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Panama: Police Set Up Surveillance Of Venezuelan Embassy

by Deborah Tyroler

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On May 30, Judicial Technical Police (PTJ) chief Leslie Loaiza told reporters that police have set up continual surveillance around the Venezuelan embassy in Panama City in an attempt to prevent Francisco Rodriguez from seeking diplomatic asylum from Caracas. Two weeks ago, arrest orders were issued accusing Rodriguez of permitting irregularities in the management of over \$800 million deposited at the then-Banco del Ejercito during his tenure as Controller General. Rodriguez served as controller general beginning in 1982. In September 1989, he was installed as provisional president of the nation, subsequent to the annulment of the May 1989 general elections. Rodriguez is considered to be a fugitive from justice and remains in hiding. In similar circumstances are businessperson and politician Tomas Gabriel Altamirano Duque, and secretary general of the Democratic Revolutionary Party (PRD), Darisnel Espino. (Basic data from Notimex, 05/30/90)

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