

Trump officials met Venezuela military 'coup plotters'

Posted by Joan Russow

Tuesday, 20 November 2018 20:54 - Last Updated Tuesday, 20 November 2018 21:00

New York Times reports says plans for Nicolas Maduro's overthrow fell apart after US officials declined to cooperate.

<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2018/09/trump-officials-met-venezuela-military-coup-plotters-180909061033703.html>

9 Sept 2018 Trump

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Maduro took power after Hugo Chavez death in 2013 and has faced political and economic challenges [AP Maduro took power after Hugo Chavez death in 2013 and has faced political and economic challenges [AP Photo/Ariana Cubillos] MORE ON VENEZUELA
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Trump administration officials held secret meetings with Venezuelan military officers to discuss plans to overthrow President Nicolas Maduro, according to a report by the New York Times.

The news outlet said on Saturday that at least three distinct groups from the military were involved in attempts at overthrowing the Venezuelan leader.

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According to the report, there were plans for a coup in the summer of 2017, and later in March and May of this year. However, when US officials declined to cooperate, plans for Maduro's overthrow fell

apart.

The report comes just a month after two explosive-laden drones blew up near Maduro in an apparent assassination attempt. He blamed the US, Colombia, and his domestic enemies for the attack.

On Saturday, Venezuelan Foreign Minister Jorge Arreaza denounced efforts to overthrow the government of the South American state.

"We denounce in front of the international community, the plans for intervention and the support of military plots against Venezuela by the United States government," he said.

"Even in the US media, blatant evidence has come to light," he added,