

STATEMENT

Embassy of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela
In the United States of America

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The Embassy of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela in Washington, DC, would like to warn the international community with regards to the serious manipulation that a number of political sectors and news outlets have spread due to the report issued by INTERPOL on Thursday, May 15, 2008.

It is of public knowledge that the only aspect the report issued by the International Criminal Police INTERPOL acknowledges is that the alleged computers found by the Colombian Armed Forces had apparently not been altered.

A different matter is the alleged content of these computers. This supposed content, and without previous authorization from INTERPOL, has been manipulated, widespread and turned into propaganda by the Colombian government, as well as officials from the United States and Colombia, who have spread the most reckless and irresponsible accusations against the government of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela.

It is with utter concern that we question the intentions of these sectors that, without any substance, have become accessories in this evident campaign against the government of Venezuela. Do these sectors hope to end any possibility of a humanitarian agreement in Colombia? Are they hoping to internationalize the conflict in Colombia and spread it in order to destabilize Latin America? Or do they intend to use these alleged arguments in order to fulfill the old intention of including Venezuela on the list of countries that sponsor terrorism? Even more worrisome is how evident this campaign articulation is and which closely resembles the steps usually taken by the Bush administration in order to generate - even without any proofs - instability and wars in other countries.

Washington, DC, May 15, 2008