



**CARL HIAASEN**

# Take Bosch? Hee hee hee ha ha, click

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**T**he U.S. Justice Department says it approached 31 foreign countries on six continents in an effort to deport Cuban militant Orlando Bosch — and every single government said no.

There's a shocker. Nobody wanted a convicted terrorist?

I feel sorry for the diplomat who got this choice assignment. Our query to other nations must have been worded carefully: "Retired pediatrician seeking to relocate. Prefers quiet republic with warm climate, flexible extradition treaty and outdoor bazooka range."

Now jailed in Miami, Dr. Bosch is a former fugitive suspected of involvement in numerous anti-communist bombings and violent attacks throughout Latin America. It's not surprising that other countries might be hesitant to roll out the red carpet.

As negotiations proceed here for Bosch's release, the U.S. government still refuses to disclose which nations rejected him, and what reasons were given. One possible reason for the secrecy would be the embarrassing nature of the excuses clacking back to Washington on the overseas cable machines.

**Great Britain:** "HA HA HA HA HA HA HA! You want us to take who? HA HA HA HA HA HA!"

**France:** "Are you not the same arrogant curs who stuck us with Duvalier? Have you seen that porker eat? And his wife, she dresses like a tart! We want no more of your American rejects. Phoo on you! Phoo!"

**Paraguay:** "Sorry, we only take Nazi war fugitives."

**Romania:** "Still cleaning up mess after Ceausescu farewell bash."

**Saudi Arabia:** "Will take Dr. Bosch from United States only in a straight-up trade for Idi Amin (who, by the way, makes Duvalier look like Tommy Tune)."

**Vatican City:** "Will take Bosch when hell freezes over. That's right, when hell freezes over. Besides, you still owe us a big one for saving your butt down in Panama."

**Brunei:** "Sorry, no Bosch. *Gua-yabera* violates Sultan's strict dress code."

**Iceland:** "Sled dogs not too swift at sniffing out bombs."

**Syria:** "Already filled this year's immigration quota for new terrorists."

**Poland:** "Sure, we'll take him — when he pays for that dent in our freighter."

**Cameroon:** "Nation still gripped in wild celebration of World Cup soccer. Cops too snookered to keep an eye on terrorists."

**Norway:** "Immigration office closed suddenly due to unspecified crisis in cod fleet."

**Australia:** "Nice try, mate, but that was a hundred years ago. We don't take 'just any old convict' these days."

**Lebanon:** "What do you mean, what's one more lousy bomber? Have you seen this place lately?"

**North Yemen:** "We'll take him if South Yemen doesn't mind."

**South Yemen:** "We'll take him if North Yemen doesn't mind."

**West Germany:** "Immigration office in total disarray. Call back after reunification."

**Trinidad:** "Bosch? No way. And don't try calling Tobago, either."

**Tobago:** "Didn't they tell you not to call here!"

**The Bahamas:** No reply. Apparently still sore because Somoza was such a crummy tipper.

**Libya:** "Should've called yesterday. Just sold last unit in new high-rise exclusively for international bombers."

**India:** "What do you mean, we've got so many jillions of people that we wouldn't notice one more?"

**Grenada:** "Still haven't fixed airport metal detector since U.S. invasion."

**Tunisia:** Immigration office closed suddenly due to plague of locusts.

**Fiji:** "You've got us mixed up with Togo."

**Togo:** "Fiji told you to call, right? See, last week we stuck those suckers with 17,000 Domino's pizzas ..."

**Sweden:** "Just passed strict new zoning laws against billboards, trailer parks and international terrorist hideouts."

**Taiwan:** Said yes to Bosch, but misunderstood request. Thought U.S. was trying to get rid of "Orlando, Florida."