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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
Intelligence Information Cable

COUNTRY

TDCS

DATE OF INFO.

DISTR.

SUBJECT

[Redacted Subject Box]

PLACE & DATE ACQ.

REF

IN 85653

SOURCE AND APPRAISAL

FIELD REPORT NO.

1. IN LATE SEPTEMBER 1964, ANTONIO CARRILLO CARRERAS, CUBAN AMBASSADOR TO FRANCE, MADE THE FOLLOWING COMMENTS IN RESPONSE TO SOURCE'S QUESTIONS REGARDING THE SUCCESSION TO CASTRO AND THE FIGURES CURRENTLY MOST POWERFUL IN CUBA. (FIELD COMMENT: [OFF] 13654 ( ) REPORTED CARRILLO'S COMMENTS THAT HE HAS CASTRO'S FULL TRUST. [OFF] 13717 ( ) REPORTED CARRILLO'S DESCRIPTION OF HIMSELF AS CASTRO'S PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE RATHER THAN AN ORDINARY FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL OF AMBASSADORIAL RANK).

2. IN THE EVENT OF THE DISAPPEARANCE OF FIDEL CASTRO FROM

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THE SCENE, PARTICULARLY THROUGH ASSASSINATION, RAUL CASTRO WILL IMMEDIATELY TAKE OVER AS LEADER IN ACCORDANCE WITH AN ESTABLISHED PLAN. RAUL HAS THE SUPPORT OF THE ARMY AS WELL AS THAT OF THE OTHER TOP CUBAN LEADERS IN FIDEL'S IMMEDIATE GROUP.

3. IN TERMS OF AUTHORITY AFTER FIDEL AND RAUL, PRESIDENT OSVALDO BORTICOS AND ERNESTO "CHE" GUEVARA FOLLOW IN THAT ORDER. CELIA SANCHEZ MANDULEY HAS INFLUENCE OUTSIDE THE POWER LINE-UP BECAUSE OF HER INTIMATE RELATIONSHIP WITH FIDEL. AMONG OTHER FIGURES WHO ARE PARTICULARLY INFLUENTIAL NOW IS EMILIO ARAGONES, WHO IS BORTICOS' HOMME DE CONFIANCE.

4. GUEVARA HAS POPULAR SUPPORT AND IS GENERALLY CONSIDERED A CUBAN IN SPITE OF HIS FOREIGN BIRTH. HE HAS NOT FAILED AS MINISTER OF INDUSTRIES AND THE DIFFICULT FUNCTIONING OF THE ECONOMY IS ATTRIBUTABLE SIMPLY TO THE FACT THAT MANY KEY INDUSTRIES CONTINUE TO USE AMERICAN EQUIPMENT FOR WHICH REPLACEMENT PARTS CANNOT BE ACQUIRED. NEWER PLANTS GENERALLY USE RUSSIAN AND CZECH EQUIPMENT AND ARE NOW PRODUCING EFFICIENTLY. BORTICOS, WHO IS WIDELY RESPECTED IN CUBA, NOW HAS SPECIFIC RESPONSIBILITY FOR GUIDING THE ECONOMY.

5. PRIOR TO LATE MAY 1964, WHEN THE CASTRO REGIME APPEARED TO BE FACING INCREASED ATTACKS BY EXILES, FIDEL CASTRO WAS CONVINCED THAT MANUEL RAY RIVERO ACTUALLY INTENDED TO LEAD AN INVASION OF CUBA.

6. FIELD DISSEM: NONE.

END OF MESSAGE

CLASSIFICATION - DISSEMINATION CONTROLS

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