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SECURITY INFORMATION

C 28004

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COUNTRY: Guatemala

CIA [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: Aircraft in Readiness for Rumored Cuban Revolution
25X1A

DATE 31 JULY 1953

PLACE ACQUIRED: (BY SOURCE) [REDACTED]

Supplement to:

DATE ACQUIRED: (BY SOURCE) [REDACTED]

Responsive to:

DATE (OF INFO): 20 Jul 53

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Source or Clarifying Statement: [REDACTED]

For the past few months, and as recently as 20 Jul 53, [REDACTED] two former military aircraft grounded in the airport at Guatemala City. They are the property of a Cuban, Pelim Mendoza, who was influential in the Prio Government, and are serviced by a mechanic, Benigno Garcia, who was sent from Cuba to Guatemala for that purpose. Garcia receives the complete cooperation of the Guatemalan Air Force, which supplies him with gasoline and other items such as canvas to cover the controls. The aircraft have been on the field for some time and are allegedly to be used in a revolutionary attack on the Batista Government. [REDACTED] the aircraft are obsolescent and of insufficient cargo capacity and, consequently, would be completely ineffectual in an offensive military operation.

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