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PETER J. MESSITTE

Felipe Ortiz de Zevallos
Ambassador of Peru
Washington, D.C.

APR 7 2008

UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE
April 3, 2008

The Honorable Peter J. Messitte
The United States District Court
for the District of Maryland, Southern Division (Greenbelt)
6500 Cherrywood Lane Greenbelt, MD 20770

Dear Judge Messitte,

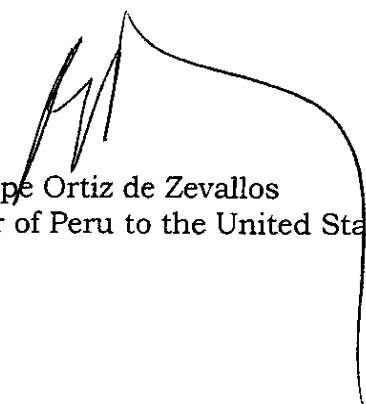
I have learned through different sources about the process against Mr. Juan Manuel Rivera Rondon at the Maryland District Court - Southern Division (CA N° 8:07-cv-01809), and his intentions of declaring that he participated in the massacre of civilians in the town of Accomarca, Ayacucho, in August of 1985, stating that he was acting in his official capacity on behalf of a foreign government as a member of the Peruvian Army. Therefore he claims that he is entitled to foreign sovereign immunity from suit as an agent or instrumentality of the Republic of Peru.

In this regard, I am taking the liberty of writing to you to express that on the date of this unfortunate event, President Alan Garcia Perez was just starting his first democratically elected term in office. He commenced his administration by reaffirming his unrestricted respect for civil liberties and the human rights of Peruvian citizens and the strengthening of democratic institutions in the country. Therefore, it is an untruthful statement that the actions of Mr. Rivera Rondon were the result of directives or regulations coming from the Government.

This is confirmed by the fact that up to date the decision to extradite Mr. Rivera Rondon back to Peru is still pending. The Peruvian justice system wants him to respond for the crimes he is accused of amidst the rule of law of a democratic government, as that of President Alan Garcia Perez, in which the access to a fair and transparent process, as well as the separation and independence of branches of government, are completely guaranteed.

I am aware that this communication does not constitute the usual procedure to convey to you these remarks; however, the legal deadlines and the closeness of oncoming hearings advised me to write this letter.

Sincerely yours,


Felipe Ortiz de Zevallos
Ambassador of Peru to the United States