

Action Alert: NYT Claims US Opposed Honduran Coup It Actually Supported

By [Janine Jackson](#)

Global Research, August 19, 2017

[FAIR](#) 18 August 2017

Region: [Latin America & Caribbean, USA](#)

Theme: [History](#), [Media Disinformation](#),
[Military and WMD](#), [US NATO War](#)
[Agenda](#)

The August 14 **New York Times** [reported](#) that the threat by **Donald Trump** to use the US military against the government of Venezuelan **President Nicolas Maduro** has brought together Latin American leaders, divided on other things, in opposition to US intervention. Along the way, reporter **Nicholas Casey** cites a regional expert who says, “An often ugly history of US interventions is vividly remembered in Latin America — even as we in the US have forgotten.” Which the **Times** followed thus:

Under **President Barack Obama**, however, Washington aimed to get past the conflicts by building wider consensus over regional disputes. In 2009, after the Honduran military removed the leftist president **Manuel Zelaya** from power in a midnight coup, the United States joined other countries in trying to broker—albeit unsuccessfully—a deal for his return.

There’s a word for that kind of statement, and the word is “lie.”

Zelaya was indeed overthrown in a military coup, kidnapped and flown out of the country via the joint US/Honduran military base at Palmerola.



Americas

Trump's Threat Against Maduro Unites Latin America, Against U.S.



New York Times (8/14/17)

Now, the US is supposed to cut off aid to a country that has a military coup—and “there is no doubt” that Zelaya’s ouster “constituted an illegal and unconstitutional coup,” according to a secret report sent by the US ambassador to Honduras on July 24, 2009, and later [exposed](#) by **WikiLeaks**. But the US continued most aid to Honduras, carefully avoiding the magic words “military coup” that would have necessitated withdrawing support from the coup regime.

Internal emails reveal that the State Department [pressured](#) the OAS not to support the country’s constitutional government. In her memoir *Hard Choices*, **Hillary Clinton** [recalled](#) how as secretary of State she worked behind the scenes to legitimate the new regime. In the days following the coup, her book relates:

I spoke with my counterparts around the hemisphere, including **Secretary Espinosa** in Mexico. We strategized on a plan to restore order in Honduras, and ensure that free and fair elections could be held quickly and legitimately, which would render the question of Zelaya moot.

Let’s add, for the record, that with a corrupt, [drug-linked](#) regime in place—thanks in large part to US intervention—the murder rate in Honduras [soared](#), rising to fully 50 percent above the pre-coup level. Many of the murders involved criminal gangs, but a great deal was political, with resuscitated [death squads](#) targeting journalists, opposition figures, labor activists and environmentalists—of whom indigenous leader [Berta Cáceres](#) was only the most famous.



Honduran military suppressing protests after the 2009 coup. (Source: Roberto Breve)

So is it really that we in the US have forgotten what happened in Honduras? Or is that many of us believe [falsehoods about that history](#) brought to us by media like the **New York Times**? The paper may run a correction or a letter to the editor; we're providing contact information below for readers to contact the **Times** to encourage them to set the record straight.

But really, how can you see such an outright inversion of reality as a slip-up? "Oops, did we say the US opposed the coup? What we meant to say is that the US, virtually alone in the world, supported it." The real lesson is, when the US government declares a country an enemy, keep in mind that for corporate press, that basically means—[anything goes](#).

ACTION: Please contact the **New York Times** and ask it to correct the false claim that the United States tried to restore the democratically elected president of Honduras.

CONTACT: nytnews@nytimes.com

The original source of this article is [FAIR](#)
Copyright © [Janine Jackson](#), [FAIR](#), 2017

[Comment on Global Research Articles on our Facebook page](#)

[Become a Member of Global Research](#)

Articles by: [Janine Jackson](#)

Disclaimer: The contents of this article are of sole responsibility of the author(s). The Centre for Research on Globalization will not be responsible for any inaccurate or incorrect statement in this article. The Centre of Research on Globalization grants permission to cross-post Global Research articles on community internet sites as long as the source and copyright are acknowledged together with a hyperlink to the original Global Research article. For publication of Global Research articles in print or other forms including commercial internet sites, contact: publications@globalresearch.ca

www.globalresearch.ca contains copyrighted material the use of which has not always been specifically authorized by the copyright owner. We are making such material available to our readers under the provisions of "fair use" in an effort to advance a better understanding of political, economic and social issues. The material on this site is distributed without profit to those

who have expressed a prior interest in receiving it for research and educational purposes. If you wish to use copyrighted material for purposes other than "fair use" you must request permission from the copyright owner.

For media inquiries: publications@globalresearch.ca