

# Haiti

- **1804:** Haiti Declares Independence from France following world's first successful slave revolt. Haiti is first black republic in Western Hemisphere. Two years later, fearful that Haitian revolution might inspire other slave revolts US places trade embargo on Haiti.
- **1915-1934:** US Troops Occupy Haiti.
- **1956-1971:** US military helps Francois "Papa Doc" Duvalier become President of Haiti. Duvalier creates a totalitarian dictatorship using **Tonton Macoutes**, brutal paramilitary to terrorize opponents. They kill over 100,000 during the Duvalier family reign.
- **1971-1986:** "Papa Doc" dies, his 19 year old heir, Jean-Claude, continues the dynasty, embezzling millions of dollars until popular uprising forces him to flee for France.
- **1990:** Jean-Bertrand Aristide, former Roman Catholic priest, wins Haiti Elections with a two-thirds majority. Election later described as being the most honest Haiti has known.
- **1991:** Aristide Overthrown by CIA-supported military coup.
- **1994:** Under President Bill Clinton, US-led UN intervention puts Aristide back in power. 15,000 U.S. troops remained in Haiti to ensure Aristide's return to power.
- **1996:** US pressures Haiti to accept Neoliberal Reforms that suppress wages, reduce tariffs, and sell off state-owned enterprises. The Haitian government also agrees to abolish tariffs on US imports, which results in the dumping of cheap US foodstuffs on the Haitian market undermining the country's livestock and agricultural production.
- **2000:** Aristide wins Haitian election. Works on cooperative projects with Cuba and Venezuela. Receives 800 Cuban medical workers and Venezuelan oil at reduced prices.
- **2001-2004:** George W. Bush convinces Europeans to suspend credit for Haiti. Haiti uses almost all foreign reserves to pay off foreign debt requiring Aristide's government to end fuel subsidies and slash spending on health and education. US funds and trains 600-member paramilitary army of anti-Aristide Haitians in Dominican Republic. 900 US soldiers jointly patrol border with the Dominican army, whom they have armed with 20,000 M16s. Aristide's government arrests five Haitians for plotting overthrow.
- **2004:** President Aristide kidnapped by US soldiers, and forced to Leave Haiti for Africa. President George W. Bush sends US forces to Haiti to "help stabilize the country."
- **January 12, 2010:** 7.0 earthquake devastates Haiti, death toll estimates of 300,000 or more. The staggering death tolls and devastation cannot be blamed solely on the earthquake. Years of French colonialism and US imperialism made Haiti into the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere. Aristide still prevented from returning.

# Honduras

- **Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century:** US fruit corporations turned Honduras into a huge banana plantation and dominated its economy and politics, making it the original "banana republic". Honduras is the poorest country in Central America.
- **1980s:** US establishes military bases, airports, roads and Contra training camps to overthrow the Sandinista government of Nicaragua, which after the 1979 Revolution was democratically elected in 1984.
- **1983:** CIA gives Honduran military officers the *Human Resource Exploitation Training Manual – 1983*, which teaches how to torture people. Honduras' notorious "Battalion 316" then uses these techniques, with the CIA's full knowledge, on thousands of leftist dissidents. At least 184 are murdered.
- **Committee in Defense of Human Rights in Honduras** states that the U.S. military is primarily responsible for the increase in human rights violations because they train the Honduran officers.
- **2009** coup overthrowing democratically elected President Manuel Zelaya, widely condemned by Latin American governments. Barack Obama at first condemned the June coup but backtracked when congressional Republicans supported the de facto government as a bulwark against Venezuela's Hugo Chávez.
- **2009-present:** Since Zelaya was overthrown, peaceful protests against the coup were met with severe violence including torture, imprisonment, tear gas, pepper spray and beatings with chains. According to a 2010 report by the *Harvard University Committee on Human Rights Studies*, 60 to 70 percent of the protestors are women, and sexual abuse, torture, rape and murder are commonly used as weapons of oppression.

# Indonesia & East Timor

- **1965:** Indonesian General Suharto comes to power in coup. The US embassy in Indonesia provides the Indonesian army with a list compiled by the CIA consisting of the names of thousands of Communist Party leaders who the Indonesian military hunts down and executes. For the next five months, Suharto oversees the slaughter of between 500,000 and 1 million people, mostly landless peasants. During this period, Suharto is backed by the US, Britain, and Australia.
- **1975-1999:** US approves Indonesian plan to invade island state of East Timor. More than 200,000 killed. Occupation lasts 25 years.
- **1991:** US arms restrictions imposed after when Indonesian soldiers opened fire on a peaceful pro-independence demonstration in Dili, East Timor; more than 400 East Timorese died.
- **1999:** Indonesia staged military intervention to prevent East Timor's secession, killing more than 1,500 civilians and razing 70 percent of its infrastructure. In response, the US and the European Union imposed arms embargoes. The EU arms embargo expired on January 2000.
- **2002:** Two American teachers murdered by Indonesian security forces. In spite of its continuing arms embargo, US offered a \$50 million anti-terrorism package to Indonesia that includes police training and the establishment of an anti-terrorism unit.
- **2003** - Indonesia's military suppliers include the United Kingdom, USA, Germany, France, Russia, the Netherlands, South Korea, Slovakia, and Singapore.
- **2005:** Despite a congressional ban on military financing for the country, and despite documented human rights violations, the Bush administration began funding Indonesia again, allocating \$6.5 million for its military.
- **2007:** The Bush administration begins training members of an Indonesian Special Forces unit with a long record of human rights violations, in addition to a paramilitary mobile police brigade.

# Iraq

- **1979:** Saddam Hussein becomes president.
- **1980-1988: Iran-Iraq War.** US encourages Iraq to invade Iran. CIA builds up Hussein's forces with several billion dollars worth of economic aid, technology, non-US origin weaponry, military intelligence, and Special Operations training. War ends in a stalemate. An estimated 1.5 million died in the conflict.
- **1988:** Iraq slaughters Kurdish civilians to retaliate for supporting Iran during the Iran-Iraq war. Thousands flee to Turkey. Dow chemical sells \$1.5 million in pesticides to Iraq despite knowledge that these would be used in chemical weapons.
- **1990:** US Ambassador to Baghdad meets with Hussein to assure him that President Bush "wanted better and deeper relations". Many believe this visit was a trap set for Hussein. A month later Hussein invaded Kuwait thinking the US would not respond.
- **1990:** Iraqi troops invade Kuwait. Saddam Hussein blames Kuwait for falling oil prices that harm the Iraqi economy. The UN imposes economic sanctions on Iraq, authorizing the use of "all necessary means" if Iraq does not withdraw from Kuwait. US military forces arrive in Saudi Arabia.
- **1991:** 1st Persian Gulf War begins. 177 million pounds of bombs fall over 40 days and nights, one of the most concentrated aerial onslaughts in the history of the world. Depleted uranium incinerates people, poisons environment, destroys infrastructure. Ground forces invade Kuwait and Iraq, defeat Iraqi army and liberate Kuwait. Encouraged by the US, Iraqi Shiites and Kurds rebel against Saddam Hussein. 100,000 killed as Iraq quashed the rebellions. Hussein agrees to destroy weapons of mass destruction and allow UN inspectors to monitor the disarmament.
- **2002:** President George W. Bush falsely accuses Saddam Hussein of supporting Al-Qaeda and thus responsible for September 11, 2001 attacks on US. Congress authorizes an attack on Iraq and of having "weapons of mass destruction (WMD)."
- **2003:** Massive peace demonstrations take place around the world. President Bush declares war on Iraq. Eight months later, Saddam Hussein is captured by American troops, and later hung.
- **2005:** The White House announces no weapons of mass destruction were found. Downing Street Memo" leaked, indicating that eight months before the Iraq war was launched, Prime Minister Tony Blair and top British government officials acknowledged that "the case [for war] was thin," but that "Bush had made up his mind to take military action." The U.S. wanted the war "justified by the conjunction of terrorism and WMD. But the intelligence and facts were being fixed around the policy." Memo receives enormous attention in the UK but not in the U.S.
- **2010:** War in Iraq continues. **Cost to US Taxpayers to-date:** Over \$700 Billion
- **Casualties as of 3-8-2010:**
  - 4,382 US Deaths
  - 328 Coalition Deaths
  - More than 1,366,350 Iraqi deaths, primarily civilians
  - Between 31,706 and 100,000 US wounded. Iraqi wounded unknown.

# Israel/Palestine

- **1947:** UN Partition Plan for Palestine announced.
- **1948:** British Mandate ends. State of Israel proclaimed, recognized by US.
- **1948: Arab-Israeli War: Palestinian Nakba.** Israelis defeat Arab Armies. Palestinians flee terror attacks on civilians. Origin of Palestinian refugee problem. Many Jews fled or were expelled from Arab countries to Israel. Egypt occupied the Gaza strip. Jordan occupied the West Bank and East Jerusalem.
- **1967: Six Day War:** Israel starts preemptive war against Egypt, Jordan, and Syria, capturing Gaza from Egypt, West Bank and East Jerusalem from Jordan, and Golan Heights from Syria. Palestinians turn to nationalism and away from reliance on pan-Arabism to solve their problems. US ignores Israeli attack on US Navy's USS Liberty, which killed 34 sailors and wounded 173. Johnson Administration supplies Phantom jets to Israel as a commitment to ensure Israeli military superiority in Middle East.
- **1973: Yom Kippur War:** Syrian and Egyptian armies launched surprise attack against Israel. Egyptians and Syrians advanced during the first 24–48 hours, then momentum swings in Israel's favor. Eventually a Disengagement of Forces agreement signed and a ceasefire took effect that ended the war. The Yom Kippur War paved the way for the Camp David Accords in 1978, which set a precedent for future peace negotiations.
- **1978: Camp David Accords:** Israel and Egypt sign a separate peace agreement and normalized relations. President Sadat of Egypt is hailed as a hero in the west. He is assassinated as a traitor in Egypt.
- **1982: Israeli Invasion of Lebanon:** Following several Palestinian attacks in Israel, Israel invades and occupies Lebanon, including south Beirut. PLO forced into exile. Christian Phalangists massacre 3,500 Palestinians in Sabra and Shatila refugee camps. Israeli Kahan Commission found Israeli Defense Forces indirectly responsible for massacre and charged Ariel Sharon with "personal responsibility" for crimes. Prime Minister Menachem Begin fires Sharon as Defense Minister by.
- **1993: January:** Israeli and Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) negotiators began secret negotiations in Oslo, Norway.
- **1993: September:** Yassar Arafat and PLO officially recognized Israel's right to exist and renounced terrorism. Arafat and Rabin signed a Declaration of Principles. The Oslo peace process begins. Israel and PLO negotiate, unsuccessfully, a two-state solution.

- **1987–1993:** First Intifada was Palestinian uprising against Israeli occupation of Palestinian territories: the West Bank, East Jerusalem, and Gaza that Israel had captured from Jordan and Egypt in 1967 Six Day War. Palestinians reacted to de facto annexation through economic integration of the territories with Israel and increase of settler activities. Palestinians established their identity as separate nation claiming self-determination. US recognized PLO.
- **1993: Oslo Accords**— Israel committed to withdraw its forces from parts of Gaza Strip and West Bank, and affirmed right to self-government within those areas through the creation of a Palestinian Authority. PLO formally recognized Israel and committed to responsibility for internal security in population centers placed under their control. Palestinian self-rule was to last for a five-year interim period during which a permanent agreement would be negotiated.
- **1995—Prime minister Rabin assassinated at Peace Rally** by right-wing Israeli opposed to Rabin's signing of the Oslo Accords.
- **2000: May**— Israel ends occupation of Lebanon. Hizbollah gained prestige as a successful resistance movement against Israel.
- **2000: July 11-25**— Camp David Middle East Peace Summit Fails because of disagreements over territory, status of Jerusalem, right of return for refugees, and Israeli security concerns.
- **2000-2008: Second Intifada**— Continuing Palestinian frustration with expanding settlements, economic strangulation, and Israeli appropriation of Palestinian water resources leads to suicide bombing attacks within Israel. Israeli military operations leave hundreds of Palestinians dead.
- **2005:** Israel withdraws from Gaza
- **2006: January**— General elections for the Palestinian Legislative Council are held. Unexpectedly, Hamas, an Islamist fundamentalist group, won a majority of 74 seats. Fatah won 45. The US and European Union declare Hamas a terrorist organization and its gaining control over the Palestinian Authority would risk international aid to the PA.
- **2008 December – 2009 January: Operation Cast Lead.** Israel breaks cease fire with Hamas in Gaza Strip and wages war on the civilian population. 1400 civilians dead including 700 children.
- **2009:** Goldstone Report accuses Israel and Hamas of war crimes against civilians. US Congress rejects Goldstone Report criticisms of Israel.
- **2010:** US Vice President Joe Biden, in Israel for US-mediated peace talks, denounces Israel's plan for 1600 new settlements on occupied Palestinian land in East Jerusalem.

# Korea

- **1945:** At close of WWII, the Soviet Union and US occupied Korea to expel defeated Japanese. Demarcation line between the two armies was set up along the 38<sup>th</sup> parallel. Unification was goal claimed by both sides, but prevented by ideological disagreements. Frequent battles occur and exact cause of escalation into all out war in 1950 is disputed.
- **1950-1953: Korean War**  
During the war, both North and South Korea were sponsored by external powers, thus facilitating the war's metamorphosis from a civil war to a proxy war between powers involved in the larger Cold War. The Soviet Union and the People's Republic of China supported North Korea, and the US supported S. Korea under Syngman Rhee.
- **1950:** UN Security Council votes to send UN troops under US command to assist South Korea. Open hostilities had been ongoing. It was the first significant armed conflict of the Cold War.
- President Dwight Eisenhower later wrote in his memoirs that when he was considering US military intervention in Viet Nam in 1954, also as part of a "coalition", he recognized that the burden of the operation would fall on the US, but "the token forces supplied by these other nations, as in Korea, would lend real moral standing to a venture that otherwise could be made to appear as a brutal example of imperialism."
- US blames most of brutality during the war on the North, but the US and S. Korean army participated in violent repression of the South Koreans, which continued for many years after the war ended. US contributed directly to the war's brutality by introducing napalm.

<b>US Military Dead:</b>	<b>54,000</b>	
<b>US wounded:</b>	<b>103,000</b>	
<b>Koreans dead:</b>	<b>3,000,000</b>	
<b>Korean wounded:</b>	<b>2,000,000</b>	<b>Cost to US Taxpayer: \$75,000,000,000</b>

- **1980: Gwangju Massacre:** US authorized Korean Army to fire on pro-democracy protestors, up to two thousand killed. Killings outrage public, consolidated nationwide support for democracy.
- **1992:** S. Korea elects its first civilian president in 30 years.
- **1993:** End of US supported military dictatorship.
- **2004:** US and South Korean leaders agreed to cut the number of American troops in half
- **2007:** 26,076 US Troops Still in Korea, numerous nuclear and other weapons  
**\$2,000,000,000 Annual Cost to US taxpayer.**

# Laos

- **1957-1973:** CIA carries out approximately one coup per year trying to nullify Laos' democratic elections because of the Pathet Lao, a leftist group with enough popular support to be a member of any coalition government. In the late 50s, the CIA created an "Armees Clandestine" of Asian mercenaries to attack the Pathet Lao. After the CIA's army suffered numerous defeats, the U.S. started bombing.
- **1962:** President John F. Kennedy orders 5,000 troops to Thailand to support the right-wing Laotian government.
- **1965-1973:** US dropped more than 2,000,000 tons of bombs upon the people of Laos—more than all the US bombs dropped in World War II. A quarter of all Laotians eventually became refugees, many living in caves.
- **1973-1975:** Cease fire
- **1975:** Fighting resumes, Pathet Lao takes over control of country. Laos had become a land of nomads, without villages, without farms; a generation of refugees; hundreds of thousands dead, many more maimed.

# Lebanon

- **1958:** President Eisenhower sends approximately 14,000 US troops to quell Lebanese civil war.
- **1982-2000: Invasion and Occupation of Lebanon:** US provides military, financial and diplomatic support for Israel's invasion targeting Palestinians and their Lebanese allies and causing tens of thousands of civilian casualties. US blocks UN efforts to force an Israeli withdrawal or cease fire.
- US brokers agreement to withdraw Palestinian forces and appoint new Lebanese government led by the neo-fascist Phalangist Party, representing part of the country's Maronite Christian community.
- Israeli occupation forces led by General Ariel Sharon facilitate a Phalangist massacre of thousands of Palestinian refugees in Sabra and Chatila refugee camps just south of Beirut. The Kahan Commission, an Israeli body convened to investigate the massacre, found the Israeli Defense Forces indirectly responsible and charged Sharon with "personal responsibility." for the crimes. Sharon was fired as Defense Minister by Prime Minister Menachem Begin shortly after the report's release, but he remained in successive governments as a Minister.
- US troops moved into areas around the capital and Navy ships were stationed off the coast. When a popular uprising commenced against the minority Phalangist government, US forces began bombing villages while US Marines exchanged gunfire with Muslim militias in nearby Beirut suburbs. There were also a series of armed engagements with Syrian forces in eastern Lebanon, resulting in the killing and capture of American pilots.
- In 1983, suicide bombers struck the US embassy and a Marine barracks, killing nearly 300 Americans. This led to a US withdrawal in early 1984.
- US continued its military and financial support for Israeli occupation forces in southern Lebanon, blocking the UN Security Council from enforcing a series of resolutions demanding Israel's unconditional withdrawal. Periodic attacks by US-armed Israeli forces against Lebanese civilian population centers resulted in hundreds of thousands of internal refugees, many of whom joined radical Islamic groups like Hezbollah, which were responsible for a series of kidnapping and assassinations of Americans in Lebanon. The collapse of leftist and nationalist Lebanese forces as a result of the US intervention and the US-backed Israeli invasion led to a power vacuum filled by extremist Islamic groups from below and presence of the anti-American Syrian government from above. Combined with resentment at the enormous human costs of these interventions, Lebanon has turned from a staunchly pro-Western country to a center of anti-American sentiments.
- **2000:** Israeli military withdraws from Lebanon under pressure from Hezbollah resistance.
- **2006 Israel/Hezbollah War:** Hezbollah attacks Israel, captures two soldiers. Israel invades southern Lebanon to suppress Hezbollah and is bogged down in a war showing vulnerability of their military to changed Hezbollah tactics from a predominantly guerrilla force into a quasi-conventional fighting force.

# Libya

- **April 15, 1986:** US planes bomb Libya in attempt to kill Colonel Muammar Gaddafi. Up to 100 Libyans, mainly civilians, including Qhadafi's 15 month old daughter, died. 2 US pilots died. Gaddafi himself, the main target of the air strike, was not hurt.
- Two hours later President Ronald Reagan justified the unprecedented attack on a sovereign country and its head of state in a national television address. The US, Reagan claimed, had "direct, precise and irrefutable" proof that Libya was responsible for a bomb blast in a West Berlin discotheque. The explosion 10 days earlier at a favorite nightspot for US soldiers, had killed three people and injured 200.
- **1998:** German television presented compelling evidence that the suspected bombers worked for American and Israeli intelligence, and that the Libyans were framed to give the US an excuse to bomb Libya.

# Mexico

- Mexico is the third-largest supplier of oil to the US, and the world's eighth-largest crude exporter.
- **1988 to 1992:** US exported over \$214 million in military equipment to Mexico's army and police.
- **1994:** US supplied helicopters opened up on Mayan communities in southern Mexico with rockets, machine guns, and bombs as the Mexican Army tried to crush a Zapatista peasant rebellion in NAFTA's first 14 days. According to Catholic Bishop Samuel Ruiz, over 300 peasants were killed.
- **2007:** US Military Aid to Mexico = **\$59 million**
- **2009:** US to supply Mexico with military equipment, including helicopters, under a **\$1.4 billion** aid initiative. This plan has many similarities to Plan Colombia.

# Nicaragua

- **1934:** US installs Somoza Dictatorship
- **1979:** Popular revolution lead by Sandinista National Liberation Front (FSLN) overthrows third Somoza to rule Nicaragua. All the Somozas were supported by the US.
- **1981-1990:** US creates, trains and funds Contras (counter-revolutionaries), primarily former National Guards under Somoza, to overthrow the FSLN government. Contras commit terrorism against civilian targets, aided by U.S spy planes and mercenaries. 50,000 dead, over half under 15 years old
- **1984:** FSLN wins over 66% of the vote in the freest election in nation's history. Daniel Ortega becomes President.
- **1984:** CIA lays mines in Nicaragua harbor and elsewhere, sabotages Sandinista communications, and destroys an arms depot. World Court condemns CIA action as a clear violation of international law. Reagan administration refused in advance to recognize the court's jurisdiction.
- **1985:** US places embargo against Nicaragua prohibiting all trade between the two countries. The embargo was renewed in November 1989 and ultimately lifted in March 1990 after FSLN loses election.
- **1986:** Reagan administration admitted that it had been secretly selling arms to Iran, with some of the profits going to the Contras in Nicaragua. The two policies-selling arms to Iran in apparent exchange for hostages and sending arms to Nicaragua-triggered multiple investigations.
- **1989:** US threatens to continue funding Contra War if FSLN re-elected.
- **1984-1990:** CIA and National Endowment for Democracy spend between \$43-45 million to support Nicaraguan opposition parties and influence the 1990 election. Nicaragua has a population of 3.5 million.
- **1990:** FSLN President Daniel Ortega loses re-election. Sandinista policies of free education and healthcare, equal rights for women, and agrarian reform, are reversed.
- **2006:** FSLN candidate Daniel Ortega re-elected President of Nicaragua.

# Panama

- **1968:** Panama National Guard, under Col. Omar Torrijos, overthrows ruling oligarchy. Torrijos moves toward independence from Washington. Under his leadership, 30% increase in public schools, infant mortality decreases, social security is extended, roads and electricity are brought to rural areas, labor unions grow.
- **1974:** Panama and Cuba re-establish diplomatic relations.
- **1976:** CIA Director George H.W. Bush meets with Manuel Noriega, a graduate of the School of the Americas and on US army payroll since 1955, and CIA payroll since 1959.
- **1977:** Carter Administration signs agreements to return Panama Canal Zone to Panama at midnight December 31, 1999.
- **1981:** Ronald Reagan becomes president, with his commitment not to "lose" the Canal. Six months later, Torrijos is killed in an airplane crash. CIA involvement suspected.
- **1983:** General Noriega takes over Panama's Defense Forces. Vice-President George H.W. Bush meets with Noriega seeking support for the "contras" in Nicaragua.
- **1985:** CIA Director complains to Noriega about trading with Cuba. Noriega learns of US plan to invade Nicaragua. Noriega later blames his failure to cooperate as reason for his 1988 indictment.
- **1987:** Noriega accused of electoral fraud and murder, anti-Noriega protests begin.
- **1988:** Noriega indicted for taking millions of dollars from Medellín drug cartel to protect cocaine smuggling and money laundering operations in Panama. Noriega demands withdrawal of the US Southern Command, from Panama. Reagan Administration imposes sanctions: eliminates trade preferences withholds Canal fees, freezes \$56 million in Panamanian funds in U.S. banks. Noriega puts down coup attempt. More than 2,000 additional US troops arrive in Panama. Reagan approves covert plan to overthrow Noriega but US Senate Intelligence Committee opposes it.
- **1989:** George H.W. Bush is President. US gives \$10 million to back Panamanian presidential candidate Guillermo Endara. After 2 more failed US-backed coup attempts, US Invades Panama with a massive air attack and ground assault, including almost 28,000 troops and more than 300 aircraft. Thousands of citizens are held in detention. Dead not counted, estimates range into the thousands. US officials install Endara as Panama's new president in secret ceremony on a US military base in the Canal Zone.
- **1990:** Noriega surrenders to US troops and is immediately flown to prison in US.
- **2010:** Noriega's US prison sentence ended in September 2007, pending the outcome of extradition requests by both Panama and France, he remains in prison.

# Puerto Rico

One of the last remaining colonies in the world, Puerto Rico has endured almost 60 years of US aerial target practice and war games, including dropping napalm and depleted uranium shells on the island of Vieques. The use of depleted uranium in Vieques is forbidden by federal and local laws, as well as Navy regulations. Vieques is home to 9,400 residents, and some bombs land in the civilian sector. In 1999, a civilian security guard was killed and four others wounded by a bomb that missed its mark by three miles.

- 13% of total land is occupied by US military.
- Nuclear weapons have been stationed in Puerto Rico (despite treaties which ban them in Latin America).
- The cancer rate in Vieques is 26% higher than the Puerto Rican average.
- The island's drinking water has been contaminated by the bombing activity.
- Puerto Rico was the staging ground for the invasion Guatemala (1954), the Dominican Republic (1965), Grenada (1983), Panama (1989), and preparations for wars in Iraq (early 1990s) and the former Yugoslavia (1999).
- Between the 1930s and 1970s, approximately 1/3 of Puerto Rico's female population of childbearing age had undergone sterilization, highest rate in world.
- 70% of population is on food stamps.
- Groups working for Puerto Rican independence have been targeted by the FBI's Counter-Intelligence (COINTELPRO) since the 1960s.