

## New York Times investigation: “State-sponsored drug trafficking in Honduras”

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The military, economic and political elites that planned and carried out the 2009 U.S. and Canadian-backed military coup, with whom the U.S. and Canadian governments and businesses happily do business, are involved in State-sponsored drug trafficking. In the photos, former Canadian PM Harper, former US Secretary of State Clinton, shake hands with post-military coup leader Porfirio “Pepe” Lobo, directly implicated in drug trafficking, as are other members of his family.

In November, President Juan Orlando Hernandez – directly implicated in drug trafficking and corruption; leader of the corrupt, repressive regime in power; ally of the U.S. and Canadian governments and businesses – will run illegally for re-election. Given the now endemic repression and corruption in Honduras, it is depressingly likely Hernandez will be “re-elected” in the corrupt electoral process and will be legitimized by the U.S. and Canadian governments and businesses - Honduras’ repression, corruption and exploitation will continue unabated.

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### **While trafficking cocaine in Honduras, he caused the murders of 78 people. Then he made a deal with the U.S. for leniency**

By Joseph Goldstein and Benjamin Weiser, New York Times, October 7, 2017

[https://www.nytimes.com/2017/10/06/world/americas/after-78-killings-a-honduran-drug-lord-rivera-partners-with-us.html?emc=edit\\_ta\\_20171007&nl=top-stories&nid=69604897&ref=cta](https://www.nytimes.com/2017/10/06/world/americas/after-78-killings-a-honduran-drug-lord-rivera-partners-with-us.html?emc=edit_ta_20171007&nl=top-stories&nid=69604897&ref=cta)

The dead included people he described as killers, rapists and gang members. Then there were the innocents: a lawyer, two journalists, a Honduran refugee in Canada, an official who was serving as Honduras’s antidrug czar and a politician who became his adviser; there were even two children caught in a shootout.

In all, the drug lord, Devis Leonel Rivera Maradiaga, said that, working in concert with drug traffickers and others, he had “caused” the deaths of 78 people — a number that posed a dilemma for United States officials when Mr. Rivera came to them offering to expose high-level corruption in this Central American nation of some nine million people.

Read More: [https://www.nytimes.com/2017/10/06/world/americas/after-78-killings-a-honduran-drug-lord-rivera-partners-with-us.html?emc=edit\\_ta\\_20171007&nl=top-stories&nid=69604897&ref=cta](https://www.nytimes.com/2017/10/06/world/americas/after-78-killings-a-honduran-drug-lord-rivera-partners-with-us.html?emc=edit_ta_20171007&nl=top-stories&nid=69604897&ref=cta)

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