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BUREAU DE PRESSE DU SAINT-SIEGE
PRESSEAMT DES HEILIGEN STUHLS

BOLLETTINO

SALA STAMPA DELLA SANTA SEDE

N. 220808b

Monday 08.08.2022

Telegram of condolence of the Holy Father, signed by the Cardinal Secretary of State, for the victims of the fire and explosion at the Matanzas base in Cuba

The following is the telegram of condolence for the victims of the fire and explosion at the Matanzas base in Cuba, sent on behalf of the Holy Father Francis by His Eminence Cardinal Secretary of State Pietro Parolin to Bishop Emilio Aranguren Echeverría of Holguín, president of the Conference of Catholic Bishops of Cuba:

Telegram

TO HIS EXCELLENCY

MONSIGNOR EMILIO ARANGUREN ECHEVERRÍA

BISHOP OF HOLGUÍN

PRESIDENT OF THE CONFERENCE OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS OF CUBA

HAVANA

THE HOLY FATHER IS CLOSELY FOLLOWING THE NEWS OF THE UNFORTUNATE ACCIDENT THAT HAS CAUSED A FIRE AND SEVERAL EXPLOSIONS AT THE MATANZAS SUPERTANKER BASE, WITH AT LEAST ONE DEATH AND NUMEROUS WOUNDED AND MISSING.

POPE FRANCISCO ALSO ASSURES HIS SPIRITUAL CLOSENESS TO THE CUBAN PEOPLE AND TO ALL THE FAMILIES OF THOSE AFFECTED, AND PRAYS TO THE LORD TO GRANT THEM STRENGTH IN THIS MOMENT OF SUFFERING, AND TO SUSTAIN THE WORK OF EXTINGUISHING THE FIRE AND THE RESCUE EFFORTS. WITH THESE SENTIMENTS, HE CORDIALLY IMPARTS THE COMFORT OF HIS APOSTOLIC BLESSING, AS A PLEDGE OF HOPE IN THE RISEN CHRIST.

CARDINAL PIETRO PAROLIN

SECRETARY OF STATE
