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Nicaragua: President Says Shooting Incident At Managua Restaurant Probably Not Assassination Attempt

by Deborah Tyroler

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In an April 27 communique, Interior Minister Carlos Hurtado said that two unidentified assailants opened fire on the Cabana restaurant in Managua, causing minor injuries to two persons. Among those present was President Violeta Barrios de Chamorro who was attending a wedding reception. The president told reporters that it was "illogical" to assume that the incident constituted an attempt against her life. On April 30, Interior Ministry spokesperson Frank Cesar told reporters that former contra Carlos Garcia ("Chino 85") had been arrested on charges of assault related to the shooting at the restaurant. The spokesperson said witnesses described a vehicle used by the assailants which matched a vehicle driven by Garcia. In addition, police found an AK-47 rifle in the former contra's possession. [Basic data from Deutsche Press Agentur, Prensa Latina (Cuba) 04/27/91; AFP, 04/27/91, 04/30/91; Xinhua, 04/30/91]

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