

U.S. FRIENDS OF SOVIET PEOPLE

BULLETIN

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Casa de las Americas Closes Its Doors

December 13 Event to Celebrate the 80th Anniversary of the "Hands Off Russia" Committees postponed until January 24, 1999 at Brecht Forum

The movement to end the blockade against Cuba and the Left Movement in general has lost a friend and a meeting place with the sudden closing of Casa de las Americas on W. 14th Street in Manhattan.

Opened in 1962 at the beginning of the "Hands Off Cuba" Movement, Casa quickly became a Center for progressive organizations ranging from opposition to U.S. Imperialism in the Congo and Viet Nam to demanding equal justice for racial and immigrant minorities in the United States.

Cuban political refugees who escaped from the murderous dictatorship of Fulgencio Batista and supporters of the July 26 Movement led by Fidel Castro and Che Guevara were among those who originally set up Casa as an oasis of "Free Cuba" in the United States. Like so many other organizations that represent the peoples movement, Casa fell victim to the greedy capitalist landlords who wanted Casa out so they could increase their rents tenfold.

USFSP is hopeful that friends and supporters of Peoples Cuba will be able to relocate as soon as possible to another site. In the meantime USFSP had to find other accommodations for the event which was to be held December 13 at the Casa to celebrate the 80th Anniversary of the "Hands Off Russia" Committees. The event will be take place on January 24, 1999 at the Brecht Forum.

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Organizing
Committee



Call

International Council for Friendship & Solidarity with Soviet People

The birth of the Soviet Union marked the first time that the working class on this planet was able to take power for a prolonged period of time. The most significant aspect of the birth of the Soviet Union was that it served as a beacon of hope to the workers and oppressed peoples throughout the world and was in reality a **model** for all of mankind to follow. Socialism was no longer just a theory studied by idealists in ivory towers, hoping to make the world better. Now socialism was a living, growing political, socio-economic system followed by millions in one country and a model followed closely by millions of others throughout the world.