Chapter 33

Latin America: Revolution and Reaction into the 21st Century
Figure 33.1
Soldiers under the command of Gen. Augusto Pinochet surround the Chilean Presidential Palace on September 11, 1973, and take cover while it is bombed in a coup against the elected President Salvador Allende. Allende apparently committed suicide rather than be taken prisoner. Once in control, Pinochet and the military remained in power rather than holding elections and returning control to the civilian legislature.
Chapter Overview

I. Latin America After World War II
II. Radical Options in the 1950s
III. The Search for Reform and the Military Option
IV. Societies in Search of Change
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<td>1942 Brazil joins Allies in World War II, sends troops to Europe</td>
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<td><strong>1944–1954</strong> Arevalo and Arbenz reforms in Guatemala</td>
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<td><strong>1947</strong> Juan Perón elected president of Argentina</td>
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<td><strong>1952–1964</strong> Bolivian revolution</td>
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<td><strong>1954</strong> Arbenz overthrown with help from United States</td>
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<td><strong>1959</strong> Castro leads revolution in Cuba</td>
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<td><strong>1961</strong> U.S.-backed invasion of Cuba is defeated</td>
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<td><strong>1964</strong> Military coup topples Brazilian government</td>
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<td><strong>1970–1973</strong> Salvador Allende’s socialist government in Chile; Allende overthrown and assassinated by the military in 1973</td>
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<td><strong>1979</strong> Sandinista revolution in Nicaragua</td>
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<td><strong>1982</strong> Argentina and Great Britain clash over Falkland Islands (Islas Malvinas)</td>
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<td><strong>1983</strong> United States invades Grenada</td>
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<td><strong>1989</strong> Sandinistas lose election in Nicaragua</td>
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<td><strong>1989</strong> United States invades Panama, deposes General Noriega</td>
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<td><strong>1994</strong> Brazil stabilizes economy with new currency: the <strong>real</strong></td>
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<td><strong>1994</strong> Zapatista uprising in Chiapas, Mexico</td>
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<td><strong>1996</strong> Return to civilian government in Guatemala</td>
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<td><strong>1998</strong> Colombian government initiates negotiations with FARC guerrillas but kidnappings and drug trade continue</td>
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<td><strong>1998</strong> Colonel Hugo Chávez elected president in Venezuela and new constitution approved in 1999</td>
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<td><strong>2000</strong> PRI loses presidency of Mexico; Vicente Fox elected</td>
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<td><strong>2001</strong> Economic collapse of Argentina</td>
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<td><strong>2002</strong> “Lula” and Workers’ party win Brazilian elections</td>
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<td><strong>2003</strong> Néstor Kirchner elected president of Argentina; one wing of the Peronist party returns to power</td>
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<td><strong>2005</strong> Lula’s government faces major corruption scandal</td>
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<td><strong>2005</strong> Hugo Chávez, using nationalist rhetoric, opposes U.S.-sponsored free trade policies</td>
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Figure 33.2 The populist politics of Juan Perón and his wife Evita brought new forces, especially urban workers, into Argentine politics. Their personal charisma attracted support from groups formerly excluded from politics but eventually led to opposition from the Argentine military and Perón's overthrow in 1955.
Latin America After World War II

• Mexico and the PRI
  – Party of the Institutionalized Republic (PRI)
    ▪ Economic growth paramount
  – Zapatistas
    ▪ Chiapas
  – NAFTA
  – 2000 national election
    ▪ PRI out
Figure 33.3

On July 2, 2000, joyful supporters of the new Mexican president, Vicente Fox, celebrated their victory in electing an opposition candidate for the first time in more than a century.
Radical Options in the 1950s

• Venezuela, Costa Rica
  – Reforms
  – Open elections

• Marxist options

• Bolivia
  – Mix of radicalism and reaction
On January 1, 1994, the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) went into effect. On that day, Zapatista rebels in Chiapas, Mexico, seized control of several towns, announcing their opposition to NAFTA, seizing weapons, and freeing prisoners from jail. Although its natural resources are great, the people of Chiapas are among the poorest in Mexico. Their declaration read, in part: “We have nothing to lose, absolutely nothing, no decent roof over our heads, no land, no work, poor health, no food, no education, no right to freely and democratically choose our leaders, no independence from foreign interests, and no justice for ourselves or our children. . . . We are the descendants of those who truly built this nation, we are the millions of dispossessed, and we call upon all of our brethren to join our crusade, the only option to avoid dying of starvation!” In this photo, Zapatista rebels exercise near one of their bases in April 1994.
Radical Options in the 1950s

• Guatemala: Reform and U.S. Intervention
  – Economic disparities
  – High mortality rate
  – Coffee, banana export
  – Labor coalition
    ▪ Juan José Arevalo elected, 1944
      • Begins land reform
Radical Options in the 1950s

- Guatemala: Reform and U.S. Intervention
  - Foreign interests
    - United Fruit Company
  - 1951 elections
    - Jacobo Arbenz elected
      - More radical land reform
      - U.S. steps in
      - Overthrown with CIA help
  - Reform ends
Visualizing the Past

Murals and Posters: Art and Revolution

Radical Options in the 1950s

• The Cuban Revolution: Socialism in the Caribbean
  – American influence following Spanish rule
  – Sugar export
  – Fulgencio Batista, 1934–1944
    ▪ Military reformer
  – 1940, new constitution
  – Fidel Castro
    ▪ 1953, attempted revolution
Radical Options in the 1950s

• The Cuban Revolution: Socialism in the Caribbean
  – Ernesto "Che" Guevara
    ▪ Helps Castro, 1956
    ▪ Student, labor support
    ▪ 1958, Batista out
  – 1961, breaks relations with Cuba
  – 1962, threat of nuclear war
  – Continuing Soviet aid
Figure 33.5 Fidel Castro and his "barbudos" (bearded) guerillas brought down the Batista government in January 1959 to the wild acclaim of many Cubans. Castro initiated sweeping reforms in Cuba that eventually led to the creation of a socialist regime and a sharp break with the United States.
The Search for Reform and the Military Option

• Continuity
  – Mexico, one-party system

• Venezuela, Chile
  – Christian Democratic

• Liberation Theology
The Search for Reform and the Military Option

• Out of the Barracks: Soldiers Take Power
  – Military intervenes in politics, 1960s
    ▪ Often U.S.-backed
  – Brazil
    ▪ Military takes over, 1964
  – Argentina
    ▪ Military coup, 1966
In September 1999, thousands of Brazilians attended a mass to celebrate the "Cry of the Excluded," a protest against the social and economic degradation of the nation's poor, who make up more than a third of the population.
The Search for Reform and the Military Option

• Out of the Barracks: Soldiers Take Power
  – Chile
    ▪ Salvador Allende, socialist
      • Overthrown by military, 1973
  – Uruguay, 1973
  – Peru, 1968
The Search for Reform and the Military Option

• Out of the Barracks: Soldiers Take Power
  – Conditions
    ▪ Workers hard-hit
    ▪ Continuing structural problems
    ▪ Repression, torture
The Search for Reform and the Military Option

- The New Democratic Trends
  - Cold war pressures eased in mid-80s
  - Argentina
    - Elections, 1983
  - Brazil
    - Presidential elections, 1989
  - Peru
    - Sendero Luminoso (Shining Path), 1990s
      - Leftist guerillas
The Search for Reform and the Military Option

• The New Democratic Trends
  – El Salvador, Nicaragua, Guatemala
    ▪ Sandinista party
    ▪ Truces between governments, rebels
  – Panama
    ▪ U.S. invades
Human Rights in the 20th Century

- Emphasized by Latin America, 1960's
- Concept traces to ancient Greece
- Universal Declaration of Human Rights
  - United Nations, 1948
  - Difficult to enforce
- Universality vs. relativism
- Influences in foreign policy
The Search for Reform and the Military Option

• The United States and Latin America: Continuing Presence
  – American investors
  – Intervention
    ▪ Pre-1933, 30 times
    ▪ Nicaragua
      • Augusto Sandino
    ▪ Banana republics
The Search for Reform and the Military Option

- The United States and Latin America: Continuing Presence
  - Good Neighbor Policy, 1933
    - Franklin D. Roosevelt
  - Cold War
    - New involvement
    - More indirect involvement
    - Alliance for Progress, 1961
The Search for Reform and the Military Option

- The United States and Latin America: Continuing Presence
  - Jimmy Carter
    - Civil liberties
  - Ronald Reagan, George Bush
    - More direct intervention
Moved by strategic, economic, and political considerations, the United States repeatedly intervened militarily in the Caribbean and also used its political influence to support regimes that assured “stability” and protected U.S. interests. After 1945 and especially after Castro’s alliance with the Soviet Union, cold war considerations also affected U.S. policy.
• Slow Change in Women's Roles
  – Right to vote
    ▪ Ecuador, 1929
    ▪ Some only in 1950s
    ▪ Did not guarantee ability to have specific issues heard
  – Significant progress by mid-80s
Figure 33.7

President Dilma Rouseff of Brazil visits China, emphasizing the growing economic power of Asian and Latin American economies. Rouseff, Brazil's first female president and the political successor of Lula's Worker's Party, symbolized to many an increasing influence of women in Latin American politics and Brazil's efforts to combine social programs with economic development. The increasing participation of women in the political process has been noted throughout the region.
Societies in Search of Change

• The Movement of People
  – Mortality down, fertility up
  – Urban growth
    ▪ Mexico City, São Paolo, 1999
      • 18 million
    ▪ Shantytowns
### TABLE 37–1 POPULATION OF CAPITAL CITIES AS A PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL POPULATION IN 10 LATIN AMERICAN NATIONS

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<td>Argentina</td>
<td>Buenos Aires</td>
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<td>20</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>32</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brazil</td>
<td>Rio de Janeiro</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>7</td>
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<td>3*</td>
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<td>Cuba</td>
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<td>Mexico</td>
<td>Mexico City</td>
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<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Panama</td>
<td>Panama City</td>
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<td>16</td>
<td>25</td>
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<td>12</td>
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<td>Peru</td>
<td>Lima</td>
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<td>5</td>
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<td>Uruguay</td>
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*No longer the capital city.

Societies in Search of Change

- Cultural Reflections of Despair and Hope
  - Popular culture
    - Strong blend
  - Jorge Luis Borges
  - Gabriel García Marquez