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Urma

TO : DIRECTOR
FROM : [LONDON]
ACTION : C/44 9
INFO : DCI, D/DCI, DO/P, COP, ADOP/A, C/4E 2, S/C 2*

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ROUTINE
IN 21068

FRD/SEC

DIR CITE [LOND] 3878

C/S COMMENT: *DISSEMINATION APPLICABLE TO RYBAT DTOR UNMET CABLES.

1. FOLLOWING REPORT RECEIVED FROM [SMOTH R-1] ON 10 SEPT. CABLED THROUGH UNMET CHANNEL IN VIEW SUBJECT. [SMOTH] REQUEST CABLE COMMENT ON ACCURACY REPORT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, PARTICULARLY ON THE STANDARD OF SECURITY OF THE FED LEADERS. SOURCE: [OFFICIAL BRITISH SERVICE] FROM "NEW AND UNTRIED SOURCE." DOI: LATE AUGUST 62.

2. DURING THE THIRD WEEK OF AUGUST 62 A SPANISH JOURNALIST WAS INVITED BY THE FIVE LEADERS OF THE FRENTE REVOLUCIONARIO DEMOCRATICO (FRD), MANUEL ANTONIO VARGAS, MANUEL ARTIME BUESA, DR. JUSTO CARRILLO HERNANDEZ, JOSE IGNACIO BASCO Y FERNANDEZ AND AURELIANO SANCHEZ ARANGO, TO LUNCH IN A CUBAN RESTAURANT IN MEXICO CITY WHERE THEY DISCUSSED THEIR PLANS SO LOUDLY, CARELESSLY AND SO INDISCREETLY THAT THE SPANIARD FOUND IT DIFFICULT TO TAKE THEM SERIOUSLY AND COULD NOT SEE THEM ORGANIZING A SUCCESSFUL RISING AGAINST

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PAGE

2

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THE CASTRO REGIME. THEY SEEMED TO LACK ANY CONSPIRATORIAL SENSE. ALL FIVE WERE LIVING IN THE SAME HOUSE IN POLANCO THUS EXPOSING THEMSELVES TO THE DANGER OF BEING LIQUIDATED AS A GROUP BY CUBAN GOVT AGENTS WHO WERE RUTHLESS ENOUGH TO ATTEMPT THIS IF THEY FELT THE SITUATION WARRANTED IT. HOWEVER, BY LIVING AND ASSOCIATING AS A GROUP THEY MADE IT EASIER FOR THE CUBAN EMBASSY TO WATCH THEM.

3. THE FRD LEADERS STATED THEY WERE RECEIVING "VERY LARGE QUANTITIES" OF ARMS FROM THE UNITED STATES, APPARENTLY WITH THE CONNIVANCE OF U.S. AUTHORITIES. THEY IMPLIED THESE ARMS WERE BEING SUGGLED INTO MEXICO CITY WHERE THEY WERE CACHED. THEY DISCUSSED THEIR PLAN FOR SETTING UP A RADIO TRANSMITTING STATION IN MEXICO TO BROADCAST TO THEIR AFFILIATED GROUPS ELSEWHERE IN LATIN AMERICA AND PROPAGANDA TO CUBA. THE SPANIARD THOUGHT THESE UNPROMISING VENTURES, WITH THE MEXICAN GOVT IN ITS PRESENT FRAME OF MIND, AND SUGGESTED THE FRD STOP ITS BROADCASTING FROM HOSTILE UNITS.

4. THE FRD LEADERS INDICATED THEY WERE PREPARING AN INVASION OF CUBA FROM THEIR REMARKS ABOUT THE TECHNIQUE AND DIFFICULTIES OF SUCH AN OPERATION, THE SPANIARD GUESSED THAT THEY WERE BEING ADVISED BY U.S. MILITARY EXPERTS. HE OFFERED TO INTRODUCE THEM TO A SPANISH MILITARY EXPERT NOW LIVING IN MEXICO BUT THEY SHOWED LITTLE INTEREST.

5. THE FRD LEADERS INVITED THE SPANIARD TO DROP HIS OTHER ACTIVITIES AND JOIN THEM AS AN ORGANIZER AT ANY SALARY HE THOUGHT REASONABLE. (THEY APPEARED WELL SUPPLIED WITH FUNDS.) HE DID NOT REPLY POSITIVELY, BUT HE HAS NO INTENTION OF JOINING THEM BECAUSE HE HAS LITTLE FAITH IN THEIR ABILITIES, AND BELIEVES IF THEY CONTINUE IN THEIR PRESENT VEIN THEY WILL RUN AFOUL OF MEXICAN AUTHORITIES. (END OF MESSAGE)

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1/1