



US could **run** Venezuela, tap its oil for years, **Trump** says

● Plan involves selling Venezuelan oil globally

● US officials coordinating with interim authorities

AFP | Washington

The United States could run Venezuela and tap into its oil reserves for years, President Donald Trump said in an interview published yesterday, less than a week after toppling Nicolas Maduro.

"Only time will tell" how long Washington would demand direct oversight of the South American country, Trump told The New York Times.

But when asked whether that meant three months, six months or a year, he replied: "I would say much longer."

His assertion of US dominance over Venezuela comes despite its interim leader Delcy Rodriguez saying there is no foreign power governing Caracas.

"There is a stain on our relations such as had never occurred in our history," Rodriguez said of the US attack to depose her predecessor.



A sign that reads "Gringos go home" is pictured during a demonstration in Bogota, Colombia

US special forces snatched president Maduro and his wife Saturday in a lightning raid and whisked them to New York to face trial on drug and weapons charges, underscoring what Trump has called the "Donroe Doctrine" of US dominance over its backyard.

"We obviously have maximum leverage over the interim authorities in Venezuela right now"

following the capture operation, White House Press Secretary Karoline Leavitt said.

"We're continuing to be in close coordination with the interim authorities, and their decisions are going to continue to be dictated by the United States of America."

Trump has said the United States will "run" Venezuela, which has the world's largest

proven oil reserves.

"They're giving us everything that we feel is necessary," Trump told the Times.

But Washington has no boots on the ground, and appears to be relying on a naval blockade and the threat of further force to ensure Rodriguez's cooperation.

'Not just winging it'

Caracas announced on

Wednesday that at least 100 people had been killed in the US attack and a similar number wounded.

Among those hurt were Maduro and his wife Cilia Flores, Interior Minister Diosdado Cabello said, though the couple were seen walking unassisted during a New York court appearance earlier this week.

According to Havana, the death toll includes 32 members of the Cuban military. Maduro, like his firebrand predecessor Hugo Chavez, employed specialized Cuban soldiers as bodyguards.

Trump's administration has so far indicated it intends to stick with Rodriguez and sideline opposition figures, including Nobel Peace Prize winner Maria Corina Machado. But it has given few details about its plans.

Secretary of State Marco Rubio insisted on Wednesday, after meeting lawmakers on Capitol Hill critical of the post-Maduro planning, that the United States was "not just winging it".

But so far, the US plan relies heavily on what Trump said on Tuesday was an agreement for Venezuela to hand over between 30 million and 50 million barrels of oil to the United States for it to then sell.

Protesters, US law enforcement clash after immigration officer **kills** woman

AFP | Minneapolis

Protesters clashed with law enforcement officers in Minneapolis yesterday after the fatal shooting of a woman by an immigration agent triggered outrage fueled by the Trump administration's insistence she was guilty of "domestic terrorism."

Federal officers armed with pepperball guns and teargas jostled with a large crowd of protesters beside a government facility in Fort Snelling just outside Minneapolis, AFP photographer saw.

The noisy crowd chanted slogans attacking the Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agency as officers pushed against protesters, detaining several including one who struck an agent with a cardboard sign.

The victim of Wednesday's shooting, identified as 37-year-old Renee Nicole Good, was hit at point-blank range as she apparently tried to drive away from agents who were crowding around her car, which they said was blocking their way.

Footage of the incident shows a masked ICE agent attempt to open the woman's car door before another masked agent fired three times into the Honda SUV.



People take part in a protest against Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) in New York

The vehicle then hurtled out of control and smashed into stationary vehicles, as horrified onlookers hurled abuse at the federal officers.

Her bloodied body is then seen slumped in the crashed vehicle.

President Donald Trump and senior officials quickly claimed Good was trying to kill the agents,

an assertion Minneapolis Mayor Jacob Frey called "bullshit."

"I want to see nobody get shot. I want to see nobody screaming and trying to run over policemen either," Trump said in an interview with The New York Times. He earlier said that the shooting was self-defense.

The Department of Homeland

Security (DHS) chief Kristi Noem called the incident "domestic terrorism."

Immigrant deportations

Protests grew after Minnesota's Democratic Governor Tim Walz called it a "patriotic duty" to demonstrate over the killing.

"The desire to get out and pro-

test and speak up to this administration of how wrong this is, that is a patriotic duty at this point in time -- but it needs to be done safely," Walz said Wednesday.

ICE federal agents have been at the forefront of the Trump administration's immigrant deportation drive, despite the objections of some state officials.

DHS launched a recruitment campaign last summer to add 10,000 additional ICE agents to the existing 6,000-strong contingent.

That sparked criticism that new officers in the field were insufficiently trained.

Wednesday's incident came during protest action against immigration enforcement in the southern part of Minneapolis.

Witness Brandon Hewitt said he heard three shots.

"I got a bunch of video of them carrying the body to the ambulance," he told MS NOW.

Another witness interviewed by local station FOX9 described a grisly scene, saying "the surviving passenger got out of the car covered in blood."

He recounted seeing a man who identified himself as a doctor attempting to reach Good but being refused access by officers.



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TWEETS

01



I want every ICE officer to know that their president, vice president, and the entire administration stands behind them. To the radicals assaulting them, doxxing them, and threatening them: congratulations, we're going to work even harder to enforce the law.

@JDVance

02



EU-Jordan relations are strong and will only get stronger. Our strategic and comprehensive partnership is a key milestone. Now more than ever, we are working together as reliable and predictable partners

@eucopresident

03



At a time of growing geopolitical challenges, the EU and Jordan stand side by side. Because this is what friends do.

@vonderleyen

04



I won't apologise for lifting almost half a million children out of poverty. I won't apologise for putting money back in people's pockets. That's why we are scrapping the two-child limit.

@Keir_Starmer

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