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President Kennedy's Trip to Venezuela and Colombia

Reports [redacted] have uniformly reflected a very favorable reaction to the President's recent visit.

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3.4(b)(1)

One distinguished American and long time observer of the Venezuelan scene, [redacted] has reported in a personal message to the Director of Central Intelligence Agency: "The visit

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here was an outstanding success. It bolstered the prestige of the United States in Venezuela and in the Americas, especially in the Caribbean area." [redacted] commentary in its entirety is attached.

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Reports [redacted] have characterized the trip as highly successful. These reports conclude that the trip was particularly effective in dramatizing the determination of the United States to carry out the principles of the Alliance for Progress. A result of the trip has been to identify the United States with the needs and aspirations of the masses of the people and to refute the persistent criticism that American aid has benefited only the wealthy and influential classes. The trip is said to have kindled hope for a

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better life among many who saw little or no chance for improvement in conditions or relief from poverty. It is taken as signifying that the United States has passed from a defensive to an affirmative posture and has seized the initiative in Colombia and hopefully in Latin America as a whole.

Obviously many factors combined to contribute to this success. Particularly significant, of course, were the energetic and effective measures taken by both host governments to ensure the President's personal security and stimulate a warm and enthusiastic reception. Very considerable credit should go, however, to the various agencies of the U. S. Government which collaborated in plans and preparations for the trip. [REDACTED]

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3.4(b)(1)(6)

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

1.5(b)(c)(d)
3.4(b)(1)(6)(9)

[REDACTED]

1.5(b)(c)(d)
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[REDACTED]

1.5(b)(c)(d)
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[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

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1.5(b)(c)(d)
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[REDACTED]

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1.5(b)(c)(d)
3.4(b)(1)(6)(9)

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Attachment

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