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FADRC FOI CASE NO. 610363

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REFERENCE EMBTEL 133 AND 183, DEPTTEL 74.

I HAVE JUST SPENT TWO HOURS WITH ROA. I WENT OVER POINTS MADE IN EMBTEL 133 AS MODIFIED IN DEPTTEL 74 IN CONSIDERABLE DETAIL WITH ELABORATIONS BASED ON RECENT DEVELOPMENTS HERE. ROA WAS CORDIAL, GAVE ME FRIENDLY PERSONAL MESSAGE FROM CASTRO WITH WHOM HE HAD JUST BEEN AND AGREED ARRANGE MEETING FOR ME WITH CASTRO NEXT WEEK.

ROA EXPRESSED STRONGLY ANTI-COMMUNIST VIEWS RECALLING THAT VIOLENT ATTACKS ON HIM BY CUBAN COMMUNISTS HAD SAVED HIM WHEN BATISTA HAD ATTEMPTED ARREST HIM AS COMMUNIST. HE BELIEVES COMMUNIST INFLUENCE IN GOVERNMENT NON-EXISTENT AND THAT AIMS AND IDEALS OF GOVERNMENT CONTRARY COMMUNIST IDEOLOGY.

WITH REGARD RECENT EXPEDITIONS AGAINST DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, HE STATED FLATLY HIS CONVICTION THESE DID NOT ORIGINATE IN CUBA.

I SPOKE TO ROA ABOUT CONCERN REGARDING POSSIBILITY OF INCIDENTS ARISING FROM CAMPESENO CONCENTRATION AND PERSISTENT ANTI-AMERICANISM HERE. HE AGREED HE WOULD SPEAK TO PRESIDENT ABOUT THIS AND TAKE DISCREET PRECAUTIONS TO WATCH EMBASSY. I POINTED OUT THAT ACTING MINISTER HART HAD TOLD ME SOME WEEKS AGO THAT "BATISTIANOS AND TRUJILLISTAS" WOULD LIKE TO CAUSE INCIDENT WHICH WOULD DISCREDIT GOC, THAT OBVIOUSLY COMMUNISTS WOULD LIKE NOTHING BETTER THAN SUCH AN INCIDENT AND THAT OFFICIAL AND PARTY ANTI-AMERICANISM WAS ALSO CONTRIBUTING FACTOR TO POSSIBILITY OF TROUBLE.

HE TOLD ME THAT GOVERNMENT HAS ARRESTED NEARLY ONE THOUSAND

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-2- 213, JULY 23, 8 PM, FROM HABANA.

PEOPLE IN PAST FEW DAYS, LARGELY PERSONS WHO HAVE ALLEGEDLY
"INFILTRATED" CAMPESINO GROUPS FOR TROUBLE-MAKING PURPOSE.

I BELIEVE CONVERSATION WAS HELPFUL. IT SHOULD HOWEVER BE
NOTED THAT ROA HAS BEEN OUT OF TOUCH WITH SITUATION HERE FOR
SOME TIME. I BELIEVE THAT MY STATEMENTS REGARDING OUR
JUSTIFIED CONCERN AT ANTI-AMERICANISM AND TREATMENT AMERICAN
INTERESTS HERE MADE AN IMPRESSION ON HIM. HE ASSURED ME OF
HIS EAGER DESIRE WORK WITH ME TO IMPROVE RELATIONS AND HIS
APPRECIATION OF IMPORTANCE PROGRESS THIS DIRECTION TO BOTH COUNTRIES.

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