

Join Alice Walker, Noam Chomsky, Ramsey Clark, Cynthia McKinney, Dolores Huerta, Detroit Auxiliary Bishop Thomas Gumbleton, Nobel Peace Prize winner Rigoberta Menchu, National Lawyers Guild, International Association of Democratic Lawyers, and many others, in this critical cause for justice.

Q: Can you be imprisoned in the United States for opposing terrorism?

Antonio Guerrero

Gerardo Hernández

A: Yes, if you oppose terrorism in Miami.

Ramón Labañino

René González

Fernando González

The United States government has imprisoned the very men who were working to save Cuban and American lives from terrorist organizations that operate in Miami.

For over 40 years, Washington has tolerated the existence of a terrorist network in Miami, made up of extremist, right-wing Cuban-Americans. These Miami-based terrorist organizations operate with impunity. Anti-Cuba terrorism has caused the deaths of almost 3,500 Cubans in a low-intensity warfare against the island, a war unknown to most Americans outside of Florida.

Literally dozens of bombings and assassinations have been perpetrated in Miami, other U.S. cities and Havana, by the anti-Cuba terrorist groups.

Yet, terrorists like Orlando Bosch – who walks the streets of Miami a free man – are protected by U.S. officials all the way up to the White House:

“ ... now the Bush Administration coddles one of the hemisphere’s most notorious terrorists (Orlando Bosch). And for what reason? The only one evident is currying favor in south Florida.” (New York Times, July 20, 1990).

After decades of protests to the U.S. government, which did nothing, Cuba dispatched a group of men to Miami to observe, monitor, and report on the workings of the terrorist network. The objective: To protect innocent lives in Cuba **AND** the United States.

The men, now known as the Cuban Five, collected evidence of the terrorists’ plots, which was then presented to the FBI. On June 17, 1998, a historic meeting was held in Havana. There, Cuban officials implored U.S. law enforcement officials to act on evidence presented, in order to end the cycle of terror.

Instead of arresting the terrorists, the FBI rounded up the **Cuban Five, the very people who were warning about the terrorist plans. Fernando González, René González, Antonio Guerrero, Gerardo Hernández, and Ramón Labañino** were arrested on September 12, 1998, and placed in solitary confinement for 17 months.

They were charged with failure to disclose themselves as foreign agents, to several counts of conspiracy. The Cuban Five were denied the right to an unbiased jury trial, after the judge turned down their motions for a change of venue out of Miami.

The jury was intimidated, witnesses were bullied by the prosecution, and defense lawyers were denied access to evidence on the spurious grounds that the information was classified. Even high-ranking officials of the FBI and the U.S. Southern Command testified that the Five did nothing to compromise the national security of the United States. After a seven-month trial, generating 14,000 transcript pages to consider, the Miami jury convicted on all counts **without asking one question** of the court in deliberations.

The swift verdict was not the result of a careful analysis of the facts presented at trial. Rather, the convictions were inevitable in a trial held in Miami – the only city in the U.S. so deeply saturated with anti-Cuba prejudice. The Cuban Five were sentenced to **four life terms and 75 years** collectively.

“Five Cuban men charged with acting as agents of their government, faced trial in Miami, Florida – the only city in the U.S. so hostile toward Cuba that Cuban athletes are not permitted to perform there, Cuban art cannot be exhibited and Cuban films cannot be shown. Yet, the U.S. attorney from Miami, who opposed moving the Cuban Five’s trial out of Miami, acknowledged one year later that it was impossible for anyone viewed as favorable to Cuba to receive a fair trial in Miami.

... Justice demands a new trial.”

— Leonard Weinglass, appeals attorney for Antonio Guerrero

Free the Cuban Five!

For details on the legal case, their struggle for justice and the campaign to free them, visit: www.freethefive.org

Cruel and Punitive Treatment of the Families

U.S. Attorney General John Ashcroft has denied Olga Salanueva, wife of René González, and Adriana Pérez, wife of Gerardo Hernández, entry visas to the United States to visit their husbands. Consequently, René and Olga’s U.S.-born, 5-year-old daughter, Ivette, hasn’t seen her father for five years. There is no justification in denying them the right to visit together as a family. See our website for information.



What You Can Do to Help:

- ✓ Sign the website petition to President Bush.
- ✓ Tell U.S. Attorney General John Ashcroft to allow the wives and families to enter the U.S. to visit their loved ones.
- ✓ Make a donation for the education campaign.

www.freethefive.org

National Committee to Free the Cuban Five

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