

THE BIGGEST MEDDLER

Based on statements from the CIA, the U.S. government and media have declared Russia guilty of hacking emails to influence the results of our recent presidential election. Whether true or not, nothing is more clearly exposed by the alleged Russian government hacking scandal than the hypocrisy and poverty of our own historical understanding and moral memory.

How is it a surprise to our leaders and the media that another country may have tried to interfere in our election? For over 60 years, the US government has been the greatest purveyor of overt and covert interference in the politics of nations around the world, and it is proud of its efforts—even though the outcomes have made life much harder for the ordinary people of these nations, not better.

Here are seven instances, among many, of US government interference into the political affairs of other countries. Each has been well documented and reported. None has been disproved or even substantially disputed by the US government on facts.

1. Italy: The CIA began meddling in Italian elections as far back as 1948. In 1970 the CIA arranged for the distribution of \$25 million dollars to “Christian Democrats and Neo-Fascists. The money transformed the political face of Italy...Giulio Andreotti won an election infused by CIA cash.”***

2. Iran: in 1953 the CIA financed and supported the coup against the nationalist democratically elected political leader Mohammad Mossadeqh, installing the pro-western Mohammad Reza Shah Pahlavi. In the Iranian Revolution of 1977-1979, Iranians overthrew the Shah. The US has been trying to replace the Iranian government with another pro-US leader ever since, utilizing sanctions, warfare, and fabrication.

3. Guatemala: In 1954 a coup d'état covert operation was carried out by the CIA that deposed the democratically elected Guatemalan President Jacobo Árbenz. It installed the military dictatorship of Carlos Castillo Armas, the first in a series of U.S.-backed dictators to rule Guatemala- brutally, including genocide against indigenous people.

4. Democratic Republic of Congo (aka Zaire 1971-1997): In 1960 the CIA arranged the assassination of Patrice Lumumba, the country's first democratically elected Premier following independence from Belgium, and installed the murderous dictator, Mobutu Sese Seko.

5. Cuba: The United States government's many attempts, since 1960, to assassinate Fidel Castro and overthrow the Cuban government need no detailed description.

6. Chile: Salvador Allende was democratically elected president in 1970. Authorized by President Richard Nixon, the CIA spent almost \$10 million dollars “sowing political and economic chaos in Chile.” *** Working with Colonel Manuel Contreras, head of Chile's intelligence service, they arranged the overthrow of Allende on September 11, 1973. The military dictatorship of General Augusto Pinochet took power the afternoon of the coup against Allende.

7. Ukraine: In 2014, a series of violent events involving protesters, riot police and unknown shooters in the capital, Kiev, led to the ousting of president Viktor Yanukovich, who had won the 2010 Ukrainian Presidential election. In a leaked phone conversation with the US Ambassador to Ukraine, Geoffrey Pyatt, US Assistant Secretary of State Victoria Nuland said, “F*** the EU” and “I think Yats is the guy.” After Nuland and European officials arranged to strip Yanukovich of the presidency, Nuland's “guy” Arseniy Yatsenyuk indeed became prime minister.

***statements in quotations come from Tim Weiner, *Legacy of Ashes: History of the CIA*, 2008

***This flyer is distributed on Sunday, January 8, 2017 at
the New Haven Sunday Vigil for peace and justice
(ongoing since 1999).***

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