of alleged State sponsors of terrorism. It was a limited decision, which makes the retention of Cuba in that list, in which it should never have been included, even more incongruous, confusing and unjustifiable.

The announcements by the Government of the United States on 28 May 2024 regarding changes in the blockade regulations related to the private sector did not modify the core of that policy either. They did not eliminate or modify the coercive measures that most affect the Cuban economy and public services today and that cause severe harm to the well-being of the

entire population. They are aimed at fragmenting Cuban society, using the private sector for political purposes against the Revolution, to achieve the United States objectives of changing the regime and punishing the State sector of the economy. The very framework of the blockade and its dissuasive effect make it possible to foresee difficulties in the practical realization of these provisions, especially if Cuba remains on the unilateral list of State sponsors of terrorism.

Over the past year, the Government of the United States has maintained the laws and provisions related to the blockade against Cuba and the long-standing practices for the implementation of that blockade, on the basis of the historical objective of depressing the economy and wages, creating material shortages and damage to public services, provoking dissatisfaction and despair among the population, and subverting the legitimately established constitutional order. This is an approach that is recorded in declassified official documents of the Government of the United States, such as the internal memorandum of the Deputy Assistant Secretary of State, Lester Mallory, dated 6 April 1960, in which he noted:

THE DIFFICULTIES OF CUBAN SOCIETY ARE NOT DUE EXCLUSIVELY TO THE BLOCKADE, BUT IT WOULD BE DISHONEST NOT TO ACKNOWLEDGE THAT THE BLOCKADE IS THE MAIN OBSTACLE TO OUR DEVELOPMENT.

During the reporting period, the actions of the United States were aimed at identifying and pursuing, with surgical precision, the main income sources of the Cuban economy, in strict application of the provisions of the Helms-Burton Act, including those stipulating the Act's extraterritorial scope.

The Government of the United States and the anti-Cuban politicians of that country have insisted on selling the myth that the blockade does not constitute a real limitation on the performance of the Cuban economy. They repeatedly claim that the difficulties experienced by our economy are the result of distortions of the socialist model that is under construction, and of errors in government policies.

Utilizing systematic disinformation campaigns, the Government of the United States intends to hold the Government of Cuba responsible for the consequences of and damage caused by the blockade itself, which is a dishonest and extremely cynical act, particularly coming from the same Government that is implementing a policy of premeditated strangulation of the Cuban economy.

The difficulties of Cuban society are not due exclusively to the blockade, but it would be dishonest not to acknowledge that the blockade is the main obstacle to our development. No country, even one with an economy much more prosperous and robust than that of Cuba, could face such ruthless, asymmetric and prolonged aggression without considerable cost to the standard of living of its people, to its stability and to social justice.

That cost is evident today in the shortages of all kinds faced by Cubans, including with regard to food, medicine, fuel and means of transport, as well as in the deterioration of other basic services. The Government of the United States removed any doubt as to the cruel and genocidal nature of the blockade when it used the worst time in the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic to impose additional coercive measures on Cubans. It strengthened the ban on imports of different kinds by Cuba, including medical ventilators, implemented measures that affected the industrial scale-up of Cuban vaccines against the virus and even prevented the import of oxygen from third countries. It failed to lift, even temporarily, the measures against Cuba to tackle the pandemic, as it did for another group of nations.

Between 1 March 2023 and 29 February 2024, the blockade caused material damages to Cuba estimated at \$5.0568 billion, which represents an increase of \$189.8 million on the figure indicated in the previous report.

The above reflects the increased impact of the blockade on Cuban exports, mainly in the tourism sector, the ruthless interference with the country's banking and financial operations, and the comprehensive damage to the Cuban business system, to production and to the services provided to the public.



This represents an approximate impact of more than \$421 million in damages per month, more than \$13.8 million per day and more than \$575,683 per hour of blockade.

At current prices, the losses accumulated over more than six decades of enforcement of the policy amount to \$164,141,100,000. Taking into account the performance of the dollar against the price of gold on the international market, the blockade has caused quantifiable losses of more than \$1,499,710,000,000.

It is estimated that, in the absence of the blockade, the country's gross domestic product (GDP) could have grown by around 8 per cent in 2023. These data show that the current challenges facing Cuba would be better and more easily solved if Cuba had access to the substantial resources of which it is deprived by the blockade. In recent years, and more acutely in recent months, the effects of population ageing, and of high emigration involving the youngest segments of Cuban society, have become more conspicuous.

The situation would be very different were it not for a blockade that has intensified as a result of the policy of maximum pressure that was implemented by

THE BLOCKADE IS A CRIME AGAINST HUMANITY, AN ACT OF GENOCIDE AND A FLAGRANT, LARGE-SCALE AND SYSTEMATIC VIOLATION OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS OF MORE THAN 11 MILLION CUBANS. IT IS A CRUEL POLICY OF PUNISHMENT.

President Donald J. Trump and has been maintained by the Administration of President Joseph R. Biden. That is a fact that the United States opponents of Cuba have no argument to refute.

The blockade is a crime against humanity, an act of genocide and a flagrant, large-scale and systematic violation of the human rights of more than 11 million Cubans. It is a cruel policy of punishment.

**Introduction of Cuba's Report under United Nations General Assembly resolution 78/7 entitled "Necessity of ending the economic, commercial and financial blockade imposed by the United States of America against Cuba." October, 2024*

READ THE FULL REPORT:




**SOLIDARITÉ
CUBA**



BETWEEN 1 MARCH 2023 AND 29 FEBRUARY 2024, THE BLOCKADE CAUSED MATERIAL DAMAGES TO CUBA ESTIMATED AT \$5.0568 BILLION, WHICH REPRESENTS AN INCREASE OF \$189.8 MILLION ON THE FIGURE INDICATED IN THE PREVIOUS REPORT.

THE BLOCKADE OF THE UNITED STATES AGAINST CUBA IN FIGURES

25 DAYS OF BLOCKADE are equivalent to the financing required to cover the country's essential medicine needs for one year (approximately \$339 million).

9 DAYS OF BLOCKADE are equivalent to the financing required to import the medical consumables (cotton, gauze, syringes, needles, suture materials, catheters and serum equipment, among other supplies) and reagents necessary for the national health system for one year (approximately \$129 million).

21 HOURS OF BLOCKADE are equivalent to the cost of purchasing the insulin needed to meet the country's demand for one year (approximately \$12 million).

4 MONTHS OF BLOCKADE are equivalent to the financing necessary to guarantee the delivery of the standard family basket of products to the population for one year (approximately \$1.6 billion).

38 HOURS OF BLOCKADE are equivalent to the cost of producing or purchasing the basic study materials required by the country to meet the needs of the educational system for one year (approximately \$21,789,000).

8 HOURS OF BLOCKADE are equivalent to the cost of purchasing toys and teaching aids for all the childcare centres in the country (approximately \$4.5 million).

30 MINUTES OF BLOCKADE are equivalent to the cost of the electric and conventional wheelchairs required to meet the needs of the country's special education system (approximately \$256,363).

44 HOURS OF BLOCKADE are equivalent to the funding needed to ensure the provision of computers in the country's educational centres (approximately \$25.2 million).

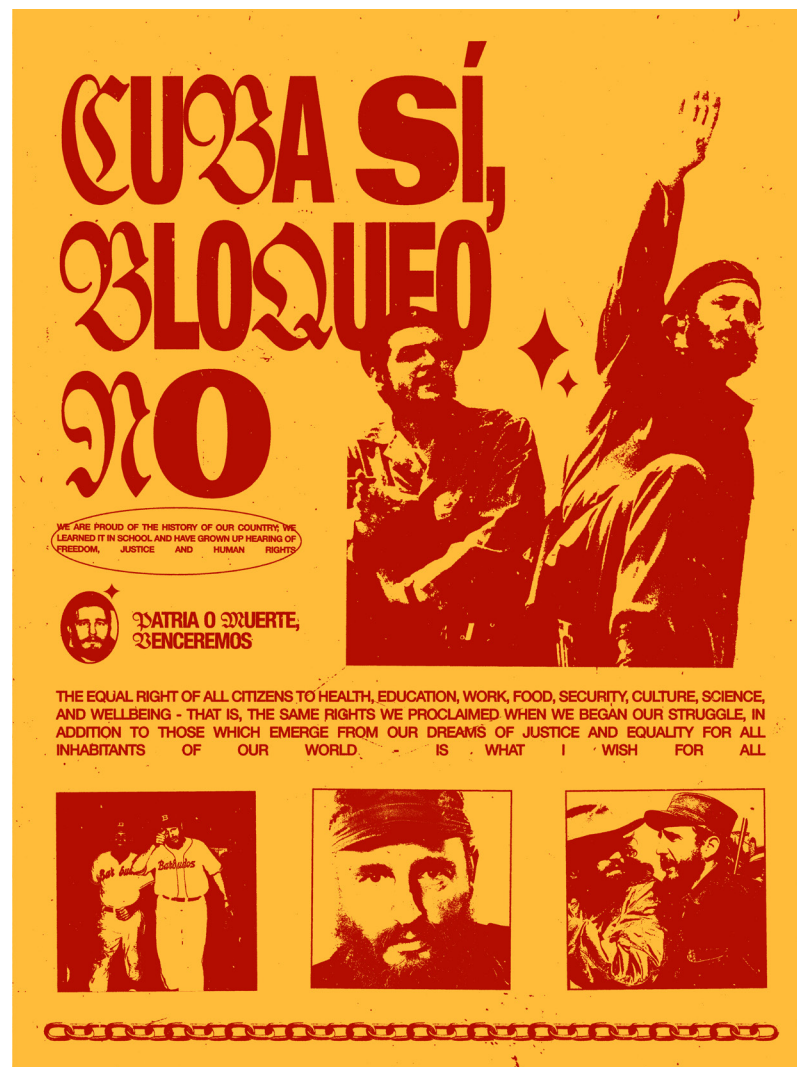
15 MINUTES OF BLOCKADE are equivalent to the funding needed to meet the demand for hearing aids for children and adolescents with disabilities in special education in the country (approximately \$144,000).

7 MONTHS OF BLOCKADE are equivalent to the financing required to purchase the buses needed for the country's public transportation system (approximately \$2.85 billion).

3 DAYS OF BLOCKADE are equivalent to the annual maintenance cost for public transportation in the country (approximately \$40 million).

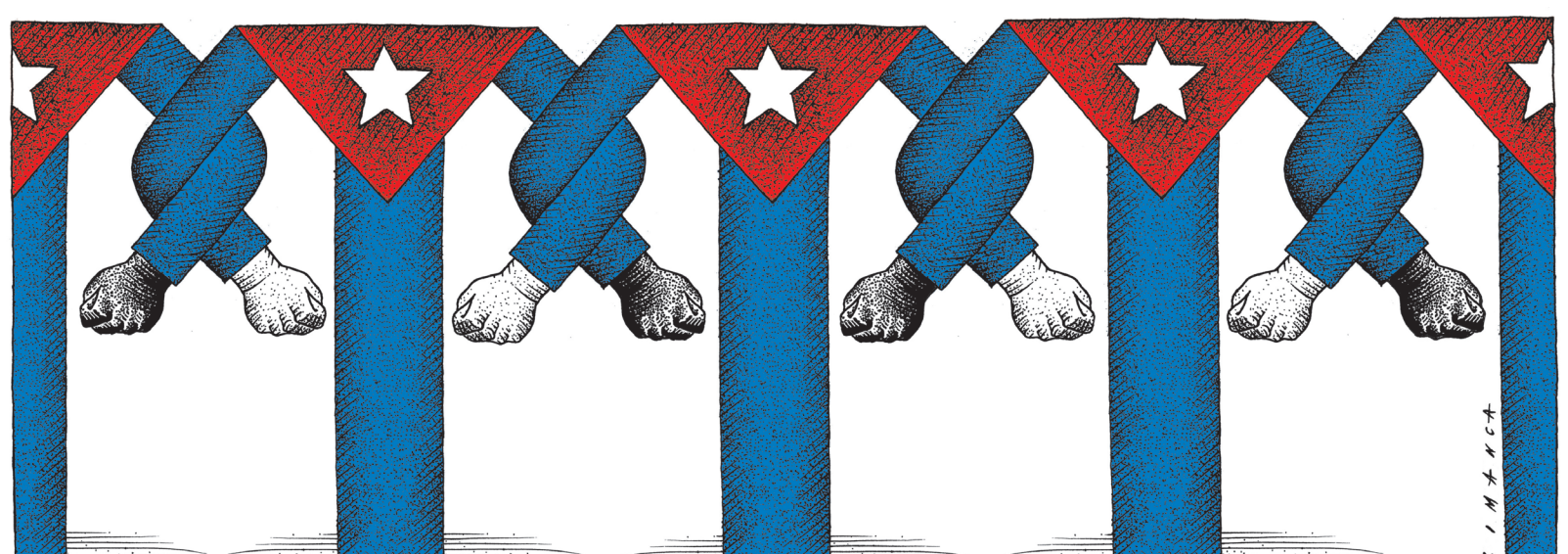
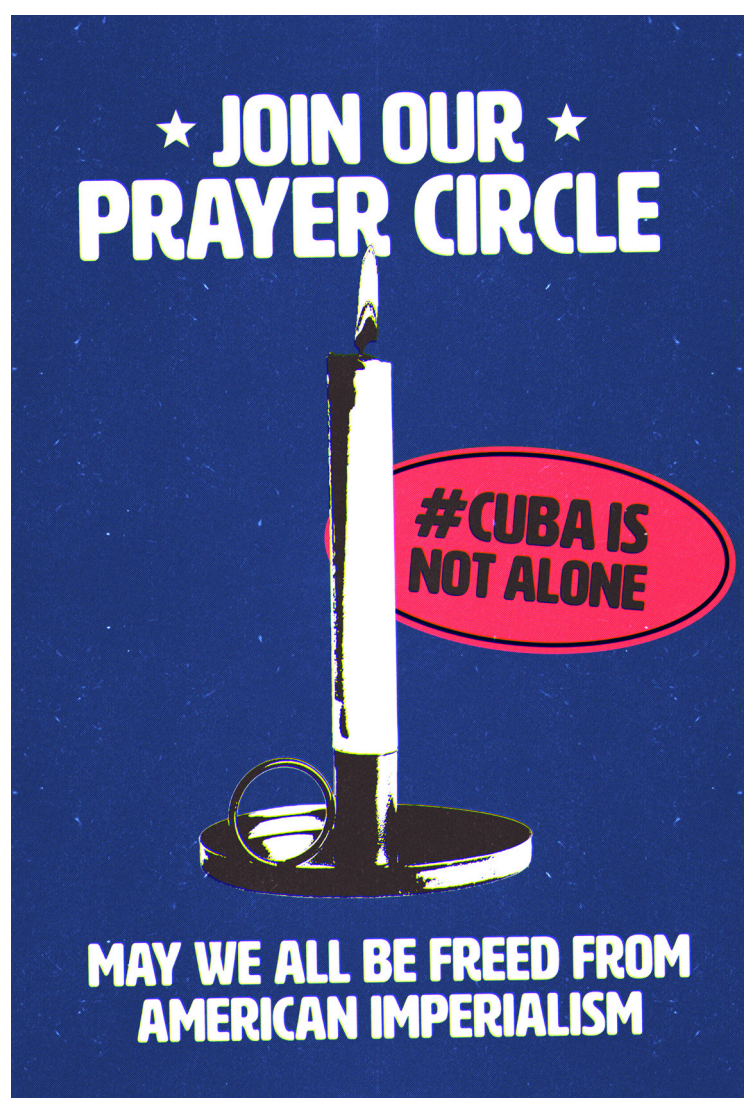
9 MONTHS OF BLOCKADE are equivalent to the financing estimated to meet the country's new housing construction needs (approximately \$3.893 billion).

18 DAYS OF BLOCKADE are equivalent to the annual maintenance cost (excluding fuel and investments) **FOR THE NATIONAL ELECTRIC POWER SYSTEM (APPROXIMATELY \$250 MILLION).**



IN THE PAST SIXTY YEARS, THE BLOCKADE HAS COST CUBA OVER \$164 BILLION IN DAMAGES, WITH MORE THAN \$5 BILLION IN LOSSES IN THE LAST YEAR ALONE

(MARCH 2023–FEBRUARY 2024).





#CUBAISNOTALONE

REBIRTH

BY NANCY MOREJÓN

DAUGHTER OF
THE SEA WATERS
ASLEEP IN THEIR ENTRAILS,
I AM REBORN
FROM THE GUNPOWDER
WHICH A GUERRILLA RIFLE
SPREAD ON THE MOUNTAIN
SO THAT THE WORLD WOULD
BE REBORN IN ITS TURN,
THAT THE WHOLE SEA
WOULD BE REBORN,
ALL THE DUST,
ALL THE DUST OF CUBA



augustus



CUBA IS NOT ALONE
HAS NEVER BEEN



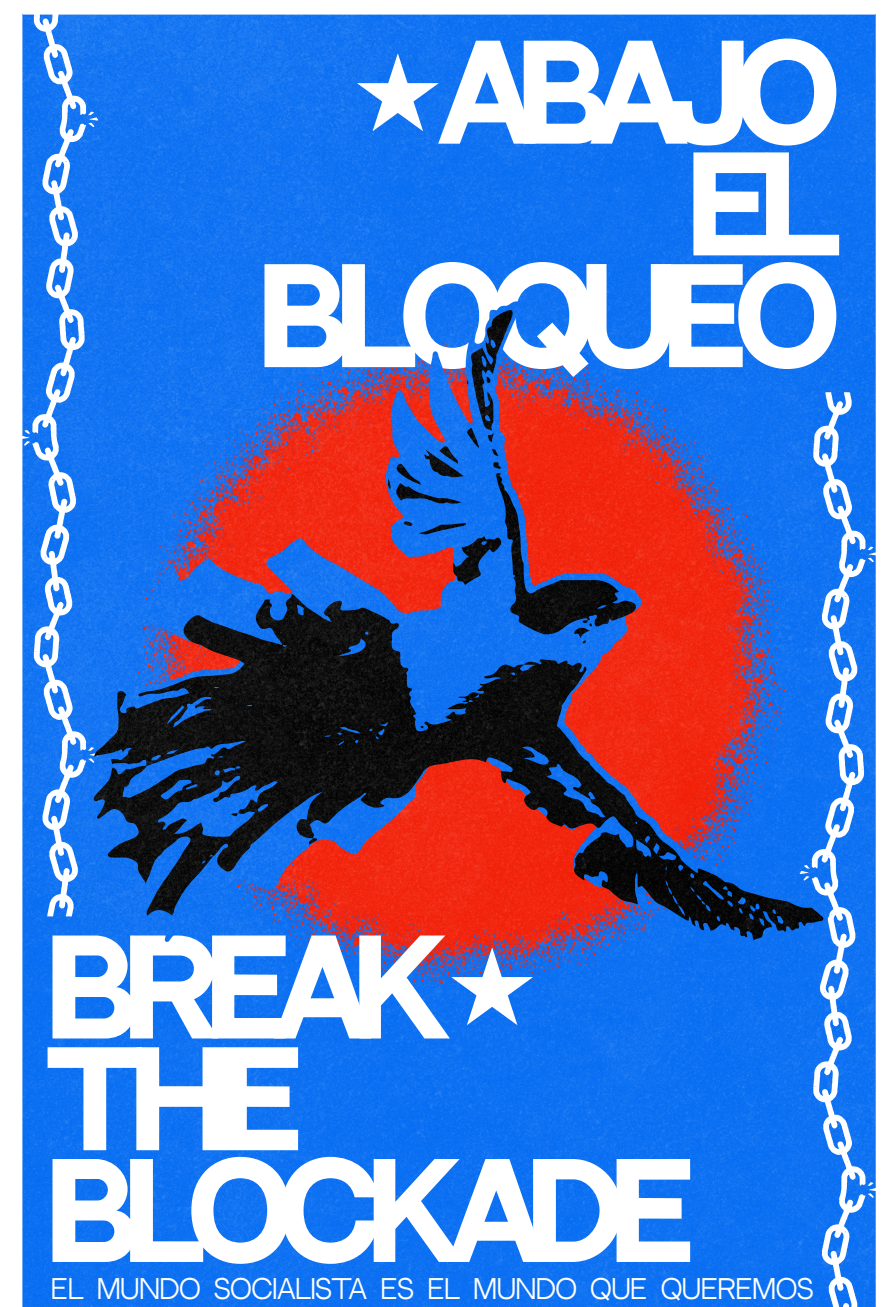
AFGHANISTAN ALBANIA ALGERIA ANDORRA ANGOLA ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA ARGENTINA ARMENIA AUSTRALIA AUSTRIA AZERBAIJAN BAHAMAS
BAHRAIN BANGLADESH BARBADOS BELARUS BELGIUM BELIZE BENIN BHUTAN
BOLIVIA BOSNIA HERZEGOVINA BOTSWANA BRAZIL BRUNEI BULGARIA
BURKINA FASO BURUNDI CABO VERDE CAMBODIA CAMEROON CANADA
CENTRAL AFRICA CHAD CHILE CHINA COLOMBIA COMOROS CONGO COSTA
RICA COTE D'IVOIRE CROATIA CUBA CYPRUS CZECHIA DEMOCRATIC
REPUBLIC OF KOREA LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC DENMARK
DJIBOUTI DOMINICAN REPUBLIC ECUADOR EGYPT EL SALVADOR EQUATORIAL
GUINEA ERITREA ESTONIA ESWATINI ETHIOPIA FIJI FINLAND FRANCE GABON
GAMBIA GEORGIA GERMANY GHANA GREECE GRENADA GUATEMALA
GUINEA GUINEA-BISSAU GUYANA HAITI HONDURAS HUNGARY ICELAND
INDIA INDONESIA IRAN IRELAND ITALY JAMAICA JAPAN JORDAN
KAZAKHISTAN KENYA KIRIBATI KUBAIT KYRGYZSTAN LATVIA DEMOCRATIC
REPUBLIC OF CONGO LEBANON LESOTHO LIBERIA LIBYA LIECHTENSTEIN
LITHUANIA LUXEMBOURG MADAGASCAR MALAWI MALAYSIA MALDIVES MALI
MALTA MARSHALL ISLES MAURITIA MAURITIUS MEXICO MICRONESIA
MONACO MONGOLIA MONTENEGRO MOROCCO MOZAMBIQUE MYANMAR
NAMIBIA NAURU NEPAL NETHERLAND NEW ZEALAND NICARAGUA NIGER
NIGERIA NORTH MACEDONIA NORWAY OMAN PAKISTAN PALAU PANAMA
PAPUA NEW GUINEA PARAGUAY PERU PHILIPPINES POLAND PORTUGAL QATAR
REPUBLIC OF KOREA REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA ROMANIA RUSSIAN FEDERATION
RWANDA SAINT KITT'S AND NEVIS SAINT LUCIA SAINT VINCENT AND THE
GRENADINES SAMOA SAN MARINO SAO TOME AND PRINCIPE SAUDI ARABIA
SENEGAL SERBIA SEYCHELLES SIERRA LEONE SINGAPORE SLOVAKIA SLOVENIA
SOLOMON ISLANDS SOMALIA SOUTH AFRICA SOUTH SUDAN SPAIN SRI LANKA
SUDAN SURINAME SWEDEN SWITZERLAND SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC TAJIKISTAN
THAILAND TIMOR LESTE TOGO TONGA TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO TUNISIA
TURKMENISTAN TUVALU TURKIYE UGANDA UNITED ARAB EMIRATES UNITED
KINGDOM UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA URUGUAY UZBEKISTAN VANUATU
VENEZUELA VIETNAM YEMEN ZAMBIA ZIMBABWE

AND YOU?

THE TIME IS NOW!

END THE U.S. BLOCKADE

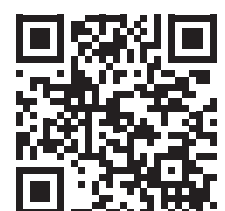
TAKE CUBA OFF THE LIST OF STATE SPONSORS OF TERRORISM



RENACIMIENTO

POR NANCY MOREJÓN

HIJA DE LAS AGUAS MARINAS,
DORMIDA EN SUS ENTRAÑAS,
RENAZCO DE LA PÓLVORA QUE UN RIFLE GUERRILLERO
ESPARCIÓ EN LA MONTAÑA PARA QUE EL MUNDO
RENACIERA A SU VEZ,
QUE RENACIERA TODO EL MAR,
TODO EL POLVO,
TODO EL POLVO DE CUBA.



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