

PTQ9647

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ACTION ARA-01

INFO	LOG-00	ACDA-10	ACDE-00	AID-00	AMAD-01	CIAE-00	OASY-00
	DODE-00	SRPP-00	DS-00	EB-00	H-01	TEDE-00	INR-00
	IO-00	JUSE-00	L-01	ADS-00	M-00	NSAE-00	NSCE-00
	OIC-02	OMB-01	OPIC-01	PA-00	PM-00	PRS-00	P-00
	CIO-00	SP-00	STR-00	TRSE-00	USIE-00	PMB-00	DSCC-00
	PRM-10	PRME-01	DRL-09	G-00	/038W		

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R 111934Z APR 97

FM AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4926

INFO CINCUSACOM NORFOLK VA//JJJ//

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANTO DOMINGO 001887

PASS DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

E.O. 12958: DECL: 03/10/2007

TAGS: PGOV, PHUM, KJUS, DR

SUBJECT: NARCISAZO CASE: AMBASSADOR'S CONVERSATION
WITH PRESIDENT FERNANDEZ

REF: SANTO DOMINGO 243

1. (U) CLASSIFIED BY: DONNA HRINAK, AMBASSADOR
REASON: 1.5 (D)

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2. (C) THE AMBASSADOR MET WITH PRESIDENT LEONEL

FERNANDEZ ON APRIL 10 AND DISCUSSED THE CASE OF NARCISO "NARCISAZO" GONZALEZ (REF). THE AMBASSADOR INFORMED THE PRESIDENT THAT THE JUDGE OF INSTRUCTION IN THE CASE, ALEXIS HENRIQUEZ NUNEZ, RECENTLY APPROACHED A VISITING FBI OFFICIAL ABOUT TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE WITH THE CASE (SPECIFICALLY A POLYGRAPH OPERATOR). THE JUDGE ALSO EXPRESSED CONCERN FOR HIS PERSONAL SECURITY IF HE CONTINUES HIS INVESTIGATION. THE AMBASSADOR TOLD FERNANDEZ THAT HENRIQUEZ ASKED ATTORNEY GENERAL RODRIGUEZ DEL ORBE FOR PHYSICAL PROTECTION AND A COMMITMENT OF POLITICAL SUPPORT BECAUSE HIS INVESTIGATION COULD IMPLICATE HIGH OFFICIALS STILL IN THE GOVERNMENT. FYI: EVEN THOUGH THE FBI OFFICIAL PROMPTLY AGREED TO PROVIDE A POLYGRAPH, HENRIQUEZ DECIDED NOT TO ACCEPT THE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE UNTIL HE OBTAINS THE AFOREMENTIONED ASSURANCES FROM THE ATTORNEY GENERAL AND/OR THE PRESIDENT.

3. (C) THE PRESIDENT URGED, BY STATING HIS FIRM DETERMINATION THAT THE NARCISAZO CASE MUST BE THOROUGHLY PURSUED AND THE GUILTY IDENTIFIED AND PUNISHED, JUDGE HENRIQUEZ TO SHOW COURAGE, LIKE THE JUDGE OF INSTRUCTION IN ANOTHER HIGH-PROFILE CASE, THAT OF A BALAGUER GOVERNMENT CRITIC WHO WAS KILLED IN 1975, ORLANDO MARTINEZ. AT THE SAME TIME, FERNANDEZ STATED HIS COMMITMENT TO PROVIDE EVERYTHING JUDGE HENRIQUEZ NEEDS TO PROCEED WITH THE CASE AND ASKED IF FBI ASSISTANCE WITH THE INVESTIGATION WOULD, INDEED, BE POSSIBLE IF THE NATIONAL POLICE FORMALLY REQUEST SUPPORT. THE AMBASSADOR NOTED WE HAD OFFERED FBI HELP
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WITH THIS CASE TWICE IN THE PAST, THE FIRST TIME AFTER IT WAS REQUESTED BY THE NATIONAL POLICE. PRESIDENT FERNANDEZ SAID HE WOULD REVIEW WITH POLICE AND JUSTICE OFFICIALS THE POSSIBILITY OF RENEWING THE REQUEST.

4. (C) COMMENT: AS NOTED REFTTEL, POST IS WAITING FOR THE JUDGE TO RESUBMIT THE REQUEST FOR FBI TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE. IN RECENT WEEKS THE NARCISAZO CASE HAS FALLEN FROM THE HEADLINES AS ANOTHER JUDGE OF INSTRUCTION VIGOROUSLY PURSUES THE OLDER MARTINEZ CASE.

POST HAS NOT BEEN APPROACHED FOR ASSISTANCE IN THAT
CASE. RESOLUTION OF THE EITHER MATTER WOULD GO A LONG
WAY TO PROVE THE FERNANDEZ GOVERNMENT'S COMMITMENT TO
HUMAN RIGHTS AND RULE OF LAW AND WOULD GREATLY ENHANCE
THE PUBLIC IMAGE OF THE JUDICIARY. END COMMENT
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