

[REDACTED] (b)(3)

**From:** [REDACTED] (b)(3)

**Sent:** Tuesday, June 01, 2010 2:16 PM

**Subject:** FW: Highlights: Paraguay Press 1 Jun 10

**Categories:** Working

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**From:** [REDACTED] (b)(3)

**Sent:** Tuesday, June 01, 2010 2:07 PM

**Subject:** OSC: Highlights: Paraguay Press 1 Jun 10

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## Highlights: Paraguay Press 1 Jun 10

LAP20100601025001 *Paraguay – OSC Summary* in Spanish 01 Jun 10

(For assistance with multimedia elements, contact OSC at 1-800-205-8615 or [REDACTED])

The following is a selection of highlights from the Paraguayan press on 1 June:

**Government Condemns Israel's Attack on Gaza Aid Ship** -- Asuncion *Ultima Hora* reports that the Foreign Ministry yesterday issued a statement expressing indignation over the attack by Israeli soldiers on a ship in international waters carrying humanitarian aid to the Gaza Strip. It says that the Paraguayan Government expresses "the most energetic rejection to any type of aggression and condemns the use of force that violates the basic principles of international law. It also calls for peaceful and constructive dialogue to prevent the loss of human lives." It adds that the government "firmly supports the actions of the UN Secretary General to carry out a thorough investigation of what happened in order to prevent a new escalation of violence jeopardizing international peace and security." [Asuncion *Ultima Hora*.com in Spanish - Website of leading daily; Majority shareholder business and media entrepreneur A.J.Vierci; URL: <http://www.ultimahora.com/>]

**Lugo Expresses Support for Information Secretary** -- Asuncion *La Nacion* reports that President Fernando Lugo yesterday paid a visit to the Information and

Source Name  
Paraguay -- OSC Summary

Source Medium(s)  
Internet

Source City

Source Country  
Paraguay

Source Start Date  
6/1/2010

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6/1/2010

Source Language(s)  
Spanish

Product ID  
LAP20100601025001

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1

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Summary

Processing Indicator  
OSC Summary

Precedence  
Routine

Topic Country(s)  
Gaza Strip, Israel, Paraguay, United

Communication for Development Secretariat (Sicom) headed by Augusto Dos Santos, who has been accused of giving privileges to community radio stations that are considered illegal. "Excellent, very good work," Lugo said when observing the work being carried out by the Sicom employees. He also praised the innovations introduced in the government news agency *Ipparaguay*, which operates in the same facility. Dos Santos denied any responsibility in the request for funds to the Itaipu Binational Enterprise to help the community radio stations. He added that Sicom official Oscar Caceres is the one who contacted Itaipu to obtain the funds and that he expects the situation will be clarified after the investigation concludes. [Asuncion LA NACION Online in Spanish -- Website of daily owned by entrepreneur and Colorado Party member Osvaldo Dominguez Dibb; URL: <http://www.lanacion.com.py/>]

States
Topic Region(s) Middle East, Americas
Topic Subregion(s) Middle East, South Americas, North Americas
Event(s)
International Organization(s)
Topic(s) DOMESTIC POLITICAL, INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL, LEADER, MILITARY
Program Title(s)
Program Type(s)
Speaker(s)

**Secretary Says Lugo's Apology to Unace Leader Not Ruled Out --** *La Nacion* reports that Presidential General Secretary Miguel Lopez Perito yesterday said that President Fernando Lugo is scheduled this evening to go to the Unace (National Union of Ethical Citizens) headquarters to meet with leader Lino Oviedo to obtain his party's support for the government state reform project. He explained that in the past before holding talks, the Unace wanted Lugo to apologize to Oviedo for saying in September 2008 that Oviedo supported a coup against the government. Lopez added that now the Unace put no conditions for the meeting and therefore, an apology from Lugo cannot be ruled out.

**Lopez Confirms Minister's Removal Request Under Lugo's Consideration; Leftists Accuse US Ambassador --** Asuncion *ABC Color* reports that Presidential General Secretary Miguel Lopez Perito yesterday confirmed that the request by the Chamber of Deputies to the government to remove Defense Minister Luis Bareiro Spaini, after he was admonished by the chamber (for sending a protest letter to the US ambassador), is under President Fernando Lugo's consideration. Paraguayan Communist Party (PCP) leaders said that there is a destabilizing plan headed by deputies and senators "under the orientation guidelines of US Ambassador Liliana Ayalde in Asuncion." "It would be a serious mistake equivalent to Lugo's political suicide to fire the minister," the leaders said. [Asuncion *ABC Color Digital* in Spanish -- Website of leading daily, highly critical of ANR-Colorado Party, owned by entrepreneur Aldo Zuccolillo; URL: <http://www.abc.com.py/>]

*Vice President Franco and Senator Denis watch parade in Concepcion (Source: ABC Color)*

**Vice President Calls for Security in Concepcion Department --** *ABC Color* carries a report datelined Concepcion on the presence in this city of Vice President Federico Franco yesterday to participate in the city's anniversary celebrations. After meeting with Concepcion Department Governor Emilio Pavon of the PLRA (Authentic Radical Liberal Party), PLRA Senator Oscar Denis and local officials, Franco said that the security problem in this department has not been overcome and that the government must find a solution to this problem. He said that there are differences between the situations in Pedro Juan Caballero, Amambay Department, and Concepcion because Pedro Juan Caballero is affected by drug trafficking while Concepcion has to deal with the EPP (Paraguayan People's Army). Yesterday, Franco was also in Tarija, Bolivia, to participate in the installation of new Tarija Department Governor Mario Cocio, who is Franco's friend.

**Analyst Says Mistrust Ruined Joint Military-Police Operations --** *ABC Color* carries an article by political analyst Ivan Leguizamon stating that the recent joint military-police operations carried out during the 30-day state of exception measure in Concepcion Department to capture the EPP members was a failure because of the mistrust prevailing between the Armed Forces and the National Police. It says that there was no coordination between the two forces to search for the EPP and therefore,

each force went on its own because of the intolerance that prevails between the military and police forces.

**No Selection:** Ciudad del Este Vanguardia

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 19, 2010 11:35 AM  
**Subject:** FW: Highlights: Paraguay Press 18 Aug 10  
**Categories:** Working

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 18, 2010 4:34 PM  
**Subject:** OSC: Highlights: Paraguay Press 18 Aug 10

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## Highlights: Paraguay Press 18 Aug 10

LAP20100818025001 *Paraguay -- OSC Summary* in Spanish 18 Aug 10

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 [REDACTED]]

The following is a selection of highlights from the Paraguayan press on 18 August:

*Sheikh Al Thani and delegation arrive for visit (Source: ABC Color)*

**Qatar's Sheikh Al Thani Arrives for Visit** -- Asuncion *ABC Color* reports that Qatar's Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa Al Thani last night arrived with a large delegation on an official visit. He was welcome at the Silvio Pettrossi International Airport by Foreign Minister Hector Lacognata. This morning, President Fernando Lugo is scheduled to sign with Al Thani sign several investment agreements for oil prospecting and for the construction of a gas pipeline from Bolivia to the Chaco region. [Asuncion *ABC Color* Digital in Spanish -- Website of leading daily, highly critical of ANR-Colorado Party, owned by entrepreneur Aldo Zuccolillo; URL: <http://www.abc.com.py>]

**Presidency Issues Reports on Lugo's Health Condition** -- Asuncion *Ultima Hora* reports that the Presidency yesterday released a statement on the health condition of

Source Name  
 Paraguay -- OSC Summary  
 Source Medium(s)  
 Internet  
 Source City  
 Source Country  
 Paraguay  
 Source Start Date  
 8/18/2010  
 Source End Date  
 8/18/2010  
 Source Language(s)  
 Spanish

Product ID  
 LAP20100818025001  
 Version  
 1  
 Content Type  
 Summary  
 Processing Indicator  
 OSC Summary  
 Precedence  
 Routine  
 Topic Country(s)  
 Paraguay, Qatar, United States

cancer-stricken President Fernando Lugo. "On the sixth day after his first chemotherapy session, President Fernando Lugo is asymptomatic. He will carry out his government agenda with complete normality," the statement says. [Asuncion Ultima Hora.com in Spanish -- Website of leading daily; Majorly shareholder business and media entrepreneur A.J.Vierci; URL: <http://www.ultimahora.com/>] (OSC will provide a full translation of this item)

**Editorial Says Lugo's Speeches Becoming More Radical -- ABC Color** on 17 August carries an editorial stating that cancer-stricken President Fernando Lugo's health condition is extremely important for the nation because as president he is managing the country. It underscores that the government is managing Lugo's cancer problem with relative transparency taking into account that this complex situation could affect society as a whole. However, Lugo's latest speeches have become more radical giving the impression that he wants to insert Paraguay into the Bolivarian Marxist model, thus creating a scenario dominated by uncertainty, the editorial concludes.

**Secretary Admits Government's Interest in Buying Private Land -- Asuncion La Nacion** reports that in spite of the fact that Eugenio Alonso, president of the Indert (Rural and Land Development National Institute), asserted that the process for buying the land owned by Brazilian businessman Ulisses Rodrigues Teixeira is full of irregularities, President Fernando Lugo yesterday met with the bloc leaders of the Chamber of Deputies to ask them to consider buying the land for the agrarian reform program, Presidential General Secretary Miguel Lopez Perito revealed. Legislators and government officials decided to create a commission to study the agrarian reform program based on the purchase of land. [Asuncion LA NACION Online in Spanish -- Website of daily owned by entrepreneur and Colorado Party member Osvaldo Dominguez Dibb; URL: <http://www.lanacion.com.py/>]

**Deputies Summon Defense Minister To Appear Before Committee -- ABC Color** reports that the Defense Committee of the Chamber of Deputies summoned Defense Minister Luis Bareiro Spaini to appear this morning before the committee to explain the theft of several M-1 rifles from the Army Command Headquarters. Legislators want a first hand report on the incident before deciding what to do. The bloc leaders are not ruling out Bareiro's impeachment. It has not been confirmed if Bareiro will appear before the committee.

**Poll Reveals Government Gives More Benefits to Businessmen Than Peasants; Leftist Leader Reacts to Poll Results on US Influence -- La Nacion** reports that according to a poll conducted for this daily by the pollster Ali Sneed Consultants, 42% of the people involved in the poll said that businessmen and cattlemen receive more benefits than peasants from the Fernando Lugo administration. The poll also revealed that 38% of the people believe that the media does not support Lugo. The poll was conducted among 1,200 people, who are listed in the Electoral Registry. In reaction to the poll published by this daily yesterday that the US influence on Lugo continues, Anibal Carrillo Iramain, leader of the Popular Party for Justice and Equity, Tekojoja-PPT, said that there is a US influence because of the extensive US cooperation on defense and security. He added that for this reason, the US presence in Paraguay is more visible than the Paraguayan relations with Venezuela.

**No Selection: Ciudad del Este Vanguardia**

Topic Region(s)	Americas, Middle East
Topic Subregion(s)	South Americas, North Americas, Middle East
Event(s)	
International Organization(s)	
Topic(s)	DOMESTIC POLITICAL, HEALTH, INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL, LEADER
Program Title(s)	
Program Type(s)	
Speaker(s)	

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[Redacted]  
**From:** [Redacted]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 07, 2010 1:37 PM  
**To:** [Redacted]  
**Subject:** 2010 export boom stats

**Categories:** Working

**From:** [Redacted]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 07, 2010 2:45 PM  
**Subject:** FW: Highlights: Paraguay Press 7 Dec 10

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**From:** [Redacted]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 07, 2010 2:35 PM  
**Subject:** OSC: Highlights: Paraguay Press 7 Dec 10

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## Highlights: Paraguay Press 7 Dec 10

LAP20101207025001 *Paraguay -- OSC Summary* in Spanish 07 Dec 10

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 [Redacted]

The following is a selection of highlights from the Paraguayan press on 7 December:

**Lugo Stays at Presidential Residence** -- Asuncion *Ultima Hora* reports that after his last chemotherapy treatment at the Syrian-Lebanese Hospital in Sao Paulo, Brazil, cancer-stricken President Fernando Lugo today will do presidential office work at the Mburuvicha Roga Presidential Residence to prevent contact with people as his defenses will be low, Presidential Communication Secretary Augusto Dos Santos announced yesterday. [Asuncion *Ultima Hora*.com in Spanish -- Website of leading

Source Name
Paraguay -- OSC Summary
Source Medium(s)
Internet
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Paraguay
Source Start Date
12/7/2010
Source End Date
12/7/2010
Source Language(s)
Spanish

dally; Majority shareholder business and media entrepreneur A.J.Vierci; URL: <http://www.ullimahora.com/>]

**Paraguay Threatens Not To Attend Mercosur Summit** -- Asuncion *ABC Color* reports that President Fernando Lugo decided to give an ultimatum to Argentina to find a definitive solution to the Argentine maritime workers boycott against Paraguayan ships. This was today confirmed by Foreign Minister Hector Lacognata after summoning Argentine Ambassador Rafael Roma to discuss the maritime crisis that started more than one month ago. "If by this week the conflict does not have a definition favorable to Paraguayan interests, Paraguay will decide this weekend the convenience to attend the Mercosur Summit," Lacognata said. The Mercosur Summit is scheduled to be held on 15 December in Foz do Iguacu, Brazil. "There are no conditions to continue signing agreements if Article 1 (of the Mercosur Treaty) on the free circulation of goods is not obeyed," Lacognata added. [Asuncion ABC Color Digital in Spanish -- Website of leading daily, highly critical of ANR-Colorado Party, owned by entrepreneur Aldo Zuccolillo; URL: <http://www.abc.com.py/>]

**Maritime Union Rejects Argentine Union's Proposal To Bloc Paraguayan Trade in Mercosur** -- In a related article, *ABC Color* reports that the Paraguayan Maritime and Fluvial Workers Center, CAFyM, yesterday confirmed that the Argentine United Maritime Workers Union, SOMU, has proposed the blockade of all Paraguayan trade with the Mercosur countries. CAFyM President Guillermo Ehreke said that the SOMU made the proposal in an alleged solidarity with the recently created Paraguayan United Maritime Workers Union, Somupa, which has no members working in naval shipping companies.

*PLRA Senators Llano and Luis Alberto Wagner hold news conference after meeting with President Lugo (Source: ABC Color)*

**Lugo Decides To Freeze Appointment of New Attorney General** -- *ABC Color* reports that President Fernando Lugo yesterday decided to freeze the appointment of a new attorney general based on the selection of three candidates of the Colorado Party (National Republican Association-ANR), who were chosen by the Council of Magistrates. The council's selection took the government by surprise because early this year the government reached an agreement with the ANR to select three candidates of different political sectors, from which Lugo would have to select the one of his choice to become the new attorney general. Presidential Legal Adviser Emilio Camacho yesterday discussed this issue with President Fernando Lugo but he refrained from making any comments on the meeting. However, he told a radio station that the president has the power to choose or not to choose one of the candidates. He said that Lugo will take his time to assess the situation before making a decision on this issue. Senator Blas Llano, president of the government coalition Authentic Radical Liberal Party, PLRA, recommended Lugo to reject the three candidates because the selection does not go along with the principle of plurality, taking into account that five of the eight members of the Council of Magistrates belong to the ANR.

**Article Says ANR Tries To Take Control Over Judicial System** -- *ABC Color* carries an article explaining the problem created by the Council of Magistrates decision to select three candidates of the ANR, from which one has to be chosen by President Fernando Lugo, to replace Attorney General Ruben Candia Amarilla of the ANR, who concluded in term in office. It says that the ANR already has majority in the Supreme Court and in the Council of Magistrates but not in the Judicial Review Panel, which is headed by ANR member Enrique Bacchetta. It adds that the ANR is now trying to have one of its members appointed in the Superior Electoral Court (TSJE), which is headed by ANR member Juan Manuel Morales. The ANR already has Oscar Gonzalez Daher as Senate president and Victor Bogado as Chamber of Deputies president. Bacchetta said that if President Fernando Lugo decides to reject the three

Product ID	LAF20101207025001
Version	1
Content Type	Summary
Processing Indicator	OSC Summary
Precedence	Routine
Topic Country(s)	Argentina, Paraguay
Topic Region(s)	Americas
Topic Subregion(s)	South Americas
Event(s)	
International Organization(s)	Mercosur
Topic(s)	DOMESTIC ECONOMIC, DOMESTIC POLITICAL, INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL, LEADER

Program Title(s)
Program Type(s)
Speaker(s)



candidates, he is exposing himself to an impeachment in Congress. However, former Supreme Court Justice Jose Altamirano said that Lugo does not have the obligation to choose one of the three candidates and therefore, he could reject the council's selection.

**Electoral Court Justice Requests Finance Minister's Impeachment** -- *ABC Color* reports that TSJE President Juan Manuel Morales yesterday submitted a note to Senate President Oscar Gonzalez Daher, Chamber of Deputies President Victor Bogado, and President Fernando Lugo requesting the Impeachment of Finance Minister Dionisio Borda for malfeasance in office. It says that Borda's decision not to provide the TSJE with the funds approved by Congress has led the TSJE to stop the contract of 8,000 employees because it has no funds to pay their salaries.

**Senate Approves 'Inflated' 2011 Budget** -- Asuncion *La Nacion* reports that the Senate yesterday in a special session approved an "inflated" 2011 Fiscal Budget of 42.8 trillion guaraní (G), \$9 billion, which is 5% higher than the proposal initially submitted of G40.8 trillion or \$8.585 billion. The increase represents around 2% of the GDP, according to the Finance Ministry. The government could veto the approved budget but Finance Minister Dionisio Borda said that in the past the rejection has not given good results and therefore, the government is expected to promulgate the budget law. Borda said that there is no money to finance the budget and therefore, the Finance Ministry will become a sanctuary for money demands. (Asunción LA NACION Online in Spanish -- Website of daily owned by entrepreneur and Colorado Party member Osvaldo Dominguez Dibb; URL: <http://www.lanacion.com.py/>)

**Exports Increase Reported** -- *ABC Color* reports that Paraguayan exports from January to October of this year stood at \$1.064 billion, representing an increase of 54.6% as compared to 2009, the Industry and Commerce Ministry reported.

**Central Bank Reports Increase of Money Sent From Abroad** -- *ABC Color* reports that according to figures released by the Central Bank, BCP, the money sent by Paraguayan nationals working abroad up to the third quarter of this year stands at \$201 million, representing an increase of 35% as compared to the first nine months of 2009 which stood at \$149 million.

**No Selection:** Ciudad del Este Vanguardia

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From: [REDACTED]

Sent:

Thursday, December 23, 2010 2:25 PM

Subject:

FW: Highlights: Paraguay Press 23 Dec 10

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Working

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From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Thursday, December 23, 2010 2:54 PM

Subject: OSC: Highlights: Paraguay Press 23 Dec 10

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**Highlights: Paraguay Press 23 Dec 10**LAP20101223025001 *Paraguay -- OSC Summary* in Spanish 23 Dec 10

(For assistance with multimedia elements, contact OSC at 1-800-205-8615 or [REDACTED])

The following is a selection of highlights from the Paraguayan press on 23 December:

*Colonel Krauer explains how ammunition is made to President Lugo, Defense Minister Cecilio Perez, and Military Forces Commander General Melgarejo (Source: ABC Color)*

**Lugo Reveals Government's Interest in Buying Military Airplanes --** Asuncion ABC Color carries a report datelined Piribebuy on the visit President Fernando Lugo yesterday paid to this city to see the facilities of the Military Materiel Directorate, Dimabel, which only recently reactivated the ammunition factory. He told reporters that he is studying the possibility to purchase fighters but he underscored that his work style is to look at all options before making a decision. He made it clear that there is no possibility of conflict in the region but that the military must be trained and remain alert if needed. He revealed that the ammunition factory is back to work with an investment of around \$50 million after being idle for 10 years. Dimabel Director Colonel Carlos

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Paraguay -- OSC Summary
Source Medium(s)
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Paraguay
Source Start Date
12/23/2010
Source End Date
12/23/2010
Source Language(s)
Spanish

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LAP20101223025001
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1
Content Type
Summary
Processing Indicator
OSC Summary
Precedence
Routine

Krauer said that the reactivation of the ammunition factory will allow the government to save around 5,000 guaranis (G) (\$1.10) per round, taking into account that the cost per round abroad is G7,500 and the Dimabel cost is only G2,500. He added that the factory is working in three shifts producing 45,000 rounds of ammunition per shift, which is a large volume not only to supply the Armed Forces and the National Police but also to export. [Asuncion ABC Color Digital in Spanish -- Website of leading daily, highly critical of ANR-Colorado Party, owned by entrepreneur Aldo Zuccolillo; URL: <http://www.abc.com.py>]

**Lugo Refrains To Comment on Meeting With Peasant Leader Facing Arrest Warrant --** ABC Color carries another report datelined Piribebuy on President Fernando Lugo's visit to the Dimabel facilities and his refusal to answer the reporters questions on why he received at the Government House a peasant leader facing an arrest warrant, while the Productions Union Federation (UGP) is still waiting since September to be allowed to meet with the president to discuss important economic issues. Lugo refused to answer questions on why he received peasant leader Jose Rodriguez, who is wanted by justice for invading private property and carrying weapons, but avoiding recordings, he told a reporter that he has "shoulders to bear the criticisms." Vidal Achucarro, the presidential security chief, said that Rodriguez's arrest warrant did not appear in the computer when he entered the Government House at 0600 on 21 December. In this regard, Vice President Federico Franco termed Lugo's meeting with Rodriguez "terrible mistake."

**Franco Believes Peasants Want Private Land To Plant Marijuana --** In a related article, Asuncion *Ultima Hora* reports that yesterday after meeting with Congress Permanent Committee President Salustiano Salinas, Vice President Federico Franco said that the group of peasants headed by Jose Rodriguez want the government to purchase the land owned by Brazilian businessman Ulisses Rodrigues Telxelra to plant marijuana. "That is the way it is. It is clearer than water," Franco said about his belief that the Telxelra land will be used for planing marijuana. "I discussed this with the president and he knows my position perfectly well," Franco added. He also praised the work being done by Eugenio Alonso, director of the Rural and Land Development National Institute, Indert, whose removal the peasant leaders advocate. [Asuncion *Ultima Hora.com* in Spanish -- Website of leading daily; Majority shareholder business and media entrepreneur A.J.Vierci; URL: <http://www.ullimahora.com/>]

**WikiLeaks Reveals Lugo Asked US for Telephone Tapping Equipment --** ABC Color reports that WikiLeaks revealed that President Fernando Lugo asked the US Government for telephone tapping equipment to keep control over 90% of the cellular phones in the country, reportedly to combat the armed group EPP (Paraguayan People's Army). It says that the request was made in February of this year after the EPP released kidnapped cattleman Fidel Zavala.

**Franco Reportedly Receives Threat from EPP --** ABC Color reports that Vice President Federico Franco was warned that "he could be beaten up." The warning was received by Franco's security chief, police officer Lucas Vera, who is scheduled to testify this morning before Prosecutor Alejo Vera, who is in charge of the investigation to find out who is behind the threat. The EPP reportedly claimed responsibility for the threat.

*Communist Party leader Amado and Luis Casabianca hold news conference (Source: Ultima Hora)*

**Communist Party Withdraws Support for Lugo --** *Ultima Hora* reports that in a news conference held yesterday, Najeeb Amado, president of the Paraguayan Communist Party, PCP, announced that the PCP has withdrawn its support for President Fernando Lugo because his administration has deteriorated "putting aside ethical principles and

Topic Country(s)	Paraguay, United States
Topic Region(s)	Americas
Topic Subregion(s)	South Americas, North Americas
Event(s)	
International Organization(s)	
Topic(s)	DOMESTIC ECONOMIC, DOMESTIC POLITICAL, FOUO, INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL, LEADER, MILITARY
Program Title(s)	
Program Type(s)	
Speaker(s)	

making pacts with the fascist Oviedo group (National Union of Ethical Citizens-Uníace) and other rightist organizations," and not even taking care of the population problems. He also said that there a strong "offensive and interference by US imperialism in the Interior Ministry, the Attorney General's Office, the judicial system, and the Foreign Ministry, among other institutions, which have been openly intervened by the USAID through the US Embassy Threshold of the Millennium Program. The PCP is member of the leftist coalition Broad Front, FG, and it is believed that other FG members may also withdraw their support for Lugo.

**Central Bank Reports Economic Growth Increase --** Asuncion *La Nacion* reports that according to the Central Bank, BCP, the Paraguayan economy has grown 14.8% at the closure of the third quarter this year and that investments have grown 17% in this period. [Asuncion LA NACION Online in Spanish -- Website of daily owned by entrepreneur and Colorado Party member Osvaldo Dominguez Dibb; URL: <http://www.lanacion.com.py/>]

**No Selection:** Ciudad del Este Vanguardia

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 27, 2010 8:39 AM  
**Subject:** FW: Highlights: Paraguay Press 24-27 Dec 10  
**Categories:** Working

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 27, 2010 9:06 AM  
**Subject:** OSC: Highlights: Paraguay Press 24-27 Dec 10

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## Highlights: Paraguay Press 24-27 Dec 10

LAP20101227025001 *Paraguay -- OSC Summary* in Spanish 24 Dec 10 - 27 Dec 10

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The following is a selection of highlights from the Paraguayan press on 24-27 December:

**Lugo Delivers Christmas Message** -- Asuncion *La Nacion* on 25 December reports that President Fernando Lugo last night delivered a Christmas message to the nation basing its content on the value of life inspired on his recent experience fighting a lymphoma that was detected this year. He said that his administration is slow in producing benefits for the population but that it is moving ahead toward improving the people's standard of living. [Asuncion LA NACION Online in Spanish -- Website of daily owned by entrepreneur and Colorado Party member Osvaldo Dominguez Dibb; URL: <http://www.lanacion.com.py/>]

**Minister Denies Government Request for US Telephone Tapping Equipment** -- Asuncion *ABC Color* on 24 December reports that President Fernando Lugo yesterday summoned Interior Minister Rafael Filizzola for a meeting at the Government House to assess the WikiLeaks publication that in February of this year Lugo requested to the

<b>Source Name</b>	Paraguay -- OSC Summary
<b>Source Medium(s)</b>	Internet
<b>Source City</b>	
<b>Source Country</b>	Paraguay
<b>Source Start Date</b>	12/24/2010
<b>Source End Date</b>	12/27/2010
<b>Source Language(s)</b>	Spanish
<b>Product ID</b>	LAP20101227025001
<b>Version</b>	1
<b>Content Type</b>	Summary
<b>Processing Indicator</b>	OSC Summary
<b>Precedence</b>	Routine
<b>Topic Country(s)</b>	Holbyla, Colombia, Paraguay, United

US Government telephone tapping equipment reportedly to combat the Paraguayan People's Army, EPP, which has been responsible for several kidnappings and killings. After the meeting, Filizzola talked with the media denying the WikiLeaks reports, but he was not categorical about it. He refrained from confirming if the government has telephone tapping equipment, but he did say that the government actions are carried out with court orders in accordance with the law. "Our internal security policy is a sovereign policy. In this regard, we do not depend on any state, on any foreign government to establish and to develop our security policy. Of course, we do not need cooperation but it is always welcome. We do not need the cooperation of any foreign government to carry out our security programs," he added. He said that he will not respond to media reports on the WikiLeaks disclosures because there are official relations with foreign countries based on legality. [Asuncion ABC Color Digital in Spanish -- Website of leading daily, highly critical of ANR-Colorado Party, owned by entrepreneur Aldo Zuccolillo; URL: <http://www.abc.com.py>]

**Secretary Reveals Government Has Telephone Tapping Equipment** -- In a related article, *ABC Color* on 24 December reports that Presidential General Secretary Miguel Lopez Perito yesterday said that the Interior Ministry and the National Antinarcotics Secretariat, Senad, have telephone tapping equipment, which was bought by previous administrations. Telephone tapping is legally allowed but there are rules to abide by, Lopez said in reference to the WikiLeaks report that the Fernando Lugo administration asked the US Government for telephone tapping equipment. In this regard, Senator Lillan Samaniego, president of the Colorado Party (National Republican Association-ANR), yesterday confirmed that the government uses telephone tapping because she heard a recording of a conversation she held on her cell phone. She regretted that people's privacy is being violated on the government excuse to combat the EPP. Bishop Mario Melanio Medina of San Juan Bautista, Misiones Department, said that if the WikiLeaks report is true, it shows that the Paraguayan Government depends on another country and that it has no intelligence service or what it has is useless.

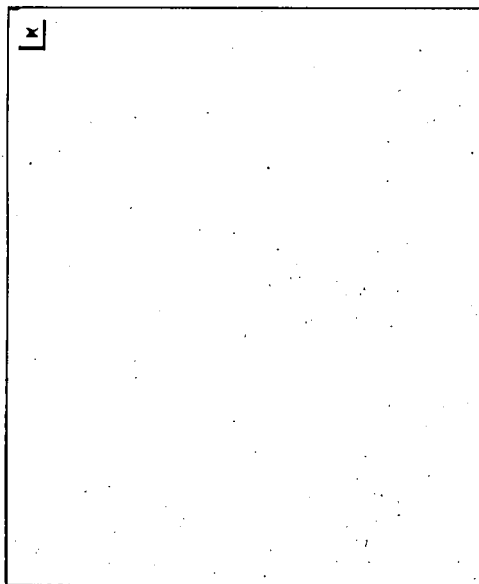
**Government House Security Chief Replaced** -- *ABC Color* on 26 December reports that Colonel Geronimo Benitez Ortega, the Government House security chief, was yesterday replaced by Colonel Cesar Fagundi Casas. Benitez was reportedly removed because he failed to stop peasant leader Jose Rodriguez of the Free Fatherland Party, PPL, who was facing an arrest warrant for land invasion, from entering the Government House on 21 December to meet with President Fernando Lugo. After the meeting, Rodriguez was arrested outside the Government House and then transferred to a prison in San Pedro. However, it was learned yesterday that Rodriguez was released on 24 December but there was no report on his release from the government.

**Prosecutor Investigates Threats Against Vice President** -- *ABC Color* on 25 December reports that Prosecutor Alejo Vera is investigating three threats against Vice President Federico Franco, which were received as text messages in Franco's cell phone and in the cell phone of his bodyguard Lucas Vera. Two police officers testified yesterday on this case because the cell phone number from which the threats were made belonged to one of the officers, who explained that his cousin was using that phone number. "We cannot rule out absolutely anything," Vera said about the EPP possible involvement in the threats.

**Franco Expresses Concern Over FARC, EPP Links** -- *La Nacion* on 25 December reports that Vice President Federico Franco yesterday said that there is reliable information that the EPP receives international cooperation from the FARC and that he is also concerned over the support given by Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez to the Colombian group. For this reason, he said, the possible admission of Venezuela headed by Chavez in the Mercosur is something to worry about. He added that when he became vice president, he realized that could be an ideal target for an attack. He made this comment in reference to the threats, reportedly from the EPP, he received. He also said that his telephone is permanently tapped and that he informed President Fernando Lugo and Council of Ministers about it and that nothing has been

States, Venezuela
Topic Region(s) Americas
Topic Subregion(s) South Americas, North Americas
Event(s)
International Organization(s)
Topic(s) DOMESTIC ECONOMIC, DOMESTIC POLITICAL, FOUO, INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL, LEADER
Program Title(s)
Program Type(s)
Speaker(s)
21

done to correct it.



*Former Tarija Governor Cossio when on hunger strike in Bolivia (Source: ABC Color)*

**Former Bolivian Governor Receives Temporary Residence; Bolivia To Request Extradition** -- *ABC Color* on 25 December reports that Mario Cossio, the former governor of Tarija, who is wanted by the Bolivian Government on several charges, the day before yesterday submitted a note to the National Commission for Refugees, Conare, requesting the status of political refugee. The Conare will call for an urgent meeting of its members to study the request but for the time being Cossio was given a temporary residence. Foreign Minister Hector Lacognata said that if Cossio asks for political asylum, the appropriate measures will be taken to study the request. *Asuncion Ultima Hora* on 26 December reports that Bolivian Prosecutor Gilbert Munoz, who is in charge of investigating the charges against Cossio, yesterday announced that the Bolivian Government will request Cossio's extradition.

**Cossio Accuses Bolivia's Morales of Political Persecution** -- In a related article, *ABC Color* on 26 December carries a lengthy interview with former Bolivian Tarija Governor Mario Cossio, who says that he was ousted by the dictatorship of Bolivian President Evo Morales because of his struggle for the autonomy of four departments. He says that some Latin American countries only have two options, either sustain democracy with all its imperfections or accept the dictatorship, with democratic face, being implemented by some presidents.

**Senator Terms Cossio's Persecution Example of Bolivian Antidemocratic Behavior** -- In another related article, *ABC Color* on 27 December reports that opposition Senator Orlando Fiorotto (National Republican Association-Colorado Party-ANR), member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, yesterday said that the "persecution of Mario Cossio confirms that (Bolivian President) Evo Morales follows the steps of his mentor Hugo Chavez and therefore, these dictators who come to power by lying to people must be repudiated," Fiorotto said.

**Leftist Party Says Grating Cossio Refugee Status To Affect Relations With Bolivia** -- In another related article, *ABC Color* on 27 December reports that Tekojoja (Popular Party for Justice and Equity-PPT) yesterday said that it is necessary to preserve the "cordial relations" with Bolivia and therefore, the Paraguayan Government must not grant former Bolivian Tarija Governor Mario Cossio the status of political refugee. "We cannot as a country practically become the trash of the Mercosur by granting the refugee status to people wanted by the law. This could affect

our good relations with Bolivia. If this man is wanted, Paraguay should then proceed with the extradition," Tekojoja Communications Secretary Marcos Ybanez said.

**Daily Says Bolivia Becomes Another Dictatorship** -- In another related article, *ABC Color* on 27 December carries an editorial saying that the unconstitutional removal of Tarija Governor Mario Cossio for political reasons by Bolivian President Evo Morales, under the excuse of an alleged "anti-economic behavior," and Cossio's decision to leave his country to preserve his security and to request the refugee status in Paraguay, is another proof that the Bolivian Government is decisively moving toward a despotic regime based on the persecution of its adversaries.

**Financial Sector's High Profits Revealed** -- *La Nacion* on 26 December carries an article by Alfredo Schramm stating that banks, financial institutions, and exchange houses are the ones that will get the greatest benefits from the country's 2010 economic boom with a growth of 14.5% by making profits of around \$260 million, which represent an increase of 17% in relation to 2009.

**No Selection:** Ciudad del Este Vanguardia

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 Categories: Working

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## Highlights: Paraguay Press 12 Jan 11

LAP20110112025001 *Paraguay -- OSC Summary* in Spanish 12 Jan 11

The following is a selection of highlights from the Paraguayan press on 12 January:

**Lugo Says Refugee Status Request by Former Bolivian Governor To Be Granted 'if Appropriate'** -- Asuncion *Ultima Hora* reports that in an exclusive interview with CNN yesterday, President Fernando Lugo said that the National Commission for Refugees, Conare, will thoroughly study the request for political asylum by former Bolivian Tarija Governor Mario Cossio and that "if appropriate" Paraguay will give him "the security he says he does not have in his own country." [Asuncion *Ultima Hora*.com In Spanish -- Website of leading daily; Majority shareholder business and media entrepreneur A.J.Vierci; URL: <http://www.ultimahora.com/>]

**Leftist Party Begins Move Against Minister** -- Asuncion *ABC Color* reports that the government's leftist sectors headed by Tekojoja (Popular Party for Justice and Equity-PPT) began a few days ago attacks against Public Works and Communications Minister Efraim Alegre (Authentic Radical Liberal Party-PLRA) in strong opposition to Alegre's plan to privatize the nation's airports. More than two weeks ago, Tekojoja leader Senator Sixto Pereira openly announced that he and his party will oppose the airport concession bill which has already been approved by the Senate and which is now to be debated in the Chamber of Deputies. Leftist organizations are scheduled to hold a debate on this issue tomorrow but their basic concern seems to be the potential

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Source End Date	1/12/2011
Source Language(s)	Spanish

Product ID	LAP20110112025001
Version	1
Content Type	Summary
Processing Indicator	OSC Summary
Precedence	Routine
Topic Country(s)	Bolivia, Paraguay

Alegre has to become presidential candidate due to his ability to run the ministry and the large budget the ministry manages. [Asuncion ABC Color Digital in Spanish -- Website of leading daily, highly critical of ANR-Colorado Party, owned by entrepreneur Aldo Zuccolillo; URL: <http://www.abc.com.py>]

**Dismissed Official Explains Reason for Removal** -- *ABC Color* reports that former priest Pablino Caceres, who was removed as head of the Social Action Secretariat, SAS, yesterday explained that the reason for his dismissal was probably because he was unable to give the SAS a political orientation. He said that he is not a politician and that he agreed with President Fernando Lugo to replace him with an individual with a different profile. He revealed that various political sectors tried to influence his decisions but that he never allowed it. He also said that the decision not to hire the daughter of Tekojoja Senator Sixto Pereira could have had an influence on his dismissal.

**New Official Talks About Wealth Redistribution** -- In a related article, *ABC Color* reports that new SAS Secretary Hugo Richer of the Popular Socialist Convergence Party, PCPS, who was sworn in yesterday, said that he will concentrate on the redistribution of wealth to combat poverty based on a state policy in agreement with the different sectors of society. He also said that he will seek congressional support for his projects to combat poverty. "If we do not reach consensus among all sectors, we will not reduce poverty in Paraguay," Richer said.

**Publication Accuses Lugo of Seeking To Consolidate Bolivarian Project** -- In another related article, *ABC Color* carries an editorial saying that President Fernando Lugo's decision to replace Pablino Caceres for radical leftist leader Hugo Richer as SAS secretary is one more proof that Lugo seeks to consolidate the Bolivarian project advocated by Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez. It says that Lugo, who only has over two years to conclude his administration, is rushing to make sure Paraguay will be a member of the Venezuela-Ecuador-Bolivia alliance.

**No Selection:** Asuncion La Nacion, Ciudad del Este Vanguardia

Topic Region(s)  
Americas  
Topic Subregion(s)  
South America  
Event(s)  
International Organization(s)  
Topic(s)  
DOMESTIC POLITICAL,  
INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL, LEADER

Program Title(s)  
Program Type(s)  
Speaker(s)

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From: [REDACTED]

Sent:

Thursday, January 13, 2011 2:28 PM

Subject:

FW: Highlights: Paraguay Press 13 Jan 11

Categories:

Working

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From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Thursday, January 13, 2011 10:13 AM

Subject: OSC: Highlights: Paraguay Press 13 Jan 11

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**Highlights: Paraguay Press 13 Jan 11**LAP20110113025001 *Paraguay -- OSC Summary* In Spanish 13 Jan 11

(For assistance with multimedia elements, contact OSC at 1-800-205-8615 or [REDACTED])

The following is a selection of highlights from the Paraguayan press on 13 January:

**Brazilian Foreign Minister To Pay Official Visit** -- Asuncion ABC Color reports that the Foreign Ministry yesterday announced that Brazilian Foreign Minister Antonio de Aguiar Patriota will pay an official visit on 17 January to discuss bilateral issues and to prepare the agenda for the upcoming visit of Brazilian President Dilma Roussef scheduled for March. [Asuncion ABC Color Digital in Spanish -- Website of leading daily, highly critical of ANR-Colorado Party, owned by entrepreneur Aldo Zuccolillo; URL: <http://www.abc.com.py>]

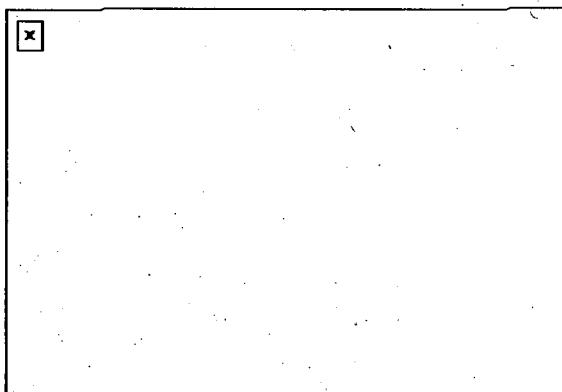
**Lugo Discusses Presidential Candidacies With Leftist Leaders** -- ABC Color reports that President Fernando Lugo yesterday met at the Mburuvicha Roga Presidential Residence for around three hours with leaders of the leftist Broad Front (FG), which comprises several leftist political parties and organizations, to discuss candidacies for the 2013 general elections, presidential and leftist sources revealed. The participants of the meeting avoided the media by leaving the residence through a

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Source Medium(s)
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1/13/2011
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1/13/2011
Source Language(s)
Spanish

Product ID
LAP20110113025001
Version
1
Content Type
Summary
Processing Indicator
OSC Summary
Precedence
Routine
Topic Country(s)
Bolivia, Brazil, Paraguay

side door and this daily tried to contact some of them to learn details about the meeting but they did not answer their phones. It was learned that another issue discussed was the airports concession project and that the government would be willing to revert its stance on this issue.

**Government Requests Information From Bolivia on Former Governor** -- Asuncion *La Nacion* reports that on the request of the Paraguayan Foreign Ministry, the Bolivian Supreme Court began requesting information from the different district courts if there are any charges for common crimes filed against former Bolivian Tarija Governor Mario Cossio, who is seeking political asylum in Paraguay. the Bolivian press revealed yesterday. [Asuncion LA NACION Online in Spanish -- Website of daily owned by entrepreneur and Colorado Party member Osvaldo Dominguez Dibb; URL: <http://www.lanacion.com.py/>]



Topic Region(s)	Americas
Topic Subregion(s)	South Americas
Event(s)	
International Organization(s)	
Topic(s)	DOMESTIC ECONOMIC, DOMESTIC POLITICAL, INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL, LEADER
Program Title(s)	
Program Type(s)	
Speaker(s)	

*Peasant leader Benitez talks with media (Source: La Nacion)*

**Leftists Demands for Changes In Public Institutions Revealed** -- Asuncion *La Nacion* reports that (San Pedro Department) peasant leader Elvio Benitez told this daily that the removal of Pablino Caceres as head of the Social Action Secretariat, SAS, was only the first of the four changes requested by the radical left to President Fernando Lugo on the basis that the social plan to help the poor was failing. He also confirmed that the leftist organizations asked Lugo for the heads of the Indert (Rural and Land Development National Institute), the Agriculture and Livestock Ministry, and the Indi (National Indigenous Institute). He added that if Lugo wants to continue with the process of change, he must have the "guts" to confront the situation. He admitted that the leftists' request was aimed at having the government change the way it manages public institutions. "We needed a more capable and dynamic executive branch that would be more in contact with the people and with the sectors interested in change, and this is what actually happened recently and the results of the talks are beginning to give results because so far we were completely failing in the areas of agrarian reform and getting people into settlements. In other words, the Lugo administration was failing," Benitez said. He called on Lugo to stand firm to continue leading the struggle against the obsolete sectors of Congress, which have become a superpower to neutralize the leftist ministers.

**Government Promulgates 2011 Budget Law** -- *La Nacion* reports that the government yesterday promulgated the 2011 National Budget Law of 42.8 trillion guaranis or \$9.304 billion. The government decided not to veto the budget bill approved by Congress because it would not be successful in doing it, Finance Minister Dionisio Borda said. The law shows a deficit of 0.8% or 2.7% of the GDP if compared to the real possibilities for tax collecting included in the original government bill.

**No Selection:** Asuncion Ultima Hora, Ciudad del Este Vanguardia

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 26, 2011 1:22 PM  
**Subject:** FW: Highlights: Paraguay Press 26 Jan 11  
**Categories:** Working

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 26, 2011 3:20 PM  
**Subject:** OSC: Highlights: Paraguay Press 26 Jan 11

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## Highlights: Paraguay Press 26 Jan 11

LAP20110126025001 *Paraguay -- OSC Summary* in Spanish 26 Jan 11

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 [REDACTED]

The following is a selection of highlights from the Paraguayan press on 26 January:

**Lugo To Start Second Stage of Cancer Treatment** -- Asuncion *Ultima Hora* reports that President Fernando Lugo, who is in Sao Paulo, Brazil, will start today the second stage of a medical treatment for the lymphoma affecting his health which, according to latest studies, is in remission. Today, Lugo will start a medical treatment that will last at least two years to strengthen his immunity system. The treatment consists of a single injection every two months of a medicine named "rituximab." This medicine prevents new lymphomas from developing in patients that already completed the chemotherapy treatment. [Asuncion *Ultima Hora*.com in Spanish -- Website of leading daily; Majority shareholder business and media entrepreneur A.J.Vierci; URL: <http://www.ultimahora.com/>]

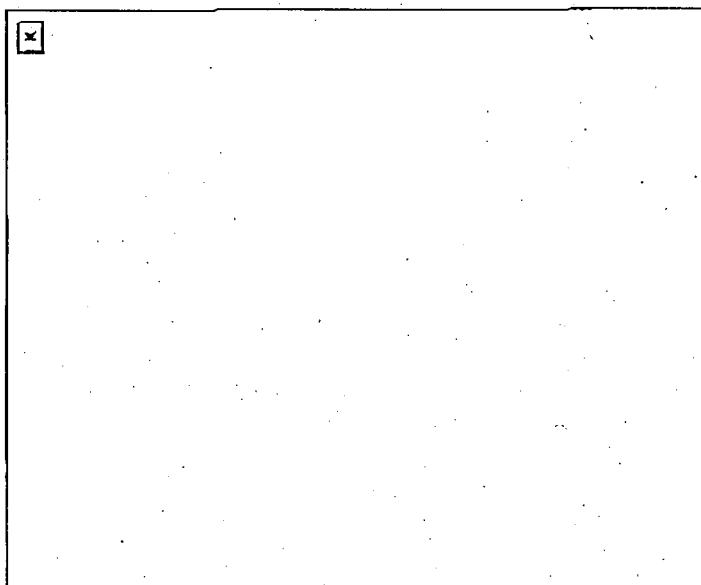
**Vice President Supports Colombia's Membership in Mercosur** -- Asuncion *ABC Color* reports that in reply to questions from the media, Acting President Federico

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Source Country	Paraguay
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Source End Date	1/26/2011
Source Language(s)	Spanish

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Product ID	LAP20110126025001
Version	1
Content Type	Summary
Processing Indicator	OSC Summary
Precedence	Routine

Franco yesterday said that it would be good to have Colombia in the Mercosur because it is a country with a well-established democracy. In this regard, Amanda Nunez (Authentic Radical Liberal Party-PLRA), member of the Mercosur Parliament, also said that she supports Colombian membership in the economic bloc and that the Mercosur should open its doors not only to all South American but to all Latin American countries. [Asuncion ABC Color Digital in Spanish -- Website of leading daily, highly critical of ANR-Colorado Party, owned by entrepreneur Aldo Zuccolillo; URL: <http://www.abc.com.py>]



Topic Country(s)	Brazil, Colombia, Paraguay
Topic Region(s)	Américas
Topic Subregion(s)	South Americas
Event(s)	
International Organization(s)	Mercosur
Topic(s)	DOMESTIC ECONOMIC, DOMESTIC POLITICAL, INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL, LEADER
Program Title(s)	
Program Type(s)	
Speaker(s)	

*Prosecutor Pecci checks out cut timber found in private land (Source: ABC Color)*

**Deforestation, Marijuana Plantations Found in San Pedro Department -- ABC Color** carries a report datelined Santa Rosa del Aguaray, San Pedro Department, stating that Environmental Prosecutor Marcelo Pecci yesterday revealed that the deforestation in the land owned by Ulisses Rodrigues Teixeira from July to December 2010 stands at around 400 hectares or two hectares per day. Pecci, a police unit, and representatives of the National Forestry Institute, Infona, and the Vegetable and Seeds Quality National Secretariat, Senave, yesterday inspected Teixeira's property, finding environmental regulation violations and large marijuana fields. The officials also found cut timber ready for sale. Jose Duarte, who is in charge of security in Teixeira's land, said that the peasants living in the property are the ones responsible for growing marijuana and that when his personnel get near the plantations, the peasants open fire with heavy weapons.

**San Pedro Governor Denies Proposing Removal of Agrarian Institute President -** Asuncion *La Nacion* reports that during a conversation with this daily yesterday, San Pedro Department Governor Jose "Pakova" Ledesma denied that he is the one promoting the removal of Eugenio Alonso as head of the Indert (Rural and Land Development National Institute), for being an obstacle to the purchase of the land owned by Brazilian businessman Ulisses Rodrigues Teixeira for the agrarian reform program. Ledesma made it clear that peasant organizations are the ones exerting pressure for Alonso's removal and that all he does is to go along with the peasant leaders' stance. [Asuncion LA NACION Online in Spanish -- Website of daily owned by entrepreneur and Colorado Party member Osvaldo Domínguez Dibb; URL: <http://www.lanacion.com.py/>]

**Central Bank Reports Private Bank Loans Increase -- ABC Color** reports that the loans granted by private banks last year stood at 26.44 trillion guaranis or \$5.750 billion, representing an increase of 44% over the loans granted in 2009, according to a

financial report issued by the Central Bank.

**No Selection:** Ciudad del Este Vanguardia

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**Sent:** Monday, March 21, 2011 8:39 AM  
**Subject:** FW: Highlights: Paraguay Press 18 Mar 11

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, March 18, 2011 3:33 PM  
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## Highlights: Paraguay Press 18 Mar 11

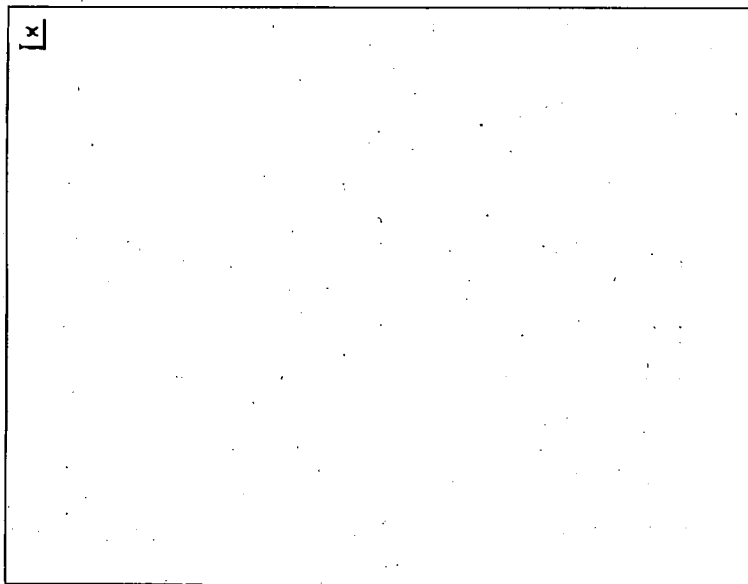
LAP20110318025001 *Paraguay -- OSC Summary* in Spanish 18 Mar 11

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The following is a selection of highlights from the Paraguayan press on 18 March:

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Source Start Date
3/18/2011
Source End Date
3/18/2011
Source Language(s)
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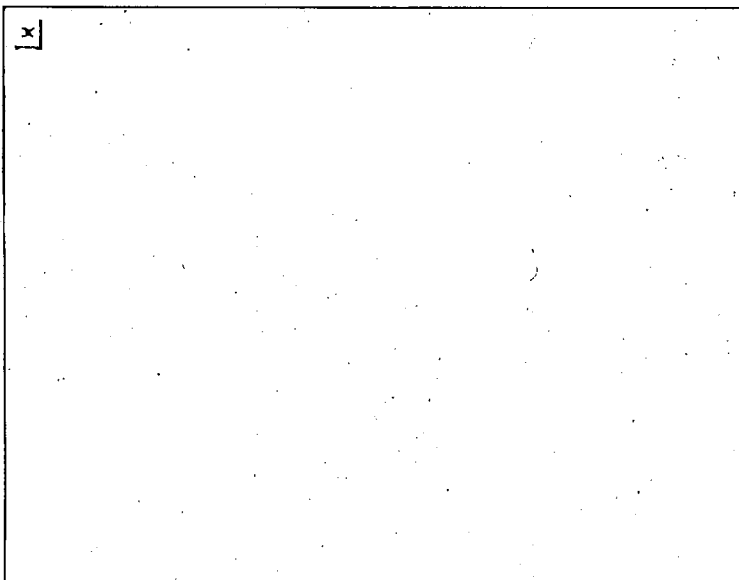
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Version
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Content Type
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Processing Indicator
OSC Summary
Precedence
Routine
Topic Country(s)
Bolivia, Paraguay
Topic Region(s)



Americas
Topic Subregion(s) South Americas
Event(s)
International Organization(s)
Topic(s) DOMESTIC ECONOMIC, DOMESTIC POLITICAL, INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL, LEADER
Program Title(s)
Program Type(s)
Speaker(s)
x

*President Lugo and Vice President Franco stand at attention at airport welcoming ceremony (Source: ABC Color)*

**Lugo Returns From Asian Tour** – Asuncion *ABC Color* reports that President Fernando Lugo and his delegation returned at 0800 this morning from his Asian tour after visiting Vietnam and Taiwan. He was welcome by Vice President Federico Franco. Lugo will now have to tackle several problems such as the request for bus fare increase, for salary increase, and for the removals of Foreign Minister Hector Lacognata for accepting to receive double salary, and the president of Petropar (Paraguayan Petroleum Inc.) for increasing the price of fuel oil without government authorization. Lacognata said that his resignation is already at Lugo's disposal and that he will meet with the president to discuss his resignation in order to put a final end to this issue. However, another report says that Lacognata is expected to keep his job because yesterday Acting President Federico Franco signed a decree assigning Lacognata the responsibility to organize the 21<sup>st</sup> Ibero-American Summit of Presidents to be held in Asuncion of 28-29 October. [Asuncion *ABC Color* Digital in Spanish -- Website of leading daily, highly critical of ANR-Colorado Party, owned by entrepreneur Aldo Zuccolillo; URL: <http://www.abc.com.py>]



*Franco discusses phone tapping with Senad Secretary Aquino (Source: ABC Color)*

**Franco Believes his Phone Being Tapped** -- Asuncion *La Nacion* reports that Vice President Federico Franco yesterday asked Cesar Aquino, head of the National Antinarcotics Secretariat, Senad, to investigate the tapping of his cell phone. "I am sure my phone is being tapped. I am absolutely certain and we have to put an end to telephone tapping," Franco added. Aquino said that he will contact foreign companies that have the new technology to find out if Franco's cell phone is being tapped. [Asuncion LA NACION Online in Spanish -- Website of daily owned by entrepreneur and Colorado Party member Osvaldo Dominguez Dibb; URL: <http://www.lanacion.com.py/>]

**Finance Minister Says Inflation Under Control** -- *ABC Color* reports that Finance Minister Dionisio Borda yesterday met with Acting President Federico Franco to inform him on the country's economic situation, fuel prices, and the monetary and fiscal measures being implemented. He said that inflation is under control and that it is expected that the inflation rate this year will be 7.5%.

**Unity of Opposition Party Senate Bloc In Jeopardy** -- *ABC Color* reports that the unity of the opposition Colorado Party (National Republican Association-ANR) Senate bloc is in jeopardy because of the harsh confrontation between Senator Juan Carlos Galaverna, who supports the Colorado Honor Movement (MHC) headed by new political leader Horacio Cartes, and Senate President Oscar Gonzalez Daher, who support the ANR movement headed by former Vice President Luis Castiglioni. As the MHC won in the recent ANR primaries, yesterday during the Senate session Galaverna came down hard on Gonzalez, accusing him of being a "criminal" and "hysterical" for interfering in the appointment of candidates to head the Attorney General's Office. In reaction, Gonzalez came down to the Senate floor to defend his position but without being aggressive as Galaverna was. There are currently two ANR Senate blocs. One bloc has nine members including Gonzalez, and the other bloc has four members, including Galaverna. It is believed that the differences between the two blocs will continue.

**Bolivian National Denies Request for Refugee Status** -- *ABC Color* reports that *El Nacional* of Tarija, Bolivia, yesterday reported that Silvana Cossio Torri, the daughter of former Tarija Governor Mario Cossio who received the status of political refugee in Paraguay, said that she or her sister Fabiana Cossio never asked the Paraguayan National Commission for Refugees, Conare, for the refugee status. Conare President Felipe Robertti announced on 15 March that he had the request by Silvana and Fabiana requesting the asylum but this daily was unable to contact Robertti for more details on this case.

**Official Time To Be Moved Back on 10 April** -- *ABC Color* reports that the official time for the winter season will be moved back one hour on 10 April (Sunday). President Fernando Lugo made the decision on the official time changes on 17 February 2010 based on a study by the National Electric Power Administration, ANDE, on the time of commercial activity in the nation. The official time will be moved forward again on the first Sunday in October for the summer season.

**No Selection:** Asuncion Ultima Hora, Ciudad del Este Vanguardia

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FW: Highlights: Paraguay Press 19-21 Mar 11

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**Highlights: Paraguay Press 19-21 Mar 11**LAP20110321025001 *Paraguay -- OSC Summary* in Spanish 19 Mar 11 - 21 Mar 11

[For assistance with multimedia elements, contact OSC at 1-800-205-8615 or

The following is a selection of highlights from the Paraguayan press on 19-21 March:

**Lugo Asks for Report on Presence of US Air Force Planes at Airport** – Asuncion *Ultima Hora* on 20 March reports that President Fernando Lugo yesterday summoned Defense Minister Cecilio Perez Bordon at the Mburuvicha Roga Presidential Residence to inform him on the presence at the Silvio Pettrossi Airport of five US Air Force planes and even an armored vehicle for US President Barack Obama during his official visit to Brazil and Chile. Perez said that the US airplanes were verified by the appropriate government organizations such as the Custom Directorate and the Immigration Office and that the authorization for the landing of the airplanes was made during Lugo's Asian tour in accordance with current regulations. Asuncion *ABC Color* on 21 March reports that President Lugo asked Minister Perez to inform the Council of Ministers this morning on the reasons why the U.S Air Force planes are at the airport. On 18 March, Perez told reporters that the US airplanes "did not bring anything. They are for probable cases of evacuation and they will fly to Chile." The five airplanes already left for Chile for President Obama's official visit to that country. [Asuncion *Ultima Hora.com* in Spanish -- Website of leading daily; Majority shareholder business and media entrepreneur A.J.Vierci; URL: <http://www.ultimahora.com/>]

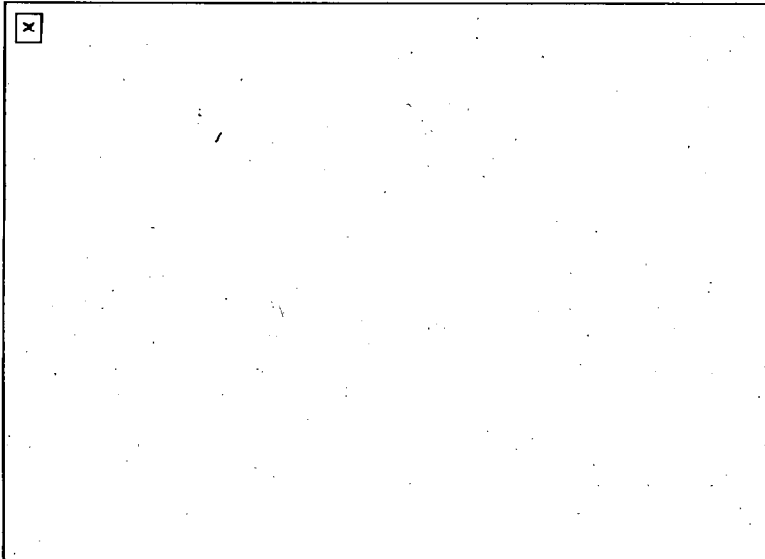
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Topic Region(s)

**Lugo Condemns Attack on Libya, Calls for 'Rationality' --** *Ultima Hora* on 21 March reports that yesterday during the first anniversary celebration of the leftist political organization Broad Front (FG), President Fernando Lugo delivered a speech mentioning the attacks on Libya. Lugo condemned the attacks saying that he hopes prudence will prevail. "Any type of violence or flags of death cannot be justified," Lugo said. He added that it is necessary to maintain "equity and rationality."

**Government Assesses Libyan Situation With Mercosur Foreign Ministers --** *Ultima Hora* on 20 March reports that the Foreign Ministry has reported that Minister Hector Lacognata is in permanent contact with the foreign ministers of the Mercosur countries assessing the evolution of events in Libya. It says that Paraguay, which has the pretempore presidency of the Mercosur, is evaluating with the other members of the bloc the situation and that a joint declaration is expected on this issue.



Americas, Africa
Topic Subregion(s) South Americas, North Americas, North Africa
Event(s)
International Organization(s)
Topic(s) DOMESTIC POLITICAL, PEQUO, INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL, LEADER, MILITARY
Program Title(s)
Program Type(s)
Speaker(s)

*President Lugo attends Broad Front's first anniversary celebration (Source: Ultima Hora)*

**Lugo Expresses Support for Leftist Broad Front --** *Ultima Hora* on 21 March reports that President Fernando Lugo was yesterday the main speaker on the first anniversary of the FG, which comprises several leftist organizations of the government coalition (Patriotic Alliance for Change-APC). In his speech, Lugo called for strengthening the FG in preparation for the 2013 general elections. Regarding his administration, he admitted the need to make correction in the process of change that started in 2008. "There is no process that is chemically pure. Our process also needs purification, it needs to make corrections to undergo changes together," Lugo said. He admitted that there are differences among the allies but that the positive aspect is that the points of agreement should be strengthened. He added that the FG "is not a political party because it is above political parties. "It is a genuine tool for change that should be strengthened and consolidated by its members," Lugo said.

**Lugo Ignores Chamber of Deputies Request for Removal of State Oil Company President --** Asuncion *ABC Color* on 19 March reports that as soon as President Fernando Lugo returned from his Asian tour yesterday, he summoned Vice President Federico Franco, Juan Gonzalez Meyer, president of Petropar (Paraguayan Petroleum Inc.), Finance Minister Dioni slo Borda, and Presidential General Secretary Miguel Lopez Perito to discuss Gonzalez's decision to increase during his absence the price of fuel oil without informing the cabinet or the economic team and without a government decree. Therefore, the Chamber of Deputies approved a request submitted to the government for Gonzalez's removal, but Lugo decided to keep Gonzalez and that he will make a decision after the cabinet meeting scheduled for 21

March. Franco said that the increase was illegal. [Asuncion ABC Color Digital in Spanish -- Website of leading daily, highly critical of ANR-Colorado Party, owned by entrepreneur Aldo Zuccolillo; URL: <http://www.abc.com.py>]

**Secretary Terms Vice President's Criticisms 'Good and Correct'** -- *ABC Color* on 21 March reports that Vice President Federico Franco of the Authentic Radical Liberal Party, PLRA, yesterday said that he is not giving up his aspiration to become the coalition APC presidential candidate in the 2013 general elections. When this daily asked Presidential General Secretary Miguel Lopez Perito his opinion on Franco's figure, Lopez said that although Franco was very critical of the Fernando Lugo administration in the first months of his presidency, some of his criticisms were "good and correct." Lopez did not discredit Franco, thus strengthening the rumor around the Government House that Franco could be the possible APC presidential candidate in the 2013 elections. Yesterday, Franco joined PLRA President Blas Llano in a political rally calling on the PLRA supporters for unity regardless of the PLRA movements they belong to in order to have a PLRA member become the APC presidential candidate in the 2013 elections.

**Division In Opposition Party Chamber of Deputies Bloc Reported** -- *ABC Color* on 19 March reports that the opposition Colorado Party (National Republican Association-ANR) suffered a division in the Chamber of Deputies with the creation of a bloc comprised of five deputies that respond to Javier Zacarias Irun, head of the Colorado Hope Movement (which came out third in the recent ANR primaries). The deputies are: Justo Zacarias Irun, Javier's brother, Herminio Davalos, Mario Morel Pintos, Eladio Gomez, and Andres Retamozo. Morel Pintos explained that the ANR movements headed by former Vice President Luis Castiglioni, former President Nicanor Duarte Frutos, Javier Zacarias Irun, and Elzear Salemman should begin talks for agreement in order to face businessman Horacio Cartes (whose movement won the recent ANR primaries).

**ANR Leader Predicts Cartes To Win 2013 Elections** -- Asuncion *La Nacion* on 20 March reports that (former Foreign Minister) Diogenes Martinez, legal representative of the "Colorado Honor Movement" (MHC) headed by businessman Horacio Cartes, yesterday reacted to the remarks by Presidential General Secretary Miguel Lopez Perito, who said that it will be easy to defeat Cartes because he has a "glass roof." Martinez said that in politics there is no such a thing as a politician who cannot be criticized. He predicted that Cartes will bring back the ANR to power in the 2013 general elections. He added that government officials know that Cartes will win and that for this reason they are trying to discredit him. [Asuncion LA NACION Online in Spanish -- Website of daily owned by entrepreneur and Colorado Party member Osvaldo Dominguez Dibb; URL: <http://www.lanacion.com.py/>]

**Opposition Leader Assesses Political Situation, To Prevent Cartes From Becoming President** -- *ABC Color* on 20 March carries first part of an interview with Lino Oviedo, president of the opposition Unace (National Union of Ethical Citizens), assessing the current political situation. He strongly criticized Unace Deputies Oscar Tuma and Victor Yambay for getting away from the Unace leadership. He also said that ANR Senator Juan Carlos Galaverna is managing with the mafia new ANR political leader wealthy businessman Horacio Cartes. He added that he would be willing to make a deal "even with the devil" to prevent Cartes from becoming president.

**Oviedo Proposes Alliance With Lugo** -- In a related article, *ABC Color* on 21 March carries the second and last part of an interview with Unace President Lino Oviedo, who proposes an immediate alliance with President Fernando Lugo in preparation for the 2013 general elections. He assesses the situation in the ANR saying that former Vice President Luis Castiglioni, who lost in the recent ANR primaries to the movement headed by businessman Horacio Cartes, and that Javier Zacarias Irun, who came third in the primaries, will not remain idle and that they will confront Cartes as Castiglioni wants to become the ANR presidential candidate and Zacarias the vice presidential candidate.

**WikiLeaks Disclosures Reveal Paraguay's Concern Over Bolivia's Rearmament -**

- *ABC Color* on 21 March reports that in August 2009, Foreign Minister Hector Lacognata downplayed Bolivia's rearmament before the media but that according to the WikiLeaks disclosures obtained by this daily, the Paraguayan Government submitted a confidential request to the US Government asking for information about the Bolivian military bases built by Venezuela and expressing concern over the situation.

**Relatives of Former Bolivian Governor Ask for Asylum --** *ABC Color* on 19 March reports that Deputy Daniel Fleitas of the Oviedo group (National Union of Ethical Citizens-Unace), who is also a member of the National Commission for Refugees, Conare, yesterday explained that six relatives of former Bolivian Tarija Governor Mario Cossio, who has been granted the status of political refugee, have also asked for refuge in Paraguay. Fleitas made it clear that they are not politically persecuted in Bolivia but that they are requesting refuge for family reunification purpose. He said that Mario Cossio's relatives who are requesting the refuge are: Silvana Luis Arnete Torri de Cossio, the former governor's wife, Maria Valentina Cossio and Annete Fabiana Cossio de Calabi, Mario Cossio's daughters, Dino Calabi, Fabiana's husband, and Martina Calabi and Duilana Calabi Cossio, who are the daughters of Annete Cossio and Dino Calabi. Silvana Cossio, Mario Cossio's other daughter, did not request refuge. Fleitas added that the Conare is scheduled to meet in about two weeks to decide on the requests.

**No Selection:** Ciudad del Este Vanguardia

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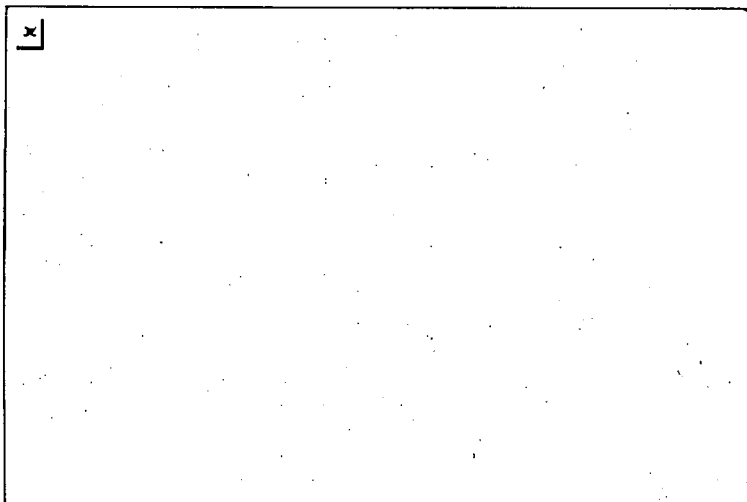


## Highlights: Paraguay Press 11 May 11

LAP20110511025001 *Paraguay -- OSC Summary* in Spanish 11 May 11

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The following is a selection of highlights from the Paraguayan press on 11 May:



*Senator Filizzola, flanked by Canese, Lara Castro and Dos Santos, talks with media (Source: ABC Color)*

**Lugo Postpones Celebration on Expected Brazilian Approval of Itaipu Compensation Issue** -- Asuncion *ABC Color* reports that President Fernando Lugo, yesterday prepared the environment to celebrate what was expected to be the Brazilian Congress approval of the reversal notes signed by Paraguay and Brazil increasing the compensation Paraguay receives for the electricity produced by the Itaipu Binational Hydroelectric Plant. Lugo and his allies of the leftist Broad Front, FG, even organized an act in front of the National Pantheon to celebrate the event but the Brazilian Congress once again postponed the reversal notes debate because of an "unexpected" meeting several Brazilian congressmen, who were expected to approve the notes, held with Brazilian President Dilma Rousseff. Therefore, late last night Foreign Minister Jorge Lara Castro, Senator Carlos Filizzola, Augusto Dos Santos, head of the Sicom (Information and Communication Secretariat), and engineer Ricardo Canese came out to explain that the government received an official note from Brasilia saying that Congress will debate the reversal notes this afternoon. [Asuncion *ABC Color* Digital in Spanish -- Website of leading daily, highly critical of ANR-Colorado Party, owned by entrepreneur Aldo Zuccolillo; URL: <http://www.abc.com.py>]

**Lugo To Discuss Sale of Electricity With Argentine, Uruguayan Presidents** -- *ABC Color* reports that President Fernando Lugo plans to discuss with Argentine President Cristina Fernandez de Kirchner and Uruguayan President Jose Mujica, who will be in Asuncion on 14-15 May to participate in the celebration of the country's bicentennial independence anniversary, the sale of electricity to Uruguay and Chile as Argentine transmission lines will have to be used to reach the two countries. Lugo was also planning to discuss this issue with Chilean President Sebastian Pinera but yesterday he confirmed that he is not coming. Lugo is expected to discuss this issue

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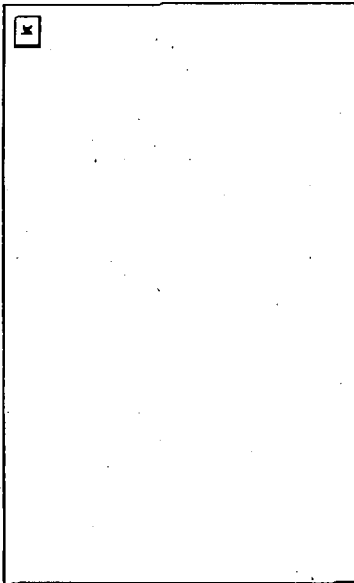
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with Fernandez and Mujica on 14 May during a luncheon at the Mburuvicha Roga Presidential Residence.

**Leftist Leaders' Influence on Lugo Revealed --** *ABC Color* reports that a source of the leftist coalition Broad Front, FG, who preferred to remain anonymous, yesterday revealed that the two leftist leaders who have the greatest influence on President Fernando Lugo are Camilo Soares of the Movement Toward Socialism Party, P-MAS, (Head of the National Emergency Secretariat, SEN, on leave facing corruption charges) and Senator Sixto Pereira, secretary general of Tekojoja (Popular Party for Justice and Equity-PPT). The source added that Soares is the president's "spoiled child" and that Pereira is the one with the greatest influence, and that there are sectors in the FG which only defend their personal and not the people's interest as they would like to appear. The leaders of the coalition Patriotic Alliance for Change (APC), which is made up of the Authentic Radical Liberal Party (PLRA) and the FG, are not very honest because they lie to each other all the time, and that Pereira was responsible for the removal of Hector Lacognata as head of the Foreign Ministry and Pablino Caceres as head of the Social Action Secretariat, the source added.

**Government Senator To Propose Impeachment of Supreme Court Justices --** *Asuncion La Nacion* reports that PLRA Senator Alfredo Luis Jaeggli yesterday announced that today he will submit a request for the impeachment of Supreme Court Justices Alicia Pucheta, Victor Nunez, and Antonio Fretes for ruling in favor of Attorney Sara Parquet (wife of former Supreme Court Justice Bonifacio Rios Avalos), who filed slander charges against Jaeggli and demanded 500 million guaranis (\$125,000) for damages. He told a radio station that he has enough votes in the Senate and the Chamber of Deputies to have the impeachment proposal approved because no one really knows why the three corrupt justices are still in that position. [Asuncion LA NACION Online in Spanish -- Website of daily owned by entrepreneur and Colorado Party member Osvaldo Dominguez Dibb; URL: <http://www.lanacion.com.py/>]

**Retired General Believes Government Has 'Wrong Vision' on Defense Ministry --** *ABC Color* reports that the Fernando Lugo administration has the "wrong vision" of the Defense Ministry because it is granting the ministry powers that are not under its jurisdiction and which really belong to the Military Forces Command, retired General Juan Antonio Pozzo said yesterday. He explained that the new Defense Ministry organic structure established in Decree 6223 of 24 March has a "wrong and confusing vision" on the defense issue because it mixes matters that have nothing to do with defense. He added that as long as the Defense Ministry is not in the chain of command, "the decree will have many implementation problems," and that the mistake in the new structure is that it was written as if the Defense Ministry was already in the chain of command.



*IMF official Vergara reads report on economic perspective (Source: ABC Color)*

**IMF Recommends Implementation of Capitalization Law** -- *ABC Color* reports that the IMF yesterday recommended the immediate implementation of the Central Bank Capitalization Law that was approved in April 2010 in order to have a more effective monetary policy. The recommendation was made by David Vergara, the IMF representative of the western hemisphere, during the presentation of the report entitled "Regional Economic Perspective."

**No Selection:** Asuncion Ultima Hora, Ciudad del Este Vanguardia

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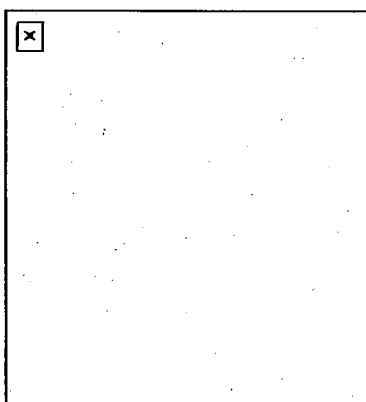


## Highlights: Paraguay Press 7 Jul 11

LAP20110707025001 *Paraguay -- OSC Summary* in Spanish 07 Jul 11

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The following is a selection of highlights from the Paraguayan press on 7 July:



*Cartoon shows President Fernando Lugo nursing bedridden Chavez with Fidel Castro's picture on the wall (Source: ABC Color)*

**'Gossip Column' Explains Reason for Cuba's Concern Over Venezuela's Chavez Health Condition** -- Asuncion *ABC Color* carries in the "Gossip Column" an article explaining why Cuba is so concerned over the health condition of cancer-stricken Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez, who is undergoing treatment in the island. It says that since the Soviet Union collapsed Fidel Castro had no source of money to

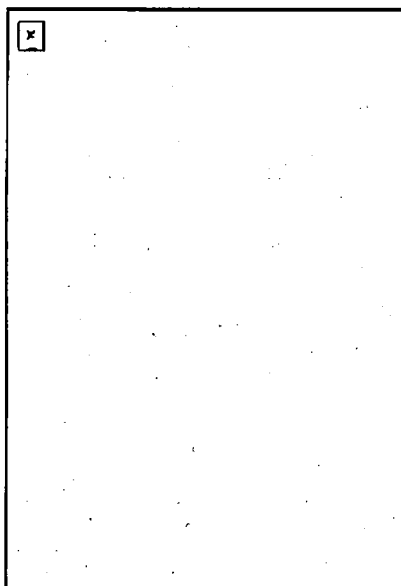
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Topic Subregion(s)	South Americas
Event(s)	
International Organization(s)	
Topic(s)	CRIME DOMESTIC POLITICAL

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keep the Cuban people alive but then Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez emerged with a fat checkbook of petro-dollars to keep the island going again. However, Cuba is now facing a cancer-stricken Chavez, whose health condition is being kept as a state secret typical of dictatorial regimes, and therefore, Cuba's great concern over Chavez's health condition is justified as the situation is extremely serious because Chavez will no longer be able to sign any checks and Fidel will be left out of funds again to feed the Cuban people. [Asuncion ABC Color Digital in Spanish -- Website of leading daily, highly critical of ANR-Colorado Party, owned by entrepreneur Aldo Zuccolillo; URL: <http://www.abc.com.py>]

INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL LEADER
Program Title(s)
Program Type(s)
Speaker(s)

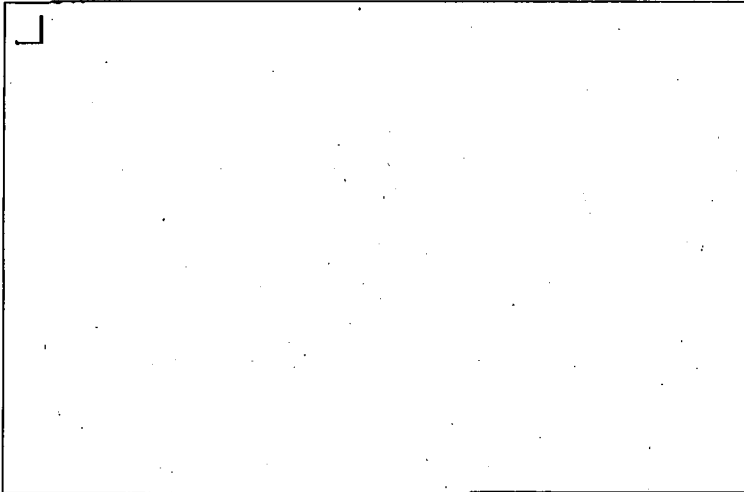
**Former Minister Calls for Political Pact To Build Electoral Front --** *ABC Color* reports that former Interior Minister Rafael Filizzola of the Progressive Democratic Party (PDP) yesterday said that an agreement between social democratic parties, the Beloved Fatherland Party (PPQ) and the Authentic Radical Liberal Party (PLRA) can build an electoral front to participate in the 2013 general elections. He said that it is necessary to have a serious project based on development programs for reducing poverty and guaranteeing equality and not on improvisation the way it was in 2008. He believes that the Patriotic Alliance for Change (APC), which catapulted Fernando Lugo to the presidency, is now obsolete.



*P-MAS Secretary Rocio Casco (Source: ABC Color)*

**Leftist Leader Predicts Government Alliance To Disintegrate --** In a related article, *ABC Color* reports that Rocio Casco, secretary general of the Movement Toward Socialism Party, P-MAS, yesterday said that the PLRA should support the constitutional amendment proposal to allow President Fernando Lugo's reelection in order to strengthen the APC. Asked about PLRA President Senator Blas Llano's comment that the party will not support the proposal for Lugo's reelection and what its consequences would be, Casco said that in this case the APC would disintegrate.

**Peasant Leader Says Lugo Does Not Merit Reelection --** *Asuncion Ultima Hora* reports that Odilon Espinola, president of the National Peasants Federation, FNC, yesterday said that he disagrees with the constitutional amendment proposal to allow President Fernando Lugo's reelection because Lugo did nothing to deserve to be reelected. He said that Lugo's main electoral campaign promise was the agrarian reform but that he did nothing to fulfill that promise. [Asuncion Ultima Hora.com in Spanish -- Website of leading daily; Majority shareholder business and media entrepreneur A.J. Vierci; URL: <http://www.ultimahora.com/>]



*Private Secretary Rojas and President Lugo leave Government House (Source: ABC Color)*

#### **Article Reveals Influence of Lugo's Private Secretary in Government**

**Appointments** -- *ABC Color* carries an article by Jorge Torres Romero stating that President Fernando Lugo's Private Secretary Miguel Angel Rojas (National Republican Association-Colorado Party-ANR) is the most influential official in the Lugo administration. It says that Rojas maneuvered to "recycle" several of his ANR friends to have them appointed to key positions in the public administration. It is also believed that he operated to accelerate the removal of Interior Minister Rafael Filizzola and Public Works Minister Efraim Alegre to have his friends appointed to those positions. It adds that he influenced Lugo to appoint Nicanor Cespedes, former pilot of Gustavo Stroessner (son of Dictator Alfredo Stroessner) as head of the Civil Aeronautics National Directorate, Dinac, Omar Franco as head of the Public Contracts Operations Unit, UOC, in the National Cement Industry, and Miguel Angel Acosta as head of the National Customs Directorate.

#### **Land Survey Shows No Government Land in Nacunday Region -- ABC Color**

reports that land survey expert Arnaldo Barrios Insfran, who in the last two years was director of the Land Survey and Geodesic Department of the Public Works and Communications Ministry, MOPC, proved that there is no government land in the Nacunday region (Alto Parana Department) where peasants invaded the land owned by Brazilian businessman Tranquilo Favero on the belief that part of his land is government property. High government officials and alleged peasant leaders mounted a fraud to justify the land invasion in a maneuver that put the region at the doorstep of a social confrontation. Yesterday, Barrios was removed from his position and he is now at the disposal of the MOPC Personnel Department headed by Maria Esther Invernizzi, who is an activist of Tekojoja (Popular Party for Justice and Equity-PPT) (headed by Senator Sixto Pereira).

#### **Organization Denies Secretary's Report on Existence of Government Land in Alto Parana Department**

-- In a related article, *ABC Color* reports that Agronomist Ramon Sanchez, president of the Union of Production Organizations, UGP, yesterday categorically denied the information provided by Presidential General Secretary Miguel Lopez Perito saying that there are 28,000 hectares of government land in Property 4,036 that is owned by Brazilian agricultural businessman Tranquilo Favero in the Alto Parana Department. Sanchez said that the UGP report is based on the MOPC Land Survey Department stating there is no government land in that property. The UGP regrets Lopez Perito's irresponsibility talking about available government land in the Alto Parana Department, which paved the road to the land invasion. The UGP leaders said that after government officials failed to take over the land owned by Brazilian businessman Ulisses Rodrigues Teixeira (in San Pedro Department) they decided to

go after Favero's land.

**Municipal Officials Prevent Eviction of Brazilian Farmers** -- In another related article, *ABC Color* carries a report datelined Santa Rita, Alto Parana Department, stating that around 400 policemen were mobilized to evict on a court order 26 Brazilian farmers who settled in Santa Rita more than 30 years ago occupying 700 hectares of land. However, in a quick move around 200 settlers supported by municipal officials of Santa Rita and Santa Rosa del Monday prevented the eviction procedure. The conflict seems to involve double land titles as the alleged land owner identified as Oscar Veron, who is the front man of the Pont family of Asuncion, showed titles that belong to Santa Rosa del Monday District.

**Tekojoja Senator Denies Supporting Land Invasion** -- *Ultima Hora* reports that Tekojoja Senator Sixto Pereira yesterday denied that he is supporting the peasants who invaded the private land located in the Nacunday region. "I have nothing to do with the Nacunday case," Pereira said after being accused of instigating with San Pedro Department Governor Jose "Pakova" Ledesma the invasion of 12,000 hectares by so-called landless peasants. He accused the UGP Alto Parana leaders and the Beloved Fatherland Party (PPQ) of trying to politicize the land problem by presenting him as violator of the Constitution and instigator of land invasions because he endorses the reelection of President Fernando Lugo.

**Brazilian Ambassador Expresses Concern Over Land Invasions** -- *Ultima Hora* reports that Brazilian Ambassador Eduardo dos Santos yesterday expressed concern over the land invasions in the Alto Parana Department saying that the solution of this problem is in the hands of the Paraguayan Government. He admitted that there are some specific problems on land ownership which he hopes will be resolved with the good predisposition of Paraguayan officials because many Brazilian settlers in the Nacunday region, Alto Parana Department, are affected by the invasions. In an interview with Radio Nanduti, he said that he is following closely how the government is reacting on the land conflict.

**No Selection:** Asuncion La Nacion, Ciudad del Este Vanguardia

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## Highlights: Paraguay Press 8 Jul 11

LAP20110708025001 *Paraguay -- OSC Summary* In Spanish 08 Jul 11

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The following is a selection of highlights from the Paraguayan press on 8 July:

**Lugo Denies Crisis Over Land Invasion In Alto Parana --** *Asuncion La Nacion* reports that in answer to questions about the land invasion by peasants in the Nacunday region, Alto Parana Department, President Fernando Lugo yesterday said that there is no crisis as a result of the invasion. He said that before he took over the government there were 189 land invasions and that this figure has dropped to 29 under his administration. "There was a crisis when we received the administration, 189 invasions, that was a crisis. We now have 29 invasions, 13 in the rural areas. That is a great difference," Lugo said about the statistics. Asked if the invasion in the Nacunday region does not merit much coverage, Lugo said that it is important to report it and that a solution will be found. The peasants, around 600 families, who invaded 12,000 hectares of the land owned by soybean producer Tranquilo Favero said that 20,000 hectares of that land is government property and that they have the support of San Pedro Department Governor Jose "Pakova" Ledesma of the PLRA (Authentic Radical Liberal Party) and Senator Sixto Pereira of Tekojoja (Popular Party for Justice and Equity), who work closely with Lugo. [Asuncion LA NACION Online in Spanish -- Website of daily owned by entrepreneur and Colorado Party member Osvaldo Dominguez Dibb; URL: <http://www.lanacion.com.py/>]

**Vice President Makes Government Officials Responsible for Land Conflict --** In a related article, *La Nacion* reports that Vice President Federico Franco yesterday said that there is a "hidden complicity" of government officials in the so-called landless

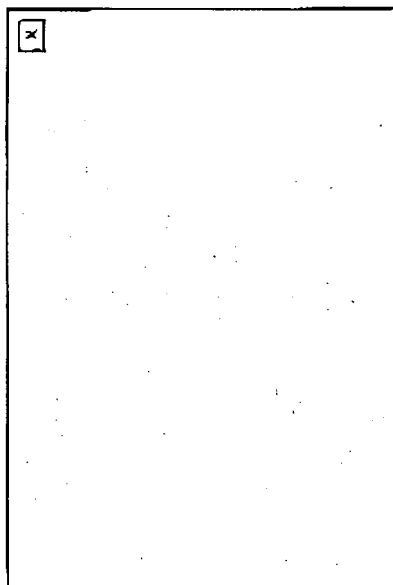
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Americas
Topic Subregion(s)
South Americas
Event(s)
International Organization(s)

peasants invasion of the land owned by Brazilian soybean producer Tranquilo Favero in the Nacunday region, Alto Parana Department. Franco made this comment in direct reference to San Pedro Department Governor Jose "Pakova" Ledesma and Tekojoja Senator Sixto Pereira. Franco also questioned the removal of Arnaldo Barrios Insfran, who was in charge of the Land Survey Department of the Public Works and Communications Ministry, for asserting that there is no surplus land that belongs to the government in the property owned by Favero. Regarding the land that was expropriated from Roberto Antebi, Franco said that he asked President Fernando Lugo to create a commission made up of the Agriculture Ministry, the Indert (Rural and Land Development National Institute), the Senave (Vegetable and Seeds Health and Quality National Service) and the Concepcion and Amambay Departments Governorship to conduct a census on the settlers living in that expropriated land because no more than 30 people, who are cattlemen and not poor, are using the expropriated 280,000 hectares and paying nothing for it.

Topic(s)
CRIME, DOMESTIC POLITICAL, HUMAN RIGHTS, INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL, LEADER
Program Title(s)
Program Type(s)
Speaker(s)



*Leftist Senator Sixto Pereira (Source: ABC Color)*

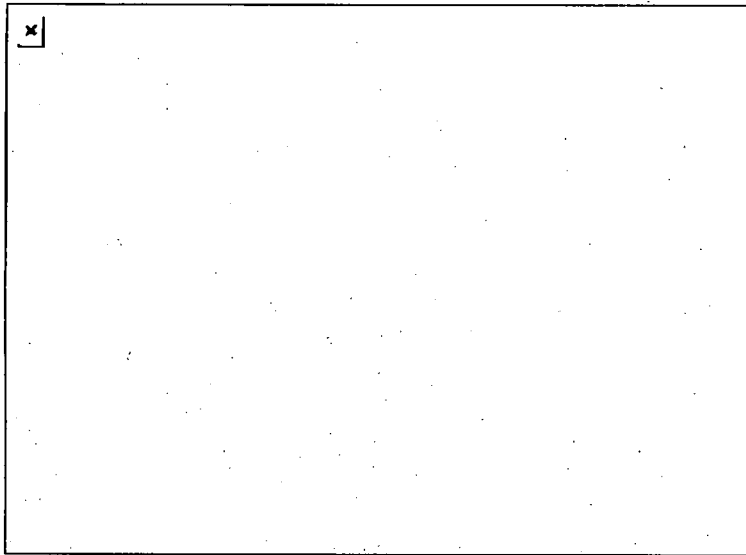
**Senate Debates Land Invasion Issue; Senator Pereira Denies Involvement in Land Conflict** – In a related article, Asuncion *ABC Color* reports that the Senate yesterday debated for more two hours the invasion of a private land in the Nacunday region, Alto Parana Department. Tekojoja Senator Sixto Pereira denied once again any involvement in the land conflict. He accused a political sector, in reference to the Beloved Fatherland Party (PPQ), and one media of promoting "media political terrorism" to damage President Fernando Lugo's image. He assured that the government is taking measures to find a solution to the problem and that a special commission is already studying the land conflict. Senator Carlos Filizzola of the PPS (Country in solidarity Party) said that "reality is being distorted in an effort to discredit the President of the Republic." [Asuncion *ABC Color* Digital in Spanish – Website of leading daily, highly critical of ANR-Colorado Party, owned by entrepreneur Aldo Zuccolillo; URL: <http://www.abc.com.py>]

**Analysts Give Details of Land Conflict In Nacunday Region** -- *ABC Color* carries an article by Roque Gonzalez Vera and Aldo Benitez giving a picture of the situation in the Nacunday region where alleged landless peasants from San Pedro Department were moved to the Alto Parana Department to invade a private land under the excuse that part of it is government property and which former Interior Minister Rafael Filizzola described as "miserable lie." (OSC will provide a full translation of this item)

**Article Says Political Manipulation Responsible for Land Conflict In Nacunday -**

In a related article, *La Nacion* carries a report datelined Ciudad del Este, Alto Parana Department, stating that double land titles and political manipulation created restlessness in the Nacunday region and that a mafia made up of members of judicial branch, public institutions, and politicians are involved in the invasion of farmland of Brazilian settlers. (OSC will provide a full translation of this item)

**Franco Terms Unasur's Democratic Clause 'Dangerous'** -- *ABC Color* reports that Vice President Federico Franco yesterday described the democratic clause of the Union of South American Nations, Unasur, as "dangerous" because with its implementation a country would lose territorial sovereignty. "The Unasur clause is one that in some way attempts against the sovereignty of countries," Franco said. He added that if that clause is eliminated, he will support Paraguay's membership in that regional bloc.



*Former Foreign Minister Ramirez Boettner (Source: ABC Color)*

**Former Foreign Minister Terms Unasur's Democratic Clause 'Interventionist'** -- In a related article, *ABC Color* on 7 July reports that Luis Maria Ramirez Boettner, former foreign minister under the administration of President Juan Carlos Wasmosy, yesterday told a radio station that Unasur's democratic clause is not democratic but interventionist. He said that he cannot understand how Paraguayan officials signed a clause which violates the constitutional principle of nonintervention in the domestic affairs of other nations.

**Chamber of Deputies Calls on Venezuelan Government for Humane Treatment of Political Prisoner** -- *ABC Color* reports that on the request of PLRA Deputy Salyn Buzarquis, the Chamber of Deputies yesterday approved a declaration calling on the Venezuelan Government for a "just and humane treatment of political prisoner Alejandro Pena Esclusa by guaranteeing him a trial in freedom in order to be treated for his illness." Buzarquis explained that in spite of being affected by a serious illness, Pena has not received medical attention in the last 12 months. Buzarquis is working with legislators of the region to create a front in defense of democracy and human rights in the administrations that advocate Socialism for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

**Senate Approves Privatization of Public Airports Administration** -- *La Nacion* reports that the Senate yesterday approved the privatization of the administrations of public airports that include the Silvio Pettrossi International Airport of Asuncion, the Guaraní International Airport of Ciudad del Este, and the Mariscal Estigarribia Airport (located in the Chaco region). The draft law will be submitted to the government for approval.

**No Selection:** Asuncion Ultima Hora, Ciudad del Este Vanguardia

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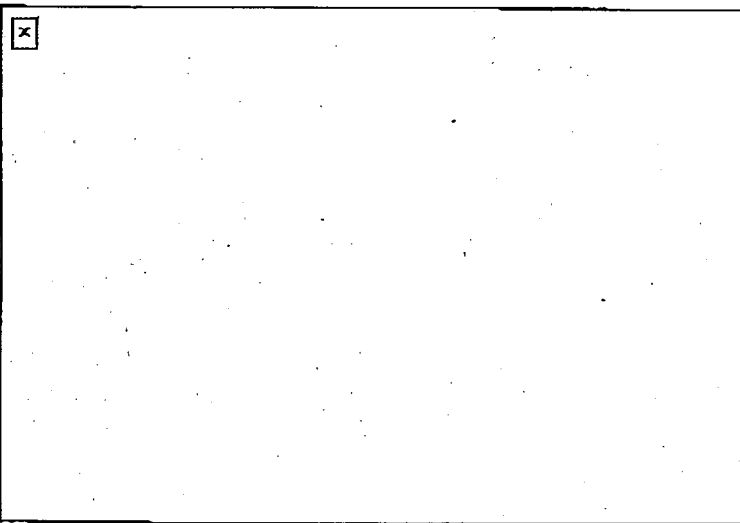


## Highlights: Paraguay Press 25 Oct 11

LAP20111025025001 *Paraguay -- OSC Summary* in Spanish 25 Oct 11

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The following is a selection of highlights from the Paraguayan press on 25 October:



*President Lugo, flanked by Chamber of Deputies President Victor Bogado and Electoral Court Justice Alberto Ramirez, heads electoral registration ceremony*

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Paraguay
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10/25/2011
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Topic Region(s)
Middle East, Americas
Topic Subregion(s)
Middle East, South Americas
Event(s)
International Organization(s)

(Source: ABC Color)

### **Lugo Opens Electoral Registry in Buenos Aires for Paraguayan Nationals --**

Asuncion ABC Color carries a report datelined Buenos Aires, Argentina, stating that President Fernando Lugo yesterday arrived in this city to open the Electoral Operations Center to allow Paraguayan nationals living in this country to register to vote in national elections, which was recently approved in a referendum changing an article of the Constitution allowing Paraguayan nationals living abroad the right to vote. "We fulfilled our promise because what was a dream is now a reality," Lugo said in an emotional speech full of tears to a large crowd of Paraguayan nationals living in Argentina who came to participate in the ceremony. [Asuncion ABC Color Digital In Spanish -- Website of leading daily, highly critical of ANR-Colorado Party, owned by entrepreneur Aldo Zuccolillo; URL: <http://www.abc.com.py>]

Topic(s)  
CRIME, DOMESTIC POLITICAL  
INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL LEADER

Program Title(s)

Program Type(s)

Speaker(s)

1x1

### **Government Backs Itaipu, Yacyreta Directors After Senate Rejected Their Appointments --**

ABC Color reports that Gustavo Codas, director of the Itaipu Binational Enterprise, whose appointment was a few days ago rejected by the Senate, yesterday held a news conference to confirm that the government decided that he and Miguel Fulgencio Rodriguez, director of the Yacyreta Binational Enterprise, will continue in their jobs in spite of the Senate's rejection of their appointments. Codas made this comment after President Fernando Lugo met with the energy team, in which Codas and Rodriguez are members, saying that the president gave them full support. Codas even hinted that he and Rodriguez may stay in their jobs beyond the 60 days established by law when the government is required to submit new candidates for congressional approval. He explained that after the 60-day period, the decision on their case will be in the hands of the Presidential Legal Advisory Office.

### **Lugo Fires Two Ambassadors In Reprisal to Senate's Rejection of Government Appointments --**

Asuncion La Nacion reports that President Fernando Lugo yesterday fired Mirtha Vergara de Franco as ambassador to Uruguay, who is the sister-in-law of Vice President Federico Franco, and Hassan Khalil Dia as ambassador to Lebanon, who was appointed on the request of the National Union of Ethical Citizens, Unace, headed by Lino Oviedo. Lugo's decision is a clear reprisal against the PLRA (Authentic Radical Liberal Party) faction headed by Franco in the Senate and the Unace Senate bloc which voted against the approval of Gustavo Codas and Miguel Fulgencio Rodriguez as directors of the Itaipu and Yacyreta Enterprises respectively. PLRA leaders said that they were expecting this type of reprisal but that they accept the removal because Lugo has the power to make changes. [Asuncion LA NACION Online in Spanish -- Website of daily owned by entrepreneur and Colorado Party member Osvaldo Dominguez Dibb; URL: <http://www.lanacion.com.py/>]

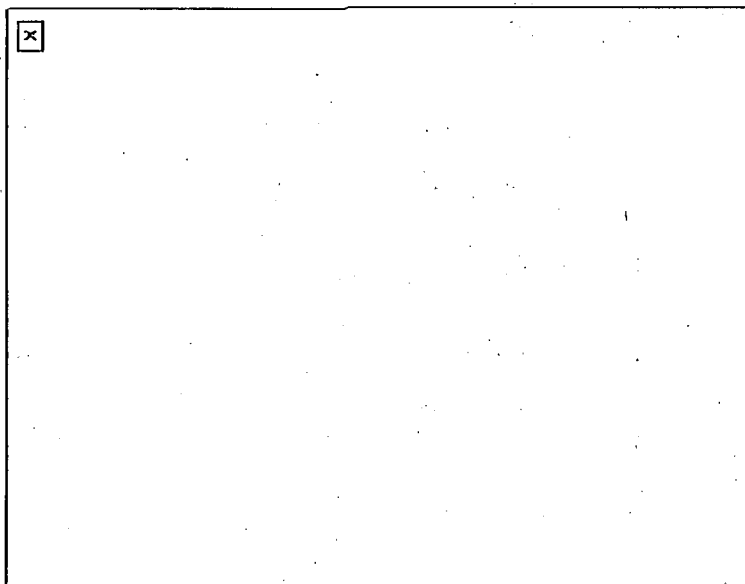
### **PLRA Senator Accuses Colleague of Offering Money For Venezuela's Membership in Mercosur --**

ABC Color reports that PLRA Senator Zulma Gomez yesterday accused PLRA Senator Ramon Gomez Verlangieri of offering her, on behalf of President Fernando Lugo, \$100,000 to vote for the entry of Venezuela in the Mercosur economic bloc. "On Friday (21 October) Ramon Gomez met with Lugo and afterwards he was in the hallway of the senate offering \$100,000 to every senator to support Venezuela's entry in the Mercosur," Zulma Gomez told Radio Nanduti yesterday afternoon. "He said that it was on the request of Fernando Lugo and (Senator) Sixto Pereira (Popular Party for Justice and Equity-Tekojoja). He got to me at the Senate parking lot," Zulma Gomez added. However, Gomez Verlangieri denied offering any money to Zulma or any other senator on Lugo's behalf. "She was probably very nervous over the removal of Mirtha Vergara (as ambassador to Uruguay)," Gomez Verlangieri said.

### **Minister Announces Security Measures for Ibero-American Summit --**

La Nacion reports that Interior Minister Carlos Filizzola yesterday announced that around 2,200 police officers will be deployed for security measures during the Ibero-American Summit (scheduled for 28-29 October) to be held at the Conmebol (South American Soccer Confederation) facilities. He said that the government will not tolerate

disturbances during the summit. He added that the Presidential Escort Regiment will be in charge of the security for the presidents and other officials attending the summit.



*Security forces check site where two police officers were wounded (Source: ABC Color)*

**Armed Group Believed Responsible for new Attack on Police Unit** – ABC Color carries a report datelined Huguá Nandú, Concepción Department, stating that last night two police officers were wounded apparently by a sharpshooter of the armed group EPP (Paraguayan People's Army). The shots came from a nearby forest and hit two policemen stationed at the Police Regional Tactical Group, which is in charge of carrying out operations against the armed group. Interior Minister Carlos Filizzola said that the attack is the EPP greatest provocation since the state of exception was implemented in this region 15 days ago. The two policemen were taken by helicopter to Concepción for treatment.

**No Selection:** Asunción Última Hora, Ciudad del Este Vanguardia

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## Highlights: Paraguay Press 26 Oct 11

LAP20111026025002 *Paraguay -- OSC Summary* in Spanish 26 Oct 11

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The following is a selection of highlights from the Paraguayan press on 26 October:

**Chilean President Arrives on Official Visit** -- Asuncion *La Nacion* reports that Chilean President Sebastian Pinera arrived last night on an official visit. The official reception was at the Mburuvicha Roga Presidential Residence where President Fernando Lugo offered Pinera a broiled meat dinner in a typical Paraguayan style as if Lugo was trying to show Pinera the good quality of Paraguayan meat taking into account that the Chilean Government suspended meat imports from Paraguay due to the detection last month of foot-and-mouth disease in a cattle ranch in Paraguay. This morning Lugo and Pinera will hold bilateral talks and it is expected that Lugo will start negotiations with Pinera in an effort to recover the Chilean meat market. [Asuncion LA NACION Online in Spanish -- Website of daily owned by entrepreneur and Colorado Party member Osvaldo Dominguez Dibb; URL: <http://www.lanacion.com.py/>]

**Three Mercosur Presidents Not To Attend Ibero-American Summit** -- *La Nacion* reports that President Fernando Lugo's main allies in the Mercosur economic bloc Presidents Jose Mujica of Uruguay, Dilma Rousseff of Brazil, and Cristina Kirchner of Argentina have confirmed that they will not attend the 21<sup>st</sup> Ibero-American Summit scheduled for 28-29 October in Asuncion. Rousseff justified her absence saying that she has a "very heavy" international agenda but that Foreign Minister Antonio Patriota will represent Brazil in the summit. Kirchner said she is not coming because 27 October is the first anniversary of her husband's death, former President Nestor Kirchner, and Mujica apparently cancelled his visit because he is exhausted after his

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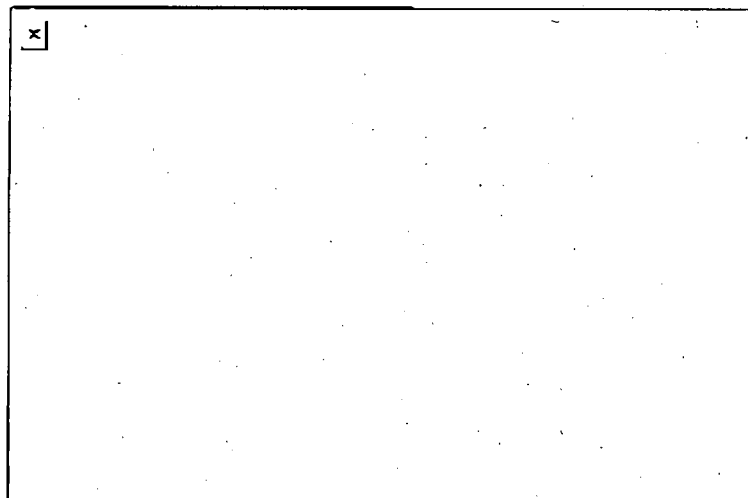
recent European tour. The other presidents who will not attend the summit are Presidents Hugo Chavez of Venezuela, Raul Castro of Cuba, Laura Chinchilla of Costa Rica, Mauricio Funes of El Salvador, Juan Manuel Santos of Colombia, and Daniel Ortega of Nicaragua.

Topic(s)  
CRIME, DOMESTIC ECONOMIC,  
DOMESTIC POLITICAL,  
INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL, LEADER

Program Title(s)

Program Type(s)

Speaker(s)



*Lopez Perito talks with media on political crisis (Source: ABC Color)*

**Secretary Admits Government at Doorstep of Breaking Up With Main Ally --**

Asuncion *ABC Color* reports that Presidential General Secretary Miguel Lopez Perito, who is President Fernando Lugo's closest aide, yesterday admitted that the Lugo administration is at the doorstep of breaking up with its main ally, the Authentic Radical Liberal Party, PLRA. He underscored that the government decision to fire Mirtha Vergara de Franco (wife of PLRA Senator Julio Cesar Franco) as ambassador to Uruguay and Hassan Khalil Dia of the Unace (National Union of Ethical Citizens) was "a signal" to the PLRA (which joined the Unace in the Senate to reject the government appointments in the Itaipu and Yacyreta Binational Enterprises). If reason, equilibrium, and will for dialogue do not prevail there is the risk of confrontation which will benefit no one, Lopez Perito said. "I believe the president has given a lot and has received little," Lopez Perito added. However, he made it clear that the president does not want a confrontation and that the ambassadors' removal was "spank in the butt," not meaning that the Lugo does not want to improve his relations with his main ally because, he said, the PLRA continues to be an essential political force in the Lugo administration. (Asuncion *ABC Color* Digital in Spanish -- Website of leading daily, highly critical of ANR-Colorado Party, owned by entrepreneur Aldo Zuccolillo; URL: <http://www.abc.com.py>)

**Leftist Senator Makes PLRA Responsible for Political Crisis --**

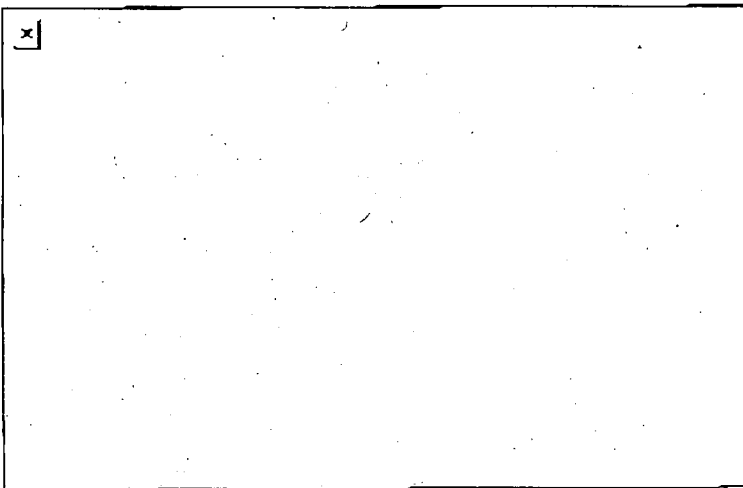
*ABC Color* reports that Senator Sixto Pereira of the leftist Tekojoja (Popular Party for Justice and Equity) yesterday accused the PLRA of being responsible for the current political crisis. He said that the PLRA has obstructed government proposal like the recent Senate rejection of the appointments of the Itaipu and Yacyreta Binational Enterprises directors. He also mentioned the PLRA objection to the proposal for Lugo's reelection and to the elimination of the senator for life status granted to former presidents (to allow Lugo to run for the Senate in the 2013 general elections). "Many times there is the intention to make believe that the crisis is created by the executive branch against the PLRA but it is on the contrary as in this case the PLRA, which is the government ally, is the one creating problems and therefore, the fact of a crisis cannot be denied," Pereira added. He said that there seems to be an electoral strategy to wear down the Lugo administration involving the PLRA, the Beloved Fatherland Party (PPQ), and the Unace.

**PLRA Leader Admits Alliance With Left Becomes 'Complicated' --**

reports that Deputy Salyn Buzarquis of the PLRA yesterday admitted that the party's relations with the leftist coalition Broad Front (FG) are quite deteriorated and that the possibilities for an alliance with the leftist group has become "complicated." He said that the leftist group does not tolerate the PLRA and that the FG leaders acted as "amateurs" by removing Mirtha Vergara and Hassan Khalil as ambassadors to Uruguay and Lebanon respectively because the two officials have nothing to do with the decisions made in Congress. He said that President Fernando Lugo should be better advised because he needs Congress to approve his government projects. He does not believe the PLRA is about to leave the government coalition because there are many PLRA members in the Lugo administration who would go over the party to keep their public positions. PLRA Senator Rocio Gonzalez termed the Lugo administration decision to fire the two ambassadors "imprudent." She warned that there could be a radical confrontation between the government and political sectors that could react from Congress to the dismissal of the two ambassadors, which she described as a policy of confrontation by the leftists to push the PLRA out of the government.

**Finance Minister Warns Possible Default If Congress Fails To Approve Government Proposals --**

Asuncion *Ultima Hora* reports that "we believe that at some time Congress will have to be realistic enough to consider the risks of the weakening of public financing. I believe and I have hope that Congress will debate some projects being held in order to obtain resources to be able to face the current budget extensions, otherwise we would be repeating history that hopefully will not occur such as the experience in 2003 with a fiscal crisis and the risks of a default," Finance Minister Dionisio Borda warned yesterday in relation to the budget increases approved by the Bicameral Budget Committee. [Asuncion *Ultima Hora*.com in Spanish -- Website of leading daily; Majority shareholder business and media entrepreneur A.J.Vierci; URL: <http://www.ultimahora.com/>]

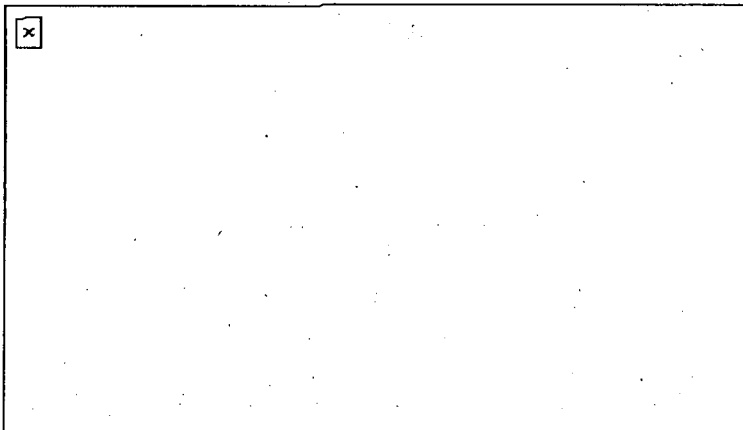


*Police exhibit weapons and ammunition seized from Marin (Source: ABC Color)*

**Public Employee Believed To Be Member of Armed Groups Logistics Arrested --**

ABC Color reports that investigators yesterday arrested Pedro Ignacio Marin Riquelme, 52, an employee of the Superior Electoral Court, in possession of two 9mm Bersa pistols, 10 boxes containing 50 rounds of 9mm ammunition, more than 100 rounds of 2.20- caliber ammunition, two boxes containing 50 rounds of 12-caliber ammunition, and 152 30-caliber ammunition. He was arrested in Mariano Roque Alonso after getting off a bus that came from Argentina and was getting ready to board another bus for Asuncion. He was expected to send the weapons and ammunition to Horqueta, Concepcion Department. Investigators believe Marin is a member of the logistics section of Paraguayan People's Army, EPP. Marin's contact has been identified as Venancio Villalba. He is the cousin of EPP member Carmen Villalba, who

is serving time on kidnapping charges.



*Wounded police officers recover in hospital (Source: ABC Color)*

**EPP Announces Revenge Over Deaths of 'Comrades'** -- ABC Color carries as report datelined Hugua Nandu, Concepcion Department, where the Police Regional Tactical Group is located, stating that investigators yesterday found two letters left by the EPP about 130 meters from the back of the group's facilities, which was attacked by sharpshooters two days ago. According to the letters, the EPP announces more revenge over the deaths of EPP "comrades" Gabriel Zarate Cardozo, aka "Simon," and Nimio Cardozo Caceres, aka "Anibal." One of the police officers was wounded in the neck and is in serious condition, and was transferred to Asuncion for treatment.

**No Selection:** Ciudad del Este Vanguardia

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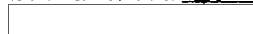
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**Highlights: Paraguay Press 19-21 Nov 11**LAP20111121025001 *Paraguay -- OSC Summary* in Spanish 19 Nov 11 - 21 Nov 11

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The following is a selection of highlights from the Paraguayan press on 19-21 November:

**Congress President Terms Appointment of New Attorney General 'Illegal' --** Asuncion *Ultima Hora* on 19 November reports that Congress President Senator Jorge Oviedo Matto (National Union of Ethical Citizens-Unace) yesterday said that the Senate confirmation of the appointment of Javier Diaz Veron as the new attorney general is "illegal." He explained that after he lifted the Senate scheduled session for lack of quorum to debate this issue, a group of senators violated Senate regulations by holding the special session on their own and confirming Diaz Veron as the new attorney general. He added that the senators should have waited for the special session he called for 23 November to either confirm or reject Diaz Veron's appointment. He also warned that President Fernando Lugo is exposing himself to an impeachment by signing a decree appointing Diaz Veron as head of the Attorney General's Office because the legality of his appointment is in question. However, he made clear that there are not enough votes in Congress to impeach Lugo and that the political class believes that Lugo should be allowed to conclude what remains of his term in office without any impediments. [Asuncion *Ultima Hora*.com in Spanish -- Website of leading daily; Majority shareholder business and media entrepreneur

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Paraguay -- OSC Summary  
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Spanish

Product ID  
LAP20111121025001  
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Content Type  
Summary  
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OSC Summary  
Precedence  
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Topic Region(s)  
Americas

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A.J.Vierci; URL: <http://www.ultimahora.com/>

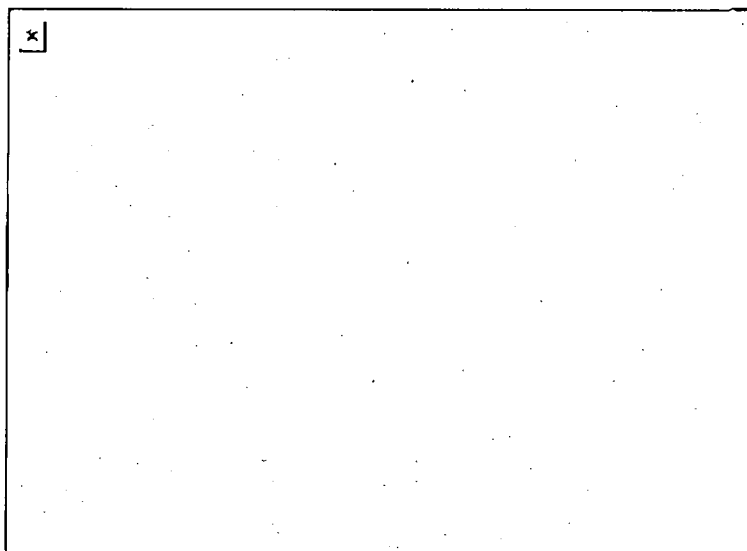
**Vice President Says Lugo Manipulates Government Party Members** -- *Ultima Hora* on 19 November reports that Vice President Federico Franco yesterday said that President Fernando Lugo is manipulating the docile members of the government coalition Authentic Radical Liberal Party, PLRA, to subdue the party. He made this comment in reference to the Senate appointment of Javier Diaz Veron as the new attorney general with the votes of the opposition Colorado Party (National Republican Association-ANR), six PLRA senators, and the other government party blocs. He also criticized the members of the PLRA faction headed by PLRA President Senator Blas Llano, who under pressure from Lugo changed their original stance rejecting Diaz Veron's appointment.

**PLRA Presidential Hopeful Says Lugo's Strategy Hard To Understand** -- Asuncion *ABC Color* on 19 November reports that "the truth is that it is hard to understand why Fernando Lugo went to the extreme betting for ANR member Javier Diaz Veron. I do not know what motivated the president's strategy," PLRA presidential hopeful Efrain Alegre said yesterday regarding Lugo's stance wanting Diaz Veron's confirmation as the new attorney general at any cost. Alegre regretted the change of stance on this issue by PLRA President Senator Blas Llano because he always opposed Diaz Veron's appointment. He said that principles cannot be negotiated and that the cheap policy advocated by some PLRA congressmen is a real shame. [Asuncion *ABC Color Digital* in Spanish -- Website of leading daily, highly critical of ANR-Colorado Party, owned by entrepreneur Aldo Zuccolillo; URL: <http://www.abc.com.py>]

**PLRA Senator Cannot Find Motive For Diaz Veron's Appointment** -- *ABC Color* on 19 November reports that PLRA Senator Miguel Abdon Saguier yesterday said that President Fernando Lugo, Camilo Soares (Movement Toward Socialism Party-P-MAS) and Senator Sixto Pereira (Popular Party for Justice and Equity) are inconsistent with their political positions because they supported Javier Diaz Veron, who comes from the most conservative wing of the opposition ANR, to become the new attorney general. "The truth is that I cannot find valid motives why Lugo and his leftist aides bet so much for Javier Diaz Veron, who comes from within the Honor Colorado Movement headed by (presidential hopeful) businessman Horacio Cartes." He said that it would have been more coherent if the government, which advocates socialism, had chosen an attorney general who is sensitive to social demands. "I ask myself, how is someone who was chosen from the ultra right is going to act? I would like someone from the (leftist coalition) Broad Front to explain that to me because that sector went to an extreme betting for the candidate who belongs to the Cartes movement. Now, thanks to those who support Lugo and a sector of the PLRA, there are great possibilities that in the future social demands and even the demands for a more dignified life run the risk of being criminalized," Saguier warned. "If we want change, better not play the game of the right. Acting that way is like being a useful idiot," Saguier added.

Topic Subregion(s)	South Americas, North Americas
Event(s)	
International Organization(s)	
Topic(s)	DOMESTIC ECONOMIC, DOMESTIC POLITICAL, INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL, LEADER
Program Title(s)	
Program Type(s)	
Speaker(s)	

21



*Opposition Senator Marcelo Duarte (Source: ABC Color)*

**Senator Says Diaz Veron's Appointment Reveals Lugo-ANR Pact To Prevent Future Legal Charges** -- *ABC Color* on 19 November reports that in reaction to the appointment of Javier Diaz Veron as the new attorney general, opposition Senator Marcelo Duarte of the PPQ (Beloved Fatherland Party), president of the Senate Legislative Committee, yesterday said that what really worries him is that the appointment reveals the existence of a pact for impunity between President Fernando Lugo and an ANR sector in case either Lugo or political leaders who supported Diaz Veron such as ANR Senator Juan Carlos Galaverna, former President Nicanor Duarte Frutos, or PLRA President Senator Blas Llano have to confront legal charges in the future. He asserted that the events in the Senate on 17 November when a circumstantial Senate majority confirmed Diaz Veron as the new attorney general were "absolutely sep up."

**Leftist Coalition Announces Willingness To Resume Talks With PLRA** -- *Asuncion La Nacion* on 20 November reports that the leftist coalition FG, which supports the Fernando Lugo administration, is now willing to resume talks with the PLRA to discuss a great alliance in preparation for the 2013 general elections. The PLRA senators' drastic decision to change their stance and to vote for the confirmation of Javier Diaz Veron as the new attorney general opened a new political scenario for talks. Tekojoja leader Marcos Caceres announced yesterday. The FG leaders are scheduled to meet tomorrow to prepare the team that will negotiate a political agreement with the PLRA. [Asuncion LA NACION Online in Spanish -- Website of daily owned by entrepreneur and Colorado Party member Osvaldo Dominguez Dibb; URL: <http://www.lanacion.com.py/>]

**Leftist Leader Does Not Rule Out Alliance With Unace** -- *Ultima Hora* on 21 November reports that Tekojoja leader Marcos Caceres, who is the FG secretary general, yesterday explained that there is a majority within the FG that does not rule out the possibility to hold talks with the Unace headed by Lino Oviedo seeking an alliance in preparation for the 2013 general elections. However, he admitted that there are leftist sectors such as the one headed by Camilo Soares (Movement Toward Socialism Party-P-MAS) that strongly rejects any talks with the Oviedo group but that the majority are open minded about it. He added that the FG will definitely not hold talks with the ANR faction headed by presidential hopeful Horacio Cartes.

**Analyst Assesses Lugo's Political Victory in Senate** -- *ABC Color* on 19 November carries an article by political analyst Osmar Gomez assessing President Fernando Lugo's first political victory in Congress by having his candidate for attorney general

confirmed by the Senate. (OSC will provide a full translation of this item)

**WikiLeaks Discloses Lugo Knew FARC Presence in San Pedro** -- *La Nacion* on 19 November reports that according to a WikiLeaks disclosure, on 29 March 2007 then US Ambassador James Cason sent a confidential cable to Washington making a profile of Fernando Lugo a few months after he announced his presidential candidacy and revealing that cattleman Rafael Perrone of San Pedro assured a US Embassy official that Lugo was aware that a Colombian FARC member was here in 2000 providing training, not disclosing to whom, and that the FARC member even tried to recruit Lugo 11 years ago.

**Central Bank Reports Imports From China Surpasses Brazil** -- *Ultima Hora* on 21 November reports that according to the Central Bank, Paraguay is now buying more from China than from Brazil. In 2010 imports from China stood at \$3.255 billion and in the first nine months of this year it stands at \$2.594 billion. It adds that Paraguay practically sells nothing to China only products for \$34 million in 2010 and only \$24 million so far this year.

**Treasury To Release \$685 Million in Salaries, Christmas Bonus** -- *La Nacion* on 21 November reports that starting today until 28 December the Finance Ministry will inject into the economy around \$685 million to pay the November and December salaries, pensions, and Christmas bonuses.

**No Selection:** Ciudad del Este Vanguardia

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**From:****Sent:**

Tuesday, December 27, 2011 5:31 AM

**Subject:**

Highlights: Paraguay Press 24-26 Dec 11 (Paraguay News)

**Highlights: Paraguay Press 24-26 Dec 11**LAP20111226025001 *Paraguay -- OSC Summary* in Spanish 24 Dec 11 - 26 Dec 11

The following is a selection of highlights from the Paraguayan press on 24-26 December:

**Lugo Does Not Deliver Traditional Christmas Message** -- Asuncion *Ultima Hora* on 25 December reports that President Fernando Lugo did not deliver the traditional Christmas message as he has in the last three years and decided instead to deliver the end-of-the year message tomorrow to report on the achievement of his administration, the Information and Communication Secretariat, Sicom, reported yesterday. [Asuncion Ultima Hora.com in Spanish -- Website of leading daily; Majority shareholder business and media entrepreneur A.J. Vierci; URL: <http://www.ultimahora.com/>]

**Government Presents Human Rights Book, Program** -- Asuncion *ABC Color* on 24 December reports that the government yesterday presented separately a book and a plan on human rights. The Paraguayan Government makes a commitment to guarantee human rights, Foreign Minister Jorge Lara Castro said during the presentation of the book "Paraguay Before the Human Rights Universal System" held at the Foreign Ministry. Lara Castro admitted that in spite of the progress made, the government has a challenge ahead for promoting and guaranteeing human rights, which are necessary to strengthen society. The book has the reports submitted in 1020 and 2011 to the UN supervision organizations. In another act held at a downtown hotel, Justice and Labor minister Humberto Blasco publicly asked President Fernando Lugo for greater commitment to consolidate human rights in Paraguay. He made the call during the presentation of the Human Rights Action Plan, which seeks to create consensus between the state and civilian society for making a diagnosis of the situation of human rights in order to draw a strategy involving state and social organizations. [Asuncion ABC Color Digital in Spanish -- Website of leading daily, highly critical of ANR-Colorado Party, owned by entrepreneur Aldo Zuccolillo; URL: <http://www.abc.com.py>]

**Senator Terms Venezuelan President's Interest In Joining Mercosur 'Political'** -- *ABC Color* on 24 December reports that opposition Senator Miguel Carrizosa, president of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, yesterday said that Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez's desire to join the Mercosur is not economic but "political." He said that what Chavez pretends is to have greater influence in the region and that this is why a good assessment should be made to allow Venezuelan membership in the bloc. He said that decisions in the bloc are made by consensus and how this would work with Chavez's presence remains to be seen. However, Carrizosa believes that in spite of the current obstacles, Venezuela will eventually become a full Mercosur member and he did not even rule out the possibility that the Paraguayan Congress could change its current stance and approve the membership.

**Government Plans To Limit Land Sale to Foreigners** -- *Ultima Hora* on 25 December reports that the government is concerned about the lands owned by foreigners in an area of 50km from the borders, which is prohibited by law and which is

Source Name Paraguay -- OSC Summary
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Precedence Routine
Topic Country(s) Paraguay, Venezuela
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not being respected. Therefore, the government has a study revealing that it needs \$200 million to reorganize the national territory and to limit the land sale to foreigners to no more than 1,000 hectares. President Fernando Lugo said that he plans to submit to Congress next year a draft law regulating land sale to foreigners in order to adjust to the laws that have already been implemented in Argentina and Brazil. "We will also submit a request to Congress and we will see what happens. We have a border security law but it is not being respected. We are not against foreigners but our compatriots come first," Lugo said.

**Police Chief's Removal Could Lead to Rescue of Imprisoned Armed Group Leaders** -- *ABC Color* on 25 December reports that the possible replacement of Enrique Isasi, who is the chief of the Police Specialized Group where Alcides Oviedo Britez, "commander" of the Paraguayan People's Army, EPP, is serving time, will facilitate the EPP to rescue Oviedo from prison. According to some sources, the changes being made in the National Police may also affect Isasi because the new National Police Commander Paulino Rojas is reportedly under pressure from the politicians who helped him to become police chief and that Isasi would be replaced by a senior officer who is loyal to the leaders of the leftist Tekojoja (Popular Party for Justice and Equity headed by Senator Sixto Pereira). The rescue operation is included in the manual written by Oviedo and delivered to his commanders. Therefore, the EPP is reportedly only waiting for the appropriate time to rescue Oviedo and the other EPP leaders Aldo Meza, Osmar Martinez, Anastacio Mieres, Vaciano Acosta and other EPP members being held at the same facility.

**Government Ignores Key Intelligence Report To Capture EPP** -- *ABC Color* on 26 December reports that police sources confirmed to this daily that late in July or early in August of this year the government was informed that the EPP was infiltrated and that its main leaders could be captured because the exact location of their camps was located. The alert was given to the police leadership when Federico Acuna was interior minister but who a few days later resigned or was forced to resign. Acuna is currently Interior Minister Carlos Filizzola's adviser and security chief of the Itaipu Binational Enterprise. The second alert was given two days after the EPP attack on the Capitan Gimenez Police Precinct. One of the sources swore that some of his colleagues in the Interior Ministry informed him that President Fernando Lugo himself gave the order not to move on against the armed group. For security reasons this daily is not revealing the names of those who gave the information, the report says.

**No Selection:** Asuncion La Nacion, Ciudad del Este Vanguardia

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From:

Sent:

Subject:

Wednesday, December 28, 2011 9:03 AM

Highlights: Paraguay Press 28 Dec 11 (Paraguay News)

**Highlights: Paraguay Press 28 Dec 11**LAP20111228025001 *Paraguay -- OSC Summary* in Spanish 28 Dec 11

[For assistance with multimedia elements, contact OSC at 1-800-205-8615 or

The following is a selection of highlights from the Paraguayan press on 28 December:

*Peasant leaders arrive at presidential residence (Source: La Nacion)*

**Lugo Meet at Luncheon With Questioned Peasant Leaders --** Asuncion *La Nacion* reports that as part of the end of the year festivities, President Fernando Lugo yesterday gave a luncheon at the Mburuvicha Roga Presidential Residence to questioned peasant leaders involved in land invasions, who arrived in expensive vehicles and carrying the latest cellular phone models. Before going into the residence, San Pedro Department Governor Jose "Pakova" Ledesma said that it is necessary to submit to Congress a bill limiting the purchase of large pieces of land not only to foreigners but also to Paraguayan nationals because many of them own extensive properties being used to grow soybean. Ledesma arrived with peasant leaders Jose Rodriguez, Eulalio Lopez, and Victoriano Lopez. After listening to the demands by Ledesma and the peasant leaders, Lugo asked for time until January to deal with the issues related to land ownership, the environment, the personal income tax, and taxes on natural products because he needs the support of more people to allow the policies to be implemented to be more concrete and to have more strength. [Asuncion LA NACION Online in Spanish -- Website of daily owned by entrepreneur and Colorado Party member Osvaldo Dominguez Dibb; URL: <http://www.lanacion.com.py/>]

**Interior Minister Calls for Respect of Private Property --** In a related article, Asuncion *Ultima Hora* reports that President Fernando Lugo met with San Pedro Department Governor Jose "Pakova" Ledesma and several peasant leaders to discuss agrarian reform and to hear their demands, which had the participation of Interior Minister Carlos Filizzola. After the meeting Filizzola called for the respect of private property and that priority must be given to preventive tasks when conflicts for land possession emerge in order to prevent violence, an Interior Ministry official declaration says. It adds that the courts must decide in each case who owns the properties in conflict. [Asuncion *Ultima Hora*.com in Spanish -- Website of leading daily; Majority shareholder business and media entrepreneur A.J.Vierci; URL: <http://www.ultimahora.com/>]

**Publication Terms Plan To Limit Land Ownership 'Great Stupidity' --** In another related article, Asuncion *ABC Color* carries an editorial describing the useless ideas advocated by President Fernando Lugo and the radical Bolivarians to limit foreigners the right to own land as "great stupidity." It says that it is easy to interpret what is behind this type of political measure advocated by leftist Latin American "nationalists" who resort to doctrines rather than rational criteria "to hit" to private property. The senators and deputies who are against limiting land ownership do well in discouraging

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South Americas  
Event(s)  
International Organization(s)  
Topic(s)  
DOMESTIC POLITICAL, LEADER

Program Title(s)  
Program Type(s)  
Speaker(s)

Lugo's "harum-scarum" ideas imitating the wrong foreign models, the editorial concludes. [Asuncion ABC Color Digital in Spanish -- Website of leading daily, highly critical of ANR-Colorado Party, owned by entrepreneur Aldo Zuccolillo; URL: <http://www.abc.com.py>]

**Lugo Removes Police Chief in Charge of Guarding Imprisoned Armed Group Members** -- ABC Color reports that as predicted, President Fernando Lugo yesterday removed without any apparent reason Enrique Isasi as chief of the National Police Specialized Group where Alcides Oviedo Brites, head of the Paraguayan People's Army, EPP, and the other EPP leaders Osmar Martinez, Aldo Meza, and Anastacio Mieres are serving time. Interior Minister Carlos Filizzola and National Police Commander Paulino Rojas made the announcement during a news conference. It is believed that Isasi's removal will weaken the group's security system and that it will facilitate the implementation of "Operation Cava" to rescue the imprisoned EPP leaders. Juan Carlos Sanabria, who has little operational experience, is the new head of the Specialized Group. Another report says that Order and Security Chief Diosnel Ferreira was replaced by Carlos Barreto, who was head of the First Police Zone covering Asuncion, and the Central and Cordillera Departments.

**EPP Reportedly Plans To Leave for Colombia** -- ABC Color carries an article by Mabel Rehnfeldt revealing that according to people who contacted EPP leaders, the armed group is reportedly planning to leave the country in 2013 before President Fernando Lugo concludes his term in office (15 August 2013). The EPP plan is to go to Colombia through Venezuela after taking the lives of former Interior Minister Rafael Filizzola and a prosecutor who has not been identified but who is believed to be Sandra Quinonez. This information coincides with insistent rumors that the EPP will try to rescue its imprisoned leaders being held at the Police Specialized Group.

**No Selection:** Ciudad del Este Vanguardia

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: [REDACTED]

Sent:

Thursday, January 05, 2012 7:54 AM

Subject:

Highlights: Paraguay Press 5 Jan 12 (Paraguay News)

**Highlights: Paraguay Press 5 Jan 12**LAP20120105025001 *Paraguay -- OSC Summary* In Spanish 05 Jan 12

[For assistance with multimedia elements, contact OSC at 1-800-205-8615 or [REDACTED]]

The following is a selection of highlights from the Paraguayan press on 5 January:

**Lugo Signs 'Sneaky' Mercosur Protocol Allowing Foreign Intervention --**

Asuncion *ABC Color* reports that during the 21-22 December Mercosur Summit held in Montevideo, Uruguay, President Fernando Lugo signed behind the country's back the "sneaky" "Montevideo Protocol for commitment with democracy in the Mercosur," which was approved by Presidents Cristina de Kirchner of Argentina, Dilma Rousseff of Brazil, Jose Mujica of Uruguay, Hugo Chavez of Venezuela, and Rafael Correa of Ecuador. The protocol's content was approved by the Mercosur foreign ministers before the summit and it was then submitted to the presidents for approval. The protocol, which was not exposed to public debate in any of the Mercosur countries, establishes the possibility of immediate foreign intervention in Paraguay in case Lugo undergoes an impeachment for corruption or malfeasance in office because the protocol considers an eventual impeachment a "threat of rupture of the democratic order." In other words, under the argument of a threat to democracy, the protocol would allow Brazil to cutoff the electricity from the Itaipu Binational Hydroelectric Plant or authorize Chavez to send troops to Paraguay. It can be deduced that although the protocol applies to all the Mercosur countries, it seems that it has been designed for Paraguay because it is a landlocked country and not for the other countries that have sea coasts. Congress, which has to study the document for approval, has not been informed about the protocol, the report says. [Asuncion *ABC Color* Digital In Spanish -- Website of leading daily, highly critical of ANR-Colorado Party, owned by entrepreneur Aldo Zuccolillo; URL: <http://www.abc.com.py>]

*Deputy Justo Cardenas (Source: ABC Color)*

**Deputy Says Congress To Reject Montevideo Protocol --** *ABC Color* reports that Deputy Justo Cardenas of the opposition ANR (National Republican Association-Colorado Party), president of the Chamber of Deputies Foreign Relations Committee, yesterday regretted that the "Ushuaia Protocol II" was signed in a sneaky way by the Mercosur presidents. He explained that a copy of the protocol he read is not the official document but that he was surprised to read about the measures that would be taken against Paraguay in case the democratic process is ruptured. "We will categorically reject the addition to the Ushuaia Protocol. We will do it in a strong manner to defend as appropriate the country's interests and sovereignty," Cardenas added.

**Senator Says Congress Must Debate Montevideo Protocol --** *ABC Color* reports that government Senator Miguel Abdon Saguier (Authentic Radical Liberal Party) yesterday explained that any modification of an international agreement must necessarily go through Congress. He said that after the government submits the "Montevideo Protocol on Commitment with Democracy in the Mercosur," Ushuaia II,

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Topic Region(s) Americas
Topic Subregion(s) South Americas
Event(s)
International Organization(s) Mercosur
Topic(s) DOMESTIC ECONOMIC, DOMESTIC POLITICAL, HEALTH, INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL, LEADER
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Congress will debate it and only if approved and becomes law Paraguay will be obligated to abide by the protocol. He explained that this type of measure is normal in the process of integration to discourage any attempts against democracy. He added that democracies must also become international in the face of threats.

**Mercosur Commission To Lobby for Venezuela To Arrive Second Half In January** -- Asuncion *Ultima Hora* reports that Ignacio Mendoza, president of the Parlasur (Mercosur Parliament), yesterday met with Senator Efraim Alegre, president of the Congress Permanent Committee (during the summer recess). After the meeting, Mendoza revealed that the Mercosur High-Level Commission, which would be headed by Brazilian Science and Technology Minister Aloizio Mercadante, and congressmen of Argentina, Brazil, and Uruguay, will arrive in the second half of January to start lobbying for the congressional approval of Venezuela's membership in the Mercosur. [Asuncion *Ultima Hora*.com in Spanish -- Website of leading daily; Majority shareholder business and media entrepreneur A.J.Vierci; URL: <http://www.ultimahora.com/>]

**Government Declares Animal Health Emergency in San Pedro** -- Asuncion *La Nacion* reports that President Fernando Lugo yesterday signed a decree declaring animal health emergency in the Aguaray Amistad region of San Pedro del Ycuamandiyu, San Pedro Department, after a new outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease was detected in a cattle ranch in this region. [Asuncion *LA NACION* Online in Spanish -- Website of daily owned by entrepreneur and Colorado Party member Osvaldo Dominguez Dibb; URL: <http://www.lanacion.com.py/>]

**Central Bank Reports Record-High Soybean Exports** -- *ABC Color* reports that according to figures released by the Central Bank, soybean exports in 2011 stood at \$2.295 billion representing 42% of Paraguayan total exports to different world markets. The figure also represents an increase of 44% over soybean exports in 2010.

**Forest Fire Burns Out of Control in Caazapa National Park** -- *ABC Color* carries a report datelined San Juan Nepomuceno, Caazapa Department, stating that a forest fire broke out at noon on 1 January and it has already destroyed 50 hectares of the Caazapa National Park of 16,000 hectares. The fire is out of control due to the drought and high winds affecting the area, fire fighters said.

**No Selection:** Ciudad del Este Vanguardia

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