

Venezuelan President Confirms Arrest of Opposition Mayor



Caracas, February 20 (RHC-Xinhua) -- Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro confirmed Thursday night that Caracas metropolitan mayor, Antonio Ledezma, had been arrested for his alleged involvement in a thwarted "coup attempt" and conspiracy against his government last week.

Maduro added that Ledezma was one of the promoters of the coup and has a "hide and seek attitude" by displaying himself as a democrat but "working behind curtains" to destabilize the country with violence.

According to Ledezma's wife, Mitzy Capriles, the opposition mayor was detained by officials from the National Intelligence Service (SEBIN) at his office.

Last week, senior government officials accused Ledezma and other opposition politicians of plotting a coup along with Air Force officials that included assassinating Maduro and attacks on other "strategic targets."

Maduro said last week that Ledezma, along with jailed opposition leader Leopoldo Lopez, and former opposition lawmaker Maria Corina Machado, signed a "transition document" that would have been published in a national newspaper as the initial sign of the coup.



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