

TELEGRAM INFORMATION REPORT TELEGRAM

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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CLASSIFICATION — DISSEMINATION CONTROLS

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COUNTRY CUBA REPORT NO. TDCS DB-3/658, 177

SUBJECT PROMISE OF PRESIDENT ROMULO BETANCOURT TO PROVIDE THE MOVIMIENTO DEMOCRATA CRISTIANA (MDC) WITH AN OPERATIONAL BASE IN VENEZUELA; INVOLVEMENT OF CARLOS PRIO DATE DISTR. 3 DECEMBER 1963 PRECEDENCE ROUTINE

DATE OF INFO. 14 NOVEMBER 1963 REFERENCES IN ~~71952~~ DUNDY-SMITH ALEXANDER BELK BRUBECK CHASE DANEGEMAN DUNGAN ECKEL FORRESTAL JOHNSON KILDUFF KLEIN KOMER SAUNDERS SCHLESINGER SMITH, WM. Y

PLACE & DATE ACQ. APPRAISAL UNITED STATES, MIAMI (2 DECEMBER 1963) FIELD REPORT NO. UFG-4169

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION. SOURCE GRADINGS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE

SOURCE A CUBAN EXILE WHO HAS CONTACTS WITH LEADERS OF CUBAN EXILE ORGANIZATIONS, WHOSE RELIABILITY HAS NOT BEEN ESTABLISHED.

1. ON 14 NOVEMBER 1963 FORMER CUBAN PRESIDENT CARLOS PRIO SOCARRAS SAID THAT PRESIDENT ROMULO BETANCOURT RECENTLY PROMISED THAT VENEZUELA WOULD PROVIDE THE MOVIMIENTO DEMOCRATA CRISTIANA (MDC, CHRISTIAN DEMOCRAT MOVEMENT) WITH A BASE OF OPERATIONS FOR USE AGAINST CUBA. ACCORDING TO PRIO, BETANCOURT PROMISED TO MAKE THE BASE AVAILABLE TO THE CUBANS IN DECEMBER AND HAS APPOINTED VENEZUELAN REAR ADMIRAL LOPEZ CONDE AS THE LIAISON OFFICER IN CHARGE OF ALL NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT AND THE MDC.

2. ALTHOUGH THE EXACT LOCATION OF THE BASE HAS NOT YET BEEN DETERMINED, PRIO SAID IT WILL PROBABLY BE ESTABLISHED ON A VENEZUELAN

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GROUP 1
Excluded from automatic
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Authority RAC NLJ 001-022-1-6

By isa NARA, Date 7-11-01

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NAVAL BASE. PRIO ALSO SAID THAT BETANCOURT HAS PROMISED TO PROVIDE THE EXILE BASE WITH VENEZUELAN PERSONNEL AND SUPPLIES.

3. ACCORDING TO LAUREANO BATISTA FALLA, SECRETARY OF MDC MILITARY AFFAIRS WHO HAS BEEN MEETING WITH PRIO IN CONNECTION WITH THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE BASE IN VENEZUELA, THE MDC HAS \$15,000 AND PLANS TO PURCHASE TWO SAILING VESSELS BETWEEN 60 AND 90 FEET LONG, AND SIX OR SEVEN SMALL OUTBOARD MOTOR BOATS WHICH WILL BE LAUNCHED FROM THE SAILING VESSELS IN RAIDS AGAINST CUBA.

4. THE MDC ALSO PLANS TO ACQUIRE A B-25 AIRCRAFT AND BOMBS FOR USE IN AIR STRIKES AGAINST THE CASTRO GOVERNMENT. BATISTA FALLA SAID THAT PRIO HAS PROMISED TO GIVE THE MDC FUNDS TO BE USED TO PURCHASE **SUCH BOATS AND PLANES AS ARE NECESSARY TO CARRY OUT ITS PLANS EFFECTIVELY AFTER** THE MDC HAS EXHAUSTED ITS OWN RESOURCES.

5. FIELD DISSEM: CINCLANT, CINCOS, COMNAVKEYWEST, MIAMI REPS STATE, FBI, USCG, CUSTOMS, AND I&NS.

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