C05144916-

.. Approved for Release: 2023/10/18 C05144916

## STATEMENT FOR THE VENEZUELAN MINISTER OF DEFENSE THROUGH U.S. ATTACHE IN CARACAS.

The equipments which impacted near La Fria, Venezuela, which were returned to the U.S. Government by Venezuelan authorities have been established as being portions of a space vehicle launched from Vandenberg AFB, California, for the purpose of assisting in the development of spacecraft techniques and technology. This space vehicle was estimated to have re-entered the atmosphere through normal decay 26 May 64 in the general Caribbean area. Examination of the equipment by U.S. technicians will provide extremely valuable corroborating data re the performance of spacecraft. (Para) Cooperation rendered by the Venezuelan Government, the Venezuelan Army, Police officials, and the good citizens of Venezuela, without which this valuable data would not have been available, is greatly appreciated.

Hack C