

CLASSIFIED MESSAGE

365 RLG

SECRET

DATE : 10 APR 61

TO : DIRECTOR

FROM : LONDON

ACTION : ONE 2

INFO : DCI, D/DCI, DOP, COP, ADOP/A, WE 4, WH 4, DO/I, CCI 4, S/C 2

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ROUTINE

IN 33544

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KMCARE

FOLLOWING IS SUBSTANCE CONCLUSIONS DRAFT JIC PAPER ON "CUBA AND THE CARIBBEAN" PASSED ORALLY BY SLOAN, JIC/SEC, TO GRAHAM ON 7 APRIL. SLOAN EXPECTS PAPER WILL BE RELEASED BUT STILL UK ONLY AT THIS STAGE. PLEASE HANDLE DISCREETLY.

A. BY NOW, ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE DISTINGUISH CASTROISM FROM COMMUNISM; CUBA AN "UNOFFICIAL" MEMBER OF BLOC. (SLOAN SAID THIS CONCLUSION MIGHT BE TONED DOWN, BUT IT REPRESENTED FONOFF WORKING LEVEL DRAFT.)

B. CASTRO PROBABLY NOT A COMMIE, BUT CCP HAS SHOWN GREAT SKILL IN GAINING DOMINANT POSITION SINCE REVOLUTION.

C. CASTRO REGIME IN FIRM CONTROL, DESPITE DISAFFECTION MUCH OF MIDDLE CLASS.

SECRET

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- D. "WESTERN" ECONOMIC MEASURES NOT LIKELY HAVE DECISIVE EFFECT IN WEAKENING HOLD OF REGIME.
- E. BLOC ATTACHES GREAT IMPORTANCE MAINTENANCE CASTRO REGIME IN POWER; LIKELY PROVIDE ALL ESSENTIAL ECONOMIC, TECHNICAL SUPPORT.
- F. CUBAN ACTIVITIES IN CARIBBEAN NOW LESS BLATANT AND PROVOCATIVE; CUBA NOT AN IMMEDIATE THREAT EXCEPT POSSIBLY IN BRITISH GUIANA WHERE JAGAN MIGHT CONCERT WITH CASTRO AFTER INDEPENDENCE.
- G. IN LONGER RUN, IF CASTRO SUCCEEDS IN SATISFYING SOME OF BASIC ASPIRATIONS CUBAN LOWER CLASSES, CUBA COULD HAVE SUBSTANTIAL EFFECT ON DEVELOPMENTS IN THE AREA.

END OF MESSAGE

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