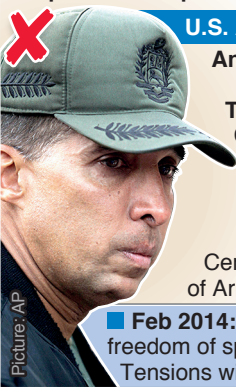


# U.S. says Venezuela is national security threat

The U.S. has declared Venezuela a threat to national security and imposed sanctions on seven officials from the oil-rich nation in the worst diplomatic dispute since President Nicolas Maduro took office in 2013



Picture: AP

## U.S. ASSETS FROZEN FOR HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES

**Antonio Jose Benavides Torres (left):** Commander of Strategic Region for Integral Defence in Central Region of Armed Forces

**Gustavo Gonzales**  
Intelligence chief

**Justo Noguera**  
Runs state mining firm

**Katherine Harington**  
Public prosecutor

**Manuel Perez**  
Director of Police

**Manuel Bernal**  
Armoured Brigade chief

**Miguel Vivas**  
Army Major General

■ **Feb 2014:** Unrest breaks out with nationwide protests calling for freedom of speech, better security and end to goods shortages. Tensions with U.S. flare. Crisis is ongoing

## COLLAPSING ECONOMY LINKED TO FALLING PRICE OF CRUDE OIL (WTI\*)

