RELEASE IN FULL

From:

Mills, Cheryl D < MillsCD@state.gov>

Sent:

Thursday, March 8, 2012 3:41 PM

To:

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Subject:

FW: Cuba blames US for Summit of the Americas snub

From: Reynoso, Julissa

Sent: Thursday, March 08, 2012 2:04 PM

To: Mills, Cheryl D

Subject: Fw: Cuba blames US for Summit of the Americas snub

Am really looking forward to our meeting with Bruno....

From: MOSAIC NewsDesk [mailto:NewsDesk@sosimosaic.com]

Sent: Thursday, March 08, 2012 12:33 PM

To: Latin America and Caribbean News Alerts < latin america and caribbean alerts@lists.sosimosaic.com >

Subject: Cuba blames US for Summit of the Americas snub

Date: March 8, 2012

Cuba blames US for Summit of the Americas snub

 ${\tt HAVANA}$ (AP) — Cuba is accusing Washington of pressuring to keep the island nation from attending next month's Summit of the Americas.

Cuban Foreign Minister Bruno Rodriguez says it's no surprise given past U.S. policy toward the communist-run island.

He calls it a "chronicle of an exclusion foretold," playing off the title of a novella by Colombian writer Gabriel Garcia Marquez.

Rodriguez spoke at a news conference Thursday, a day after President Raul Castro met with Juan Manuel Santos of summit host Colombia.

Santos indicated that his country would not be inviting Cuba.

Members of the leftist ALBA bloc of nations had proposed a possible summit boycott if Cuba was not invited.

U.S. officials say Cuba does not meet the summit's standards for democracy.

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