

Shadow Hearing Presentation

“Silence is Betrayal”

Thank you for inviting me to participate here today. I am Felix Sharpe Caballero, I hail from the great state of Michigan, where I live in the all-important 7th Congressional District. With my parents, Luis and Orlaida Sharpe, I migrated to the United States, we in 1966, and my father, before us in 1964, there were no Afro Cubans leaving Cuba then, not a single one. When I was born in Cuba, I could not attend school, my parents could not own property, nor could we access healthcare. You see, Cuba prior to 1959 was an apartied state, supported by the United States of America . The Sharpe family were able to leave Cuba during those trying times, thanks to the United States Navy, at Guantanamo Bay, where my father, uncles and aunts were civilian employees on base. Within Cuban Society in Caimanera, Cuba they could only shine shoes, or serve as house maids. My Uncle Harry went onto manage the Officer's Mess Club (CPO) at Guantanamo Bay for 34 years. I once visited GITMO at the invitation of Base Commander for Cuban/American Friendship Day. We are one of the first, and Largest Afro Cuban Families to immigrate to the United States, because the Cuban Apartied State run by Batista and supported by the United States simply did allow it, or made it very difficult.

My family is large on the Island too, and though I grew up in Detroit, they remain very near and dear to me. Prior to the

current travel difficulties, I traveled to the Island 3-4 times a month. Soon I will return for the first time in two (2) years to deliver original I 130 Immigration forms.

Frederick Douglas noted that the limits of a people's submission measure the injustice imposed upon them"...70 years has fraught an injustice on the Cuban People the World has ever seen...

The injustices perpetrated, **TODAY**, on the Cuban People has reached the point ? of **GENOCIDE**. We are using Hunger, lack of medicine, electricity to cook and draw water, food and basic hygiene Products like sanitary napkins for women young and old, and the lack there off, on the Cuban People to achieve the economic overthrow of the Cuban Government. There 7000 containers of all of these items, detained and prevented from being delivered to a starving struggling Cuban Society.

The United States of America has been fighting a proxy war, on behalf of the Cuban American Aristocracy for 70 years, that the majority of my fellow Americans do not agree with. Those policies and practices, are being implemented with greater efficiency, and more death than ever.

In Banes, Cuba my nephew wrote several months ago, "Uncle I don't know if I want to live or die, we barely have food or water. (No tenemos agua ni comida. Just yesterday he wrote to say, "Tio each day things get worse,(cada dia es peor) we are are

literally starving to death, we are without water, food and electricity, God Help us”.

Monday of this week, I had a conversation with my cousin Dr. Onassis Reyes Caballero, (recovering from Chicungunya)...based on what he seeing on a daily basis, the conversation was a difficult conversation. As a Director at the Instituto de Immunology in Havana. Suffice to say Because of scarcity of medication and adequate hospital equipment..a cancer diagnosis in Cuba today? is a slow and almost certain death sentence...though Cuba has developed miracles in medicine, including for cancer and Alzheimer's.

I spoke with Cousin Dr. Raul Calderine Sharp yesterday, he directs pre-natal care, and post birth treatment for infants who are born requiring additional medical attention...when the power fails and the ventilators down, medical staff know which babies are likely to struggle and prepare to coach and nature them through the outage.....but the babies, babies are dying, the babies are dying every day. This is brief window into healthcare...Cuban Society is being strategically dismantled to its core, “because the limits of their (70 year) submission has been endless”. Some are on record wanting to make certain that should another Barrack Obama, or Delia Ramirez comes along, and initiates a diplomatic process based on principal, respect and geographical cooperation, that it be impossible to recover the civilization one called the Republic of Cuba. That is the definition of Genocide.

Thank you for the opportunity to appear before you today, I could speak to detail and specifics of the day to day struggles in other areas of life, in Cuba. In the interest of time, I rest to allow the esteemed co-presenters to offer their valuable insight.

Thank you...(719) 4.5 minutes read

Notes-not for presentation

-The Cuban people have adjusted for 70 years and will do so again Secretary of State "Every time they create the a new mechanism in which they try out of the noose, we just close it off."

-S 136, HR 7521, H.J. RES

-Cost to Cuban American Families support to the island

-Blockade creates billions of dollars in revenue for South Florida business, beginning with \$20 billion set aside annually for USAID

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