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ACTION

DATE

INFO

classification

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SSS E C R E T 102158Z CITE DIRECTOR 26897

PRIORITY [] INFO [] MEXICO CITY
TO: RYBAT MONUSE

REF: [] 2170 BEING RELAYED MEXICO CITY

1. FOLLOWING INFO FROM WOFAC AND LNPURE FIELD REPORTS:

A. THAYER WALDO REPORTED AS STRINGER FOR DREW PEARSON IN URUGUAY 1948 WHERE HE KNOWN FOR INACCURATELY REPORTING EMBASSY EVENTS. HE ALLEGEDLY FRIENDLY WITH GROUP OF SPANISH COMMUNISTS IN URUGUAY. REPORT FROM URUGUAY ALSO DISCLOSED THAT WALDO MADE DEROGATORY REMARKS REGARDING U.S. POLICY IN LATIN AMERICA AND EXPRESSED HIMSELF AS SYMPATHIZER WITH SOVIET POLITICS. RELIABILITY OF ABOVE REPORT CAN NOT BE JUDGED SINCE NOT AVAILABLE IN FILES.

B. WALDO ALSO REPORTEDLY SERVED AS CORRESPONDENT FOR PEARSON IN ECUADOR AND COLOMBIA. AFTER BEING INVITED TO ECUADOR BY PRESIDENT GALO PLAZA, SUBJECT TOOK STEPS IN 1950 TO RENOUNCE U.S. CITIZENSHIP AND OBTAIN ECUADORAN CITIZENSHIP IN ORDER ADVANCE OFFICIAL POSITION WITH LATTER GOVERNMENT. LATER DECIDED RETAIN U.S. CITIZENSHIP. IN 1953 SUBJECT WAS ADMINISTRATOR OF EL SOL, LEFTIST DAILY IN QUITO. IN APRIL 1953 HE LAUNCHED THE PACIFIC POST NEWSPAPER IN ECUADOR. SUBJECT CONSIDERED UNRELIABLE, DISHONEST, AND UNSAVORY BY AMERICANS AND ECUADORANS. JUNE 1953 WALDO DEPARTED FROM ECUADOR BY PRESIDENT JOSE MARIA VELASCO IBARRA FOR WRITING DEROGATORY ARTICLES CONCERNING ECUADORAN GOVERNMENT. HE THEN SPENT ONE MONTH IN CALI, COLOMBIA WHERE HE RE-ISSUED U.S. PASSPORT. WIFE HELEN, A HUNGARIAN NATIONAL, JOINED SUBJECT IN CALI, TRAVELLING FROM QUITO ON IRD PASSPORT.

C. JANUARY 1960, HAVANA STATION REPORTED WALDO AS AMERICAN NEWSMAN FROM MEXICO CITY IN HAVANA WHO MIGHT BE OFFERED EDITORSHIP OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE TIMES OF HAVANA. LATE JANUARY 1960, MEXICO STATION REPORTED SUBJECT DISCUSSED SIX WEEK TOUR OF CUBA WITH EMBASSY OFFICIALS. HRS FILES INDICATE WALDO RESIDED MEXICO CITY TWO YEARS PRIOR LATE 1958 AT CALLE COLIMA 107, DEPTO 7 MEXICO 7.

D. LATEST INFO AVAILABLE HRS IS MEXICO CITY 9266 INDICATING WALDO PUBLIC RELATIONS HEAD OF UNIV OF AMERICAS AS OF 3 AUG 65.

2. SUGGEST ADDRESSEES PASS ABOVE INFO TO EMBASSY OFFICERS WHO IN TOUCH WITH SUBJECT.

3. FOR MEXICO CITY: REQUEST TRACES ON SUBJECT.

S E C R E T

orig sent to P-5488 (P-8593)

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classification

INCOMING

GROUP 1 Excluded from automatic downgrading and declassification