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CLASSIFICATION - DISSEMPLATION CONTROLS

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CUBA/LATIN AMERICA COUNTRY

REPORT NO. TDCS DB-3/657, 108

SULISCT .

VIEWS OF CARLOS PRIO SOCARRAS ON THE STATUS OF HIS WILITARY PLANS TO LIBERATE CUBA

OCTOBER 1963 DATE DISTR. 

PRECEDENCE ROUTINE

DATE OF INFO.

30 SEPTEMBER 1963

REFERENCES

IN 34085 TDCSDB-3/656,806

(16-30)

PLACE & DATE ACO. APPRAISAL

UNITED STATES, MIAMI (4 OCTOBER 1963)

TDCSDB-3/656,676 TDCSDB-3/656,856

FIELD REPORT NO.

SOURCE

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION. SOURCE GRADINGS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE... A CUDAN EXILE WIIO WAS PROMINENT IN POLITICS AT THE PROVINCIAL LEVEL IN CUBA, SOURCE IS WELL KNOWN BY THE CUBAN EXILES AND HAS REPORTED OBJECTIVELY ON THEIR POLITICAL MANEUVERS. THIS IN-FORMATION WAS OBTAINED FROM FRANCISCO L. FESSER.

ON 30 SEPTEMBER 1963 FRANCISCO L. FESSER SAID THAT HE HAD SEVERAL DISCUSSIONS WITH FORMER CUBAN PRESIDENT CARLOS PRIO SOCARRAS DURING THE PAST 10 DAYS AT PRIO'S MIAMI BEACH (HEADQUARTERS COMMENT: FESSER IS A CUBAN EXILE WHO HAS HAD PREVIOUS CONTACTS WITH PRIO.) ACCORDING TO FESSER, PRIO OFFERED HIM THE JOB OF SETTING UP A TYPE OF GENERAL STAFF WHICH WOULD BE COMPOSED OF PROFESSIONAL CUBAN ARMY OFFICERS WHO ARE HOW LIVING IN EXILE. THESE MEN ARE TO BE OFFICERS WHO HAVE NOT BEEN CHARGED AS WAR CRIMINALS DURING THE BATISTA REGIME AND WHO WOULD DIRECT THE MILITARY OPERATIONS AGAINST CUBA FROM

CLASSIFICATION - DIREMINATION CONTROLS C-O-N-F-I-D-B-N-T-I-A-L

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PAGE 3

VARIOUS CENTRAL AMERICAN COUNTRIES.

- 2. PESSER SAID HE HAD SEVERAL TALKS WITH FORMER COLONEL EDUARDO ERNESTO MARTIN Y ELENA, FORMER COLONEL PEDRO A. VALDIVIA ROMERO AND LIEUTENANT SAENZ (FNU); SAENZ, WHO IS KNOWN FOR HIS PERSONAL VALOR, WAS CHOSEN TO COMPLEMENT MARTIN ELENA WHO IS KNOWN MORE. FOR HIS CAPABILITY THAN FOR HIS VALOR. PESSER SAID THE AIM IS TO DIVIDE CUBA MILITARILY INTO THREE SECTORS: EASTERN, CENTRAL, AND WESTERN.
- 3. ACCORDING TO FESSER, THE GROUP HAS ADEQUATE ARMS FOR THE OPERATIONS WHICH IT WANTE TO BEGIN IN NOVEMBER OR DECEMBER 1963. THE GROUP ALSO HAS BOATS AND PLANES. WHEN THE ACTION STARTS THERE WILL BE SIMULTANEOUS ATTACKS IN DIFFERENT PARTS OF THE ISLAND, NOT LESS THAN FOUR A DAY. THESE ATTACKS WILL BERYE TO SOFTEN THE ISLAND IN PREPARATION FOR A LANDING. PESSER MENTIONED THAT JOSE ANTONIO LUCO, A FRIEND OF PRIO, HAS PURCHASED ARMS AND AIRPLANES DURING THE PAST MONTH IN ENGLAND, FRANCE, AND ITALY.
- 4. ACCORDING TO FESSER, ORLANDO PUENTE PEREZ, PRIO'S SECRETARY, TRAVELED TO JAPAN DUZING THE PAST MONTH IN ORDER TO BUY SPEED BOATS AND MOTHER SHIPS. PESSER SAID THAT PRIO HAS ASSURED HIM THAT HE HAS 10 MILLION BOLLARS WITH WHICH TO START OPERATIONS, AND THAT HE HAS MILITARY BASES IN HAITI, VENEZUELA,

CLASSICATION - DISCUSSION CONTROLS

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CLASSIFICATION - DISSEMINATION CONTROLS

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PAGE 3

COLOMBIA, COSTA RICA, NICARAGUA, EL SALVADOR, HONDURAS, AND GUATEMALA. FESSER ADDED THAT PRIO FEELS CERTAIN HE CAN CARRY OUT HIS PLANS AND DESTROY CASTRO.

- 5. FESSER SAID THAT DURING HIS CONVERSATIONS WITH PRIO
  THE LATTER SPOKE DISPARAGINGLY OF THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY.
  PRIO SAID THAT IT WAS NECESSARY TO BEGIN THE STRUGGLE OUTSIDE
  THE RESTRICTIONS OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT SINCE ANY
  OTHER COURSE OF ACTION WOULD ALLOW CASTRO AND THE SOVIET ÚNION (SIC)
  TO FALL UNDER AMERICAN DOMINATION, WHICH WOULD BE DISASTROUS
  FOR THE CUBANS. PRIQ SAID HE WOULD ACCEPT A SITUATION OF BEING
  AN ALLY OF THE UNITED STATES BUT UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES WOULD
  HE PASSIVELY ALLOW A PUPPET GOVERNMENT TO BE SET UP IN CUBA.
- 6. FESSER SAID THAT PRIO IS TRYING TO CONVINCE THE WEALTHY CUBANS IN EXILE THAT, IF THEY WANT TO RECOUP THEIR RICHES IN CUBA IN THE FUTURE, THEY MUST CONTRIBUTE SOME OF THEIR WEALTH. IF THEY DO NOT, THEY WILL ALLOW THE UNITED STATES TO UTILIZE A FEW CUBANS TO TOPPLE CASTRO AND ESTABLISH A GOVERNMENT OF THEIR CHOOSING, AS WAS DONE IN JAPAN AFTER THE SECOND WORLD WAR. THIS GOVERNMENT WOULD THEN PROCEED TO MAKE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL CHANGES WHICH WOULD COST THEM THEIR WEALTH.
  - 7. FIELD DISSEM: STATE, FBI, CINCSO, CINCLANT.

END OF MESSAGE

CLASSIFICATION - DISSEMANION CONTROLS

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