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LATIN AMERICA BRIEF

(PROPOIN IN SLANTS REMAINING INFO RELEASABLE TO )

1. CUBA: ABOUT 7,000 CUBAN SOLDIERS ARE NOW ENROLLED IN "SPECIAL WEAPONS" COURSES, ACCORDING TO DEFENSE MINISTER RAUL CASTRO. HE SAID THAT THE PERSONNEL INVOLVED ARE "FORMER STUDENTS" WHO ENLISTED LAST SUMMER IN RESPONSE TO AN APPEAL BY FIDEL CASTRO. IN ADDITION TO SURFACE-TO-AIR MISSILES, THE "SPECIAL WEAPONS" PROBABLY INCLUDE ~~ANTI-AIRCRAFT MISSILES, HADRAN, CRUISE MISSILES, AND POSSIBLY BRAPPER ANTITANK MISSILES AND FROG TACTICAL MISSILES.~~

2. BOLIVIA: //VICE PRESIDENT JUAN LECHIN RETURNED FROM HIS AMBASSADORIAL POST IN ROME ON 10 NOV AND IMMEDIATELY ANNOUNCED HE WAS ABOUT TO UNDERTAKE AN EXTENSIVE TRIP THROUGH THE INTERIOR OF THE COUNTRY. THIS IS INTERPRETED BY THE GOVERNMENT AS THE COMMENCEMENT OF A LECHIN CAMPAIGN AIMED AT wresting the presidency FROM PAZ ESTENSORO. LECHIN, A CLEVER AND OPPORTUNISTIC POLITICIAN, IS CONSIDERED TO BE PAZ MAIN RIVAL FOR THE INCUMBENT NATIONALIST REVOLUTIONARY MOVEMENTS

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NOMINATION FOR NEXT YEARS PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS. TO HEAD OFF A  
POSSIBLE LECHEIN OFFENSIVE, THE GOVERNMENT IS REPORTED TO BE SENDING  
CLAUDIO SAN ROMAN, HEAD OF BOLIVIAN SECURITY SERVICE, TO THE CITY OF  
COCHABAMBA TO TRY TO BREAK THE LECHEINIST-COMMUNIST HOLD OVER THE  
POWERFUL COCHABAMBA DEPARTMENTAL LABOR CONFEDERATION.//

3. BRAZIL: AT THE PERSONAL INVITATION OF THE SOVIET AIR  
FORMER BRAZILIAN AIR MINISTER  
MINISTER THEALDO DE CARVALHO WILL ARRIVE IN MOSCOW THIS WEEK, POSSIBLY  
TO EXPLORE NEW PROSPECTS OF OBTAINING SOVIET AIRCRAFT FOR THE BRAZILIAN  
AIR FORCE. CARVALHO HAD STATED THAT HE HAS NO INSTRUCTIONS FROM HIS  
GOVERNMENT REGARDING THIS VISIT.

CARVALHO HAS COMPLAINED THAT, WHEN HE WAS AIR MINISTER, THE US  
FAILED TO PROVIDE BRAZIL WITH HELICOPTERS AFTER THE US DISCOURAGED  
BRAZILIAN NEGOTIATIONS WITH POLAND FOR 100 HELICOPTERS HE CLAIMS  
THAT BRAZIL NEEDS AIRCRAFT AND NOTES THAT OTHER COUNTRIES HAVE "BOTH  
US AND RUSSIAN EQUIPMENT "

CARVALHO MAY ALSO DISCUSS AN AGREEMENT FOR AIR ROUTES BETWEEN  
THE USSR AND BRAZIL

4 CUBA-VENUEZUELA THE CASE OF AIR DISCOVERY IS A  
NORTHERN VENUEZUELA AIR ROUTE DISCOVERY IS A

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STOLEN FROM THE ARMY BY ~~THE~~ TERRORISTS--ARE NOW BELIEVED TO HAVE COME FROM CUBA. THE WEAPONS, MANUFACTURED IN THE US AND IN BELGIUM, MAY BE TRACED THROUGH SERIAL NUMBERS TO INVENTORIES OF WEAPONS PURCHASED BY THE CUBAN ARMY SEVERAL YEARS AGO. THE VENEZUELAN GOVERNMENT HAS LONG CHARGED THAT FIDEL CASTRO WAS ARMING THE TERRORISTS, BUT HAS LACKED THE NECESSARY EVIDENCE TO ~~EXERCISE~~ PROTEST FORMALLY TO THE OAS OR OTHER INTERNATIONAL BODIES. (CONF)

3. VENEZUELA: THE VENEZUELAN NATIONAL GUARD HAS INFORMATION THAT THE VENEZUELAN COMMUNIST PARTY (PCV) PLANS TO CARRY OUT "FULL SCALE" TERRORIST ACTIVITIES BEGINNING 20 NOVEMBER.

THE NATURE OF THE PROJECTED ACTIVITIES WAS NOT DISCLOSED, BUT "FULL SCALE" PROBABLY MEANS INTENSIFICATION OF THE PRESENT KEROYAN CAMPAIGN OF SABOTAGE, ARSON, AND MURDER BY THE ARMED FORCES OF NATIONAL LIBERATION THE PCV'S EXEL PARAMILITARY ARM.

THE MOVEMENT OF THE REVOLUTIONARY LEFT ALSO PLANS TO PUBLISH A STATEMENT CALLING FOR A BOYCOTT OF THE NATIONAL ELECTIONS SCHEDULED FOR 1 DECEMBER.

THE PCV HOPES BY ~~THE~~ ~~USE~~ OF ~~THE~~ ~~ARMED~~ ~~FORCES~~ ~~OF~~ ~~NATIONAL~~ ~~LIBERATION~~ ~~THE~~ ~~PCV'S~~ ~~EXEL~~ ~~PARAMILITARY~~ ~~ARM~~ ~~TO~~ ~~LEAVE~~ ~~THE~~ ~~VENEZUELA~~ ~~GOVERNMENT~~ ~~WITHOUT~~ ~~A~~ ~~CHOICE~~ ~~OF~~ ~~TE~~

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IN THE EYES OF THE PCV, A WEAK GOVERNMENT WOULD BE SUBJECT TO OVERTHROW BY EITHER LEFTISTS OR RIGHTISTS, LEAVING THE PIECES FOR THE PCV TO PICK UP.

6. COLOMBIA: THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF COLOMBIA (PCC) HAS VIRTUALLY BEEN DRIVEN UNDERGROUND BY THE TERRORIST ACTIVITY OF LEFTIST EXTREMISTS. BECAUSE OF POLICE REPRISALS AGAINST TERRORISTS, BONA FIDE PCC MEMBERS ARE AFRAID TO DISTRIBUTE PROPAGANDA, PAINT WALL SLOGANS, SELL THE PCC NEWSPAPER, OR EVEN LEAVE THEIR HIDING PLACES FOR CELL MEETINGS.

7. GUATEMALA: GUATEMALAN CHIEF OF STATE PERALTA REPORTEDLY WILL SOON ANNOUNCE A TIMETABLE WHICH WOULD CALL FOR INSTALLATION OF AN ELECTED PRESIDENT AND CONGRESS BY 1 MARCH 1965. ACCORDING TO THE REPORTS, ELECTIONS FOR A CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY WOULD BE HELD IN JANUARY, AND ELECTIONS FOR THE PRESIDENT AND CONGRESSMEN WOULD FOLLOW LATE IN 1964 AFTER THE ASSEMBLY CONCLUDED ITS WORK.

WHEN PRESIDENT YDIGORAS WAS OUSTED IN MARCH 1963, COLONEL PERALTA ESTIMATED THAT A RETURN TO CANTON CIVILIAN RULE WOULD TAKE APPROXIMATELY TWO YEARS, GROWING RESTIVENESS AND

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RESTRICTIONS ON POLITICAL ACTIVITY UNDER HIS REGIME MAY HAVE CONVINCED HIM TO FOLLOW THROUGH PERALTA TOLD THE SOURCE OF ONE REPORT THAT HE HAS ABSOLUTELY NO DESIRE TO PERPETUATE HIS ADMINISTRATION, BUT IT SEEMS POSSIBLE THAT HE MAY RUN FOR PRESIDENT

8 MEXICO: //EFFORTS OF A BLOC PURCHASING AGENT TO ARRANGE THE SALE OF MEXICO'S ENTIRE WHEAT SURPLUS TO THE USSR HAVE FALLEN THROUGH. HE IS NOW REPORTED, HOWEVER, TO HAVE SUCCEEDED IN SELLING 50,000 TONS OF MEXICAN WHEAT TO A PURCHASER FOR COMMUNIST CHINA. ALSO, THE POSSIBILITY OF AN EVENTUAL MEXICAN-SOVIET WHEAT DEAL IS NOT ALTOGETHER CLOSED IN VIEW OF A REPORT THAT THE SOVIET COMMERCIAL COMMISSION IN MEXICO CITY HAS INDICATED A WILLINGNESS TO DISCUSS THE MATTER.// (CONF)

9 CUBA: JUAN MARINELLO, RECTOR OF HAVANA UNIVERSITY AND A LONG TIME LEADER OF THE PRE-REVOLUTIONARY CUBAN COMMUNIST PARTY WAS RECENTLY REMOVED FROM HIS POST AND APPOINTED AMBASSADOR TO UNESCO HEADQUARTERS IN PARIS. JUAN MIER FEBLES, DEPUTY MINISTER FOR HIGHER EDUCATION, HAS BEEN NAMED PROVISIONAL RECTOR. //MIER, LIKE HIS PREDECESSOR, HAS A LONG HISTORY OF PSP ACTIVITIES //

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10. ARGENTINE ~~CHIEF OF DEFENSE~~ ARGENTINA PRESIDENT  
 PERON INTENDS TO INITIATE ACTION SOON TO ANNUL ARGENTINA'S PETROLEUM  
 CONTRACT WITH US AND OTHER FOREIGN COMPANIES, AS HIS PARTY HAS PROMISED  
 FOR FIVE YEARS. RENEGOTIATING THE CONTRACTS WILL BE MORE DIFFICULT  
 NOW BECAUSE OF STRONG NATIONALIST ATTACKS AND THE ADVERSE REACTIONS TO  
 A PROPOSED US SENATE AMENDMENT WHICH WOULD CUT OFF US AID IF ARGENTINA  
 ACTS AGAINST THE OIL COMPANIES WITHOUT "SPEEDY" COMPENSATION. (CONF)

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