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APPROVED FOR RELEASE 1994

**TELEGRAM** CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM **RT TELEGRAM**

**GENERAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY**

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**SECRET**  
(When Filled In)

CLASSIFICATION - DISSEMINATION CONTROLS

**NO FOREIGN DISSEM**

COUNTRY	CUBA / VENEZUELA / NICARAGUA	REPORT NO.	TDCS-3/559,496
SUBJECT	STATEMENTS OF A VENEZUELAN GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL CONCERNING THE MEETING BETWEEN BETANCOURT AND FORMER CUBAN PRESIDENT PRIO	DATE DISTR.	20 SEPTEMBER 1963
		PRECEDENCE	ROUTINE
DATE OF INFO.	18 SEPTEMBER 1963	REFERENCES	IN 23501
PLACE & DATE ACQ.	VENEZUELA, CARACAS (18 SEPTEMBER 1963)		
APPRAISAL	3	FIELD REPORT NO.	HVC 2789

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION. SOURCE GRADINGS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

SOURCE A MEDIUM LEVEL VENEZUELAN GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL (F) WITH CONTACTS AMONG CUBAN EXILES, FROM JOSE R. CORO, A CUBAN EXILE AND ASSOCIATE OF CARLOS PRIO SOCARRAS, FORMER PRESIDENT OF CUBA. SOURCE IS WELL KNOWN BY THE CUBAN EXILE COMMUNITY, AND PRIO REQUESTED CORO TO PASS THE INFORMATION TO SOURCE.

1. CARLOS PRIO SOCARRAS, FORMER PRESIDENT OF CUBA, SAID ON 18 SEPTEMBER 1963 THAT ROMULO BETANCOURT, PRESIDENT OF VENEZUELA, AT A BREAKFAST MEETING THAT MORNING HAD INDICATED TO PRIO THAT HE (BETANCOURT) WAS IN FAVOR OF PRIO'S NEW CUBAN EXILE GROUP WHICH WAS TO BE BASED IN MANAGUA, NICARAGUA. PRIO SAID THAT PRESIDENT BETANCOURT DID NOT PROMISE MATERIAL ASSISTANCE BUT DID ASSURE HIM THAT NO VENEZUELAN GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL WOULD PUBLICLY CRITICIZE THE EXILE GROUP. EVEN THOUGH IT WOULD BE BASED IN NICARAGUA WITH BEHIND-THE-SCENE SPONSORSHIP BY LUIS SOMOZA, FORMER PRESIDENT OF NICARAGUA. PRIO SAID THAT THE NAMES OF TWO VENEZUELAN WERE MENTIONED AS POSSIBLE UNOFFICIAL CONTACTS

**SECRET**

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GROUP 1  
Excluded from automatic  
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STATE	DIA	ARMY/ACSI	NAVY	AIR	JCS	SECDEF	NSA	NIC	AID	USIA	OCI	ONE	OCR	ORR	OD	FBI
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**TELEGRAM** INFORMATION REPORT **TELEGRAM**

<del>SECRET</del> <small>(When Filled In)</small>	<del>NO FOREIGN DISSEM</del>	TDCS - 3/559,496	IN 23501
			PAGE 2.
BETWEEN THE MANAGUA HEADQUARTERS AND PRIO'S SUPPORTERS IN VENEZUELA. (FIELD COMMENT: SOURCE DID NOT KNOW THE COMPLETE NAME OF PRIO'S GROUP OTHER THAN IT INCLUDED THE WORDS "CUBAN" AND "DEMOCRATIC.")			
2. FIELD DISSEM STATE NAVY AIR CINCLANT CINCSO.			

	END OF MESSAGE
<del>SECRET</del>	<del>NO FOREIGN DISSEM</del>