

How The U.S. Undermined Democracy In Haiti

In the summer of 1990, as Haiti began preparation for the national

The democracy forces inside Haiti loudly protested Lafontant and Regala's return, and called on the U.S.-backed transitional government of President Ertha Pascal-Trouillot to execute arrest warrants for both men and arrange for their deportation. In the United States, I was among a handful of leaders to support that fall and to demand that the State Department pressure Pascal-Trouillot to act swiftly in the interests of justice, democracy and public safety. The Bush administration refused.

In spite of this outrageous lack of resolve by Democrats and Republicans alike, the Haitian democracy movement proceeded with plans for the elections, although the originally scheduled date of November 4, 1990 had to be postponed because of the deteriorating security situation inside

But he Macoutes continued to operate lawlessly inside the country, and competing political forces--some on the left, some aligned with the U.S. and Bazin and some connect to the revenge-seeking Duvalierists--joined forces at various points to undermine

Meanwhile, Bill Clinton campaigned for the U.S. presidency on the promise of recognizing the politi-

Why is the duly elected president of Haiti beginning his third year in exile? In larger part because the bipartisan U.S. policy of refusing to support the democratic forces at critical junctures gave the right wing the opening it needed to subvert the will of the people. No amount of crocodile tears shed by Bill Clinton, the U.S. Congress and both major political parties can cover that up.

The conference, entitled Black Colleges "Educate II Elevate", provides scholarship and admission information about historically black colleges and universities.

The Black Colleges Committee sponsors the event annually to encourage students of color to attend

For more information, please contact Don Foreman, Black Colleges Committee, 255-2226 or Lew Frederick, director, Dept. of Public information, 331-3304.

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