

# Because of the current impeachment of President Trump

By Mike Gonzalez

The nauseating invasion of the Capitol on January 6, which we are again confronting because of the current impeachment, wasn't the only time the building was attacked in the past 100 years. There were three other acts aggression, all perpetrated by leftist activists.

Democratic presidents have commuted the sentences of most of the individuals arrested and charged in relation to these attacks.

The attacks, in order of succession, were the 1954 shooting of Members of the House of Representatives by terrorists supporting the cause of Puerto Rican separation from the United States, a 1971 bombing by the domestic terrorist group the Weather Underground and another 12 years later by a group of weathermen who identified themselves as the Armed Resistance Unit.

The 1954 shooting was in many ways the most dastardly. Three men and one woman, Rafael Cancel Miranda, Irvin Flores, Andres Figueroa Cordero and Lolita Lebron, entered the House's visitors' gallery, which hangs over the floor of the House, and proceeded to observe the Members debate migrant workers from Mexico.

At one point the four got up, Lebron shouted "*Viva Puerto Rico Libre*" (Long Live Free Puerto Rico), unfurled a Puerto Rican flag, all four took out semi-automatic pistols they had carried and ensued to spray with bullets the defenseless Members below.

The four, all in their 20s, did not manage to kill any of the Congressmen, but did wound five. All were quickly rounded up and arrested.

Twenty-three years later, President Carter commuted the sentence of Figueroa Cordero, who had cancer, and two years after that he also commuted the sentences of the other three. Figueroa Cordero died in 1979, but the other tree lived long lives of leftist activism. Cancel Miranda died last March, "a hero to many who favor independence for Puerto Rico," according to a fawning New York Times [obituary](#).

Carter's Secretary Of State Cyrus Vance [said](#) the release "would be a significant humanitarian gesture and would be viewed as such by much of the international community." Carter later [told](#) the Congressional Hispanic Caucus that he had released them for "humane reasons ... over 25 years was long enough!"

The four were unrepentant, however, and by all appearances ungrateful. "If it had been humanitarian, I would have been out a long time ago," Collazo [said](#). At least two of the terrorists said they would not rule out using violent means again, which was probably the reason Puerto Rico Governor Carlos Romero Barcelo sent Carter a "strong and forceful" letter against releasing unrepentant terrorists and warning dangerous repercussions—a letter Carter ignored.

For the record, Puerto Ricans can end any time they want the relationship they have had with the United States since the 1898 Spanish-American War. The island has held no fewer than four referendums on its status. In the last one in 2012, more than 61 percent voted to ask to become a state, and less than 5.5 percent voted for "independence." No arrests were made or charges were filed for the 1971 bombing of the Capitol by the Weather Underground. There were, therefore, no sentences to commute. The bombing did [cause](#) \$350,000 in damage.

According to the author Bryan Burrough, the man known as the "bomb guru" of the terrorist group, Ronald Fliegelman, said years later that he "believes" he may have built the device. The weathermen said they were protesting the invasion of Laos by U.S. supported South Vietnam.

The Weather Underground was formed in 1969 by a handful of wealthy or middle-class white students—including Bill Ayers, who after emerging from hiding transformed into a professor in Chicago and went on become Barack Obama's political mentor in that city. Coming out of the more peaceful Students for a Democratic Society, the so-called Weathermen were committed to spreading communist revolution through violent means, and was soon later identified as a domestic terrorist group by the FBI.

The weathermen were at it again a dozen years later, setting off [another bomb](#) that "tore through the second floor of the Capitol's north wing," according to the U.S. Senate history site. Moments earlier, a group calling itself the Armed Resistance Unit called in a warning to the Senate switchboard, but lives were spared only because debate had ceased earlier than expected.

This time there was \$1 million [in damage](#). The reason they gave was U.S. military involvement in Lebanon and Grenada.

In 1988, the FBI [arrested and charged](#) seven men and women for execution of the blast. They were Marilyn Jean Buck, Linda Evans, Susan Rosenberg, Timothy Blunk, Alan Berkman, Laura Whitehorn and Elizabeth Ann Duke. All were either members of the

Weather Underground or had some link to it. They were also closely associated with the May 19<sup>th</sup> Communist Organization.

Some of them pleaded deals and were eventually charged for other crimes, some others were paroled, and one of them, Duke, is still on the lam with a heavy FBI reward out for her. Two of them were serving long sentences in 2001, Linda Evans a 38-year sentence and Susan Rosenberg a 58-year one not for the Capitol bombing but for a New Jersey weapons case. Then, in his last day in office, in fact with only two hours left, Bill Clinton pardoned both.

Rosenberg, at least, has become pretty involved in current events. She is the vice chairman of the board of Thousand Currents, the deep-pocketed funder of hard left causes which until last July was the fiscal sponsor of the Black Lives Matter Global Network Foundation, the main BLM organization.

In a 1989 interview she did from prison, Rosenberg [said](#), “one of the things that’s clear is that the government is trying to get us to reassess, to apologize, to get us to say we won’t ever do anything again -and, for all of us, certainly for myself, I’m not going to say that to the greatest terrorist state in the world.”

Clemency has its place, in dire causes and where there has been repentance. Violence on all sides needs to be condemned, however—and vigorously prosecuted.