



Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela

# Communiqué

## **One destroyer against nine fishermen: hostile provocation by the US in waters under Venezuelan jurisdiction**

The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela denounces that, on Friday, September 12, the Venezuelan vessel “Carmen Rosa,” manned by nine humble tuna fishermen, sailing 48 nautical miles northeast of La Blanquilla Island, in waters belonging to the Venezuelan Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ), was illegally and hostile assaulted by the US Navy destroyer USS “Jason Dunham” (DDG-109), equipped with powerful cruise missiles and manned by highly trained marines.

The warship deployed eighteen troops with long weapons who boarded and occupied the small, harmless vessel for eight hours, preventing communication and the normal activities of the fishermen who were engaged in authorized tuna fishing, in an operation that lacked any strategic proportionality and constituted a direct provocation through the illegal use of excessive military means.



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Those who order these provocations are looking for an incident that will justify an escalation of war in the Caribbean. By placing their soldiers and officers as cannon fodder and exposing their lives once again, they repeat the history of other events that led to endless wars, such as Vietnam.

This incident reflects the shameful behavior of political groups in Washington that, irresponsibly, commit extremely costly military resources and trained soldiers as tools to fabricate pretexts for military adventures, also undermining their own prestige and military honor by executing such a grotesque and excessive maneuver.

The Bolivarian National Armed Forces, faithful to its constitutional duty, monitored and recorded the incident minute by minute with its air, naval, and surveillance means, accompanying the fishermen at all times until their release, demonstrating Venezuela's full capacity to monitor, deter, and respond to any threat, without falling into provocations that tarnish its vocation for peace.



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The Venezuelan government demands that the United States immediately cease these actions that jeopardize the security and peace of the Caribbean, while calling on the American people to recognize the gravity of these maneuvers and reject the use of their soldiers as sacrificial pawns to sustain the desires of a greedy and predatory elite.

Our country reaffirms its commitment to peace and will continue to defend its sovereignty and the security of its waters in the face of any provocation.

**Caracas, september 13, 2025**