

*El Diario de Hoy*

Wednesday, February 11, 2009

## **“A Win of the Radical Left Will Affect Relations with the US”**

Theologian Antonio Bolainez, one of the ten spiritual advisors of US President Barack Obama, called upon the Evangelical Church to think carefully their vote “so as not to bring El Salvador to its destruction” with a radical leftist regime comparable to the Venezuelan Chavismo [a populist style of government akin to President Hugo Chavez of Venezuela] and to Iranian terrorism.

Bolainez, who is visiting El Salvador to give a series of lectures in Christian churches, warned that the election of a party that aspires to socialism and that is hostile towards the United States in this Central American country will lead to the cooling of relations between both countries, with the risk that the Salvadorans who live in the United States will lose immigration privileges and will affect trade agreements.

“The evangelical vote in El Salvador can be decisive,” he added, since a lot depends on them, whether they want the country to go “forward” or “go back.”

The Obama administration will respect the result of the elections in El Salvador, but inevitably it will affect the relations if the open anti-American left wins, since it publicly states that “it aspires to socialism” and to the “death of the empire,” reflected the Pentecostal minister, who is a vice president of the National Latino Coalition of Christian Ministers (Conlami), one of the most important coalitions of Hispanics in the US.

“My biggest concern at the moment, is not South America but Central America; first because the slightly moderate left that we are seeing in Costa Rica and in Honduras in the end could be tweaked; as well as an already pragmatic left in Nicaragua and the danger that El Salvador could follow in that line,” he reiterated.

He was emphatic in reiterating that the proximity between Central America and the United States is a motive for the region to be alert.

Currently, no less than 2.5 million Salvadoran reside on American soil, and a triumph for Mauricio Funes, the presidential candidate of the FMLN, a party allied with the Chavista plan, would bring “confrontations” with the Obama government and “in respect to immigration it could affect El Salvador” he added.

He emphasized that the former President George W. Bush and his successor have said that their whole priority will be the security of the United States.

Salvadoran residents in the United States are finding themselves as exposed to international terrorism as other US citizens and those connections can be brewed in Central America, stressed Bolainez.

## Rejection of Populism

Contrary to the image that he wanted to present at the beginning of an Obama favorable to a leftist, populist Latin America, Reverend Bolainez affirms that the new mandate maintains the national agenda and in no moment can the US bend over backwards to benefit regimes that put the security of the US in the same danger as with its relations with Islamic extremism.

The previous assertion complies to that “in the United States, the interests of the country are defended before the political ideology and never will it be heard said that ‘we are going to change the system,’” like the leaders of the Salvadoran Left announces, who reject dollarization and free trade.

According to intelligence information of the North American and Israeli governments, “there is (presently) sufficient evidence of pro-Islamic groups in Venezuela, above all in the Amazon.

These facts “are convincing, the people converted to Islam, but not to a moderate Islam but a radical Islam that is already in Venezuela, in Bolivia, it is probably in Ecuador and suspected in Nicaragua.”

This last statement supports the “enormous affiliation” that exists between the Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega and President Chavez. In addition, there is already an Iranian embassy in Managua, “with all of its forces.” He observed.

“This anti-Semitic, anti-Israeli spirit is convincing proof that radical Islam is surrounding Latin America,” he emphasized.

That is worrisome “because those taking in these radical groups is the left, which in some moments appears to be a moderate left, in Latin America, but in reality it is not moderate,” condemned Bolainez.

The moderate left is the European countries or Chile, which “is totally and openly against any tie with terrorist movements,” he explained.

In this sense, he urged keep an eye on the South American left, above all Chavez, “because he tells you that he is moderate, but his spirit is completely contrary to what he says.”

Bolainez, of Nicaraguan origin, remembers what happened in Nicaragua, first in the 80s and now at present, when it is the poorest country in the region and of the lowest development because it believed in the promises of “change” of the Sandinistas.

However, in contrast to what the Bush Administration did, stopping the populists movements form growing and later hoping they disappear on their own, Obama “will not make the same mistake” and neither will he tolerate the establishment of terrorism in the region or the endangerment of US citizens’ lives.

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