

# افغانستان آزاد – آزاد افغانستان

AA-AA

چو کشور نباشد تن من مباد بدین بوم و بر زنده یک تن مباد  
همه سر به سر تن به کشتن دهیم از آن به که کشور به دشمن دهیم

[www.afgazad.com](http://www.afgazad.com)

[afgazad@gmail.com](mailto:afgazad@gmail.com)

European Languages

زبانهای اروپایی

By Carlos Alzugaray Treto  
07.10.2023

## Terrorism against Cuban diplomatic missions



**Sources:** Young Cuba

*The throwing of two Molotov cocktails at the Foreign Ministry building of the Cuban Embassy in Washington on September 24 reminded me of the numerous occasions when terrorism against our diplomats affected me personally in the 35 years I worked in the Foreign Service.*

It became normal for many of us, especially in the 1970s and 1980s. Threats, bomb throwing, friends killed and all this in conditions where sometimes our children were also in danger.

Era It is common to barrack us for weeks. Every exit to the street could become an ordeal. But I must say that I always saw the Cuban diplomats behave with integrity, ready to run all the risks necessary for work to be carried out which We considered it very important.

Maybe Some Cubans may be surprised to learn that one of the scientists who He worked hard to create the vaccines that helped us overcome COVID may not have been born or may have lost its mother when it was still a little girl. In a campaign of bombs mailed to Cuban embassies in 1975-76, one of the artifacts almost exploded when his mother, then secretary to a Cuban ambassador in a country of Latin America, opened a package that supposedly carried a book. By Luckily, only the fulminant exploded, but that was enough for it to burn. the whole face.

That is why I was so affected by an event that occurred on September 11, [a fateful date](#) for me due to the coup d'état in Chile in 1973 and the attacks on the Twin Towers in 2001, but from 1980. That day he was killed in New York Felix Garcia. Our link in the Ministry of Relations Foreign Affairs (MINREX) was more than that of colleagues, we were very close friends. Brothers. In 1970-1973 he was a regular visitor to the house he shared with my wife, María Teresa Rodríguez, on Calzada between E and F, about blocks of the named Ministry.

Felix Garcia assassinated on September 11, 1980. / Photo: Cubadebate

His mission in New York, which consisted mainly of dealing with the public relations of the Mission, coincided with mine at the head of the Consulate General of Cuba in Montreal, a city of mandatory transit for Cuban officials in the United States — both at the UN in New York and in the Interests Section in Washington. In those transits, Felix stayed in my apartment at 1212 Avenue des Pines. Many times we talked about the dangers he was running. I knew of his intense public activity in the Big Apple. But for Felix, working was a party — as Carlos Rafael Rodriguez said in his homily on the day of his burial — and he didn't care about the risks. [His murder](#) was not only terrorism, but a cowardly barbaric act against a decent and innocent person.

The The hand of Cuban-American terrorism, instigated since the decade of The 60s by the American intelligence agencies, had walked "loose and unvaccinated" long before. Although they had already been abandoned the practices present in the CIA's specific operations against Cuba as the Plan of Covert Actions to Overthrow the Regime of Castro in Cuba (Bay of Pigs or Playa Girón) or Mongoose, the Cuban-American terrorists, who had trained under These programs acted under the idea, prevailing even in sectors government of the north, that "against Cuba anything goes".

The The 1970s were particularly terrible. These murderers acted confident in their impunity and produced acts such as the attack terrorist against the Cubana flight in Barbados in 1976 or the bombs against the Embassy of Cuba in Portugal (that same year)

or the Consulate General in Montreal (1972), to mention only the most notorious that They caused numerous victims among innocent Cubans.

Was dozens of attacks, some failed, such as those against Cuban ambassadors: Emilio Aragonés in Buenos Aires in 1975, or Raúl Roa Kouri in New York in 1980, or inoperative as two new bombs against the Cuban Consulate in Montreal in 1980. However, in 1976 two officials of the Embassy in Buenos Aires were kidnapped, disappeared and killed in a terrorist action carried out in Collusion between Cuban-American terrorists and squads of the Death Argentines.

Raúl Roa Kouri / Photo: Ecured

The Cuban-American terrorists, based on their inexplicable impunity, encouraged by the passivity of the United States authorities in the face of their crimes, even led them to collaborate with agents of the Chilean DINA, a bestial instrument of Pinochet repression, in the shameless assassination of President Allende's former defense minister, Orlando Letelier, and his American assistant, Ronnie Moffitt. in the famous Sheridan Circle, near Embassy Row in the middle of the American capital, on September 21, 1976. It was Cuban-American terrorism in the service of Plan Condor.

No I was only close to many murders like these—for example, I met Letelier's widow at an act of solidarity with Chile in Montreal— but in 1977 the Canadian authorities warned me of suspicions. of assassination attempts against me and I had to stay several days under the personal protection of Royal Canadian Mounted Police officers (RCMP).

But What really scared me was that they threw a bomb at one of the the most vulnerable flanks of the Consulate, a garden the size of a Volleyball ground that was behind the building, located at 1415 of the Avenue des Pins, but about 4 or 5 meters below the level of the street. This courtyard was used as a playground for the 20-30 children of officials who attended an existing Cuban school inside of the premises.

That The arrest was justified: one day the guards of the Consulate gave me They warned that precisely in the back street they had parked two vehicles with New York plates, from which several were lowered people who undoubtedly looked like Cubans. Immediately Several officials armed with guns — which we purposely showed — We went out to the yard and managed to chase them away.

Effectively A few days later at night they dropped a bomb from a motorcycle that sped past the front. There was no mourn deaths or injuries, not just because staff had already withdrawn, but because the entire bottom of the Consulate and Office Nearby commercial had armored doors and windows and were 5 or 6 meters above street level.

Cuban Embassy in the United States / Photo: Minrex

In the 1970s, as part of an effort to create life-saving conditions for its officials in the most vulnerable diplomatic missions, a substantial financial effort had been made to make the buildings we occupied more secure.

In Montreal, after the 1972 terrorist attack that killed one of the Guards and several officials were injured, the government Cuban decided to install all the offices he had in that city (Consulate, Commercial Office, Livestock Plan, CUFLET, Ministry of Tourism, Ministry of Foreign Investment and Cooperation) in a Only building with the maximum possible security.

For This was bought a building on the slopes of Mont Royal in 1415 Avenue des Pins, one block from Montreal General Hospital and front by front of an Art Deco mansion that maintained the then Prime Minister Pierre Elliot Trudeau in his hometown. That place It was eventually sold due to the constant reduction of staff and the disappearance of the danger of further attacks. Today the Consulate is on a more modest property at 4542, Décarie Boulevard.

Understand Very well what it means for any diplomat to face the terrorist actions. I also understand that these do not happen in a empty.

In In its campaign against Cuba, the U.S. government has created the mentality that "against Cuban diplomats anything goes." And, to the At the same time, it has placed Cuba on the list of states promoting the terrorism, thereby providing an additional excuse to carry out Activities such as those of 11 September 1980 and 24 September of 2023. Such irresponsible behaviour must stop.

Rebelión has published this article with the permission of the author through a [Creative Commons license](#), respecting his freedom to publish it in other sources.

Rebellion 05.10.2023