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**CABLE DATED 17 JULY 1965 FROM THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY-GENERAL  
OF THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL  
OF THE UNITED NATIONS**

Washington, D.C., 17 July 1965

In accordance with Article 54 of the Charter of the United Nations, I have the honour to transmit to you for the information of the Security Council cable No. 373 dated 16 July from the Secretary-General of the OAS to the Chairman of the Tenth Meeting of Consultation:

"No. 373

"Mr. Guillermo Sevilla Sacasa  
Chairman, Tenth Meeting of Consultation  
of Ministers of Foreign Affairs  
Washington, D.C. .

"The Commission on Human Rights visited the La Victoria penitentiary in order to investigate the condition of the political prisoners by interviewing them. They were in good health, stating that they had not suffered ill-treatment, and are permitted visits from members of their families. The Director of the penitentiary assured the Commission that there was no foundation for rumours that gas was used in the prisoners' cells or that visits from their families were being hindered. There are 592 political prisoners in the penitentiary. It was established that sick prisoners were receiving medical attention. The Commission received thirty-five persons who made accusations regarding violations of human rights. The Commission learnt that at the headquarters of the national police some officers of the armed forces, including Colonel Caonabo Fernandez and Lieutenant Colonel José Mauricio Fernandez had been on a hunger strike for two days, requesting information concerning the Government of National Reconstruction.

"Tomorrow, 17 July, the Chairman of the Commission, Mr. Manuel Bianchi, will travel to Washington in order to preside over the second extraordinary session of the Commission which will be held there from 21 to 24 July for the sole purpose of examining the human rights situation in the Dominican Republic.

"During Mr. Bianchi's absence, Mr. Isidoro Zanotti will be responsible for the affairs of the Commission on Human Rights in Santo Domingo.

"The joint command of the Inter-American Peace Force reports that on 15 July there was an attack by the forces of the Constitutional Government. It consisted of a single shot, which was answered by the Inter-American Force.

(Signed) José A. MORA  
Secretary-General of the OAS"

Accept, Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

(Signed) William SANDERS  
Assistant Secretary-General of the  
Organization of American States

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