

CONDECORACION A LA SEÑORA JEANE KIRKPATRICK Y EL SENADOR RICHARD LUGAR WASHINGTON, DÍA THURSDAY MAY 12TH 2005

- 1. It is for me a special satisfaction to share with you this opportunity, in which I will have the honor to honor two good friends of the People of Nicaragua, Mrs. Jeane Kirkpatrick and Senator Richard Lugar.
- 2. Throughout many years both have given us a firm support from their respective and relevant positions, both have been committed to the freedom, Peace and Democracy in our country.
- 3. During President Ronald Reagan successful 1980 campaign, Ms Kirkpatrick stood out as his foreign policy adviser and then as U.S. ambassador to the United Nations. She was given Cabinet rank and was also a member of Reagan's national security team. Ms Kirkpatrick has been recognized for her intense fight against communism.
- 4. For her support to the cause of Democracy in the world and especially in Nicaragua, for her outstanding work in defense of the individual liberties and for her high human values and Nicaraguan support to the People, the Government of Nicaragua has decided to give her this special recognition, Ruben Darío Order in Great Cross Degree, with which Nicaragua distinguishes Ms Kirkpatrick work for the building up and strengthening of the ties of friendship and cooperation between our two countries.
- 5. The People and Government of Nicaragua value very much the efforts of Senator Lugar in defending Freedom and Democracy around the world and for the role he has played in helping us achieve freedom and Democracy in the Central American region and in our country.

- During his chairmanship of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee Senator Lugar was instrumental in promoting democracy around the world.
- 7. Senator Lugar is the longest serving U.S. Senator in Indiana history. He won a fifth term in 2000, his third consecutive victory by a twothirds majority. He has been an untiring promoter of free-trade, economic growth, and US leadership in the world, as well as an anticorruption fighter, who has supported Nicaraguan government commitment to transparency, accountability, Rule of Law and Democracy.
- 8. The Order of Rubén Darío is the symbol of the highest honor and recognition that grants the State of Nicaragua to nationals or foreigners for their exceptional service to our democratic process and to the wellbeing of our people.
- 9. On behalf of the people of Nicaragua, I take pride in granting the Ruben Dario Order in Great Cross Degree to Senator Lugar as a gesture of gratitude for his work in helping us preserve our democratic process, helping in our fight against corruption, and for strengthening the ties of friendship of our two countries.
- 10. It is a privilege for me to honor these two good friends of Nicaragua with this special Order.

Thank you very much.