

Trump Hits the Fan

10-02-2020

Fresh off a debate with his fellow right-winger of the other party in which the self described genius called on the Proud Boys – a band of American home-grown fascists, to 'stand by' (and then claimed to have no idea who they were) – the President of the United States became ill and is now hospitalized at Walter Reed with the coronavirus.

At first the investor class was worried fearing that the most powerful person in the country who actually believes that booming markets are proof of a thriving economy may be lost to them. But coming to the rescue, Nancy Pelosi, the most powerful elected official of the other party, declared that now with this weight (Trump *is* quite a tub of lard) added to the nation's troubles, her \$2.2 trillion additional gift to the capitalist elite which was considered too much by the ostensibly fiscally conservative Republicans, might be acceptable now that the feared near future is upon us.

One may assume that only law-abiding firms would be eligible for the taxpayer's free money, and they would be wrong. More than 43,000 regulatory violators received \$57 billion in grants and \$91 billion in loans (some forgivable) from the CARES Act according to an [investigation](#). Big daddy capitalist state is very forgiving of its enterprising miscreants. The latter did suffer the indignity of having to shell out \$13 billion for their offenses, but receiving more than ten times that sum to ease their troubles will certainly return the state and private capitalist fraternity to that spirit of cooperation one can expect from a den of thieves.

Guatemala

The brutal regime of comprador capitalists that run Guatemala are far from being humanists when it comes to the treatment of their own people, but there are still times when they are punished by their foreign overlords for not being brutal enough.

Nevada-based mining company Kappes, Cassiday and Associates organized a gold mining enterprise near Guatemala City eight years ago. As reported here the people of La Puya rose up against the theft of their water supply for the purposes of foreign mining projects, but eventually the forces of the foreign supplied and trained Guatemalan state squelched the popular rebellion enough for KCA to conduct their

mining operations. Opponents then brought their complaint to the courts and received a judgment that KCA had not complied with indigenous rights laws and ordered a cessation of mining operations.

From this comes an amazingly cheeky \$400 million lawsuit against the government of Guatemala by KCA before the World Bank's International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes on the basis that Guatemala did not abide by their sub rosa understanding to oppress the people of La Puya to the extent necessary for them to continue ripping up of their land and destroying their water supply so that they may enrich ourselves by stealing their gold.

The Guatemalan comprador elite placed its assets on sale when it signed the US trade deal with Central American states in 2005 and now they find themselves on the receiving end of legal demands for millions because the people of Guatemala don't feel they are obliged surrender what is theirs to foreign exploiters. Just what sellouts deserve.

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