



F O C U S

FRIENDS OF CUBA SOCIETY

Message of support from Friends of Cuba Society (FOCUS-SA) on the release of Fernando Gonzalez Llort from USA Prison.

We welcome the release of Fernando González Llort on the 27 February 2014, one of the Five Cuban heroes unjustly condemned to long prison terms in the United States for defending their homeland. Fernando was released from the Safford Federal Correctional Institute in Arizona, having completed his full sentence.

Comrade Fernando was a part of the Cuban contingent in Angola that contributed towards the Freedom of South Africa. From 1987 to 1989 he participated as an internationalist combatant in the war of liberation in Angola and against apartheid.

On September 12, 1998 Fernando was arrested. He was held in preventative custody for thirty-three months before the sentence was passed and was isolated in special cell, known as “the hole”, designed for prisoners with serious disciplinary problems for almost 17 months prior to the trial and for 48 days after the verdict was passed. In February 2003 he was once again held in solitary confinement for almost a month without any reason being given.

We therefore call on the government of Obama to release the remaining three Cuban prisoners.

We will take active steps to ensure that the South African Government passes this message to the Obama

Administration. The release of the Two Cubans is the culmination of a long International struggle for the release of the Cuban Five. Through FOCUS we have kept the name of the FIVE alive in the National and International public. They have never been forgotten. The release of Fernando González Llort happens in the context of the 20 year post-apartheid bilateral relations with Cuba, Government to Government and people to people. We thank the South African government for their role on being in the forefront of the campaign for the FIVE.

Glory to the five Cuban Patriots and their family members!

Released by:

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