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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

November 5, 1968

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INTERNATIONAL ANTI-COMMUNIST
BRIGADE (IACB)

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On November 5, 1968, T-1, a confidential source abroad, advised that the Mexican Federal Attorney General's Office has not prepared formal charges against the 13 American citizens who were taken into custody at Belize, British Honduras on October 23, 1968, after forcing a Mexican ship captain to take them there from Progreso, Yucatan. Neither did the Mexican Government request their extradition from British Honduras. The Mexican Government expects the 13 men to be released to the United States Government and is still studying the matter of possible prosecution. However, it is doubtful that any action will be taken against these men unless they return to Mexico.

On October 30, 1968, the American Consul, Merida, Yucatan, Mexico, advised that a photograph of FRANK ANTHONY STURGIS, also known as FRANK FLORINI, had been identified by Mr. EDUARDO ESCALANTE, who observed the group before they left Yucatan, as the member of the group who called himself "MAX GORMAN" and wore a beret.

The Consul further advised that Mr. MAYNARD CLAYTON, Director of the Benjamin Franklin Institute in Merida, reported on October 29, 1968, that a tour guide named GARCIA had been approached by "GORMAN" who requested him to lead a group to the Guatemalan frontier overland, ostensibly to go hunting. GARCIA refused, pointing out that the hunting season was not yet open and the authorities would certainly detain anyone in the area bearing arms.

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Group 1
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The October 21, 1968, edition of the "Diario de Yucatan", a Merida, Yucatan daily newspaper, carried a dispatch datelined at Progreso, on October 20, 1968, which was devoted to the disappearance of the Americans aboard the ship "El Amigo". The article stated that one of the passengers, MAX GORMAN, Jr., had bought supplies for the trip in a grocery store called "Villa del Mar" for which he paid with a \$50 travelers check drawn on the American Express Company, 65 Broadway, New York, New York. The check was reportedly invalid and bore the number N-A-63-070-069.

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