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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY INTELLIGENCE MEMORANDUM  
SITUATION IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

THE POLITICAL AND MILITARY SITUATIONS REMAINS UNCHANGED, THOUGH FOUR US PARATROOPERS ARE REPORTED TO HAVE BEEN WOUNDED WHEN A BRIEF BUT HEAVY OUTBURST OF FIRING TOOK PLACE EARLY LAST EVENING.

REBELS APPARENTLY FIRED INTO THE US-HELD CORRIDOR AND US TROOPS RETURNED THE FIRE. CAAMANO LATER TOLD NEWS-MEN THAT US TROOPS HAD BEEN STRINGING BARBED WIRE IN REBEL TERRITORY SOMEWHAT BEYOND THE AGREED-UPON LINE AND THAT "SEVERAL INCONVENIENCES" HAD RESULTED.

1.5(e)  
3.4(b)(1)

CAAMANO'S EXPLANATION

THAT THE FIRING RESULTED WHEN US FORCES TRIED TO EXTEND THE CORRIDOR SOUTH IN THE VICINITY OF THE NATIONAL PALACE.

CAAMANO COMPLAINED THAT THE IMBERT FORCES HAVE BEEN INCREASING THEIR GARRISON AT THE PALACE "FROM 100 TO 200."

IN FACT, THE LOYALIST GARRISON AT THE PALACE ACTUALLY NUMBERS NEARER 500. THE PALACE, WHICH IS LOCATED WITHIN THE REBEL ZONE, IS LIKELY TO BECOME THE SCENE OF INCREASING FRICTION SINCE IT IS NOW THE ONLY PLACE WHERE US FORCES ARE NOT PHYSICALLY SEPARATING THE REBELS FROM THE LOYALISTS.

MEANWHILE, ANTONIO IMBERT AND THE LOYALIST MILITARY COMMANDERS SHOW NOW SIGNS OF EASING THEIR STRONG OPPOSITION TO ANY POLITICAL COMPROMISE.

1.5(e)  
3.4(b)(1)

THE FIVE BISHOPS OF THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC HAVE ENTERED THE ARENA WITH A STRONG STATEMENT CALLING FOR THE CREATION OF A NEW PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT PRESIDED OVER BY A "PATRIOT" WHICH WOULD OPERATE WITH THE BACKING OF A "COMPETENT INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION." AFTER THE STATEMENT WAS ISSUED YESTERDAY, THREE OF THE BISHOPS AND THE PAPAL NUNCIO MET WITH AMBASSADOR BENNETT. THEY TOLD THE AMBASSADOR THAT ANOTNIO IMBERT HAD REACTED ANGRILY TO THEIR STATEMENT, CHARGING THAT THE BISHOPS WERE TAKING UP THE REBEL CAUSE JUST AT THE TIME WHEN HE IS CLEARLY WINNING THE FIGHT. ONE OF THE BISHOPS POINTED OUT TO IMBERT THAT THERE IS A CLEAR NEED FOR POLITICAL CONCILIATION AND THAT THE BISHOPS' STATEMENT HAD NAMED NO PARTICULAR INDIVIDUAL AS A PROPOSED HEAD OF A NEW GOVERNMENT.

THE BISHOPS INDICATED TO AMBASSADOR BENNETT THAT THEY HAVE NO PARTICULAR ENTHUSIASM FOR ANTONIO GUZMAN AS THE HEAD OF A NEW GOVERNMENT AND DESCRIBED GUZMAN AS "TOO CLOSE TO BOSCH." REGARDING THE 1963 CONSTITUTION, WHICH THE REBELS INSIST MUST BE REINSTATED, THE NUNCIO STATED THAT IT HAD (UNPALATABLE) FEATURES FROM THE POINT OF VIEW OF THE CHURCH, BUT IT WAS NEVER THE LESS "90 PERCENT ACCEPTABLE." THE NUNCIO ADVISED JUSTICE RATHER THAN CHARITY TOWARD EXTREMISTS AMONG THE REBELS, ADDING THAT THEY WERE RESPONSIBLE FOR MUCH BLOOSHED AND THAT THE UNITED STATES "MUST CONTROL THEM."

THERE IS LITTLE NEW INFORMATION ON CONDITIONS IN THE INTERIOR. THE IMBERT GOVERNMENT IS BEGINNING TO TAKE STEPS TO IMPROVE ITS POPULAR SUPPORT IN THE OUTLYING PROVINCES. IT SPONSORED A MASS RALLY YESTERDAY IN THE CITY OF SAN PEDRO DE MACORIS AND PLANS ANOTHER TODAY IN THE FAR EASTERN CITY OF HIGUEY. TROUBLE MAY BE BREWING IN NEARBY LA ROMANA, HOWEVER. LEADERS OF THE SUGAR WORKERS' UNION THERE SAY THEY WILL STRIKE AFTER 25 MAY UNLESS THE AMERICAN-OWNED COMPANY ACCEDES TO ALL THEIR DEMANDS. THE COMPANY CLAIMS IT CANNOT MEET MOST OF THE DEMANDS.

IN THE CITY OF SANTIAGO RODRIGUEZ, CAPITAL OF THE PROVINCE OF THE SAME NAME, THE SITUATION IS STILL QUIET. THE GOVERNOR TOLD US GOVERNMENT OFFICERS VISITING THERE YESTERDAY, HOWEVER, THAT HE IS SURROUNDED BY LEFTIST CIVIL SERVANTS AND IS VIRTUALLY OUT OF CONTACT WITH THE AUTHORITIES IN SANTO DOMINGO. HIS CONTACT WITH OTHER PARTS OF THE PROVINCE IS HAMPERED BY THE LACK OF GASOLINE.

THE INTER-AMERICAN ARMED FORCE (IAAF) IS LIKELY TO BE FORMALLY ESTABLISHED IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC TODAY FOLLOWING YESTERDAY'S VOTE BY THE ORGANZIATION OF AMERICAN STATES (OAS) ACTIVATING THE IAAF. THE OAS ALSO ASKED THE GOVERNMENT OF BRAZIL TO NAME THE IAAF COMMANDER AND THE US TO APPOINT A DEPUTY COMMANDER.

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