

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

December 12, 2013

The Honorable John F. Kerry  
Secretary of State  
United States Department of State  
2201 C Street  
Washington, D.C. 20520

Dear Secretary Kerry,

We write to ensure that you are aware of the egregious acts of repression perpetrated by the band “Arnaldo y su Talismán,” and to respectfully ask, within all applicable rules and regulations, that you deny U.S. entry to known human rights abusers.

According to a December 11, 2013 article that appeared in *Diario de Cuba* entitled “‘Mueran las Damas de Blanco’, Gritan los Represores,” members of the pro-Castro band “Arnaldo y su Talismán” engaged in repugnant acts of repression against pro-democracy activists in Cuba on December 10, 2013, International Human Rights Day. Shockingly, these human rights abusers claim that they will be traveling to the United States as part of a “cultural exchange.”

According to the Presidential Proclamation “Suspension of Entry as Immigrants and Nonimmigrants of Persons Who Participate in Serious Human Rights and Humanitarian Law Violations and Other Abuses” of August 4, 2011, aliens who have committed or assisted in human rights abuses shall not be permitted to enter the United States:

Section 1. The entry into the United States, as immigrants or nonimmigrants, of the following persons is hereby suspended:

- (a) Any alien who planned, ordered, assisted, aided and abetted, committed or otherwise participated in, including through command responsibility, widespread or systematic violence against any civilian population based in whole or in part on race; color; descent; sex; disability; membership in an indigenous group; language; religion; political opinion; national origin; ethnicity; membership in a particular social group; birth; or sexual orientation or gender identity, or who attempted or conspired to do so.
- (b) Any alien who planned, ordered, assisted, aided and abetted, committed or otherwise participated in, including through command responsibility, war crimes, crimes against humanity or other serious violations of human rights, or who attempted or conspired to do so.

Under the President’s own proclamation, these Castro regime abettors must not be permitted U.S. entry.

We fully agree with the Proclamation’s introductory rationale that “The United States enduring commitment to respect for human rights and humanitarian law requires that its Government be able to ensure that the United States does not become a safe haven for serious violators of human rights and humanitarian law and those who engage in other related abuses.”

As such, we urge you to deny U.S. entry to members of “Arnaldo y su Talismán” and any other human rights abusers who request the extraordinary privilege of visiting the United States.

Sincerely,



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Mario Diaz-Balart



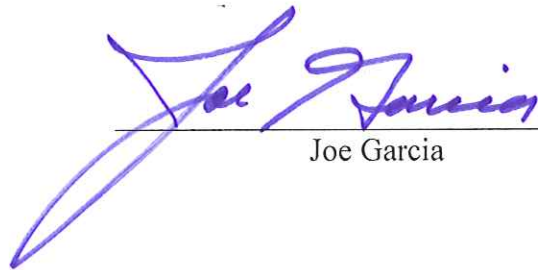
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Ileana Ros-Lehtinen



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Joe Garcia