

# *Venezuela issues arrest warrants for involvement in theft of its gold*



Caracas, July 3 (RHC)-- Venezuela has issued an arrest warrants for those involved in the plundering of Venezuelan gold deposited in the Bank of England, Tarek William Saab, the South American country's attorney general, reported Friday.

During a press conference in Caracas, William Saab informed about the issuance of orders of arrest and freezing of assets to the group of officials appointed by opposition leader Juan Guaidó, who have usurped functions in the Board of Directors of the Central Bank of Venezuela, for their alleged relation with the retention of the Venezuelan gold in the Bank of England and for the offer of the territory of the Esequibo claimed by Guyana.

The officials involved are: Ricardo Adolfo Villamil, Giacoma Cudish Cortesia, Manuel Rodríguez Armesta, Nelson Andrés Lugo and Carlos Andrés Suárez -- all members of the so-called ad hoc Board of Directors of the Central Bank of Venezuela, an illegal entity appointed by the coup plotter Guaidó.

The head of the Public Prosecutor's Office pointed out that the British court ignored the fact that none of the members of the administrative board, appointed by Guaidó, live in Venezuela, but rather in the United States and Colombia.

Also on trial are Jose Gregorio Hernandez, Irene de Lourdes Loreto and Geraldin Afiuni, members of the illegal Special Prosecutor's Office, a body that does not exist in Venezuelan law. This office authorized, outside of any legality, the participation of a U.S. law firm in this litigation, the prosecutor said. He has also said that all of them would be charged with the crimes of treason, usurpation of functions and association to commit crimes.

The MP's actions were taken the day after the UK High Court decided to hand over 31 tons of Venezuelan gold, valued at more than one billion dollars, to Guaidó and its fictitious officials, ignoring the legitimacy of Venezuela's constitutional president, Nicolás Maduro.

This decision prevents the withdrawal of the gold reserves that would be used to fight the coronavirus, which causes COVID-19 in the country, and was to be transferred to the United Nations Development Program (UNDP).

The prosecutor said that this is one more action among those carried out by the Government of the United States, presided over by Donald Trump, to plunder the resources of Venezuela.

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