

*Cuban Foreign Ministry
denounces media and political
manipulation on Venezuela and
slander campaign against Cuba*

**STATEMENT BY THE MINISTRY
OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE
REPUBLIC OF CUBA**

MinRex

Havana, August 3 (RHC)-- The Declaration of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of July 31, 2024, denounced that the Venezuelan people face media and political manipulation along with imperialist harassment, external interference, and the opportunistic onslaught of the oligarchies and their representatives.

The Presidency of the Union of Cuban Journalists warned that same day in a statement that the campaign of harassment and communication manipulation against the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela had been unleashed once again.

It did not take long for a slander alluding to Cuba to be imposed as part of the media and political manipulation.

Based on a crude fabrication by *Diario de las Américas*, in line with its editorial stance on Cuba, an anonymous source was cited to maliciously transform the regular traffic of flights between Cuba and Venezuela into a supposed extraordinary movement of people and documentation, linked to the events that have been taking place in Venezuela since Sunday, July 28.

It was to be expected that other media outlets and accounts on digital platforms, which work in a coordinated manner in campaigns to discredit Cuban reality, would assume this slander as truth, without stopping to verify it.

The Authorities of the Cuban Institute of Civil Aeronautics have confirmed that between Sunday, July 28 and August 2, 2024, there have been no flights other than previously scheduled commercial flights.

The malicious idea that a flight was “rented to Turkish Airlines” to cover the Havana-Caracas route is a misrepresentation. The airline in question carries out four weekly operations. The route starts in Istanbul on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Saturdays, so no aircraft was rented especially for urgent traffic or to cover an urgent need as one of the main lines of the campaign of lies suggests.

The stop that this line makes in Caracas is to receive services from the police station, fuel and its own passengers. This week it operated in the Havana-Caracas sector as follows: on July 29, TK183 with aircraft B789 leaving Havana at 12:55 and arriving in Caracas at 16:10. On July 30, TK195 with aircraft B789 Havana-Caracas at the same time and on July 31, with flight TK183 and aircraft B789 with the same itinerary.

The airline CONVIASA covered its regular route Caracas-Havana-Managua-Havana-Caracas in its three weekly frequencies. This week, the flight operated on the Havana-Caracas sector as follows: On July 30, VCV3493, aircraft A342, departed Havana at 05:30 and arrived in Caracas at 08:30. On August 1, flight VCV3497, aircraft A342, departed Havana at 05:30 and arrived in Caracas at 08:30. On Friday, August 2, flight VCV3497, aircraft A342, departed Havana at 05:30 and arrived in Caracas at 08:30.

CONVIASA carries out a regular operation every two weeks on the Caracas-Havana-Moscow-Havana-Caracas route. This route begins in Caracas on Fridays. This week, on July 29, a VCV flight with the A346 aircraft operated in the Havana-Caracas sector, leaving Havana at 2:00 p.m. and arriving in Caracas at 5:00 p.m.

On August 1st, the regular Santiago de Cuba-Port of Spain route was operated, leaving at 2:00 p.m. and arriving in Port of Spain at 4:30 p.m., by Cubana de Aviación flight CUB314 with the TU-204 aircraft. This flight transported Cuban health workers according to the previously established schedule of relief and vacations.

One of the lies of this slander included the assumption that the aircraft transported personnel to guard and protect Venezuelan government leaders and specialized personnel to print new electoral records, and that it brought back to Cuba part of the medical personnel and other Cuban advisors to protect their lives for fear of the violence that had been generated.

It can be categorically stated that no Cuban personnel linked to security operations and protection of Venezuelan leaders traveled to Venezuela from Cuba, nor to carry out any work associated with the electoral process. In no case did Cuban collaborators working in Venezuela travel to Cuba due to security concerns; on the contrary, the normal and planned flow of movements of members of the Cuban cooperation in Venezuela was maintained.

These accusations about Cuba feed the campaign of alleged Cuban interference in Venezuela, when it is evident where the interference and siege of that country comes from.

(Taken from Cubaminrex)

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