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CLASSIFIED MESSAGE

DATE : 057 ES/DLD 21 JANUARY 60

TO : DIRECTOR

FROM : HAVANA

ACTION: WH 5 [] WH DIV. NOTIFIED 0350, 21 JAN 60

INFO : DCI, D/DCI, DD/P, COP, A/DD/P/P, FI, FI/RQM 2, IWOG 2, PP 2, PP/PRD, PP/PROP, 10D 4, WE 4, DD/1 AD/CI, S/C 2

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JAN 21 08 46 60

REC'D DOUBLE SECT.

OPERATIONAL IMMEDIATE

IN 31598

TO OPIM DIR INFO [] CITE HAVA 3255

RE: HAVA 3153 (IN 26523)*

HAVA 3241 (IN 31173) (NOT SENT [])

1. IN TV APPEARANCE EVENING 20 JAN FIDEL CASTRO READ PORTIONS OF LETTER PURPORTED TO HAVE BEEN WRITTEN BY SISTER-IN-LAW DIAZ LANZ IN WHICH SHE MAKES REFERENCE TO VISITS TO AMERICAN AND SPANISH EMBASSIES AND ASSISTANCE BEING RENDERED BY CERTAIN PRIESTS, NUNS AND CHURCHES. CASTRO THEN PROCEEDED TO ACCUSE SPANISH EMBASSY AND SPANISH PRIESTS COMPLICITY IN COUNTER REVOLUTIONARY ACTIVITIES AND MADE SLIGHTING REFERENCES TO SPANISH AMBASSADOR. HALF HOUR LATER OR AT APPROXIMATELY 0030 HOURS 21 JAN WHILE PROGRAM STILL IN PROGRESS SPANISH AMBASSADOR MADE UNEXPECTED APPEARANCE, ATTEMPTED TO PROTEST BEFORE THE CAMERAS, WAS DENIED PERMISSION TO DO SO BY CASTRO AND AMIDST SHOUTING AND CONFUSION WAS PHYSICALLY ESCORTED FROM THE STUDIO BY MEMBERS OF CUBAN ARMED FORCES.

2. WHEN QUIET RETURNED FIDEL LAUNCHED INTO BITTER TIRADE AGAINST THE AMBASSADOR AND FRANCISCO FRANCO AND ANNOUNCED HE WAS GIVING THE SPANISH AMBASSADOR 24 HOURS TO LEAVE CUBA. CAMERAS TURNED TO PRESIDENT DORTICOS IN THE AUDIENCE AND HE MADE THE

SECRET

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3/80

CLASSIFIED MESSAGE

DATE : 21 JANUARY 60

SECRET

ROUTING

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IN 31698
HAVA 3255

TO

INFO

CITE

EXPULSION ORDER OFFICIAL. PROGRAM THEN CONTINUED.

3. THIS UNDOUBTEDLY MEANS BREAK OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH SPAIN. FILED: 210645Z.

END OF MESSAGE

C/S COMMENT: ADVANCE COPY MADE AVAILABLE FOR WH AT 0350, 21 JAN 60.

*Reported that the Cuban Government was planning to down grade its Embassy in Madrid.

**Reported that Castro was scheduled to appear on television on the night of 21 January.

SECRET

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