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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

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Mr. Baker	_____
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ON 10/8/96 (BPK)
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APR 30 1973

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NR011 MM PLAIN
820PM NITEL 4/30/73 FXF
TO ACTING DIRECTOR
ATLANTA
FROM MIAMI 163-NEW 3PAGES

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
~~ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE~~
~~EXEMPT FROM GDS~~
~~DATE 3/18/78~~

Edwin Marger

ROYAL BAHAMIAN POLICE FORCE, FOREIGN POLICE COOPERATION. ~~(G-1)(u)~~

ON 4/27/73, COURTNEY V. STRACHAN, DEPUTY ASSISTANT
COMMISSIONER OF POLICE IN CHARGE OF SECURITY, ROYAL BAHAMIAN
POLICE FORCE, NASSAU, BAHAMAS, FURNISHED THE FOLLOWING
INFORMATION: ~~(G-1)(u)~~

RECENTLY HIS OFFICE HAS LEARNED THAT ERRINGTON W. WATKINS,
MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT, HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY FROM ABACO ISLAND, IS
PRESENTLY IN LONDON, ENGLAND. WATKINS IS TALKING WITH THE
BRITISH ABOUT ABACO SECEDING FROM THE BAHAMA ISLANDS WHEN
THE ISLANDS RECEIVE THEIR INDEPENDENCE ON 9/10/73. WATKINS
DESIRES THAT ABACO REMAIN UNDER BRITISH CONTROL. ~~(G-1)(u)~~

WITH WATKINS IS AN AMERICAN NAMED MITCHELL BELL, PRESIDENT
OF DEFENSE SYSTEMS INTERNATIONAL, POWDER SPRINGS, GA., AND
ANOTHER AMERICAN NAMED EDWIN MARGER, A 44 YEAR OLD LAWYER
NOT FURTHER IDENTIFIED. ~~(G-1)(u)~~

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END PAGE, ONE

97-4882-
NOT RECORDED
192 MAY 7 1973

CABLE TO ATLANTA 4/30/73 DRD

Howards although Miami info from RBPF would be provided source is protected 5/13 DRD
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Exempt from GDS Category 1+2
Date of Declassification Indefinite
5-8-78 73010

5-DARROW

~~Secret~~

PAGE TWO

STRACHAN DESIRED ANY INFORMATION RE BELL, MARGER OR DEFENSE SYSTEMS INTERNATIONAL WHICH THE BUREAU CAN PROVIDE. ~~S~~(G-1)(u)

ON 4/27/73, A RELIABLE CONFIDENTIAL SOURCE ADVISED THAT ERRINGTON W. WATKINS FROM ABACO ISLAND, BAHAMAS, A MEMBER OF THE BAHAMIAN PARLIAMENT, WAS AMONG A GROUP OF PERSONS FROM ABACO WHO RECENTLY CONTACTED GEORGE WACKENHUT OF THE WACKENHUT CORP., MIAMI, FLA., AN AGENCY THAT FURNISHES SECURITY GUARDS. ALSO AMONG THE GROUP WAS ONE PAUL BETHEL, A BAHAMIAN FROM ABACO AND AN INDIVIDUAL WHOSE NAME SOURCE DID NOT KNOW, BUT WHO REPRESENTED DEFENSE SYSTEMS INTERNATIONAL. THIS GROUP WAS CONTACTING WACKENHUT TO INQUIRE IF HE COULD TRAIN A GROUP OF MEN FOR THEM IN THE USE OF FIREARMS AND GUARD TECHNIQUES. u

ADMINISTRATIVE.

CONFIDENTIAL SOURCE REFERRED TO HEREIN IS FORMER FBI SA FRANK SMITH, WHO UNTIL JUST RECENTLY WAS EMPLOYED BY THE BENGUET CORP. OF AMERICA, MIAMI, WHICH COMPANY HAS BUSINESS INTERESTS IN THE BAHAMAS. SMITH REQUESTED THAT HIS IDENTITY NOT BE REVEALED IN CONNECTION WITH THIS INFORMATION IN THAT FORMER FBI SA JIM HASTINGS, WHO WORKS FOR WACKENHUT CORP., HAD TOLD HIM OF THIS IN THE STRICTEST OF CONFIDENCE. HASTINGS u

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