

MARIO DIAZ-BALART

25TH DISTRICT, FLORIDA

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CHAIRMAN

The Honorable John F. Kerry

Secretary of State

United States Department of State

2201 C Street

Washington, D.C. 20520

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0925

September 10, 2014

436 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-4211
FAX: (202) 225-8576

DISTRICT OFFICES:

8669 N.W. 36TH STREET
SUITE 100
DORAL, FL 33166
(305) 470-8555
FAX: (305) 470-8575

4715 GOLDEN GATE PARKWAY
SUITE ONE
NAPLES, FL 34116
(239) 348-1620
FAX: (239) 348-3569

Dear Secretary Kerry,

I write to ensure that you are aware that the pro-Castro band “Buena Fe” plans to enter the United States for a concert in Miami later this month, and to respectfully ask, within all applicable rules and regulations, that you carefully and judiciously consider whether they are worthy of the extraordinary privilege of U.S. entry.

According to reports by *Diario de Cuba*, “Buena Fe” members Israel Rojas Fiel and Yoel Martinez Rodriguez will play at the Miami Dade County Auditorium on September 18, 2014. Yet regrettably, they are mouthpieces of the Castro dictatorship who are featured frequently in the state publication *Granma* and other Castro regime propaganda.

For example, band member Israel Rojas routinely criticizes the “hostility” of the United States toward Cuba, and disparages the courageous Ladies in White. In an interview for *Progreso Weekly*, he refers to the “historic hostility of the United States government, of their dominant classes, towards Cuba” and laments “their proposition of controlling and dominating the destinies of this country.” He advises Cuban-Americans: “Don’t support the blockade, don’t support hostile acts; ask yourself why the USAID wants to come with a smile on its lips and a dagger behind its back; why in hell is a hostile situation maintained with Cuba that isn’t repeated – although they fall back on the same justifications – with Saudi Arabia, or with China or with Vietnam.” Because the band members tout the Castro regime’s tired excuses and accusations against the United States and U.S. policy, they are given access and performance opportunities in Cuba. They performed at a the eighty-eighth birthday party of Fidel Castro.

Accordingly, I urge you to carefully weigh the advisability of providing U.S. entry to members of “Buena Fe” under these circumstances. U.S. entry is an extraordinary privilege which should not be granted to the propaganda arm of a brutal dictatorship that actively opposes U.S. interests and policy at every opportunity.

Sincerely,



Mario Diaz-Balart

Member of Congress

www.house.gov/mariodiaz-balart