

## **Fidel on "Cuba is Pan-African"**

"African blood flows freely through our veins. Many of our ancestors came from Africa to this land. As slaves they struggled a great deal. They fought as members of the Liberating Army of Cuba. We're brothers and sisters of the people of Africa and we're ready to fight on their behalf.

Racial discrimination existed in our country. Is there anyone who doesn't know this, who doesn't remember it? Many public parks had separate walks for blacks and for whites. Is there anyone who doesn't recall that African descendants were barred from many places, from recreation centres and schools? Is there anyone who has forgotten that racial discrimination was prevalent in all aspects of work and study?

And today, who are the representatives, the symbols of the most hateful and inhuman form of racial discrimination? The South African fascists and racists. And Yankee imperialism, without scruples of any kind, has launched South African mercenary troops in an attempt to crush Angola's independence and is now outraged by our help to Angola, our support for Africa and our defence of Africa. In keeping with the duties rooted in our principles, our ideology, our convictions and our very own blood, we shall defend Angola and Africa! And when we say defend, we mean it in the strict sense of the word. And when we say struggle, we mean it also in the strict sense of the word.

Let the South African racists and the Yankee imperialists be warned. We are part of the world revolutionary movement, and in Africa's struggle against racists and imperialists, we'll stand, without any hesitation, side by side with the peoples of Africa...

Our people have never failed to fulfill their internationalist commitment. Our people have maintained a policy consistent with their principles throughout their history. What do the imperialists think? Do they think that since we are interested in social and economic progress we are going to sell out in exchange for their purchase of a little bit of sugar and sale of cheap goods? What do the imperialists think? Don't they realise that the world is changing and that the times of blackmail and impositions on this country are over? We have said it before: although economic relations with the US may be useful to our country, these relations will never be reestablished on the basis of giving up one single iota of our principles...

It is not we who are obstinately opposed to having normal relations. But if capitalism, mighty and authoritarian, doesn't want anything to do with us, not even to speak with or look at this small nation, then we'll just wait until capitalism is wiped out in the United States."

Source: [theagentofchange.tumblr.com](http://theagentofchange.tumblr.com)

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# AN UNHEARD OF PROVOCATION

*Reflection by Fidel Castro*

THIS morning the cables were full of reports about the unheard of news that a Malaysia Airlines passenger plane had been hit at an altitude of 10,100 meters as it flew over Ukrainian territory, along a route controlled by the war-hungry government of chocolate king, Petro Poroshenko.

Cuba, which has always stood in solidarity with the Ukrainian people, and in the difficult days of the Chernobyl tragedy provided medical care to the many children affected by the accident's harmful radiation, and is always willing to continue doing so, cannot refrain from expressing our repudiation of the action of the anti-Russian, anti-Ukrainian and pro-imperialist government.

At the same time, coinciding with the Malaysian aircraft crime, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, head of the nuclear state, ordered his army to invade the Gaza Strip, where, over the last several days, hundreds of Palestinians have died, many of them children. The President of the United States supported the action, describing the repugnant act as legitimate defense.

Obama does not support David against Goliath, but rather Goliath against David. As is known, young men and women from the Israeli people, well prepared for productive work, are being exposed to a death without honor, without glory. I am not aware of the Palestinian's military strategy, but I know that a combatant prepared to die can defend even the ruins of a building, as long as he has his rifle, as the heroic defenders of Stalingrad demonstrated.

I only wish to express my solidarity with the heroic people who defend the last sliver remaining of what was their homeland for thousands of years.

Fidel Castro Ruz  
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11 y 14 p.m.

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