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~~MEXICO~~

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~~PAN, PSUM DEMAND EXPULSION OF DEA, CIA, FBI~~

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[Article by Manuel Ponce]

[Excerpts] The PSUM [Unified Socialist Party of Mexico] and the PAN [National Action Party] have demanded the expulsion of DEA, FBI, and CIA agents, as well as other secret policemen operating in our country under diplomatic protection. In addition, they noted that the Mexican Government must explain the extent of the activities of diplomatic representatives accredited by the embassies and consulates in our country.

They noted that the case of DEA agent Victor Cortez demonstrates that a large number of police agencies and organizations are operating in our country protected by diplomatic immunity, and this violates the Mexican Constitution.

In view of this, they demanded that the Chamber of Deputies appoint a multiparty commission to investigate this situation to avoid further violation of our laws.

Gonzalo Altamirano Dimas, PAN deputy and spokesman, as well as Cuauhtemoc Sandoval, a member of the PSUM Central Committee and the party's International Department, said that worst of all the Mexican Government is aware of this situation, and nothing is being done to prevent it.

Interviewed by EL UNIVERSAL, they said this situation is inadmissible and above all that the pertinent authorities are not exercising any control over it.

They also noted that the response of the Mexican Foreign Secretariat to the protest note sent by the U.S. State Department is a tacit acknowledgement of the action of various police organizations in our country. [passage omitted]

Sandoval expressed the need for the Mexican Government to enforce what was stated by the Foreign Secretariat: That the embassies and consulates in Mexico abide by our laws, and the government prevent diplomatic representatives from carrying out secret police duties.

PAN Deputy Altamirano Dimas agreed with Sandoval and stressed that these agents' actions are illegal and demanded that the authorities put an end to this as soon as possible [passage omitted]

Altamirano Dimas said that the Mexican people must be informed about any secret agreements on police cooperation and added that the case of Victor Cortez as well as the murder of Enrique Camarena are clear proof that the Mexican Government exercises no control over the activities of these organizations.