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ALLEGED READINESS OF A GROUP OF CUBAN EXILES AND NORTH

AMERICANS TO BE TRANSPORTED TO THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC
TO JOIN THE RANKS OF GENERAL ANTONIO IMBERT BAPRERAS.

PLACE & DATE ACQ.

UNITED STATES, MIAMI (11 JUNE 1965)

REF

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SOURCE

AND APPRAISAL: FIELD REPORT NO. UFG-7268.

A MIAMI BUSINESSMAN WHO WAS A RESIDENT OF HABANA FOR SEVERAL YEARS. SOURCE HAS CONTACTS WHO RECOGNIZE HIM AS A CHANNEL TO U.S. INTELLIGENCE. THIS INFORMATION WAS OBTAINED FROM A CUBAN EXILE WHO SPOKE WITH ATON

CONSTANZO PALAU. PA MIAMI FLIZIOA USA

TEAM OF 49 CUBAN EXILES AND 11 AMERICANS WAS BEING FORMED IN MIAMI,
FLORIDA, BY ODELIO GARTA DERIZANZ AND GERALD PATRICK HEMMING,
AN AMERICAN ADVENTURER AND SOLDIER-OF-FORTUNE. ATONICONSTANZO PALAU
AND RAMON ESCARDA RUBIO WERE REPUTED TO BE LEADERS WITHIN THE GROUP.
THE MEN WERE BEING RECRUITED FOR USE BY DOMINICAN GENERAL ANTONIO
IMBERT BARRERAS, HEAD OF THE LOYALIST FORCES IN THE DOMINICAN
REPUBLIC, IN HIS EFFORTS TO TRY TO TOPPLE FRANCISCO CAAMANO
DENO, LEADER OF THE REBEL FORCES. THE FINANCIAL BACKER OF THE COMMANDO
TEAM HAS BEEN DESCRIBED IN PREVIOUS REPORTS AS AN AMERICAN LAWYER

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AS WELL AS A RICH DOMINICAN BUSINESSMAN LIVING IN MIAMI).

- 2. ON 10 JUNE 1965, ATON CONSTANZO PALAU, 752 SW 4TH STREET,
 MIAMI, SAID THAT MORE THAN 70 CUBAN EXILES PLUS AN UNSPECIFIED
 NUMBER OF NORTH AMERICANS HAD BEEN RECRUITED AND WERE STANDING BY
 TO DEPART FOR THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC SOMETIME BETWEEN 11 AND 21 JUNE.
 CONSTANZO SAID THAT THESE PERSONS HAD BEEN "CONTRACTED FOR" BY
 AN AMERICAN FIRM BASED IN SANTO DOMINGO, WHICH HAS AN OFFICE IN MIAMI,
 AND THAT THESE "WORKING CONTRACTS" HAD BEEN APPROVED BY THE DOMINICAN
 GOVERNMENT. (FIELD COMMENT: PRESUMABLY BY THE JUNTA FORCES.)
- 3. ACCORDING TO CONSTANZO, THE MEN ARE TO BE TRANSPORTED TO
 THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC FROM MIAMI EITHER BY AIRCRAFT OR BY SHIP
 AND ARE TO BE TAKEN TO THE POINT OF EMBARCATION BY BUSES THAT
 ARE TO BE HIRED FOR THIS PURPOSE. THE MEN WILL BE DIVIDED INTO
 FIVE GROUPS AND WILL HAVE THE FOLLOWING GROUP LEADERS: GERALD PATRICK
 HEMAING, EUGENIO MARTI PEREZ-CARMENATI, CONSTANZO, ODILIO OTEZA,
 AND ANOTHER UNIDENTIFIED MAN. (FIELD COMMENT: ODILIO OTEZA MAY
 POSSIBLY REFER TO ODELIO GARCIA DERIZANZ.)
- 4. CONSTANZO CONFIRMED THAT THE PARTICIPANTS ARE TO RECEIVE A SALARY OF \$200 PER MONTH, PLUS A BONUS OF \$50 A DAY WHILE THEY ARE IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC. CONSTANZO STRESSED THAT NO MONEY IS BEING PAID TO THESE MEN IN ADVANCE, BUT THAT THEY ARE TO BE PAID EITHER IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC OR AFTER THEY RETURN TO THE UNITED STATES.
- 5. ALTHOUGH HE DOES NOT KNOW ALL THE DETAILS OF THE MILITARY PLAN, CONSTANZO SAID THAT THE MAIN OBJECT OF THE OPERATION IS TO GONFIDENTIAL

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FIGHT THE CAAMANO FORCES. HE BELIEVES THAT SINCE THESE FORCES ARE

IN THE HILLS OF THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, THE CUBAN EXILES WILL PROBABLY BE DEPLOYED THERE. CONSTANZO EMPHASIZED THAT ABSOLUTELY NO POLITICAL COMMITMENTS HAD BEEN MADE TO THE CUBAN EXILES AND THAT THEIR SOLE MOTIVATION IS MONETARY.

6. FIELD DISSEM: CINCSO, CINCLANT, COMKWESTFOR, MIAMI REPS OF TATE, (FBI) CUSTOMS, BORDER PATROL, IANS, FAA AND USCG.

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