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# Shultz protests anti-CIA mural in Ecuador but attends inaugural

By Richard Beeston  
THE WASHINGTON TIMES

QUITO, Ecuador — Secretary of State George P. Shultz, attending yesterday's inauguration of Rodrigo Borja as president, angrily protested a giant mural in Ecuador's congress portraying the CIA as a death's head in a German helmet.

But, Mr. Shultz said, just as "an attack by bombs on me" Monday in Bolivia had not changed his schedule, the insulting mural would not prevent his attending the inauguration.

Mr. Borja took office as president, replacing Leon Febres Cordero. Relations are so bad between the two that Mr. Febres refused to hand him the presidential sash. Instead he left it with the president of congress to be picked up by Mr. Borja.

Though Mr. Borja's politics are far to the left of Mr. Febres, U.S. officials said they hope to maintain good relations with Ecuador.

The first official contact was not promising.

Mr. Shultz told Mr. Borja that the 430-square-yard mural behind the speaker's podium, and the presence in Quito of Cuba's president Fidel Castro and scheduled arrival of Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega sent the American people the wrong message.

After meeting with Mr. Borja, he declared that the mural was "a message of insult to the United States."

It represents the United States as a Darth Vader-looking skull wearing a German helmet inscribed with the letters CIA.

Mr. Shultz said the mural's second message was about "the desirability of the progress of the far left."

"As to the insult to the United States, I don't appreciate it. But just as an attack by bombs on me in Bolivia earlier on this trip didn't deter my schedule at all, though something very different, . . . perhaps designed to cause me not to go to this inauguration and join in celebrating democracy — well, that won't work, either. And I'll go."

State Department spokesman Charles Redman said Mr. Borja told Mr. Shultz "he hoped the incident would not cast a shadow on our relations."

Mr. Borja told Mr. Shultz he had no doubt the United States strongly supports democracy and said he wanted to strengthen relations and economic ties with Washington.

Mr. Shultz delivered to Mr. Borja a letter of congratulations from President Reagan.

The controversial mural was commissioned by congress at the initiative of a member of the Democratic Left Party. The artist is Osvaldo Guayasamin, one of Ecuador's best-known.

"I believe in freedom of speech," Mr. Shultz said. "The painter is entitled to his freedom of speech and so am I. But I think the facts are on my side."

As to the second part of the message in the mural, Mr. Shultz said that the leftist methods of running an economy by central control "simply doesn't work." He said the most recent example of this was in Nicaragua.

Though Mr. Shultz might not have been deterred by the Bolivian bomber, security was changed to prevent a recurrence in Ecuador. In a last minute decision he was flown by a U.S. military helicopter from Quito airport to a football field near the U.S. Embassy, obviating the six-mile drive.

U.S. reporters traveling aboard a U.S. Air Force plane to report on Mr. Shultz' 10-day Latin American tour were warned that, if the need for an evacuation arises, they risked being left behind if they strayed far from the press center.

In Quito, Mr. Shultz, who has been the celebrity in visits to eight countries in the past eight days, shared the limelight with Mr. Castro who arrived a day earlier.

But Mr. Shultz did not meet with Mr. Castro.

The head of Nicaragua's Marxist government, Mr. Ortega, arrives in Ecuador today after having been barred from yesterday's ceremonies by Mr. Febres. Mr. Febres broke relations with Nicaragua after Mr. Ortega called him a tool of the United States.

Mr. Borja is expected soon to re-establish diplomatic relations with Nicaragua.

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