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FM CARACAS (2-9)

TO DIRECTOR IMMEDIATE NRS 163-38, 164-08

BI

SECRET

THE USES; SUSPECTED BOMBING OF CIBANA AIRLINES DC-8 NEAR BARBADOS, WEST INDIES, OCTOBER 6, 1976, NM CUBA - WEST INDIES.

PRICARTEL OCTOBER 7, 1978; BUTEL OCTOBER 8, 1976.

BY TELETYPE 10/8/76, LEGAT, CARACAS, ADVISED AS FOLLOWS:

HERNAN RICARDO LOZANO IS A NEWS PHOTOGRAPHER AND FREE-LANCE RE
PORTER AFFILIATED WITH THE MAGAZINE "VISION," AND HE IS ALSO EMPLOYED

AS AN INDUSTRIAL INVESTIGATOR BY INVESTIGACIONES COMERCIALES E IN
DUSTRIALES, C.A. (ICI), AN INDUSTRIAL SECURITY FIRM OPERATED BY LUIS

FOSADA, FORMER HEAD OF COUNTERINTELL IGENCE DIVISION, CARAGAS,

VENEZUELA (S)

POSADA, A CUBAN EXILE WHO IS NOW A VENEZUELAN CITIZEN, IS STRONGLY ANTI-CASTRO AND WAS SUSPECTED OF HAVING BEEN THE MAIN SUPPORTER OF ORLANDO BOSCH AVILA DURING BOSCH'S PRESENCE IN VENEZUELA PRIOR TO HIS ARREST ON NOVEMBER 19, 1975. LEGAT BECAME ACQUAINTED WITH POSADA IN THE COURSE OF OFFICIAL BUSINESS DURING PERIOD POSADA WAS AN OFFICIAL OF DISIP.

TAGE TWO CAR 2-9 SECRET

HERNAN RICARDO LOZANO FIRST BECAME KNOWN TO LEGAT IN APPROXIMATELY
JUNE, 1974, WHEN HE CONTACTED LEGAT FOR ASSISTANCE IN EXPEDITING THE
PROCESSING OF A VISA TO THE U.S. THAT HAD BEEN REQUESTED FOR THE MINOR
SON OF THE THEN DIRECTOR OF DISIP, DR. PEDRO ARTURO TORRES AGUDO.

LEGAT WAS LED TO BELIEVE RICARDO WAS AN ACTIVE MEMBER OF DISIP AND
ASSISTANCE WAS PROVIDED THAT RESULTED IN THE PROMPT ISSUANCE OF A
VISA TO THE TORRES AGUDO CHILD (S)

RICARDO RECONTACTED LEGAT A FEW WEEKS LATER TO EXPRESS HIS

APPRECIATION FOR ASSISTANCE PREVIOUSLY RENDERED, AND LEGAT THEN BE
CAME AWARE RICARDO WAS MERELY AN AUXILIARY MEMBER OF DISIP, AND THAT

WAS ACTUALLY IN THE PERSONAL SERVICE OF LUIS POSADA. RICARDO RE
VEALED HE WAS ALSO A NEW SPAPER REPORTER AND PHOTOGRAPHER AFFILIATED

WITH THE MAGAZINE "VISION," AND INDICATED HE DEVOTED MOST OF HIS TIME

RESEARCHING NEWS ARTICLES INTENDED TO DISCREDIT THE CASTRO GOVERN
MENT. HE CLAIMED PARTIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR A NEW SPAPER ARTICLE THAT

APPEARED IN A CARACAS NEW SPAPER ABOUT THAT TIME, REVEALING THE

RESENCE OF CUBAN INTELLIGENCE OFFICERS IN CUBAN EMBASSY IN CARACAS.

RICARDO CONTACTED LEGAT APPROXIMATELY FOUR TIMES AFTER THE
INITIAL VISIT, AND ON TWO OCCASIONS FURNISHED PHOTOGRAPHS AND BIOGRAPHICAN
ND PAGE TWO

TRUE THREE GAR 2-9 SECRET

DATA ON MEMBERS OF THE CLBAN EMBASSY WHICH WERE OBVIOUSLY OBTAINED
FROM DISIP FILES. DURING ONE VISIT, RICARDO SUGGESTED LEGAT MIGHT
WISH TO MAKE SOME SUGGESTIONS REGARDING COURSES OF ACTION THAT MIGHT
BE TAKEN AGAINST THE CUBAN EMBASSY IN CARACAS BY AN ANTI-CASTRO GROUP
OF WHICH HE FORMED PART. LEGAT INFORMED RICARDO SUCH WAS NOT PART
OF THE FUNCTION OF THE LEGAL ATTACHE'S OFFICE, AND THAT IN ANY EVENT,
LEGAT PERSONALLY ABHORRED TERRORIST ACTIVITIES REGARDLESS OF WHOM
THEY MIGHT BE DIRECTED AGAINST. LEGAT POINTED OUT TO RICARDO THAT
THE U.S. GOVERNMENT WAS DOING EVERYTHING IT COULD TO PREVENT DISRUPTIVE AND TERRORIST ACTIONS BY ANTI-CASTRO GROUPS IN THE US. RICARDO
DID NOT AGAIN REPEAT THE SUGGESTION.

LEGAT WAS SURPRISED BY APPEARANCE OF RICARDO AT AMERICAN EMBASSY ON SEPTEMBER 30, 1976. THE LAST CONTACT WITH RICARDO HAD BEEN EARLY IN DECEMBER, 1975, WHEN RICARDO TELEPHONED LEGAT AND INVITED HIM TO A LUNCH OF VENEZUELAN SPECIALTIES PREPARED DURING THE HOLIDAY SEASON.

LEGAT DECLINED INVITATION, CITING A PREVIOUS ENGAGEMENT

ON SEPTEMBER 30, 1976, RICARDO INFORMED LEGAT HE HAD A PHOTO-GRAPHIC ASSIGNMENT FOR "VISION" MAGAZINE IN JAMAICA AND WAS IN NEED OF A VISA TO THE US SINCE HE PLANNED A TWO-DAY STOPOVER IN PUERTO RICO. HE SAID HE HAD FIRST CONTACTED A TRAVEL AGENCY TO MAKE ARRANGEMENTS (END PAGE THREE

PAGE SIX CAR 2-9 SECRET

CONSUL HE HAD NO REASON TO BELIEVE RICARDO WOULD NOT DETURN TO CARACAS.

THE VICE CONSUL INDICATED IN THAT CASE A VISA WOULD BE ISSUED TO RICARDO, AND HE WAS ASKED TO RETURN TO THE CONSULAR SECTION. UPON TAKING LEAVE OF LEGAT, RICARDO INDICATED HE MIGHT ALSO VISIT NEW YORK CITY BEFORE RETURNING TO CARACAS, AND MENTIONED IN PASSING THAT BESIDES JAMAICA, HE MIGHT ALSO BE VISITING BARBADOS IN CONNECTION WITH HIS PICTORIAL ASSIGNMENT FOR "VISION." RICARDO WAS NOT SEEN AFTER THAT

IN A CONVERSATION WITH AN OFFICIAL OF DISIP ON OCTOBER 1, 1976,
LEGAT BROACHED THE SUBJECT OF RICARDO AND OF THE FAINT SUSPICION THAT
RICARDO MAY HAVE BEEN SOMEHOW INVOLVED IN THE BOMBING OF THE GUYANESE
CONSULATE IN PORT-OF-SPAIN. LEGAT ADMITTED THERE WAS NO SUBSTANTIVE
EVIDENCE OF RICARDO'S IMPLICATION, BUT THAT THE COINCIDENCE OF HIS
RESENCE THERE AT THE APPROPRIATE TIME, COUPLED WITH HIS EMPLOYMENT
RELATIONSHIP WITH LUIS POSADA, HAD GIVEN LEGAT CAUSE TO WONDER.
THE DISIP OFFICIAL RELATED DISIP HAD NO REASON TO BELIEVE RICARDO WAS
THE CALIBER OF INDIVIDUAL THAT WOULD BE UTILIZED IN SUCH AN OPERATION,
AND THAT RICARDO WAS NOT KNOW TO BE INVOLVED IN SUCH ACTIVITIES, IN
SPITE OF HIS ASSOCIATION WITH POSADA.

PACE EIGHT GAR 2-9 S E C R E T

ON OCTOBER 8, 1976, A SECOND CONFIDENTIAL SOURCE ADVISED HE HAD BEEN INFORMED THAT CUBAN INTELLIGENCE SERVICE OFFICERS HAD PROCEEDED TO PORT-OF-SPAIN, TRINIDAD, FROM CUBA ON OCTOBER 7, 1976, AND HAD SUBJECTED THE TWO ARRESTED VENEZUELANS TO INTENSIVE INTERROGATIONS.

RICARDO WAS BORN ON DECEMBER 9, 1954, AT CARACAS, VENEZUELA.
HE HOLDS VENEZUELAN PASSPORT NO. 85 0939, ISSUED ON MAY 14, 1975,
AT CARACAS. HE HAS VENEZUELAN IDENTITY CARD (CEDULA) NO.
V 3821507.

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0	HEAD, COUNTERINTELLIGENCE DIVISION, DISIP, CARACAS,
	VENEZUEL A. () OTHER 1C, 4 Foreign
25	THE SECOND CONFIDENT IAL SOURCE IS
	SECIAL ADVISOR TO DIRECTOR, DISIP, CARACAS, VENEZUELA
	THE DISIP OFFICIAL MENT IONED IS OTHER 10
	ET .
	ADMINISTRATIVE TO FIELDY LEGATS ONLY.

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