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OCI No. 1944/63

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**CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
Office of Current Intelligence
4 June 1963**

CURRENT INTELLIGENCE MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Comments on the Jules Dubois Article on the Dominican Republic (Washington Post, 2 June 1963)

1. Dominican President Juan Bosch usually has appeared reluctant to take a categorical public stand against Communism. He says that he regards the threat to his regime from rightist and political opportunist elements as more immediate and more dangerous. He states that he does not want to "become another Betancourt" and risk an open fight with the extreme left at the same time that he is absorbed in getting his administration's program under way and countering the attacks from the right.

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2. On one occasion Bosch has publicly attacked Communism. On 12 May he addressed an audience of artillery-school graduates in the following words: "At the present time there is no alternative in Latin America. There is now no place for personalistic dictatorships such as the one which we suffered. There is only one dilemma and it is quite clear: either democracy or Communism. And Communism means death, war, destruction, and the loss of all our possessions." This statement, subsequently well publicized by the Dominican press, comes the closest to being an outright rejection of Communism since his 27 February inauguration.

3. President Bosch has not publicly defined his position on the Castro regime. He appears to have studiously avoided clearly delineating his views on this

State Dept. review completed

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[REDACTED] In a 7 March interview with an Argentine journalist taped for television presentation in Argentina and Uruguay, Bosch was asked for his "concrete position" and that of his government regarding future relations with Castro's Cuba. He answered simply that "the Dominican Government does not maintain relations with the Republic of Cuba."

4. In regard to US Ambassador Martin's relationships with members of the former Council of State, several factors appear to condition his somewhat limited relationships with these men:

a. They are no longer serving in any official capacity in the Dominican Government and therefore are out of his realm of legitimate contacts other than on a strictly informal or social basis;

b. The two former members with any immediate political potential, General Antonio Imbert and Donald Reid, are implacable foes of President Bosch, and too frequent contact with them could carry extremely unfortunate consequences for the ambassador's relations with Bosch;

c. Though decidedly pro-US, former Council members Imbert, Reid, and Luis Amiana--the latter is currently inactive politically--are capable of strategic antigovernment alliances for purposes of political advantage and are disliked and distrusted by important elements of the Dominican populace, including the armed forces.