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Agency Information

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Document Information

ORIGINATOR : FBI
FROM : MM
TO : HQ
TITLE :
DATE : 07/29/1974
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SUBJECTS :
MAX LESNICK
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DATE OF LAST REVIEW : 08/10/1998
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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI
FROM : SAC, MIAMI (105-21901) (C)
SUBJECT: ORLANDO GARCIA BENITEZ
IS - CUBA

DATE: 7/29/74

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ SECRET

9-12-97
CLASSIFIED BY: 5668 SLD/KSR
REASON: 1.5 (C)
DECLASSIFY ON: X
(JFK)

Re Miami letter to Bureau, 3/27/74.

Enclosed herewith to the Bureau are five copies of an LHM dated and captioned as above.

The sources concealed by T symbols are identified as follows:

- MM T-1, information [from CIA memo dated 1/9/74.] (S)(u)
- MM T-2 is MM [815] S. (S)
- MM T-3 is MM 1337-S.

Limited dissemination of instant memorandum is suggested since it may be only of interest to CIA, who was interested in any additional traces we might have on GARCIA BENITEZ. (S)(u)

Instant LHM is classified secret since it contains data [furnished by CIA] which was so classified. (S)(u)

SA EDWIN L. SWEET contacted sources normally familiar with members of the Cuban news media and received no concrete information to prove or disprove allegations concerning GARCIA BENITEZ, but all sources were quicker to criticize LESNICK, the accuser of GARCIA BENITEZ, and to classify him as a communist rather than GARCIA BENITEZ. One newspaper man, PEDRO GONZALEZ DE LA FE, known to SA SWEET since 1942, when GONZALEZ DE LA FE was a police reported in Havana, had serious difficulty with LESNICK and LESNICK threatened him with a pistol. Although GONZALEZ DE LA FE had no information concerning political sympathy regarding GARCIA BENITEZ, he discounted any allegations concerning him which might have been made by MAX LESNICK or any member of his "Replica" staff.

- 2 - Bureau (Enc. 5)
- 1 - Miami
- ELS:nli
- (3)

REC-88 105-2600-15
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ICC/CIA
by info 8/13/74
R921RMA

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