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DATE: 11-14-2017

**JFK ASSASSINATION SYSTEM
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OCT 12 1976
TELETYPE

0 122130Z OCT 76
FM CARACAS (2-9) (P)
TO DIRECTOR IMMEDIATE NR 174-12
BT

DECLASSIFIED BY SP8 mac/goc
ON 4/24/94 (JAC)

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UNSUBS; SUSPECTED BOMBING OF CUBANA AIRLINES DC -8 NEAR BARBADOS,
WEST INDIES, OCTOBER 6, 1976. NM - CUBA- WEST INDIES.

RECARTEL OCTOBER 12, 1976.

Teletype 10/12/76 Caracas Advised That
DENNIS RAMDWAR, DEPUTY COMMISSIONER OF POLICE, TRINIDAD,
AND TOBAGO POLICE FORCE, PORT OF SPAIN, TRINIDAD, ARRIVED IN
CARACAS ON OCTOBER 11, 1976, TO CONSULT WITH VENEZUELAN AUTHORI-
TIES REGARDING THE CUBANA AIRLINES CRASH. LEGAT HAS BEEN ACQUAINTED
WITH DEPUTY COMMISSIONER RAMDWAR FOR SEVERAL YEARS. RAMDWAR
TELEPHONED LEGAT AT HIS HOME AT APPROXIMATELY 10:15 PM ON OCTOBER
11, 1976, STATED HE WAS AT THE RESIDENCE OF THE TRINIDAD AMBAS-
SADOR AND REQUESTED A MEETING WITH LEGAT. (X)(U)

LEGAT PROCEEDED TO THE RESIDENCE OF THE TRINIDAD AMBASSADOR
WHERE HE PICKED UP RAMDWAR AND THEY PROCEEDED TO THE TAMANACO
HOTEL, WHERE THEY CONVERSED. LEGAT RECOUNTED TO RAMDWAR THE
DETAILS OF HIS CASUAL ACQUAINTANCE WITH ONE OF THE SUSPECTS. (X)(U)

END PAGE ONE

Classified by ~~6042/mae~~
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By 0-73 mml, ST, Legat's Mexico City, Buenos Aires,
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RAMDWAR NOTED THAT WHEN LEGAT'S NAME AND TELEPHONE NUMBER WAS FIRST FOUND AMONG ONE OF THE SUSPECT'S PAPERS, HE THOUGHT IT MIGHT BE AN INDICATION THAT AN ACTION MAY HAVE BEEN PLANNED AGAINST LEGAT. HE SAID THE SUSPECT LATER DISCLOSED HE HAD BEEN TOLD "BY HIS BOSS" TO SEE THAT INDIVIDUAL (LEGAT) IF HE HAD A VISA PROBLEM (S)(u)

RAMDWAR STATED HE HAD BEEN INSTRUCTED BY THE TRINIDAD PRIME MINISTER ERIC WILLIAMS TO UNDERTAKE THE INVESTIGATION OF THE PLANE CRASH AS A CRIMINAL MATTER STRICTLY, AND NOT TO BECOME INVOLVED IN ANY POLITICAL ASPECTS. HE SAID HE THEREFORE PROCEEDED TO CARACAS WITH PHOTOGRAPHS AND FINGERPRINTS OF THE TWO SUSPECTS INTENDING ONLY TO HAVE THEM CHECKED THROUGH INTERPOL SECTION FILES OF THE TECHNICAL JUDICIAL POLICE. HE SAID, HOWEVER, THAT UPON HIS ARRIVAL HE WAS MET AT THE AIRPORT BY A CONTINGENT OF OFFICIALS, INCLUDING THE TRINIDADIAN AMBASSADOR, AND THAT HE WAS PROMPTLY USHERED TO A MEETING WITH VENEZUELAN MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS RAMON ESCOBAR SALOM. AT THE OFFICE OF THE FOREIGN MINISTER, RAMDWAR WAS TOLD HE COULD EXPECT THE FULL COOPERATION AND ASSISTANCE OF THE VENEZUELAN GOVERNMENT. HE SAID HE WAS INFORMED THAT THE INTERPOL SECTION WAS NOT THE APPROPRIATE OFFICE TO WHICH HE SHOULD DIRECT HIS INQUIRIES BUT THAT THE MATTER WOULD BE HANDLED BY DISIP. RAMDWAR STATED HE THEREUPON HAD A (S)(u)

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LENGTHY SESSION WITH DISIP OFFICIALS WHO PROMISED TO GATHER ALL INFORMATION REGARDING THE TWO SUSPECTS AND TO FORWARD ALL DATA DEVELOPED TO THE TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO POLICE THROUGH THE TRINIDAD AMBASSADOR. (S)(u)

RAMDWAR SAID HE REVEALED TO DISIP THAT IN VIEW OF EVIDENCE DEVELOPED, HE BELIEVES ORLANDO BOSCH AVILA WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE PLANE CRASH AND HE ASKED THE OFFICIALS IF BOSCH WAS IN VENEZUELA. HE SAID HE WAS TOLD THEY WERE NOT CERTAIN AND HE REPLIED THAT BOSCH WAS, IN FACT, IN VENEZUELA AND THAT HE COULD FURNISH BOSCH'S CARACAS TELEPHONE NUMBER. (S)(u)

HE RELATED THAT AFTER HE RETURNED TO THE AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE, HE RECEIVED A MESSAGE FROM PRIME MINISTER ERIC WILLIAMS' OFFICE ADVISING HIM TO RETURN TO TRINIDAD AS THERE HAD BEEN A "SLIGHT CHANGE OF PLAN." HE SAID HE DID NOT KNOW WHAT THAT CHANGE MIGHT BE. (S)(u)

RAMDWAR COMPLAINED THAT HE WAS BEING GREATLY PRESSURED IN THE INVESTIGATION BY GUYANESE AND CUBAN AUTHORITIES WHO HAD TRAVELED TO PORT OF SPAIN. HE SAID THE CUBANS WERE VERY INTENT UPON OBTAINING CUSTODY OF THE TWO SUSPECTS, BUT THAT TRINIDAD WAS NOT PREPARED TO ALLOW THAT. HE INDICATED THAT THE SUSPECTS WERE BEING HELD WITHOUT CHARGES SO FAR, AND HE WAS NOT CERTAIN (S)(u)
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THEY COULD BE CHARGED WITH ANY WRONGDOING; IN TRINIDAD. RAMDWAR POINTED OUT THAT ON THE OTHER HAND, BARBADOS WAS RELUCTANT TO ASSUME JURISDICTION IN THE MATTER AND WAS PRESSING; TRINIDAD TO BRING LOCAL CHARGES AGAINST THE SUSPECTS. (u)

AT ONE POINT IN THE CONVERSATION, RAMDWAR STATED HE WAS POSITIVE THAT THE TWO SUSPECTS WERE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE BOMBING OF THE AIRCRAFT. (u)

TOWARD THE END OF THE MEETING WITH LEGATT, RAMDWAR CONFIDED THAT HIS MAIN INTEREST WAS TO CLEAR TRINIDAD OF ANY IMPLICATION IN THE BOMBING.. HE SAID THERE HAD BEEN AN ALLEGATION THAT THE BOMB UTILIZED HAD BEEN PREPARED IN TRINIDAD AND HE WISHED TO REFUTE THAT REPORT. (u)

RAMDWAR WAS TO HAVE RETURNED TO PORT OF SPAIN EARLY ON OCTOBER 12, 1976. (u)

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ADMINISTRATIVE: ABOVE INFORMATION WAS FURNISHED TO EMBASSY, CARACAS, FOR DISSEMINATION TO SECRETARY OF STATE AND INTERESTED EMBASSIES. (u)

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