

microfiche

CIACO | *LAB 80-153*

10/32/ DISSEM PER OPA #2

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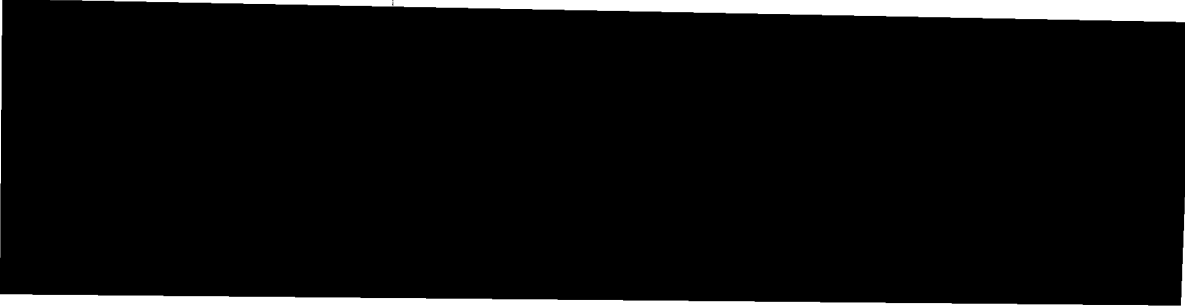


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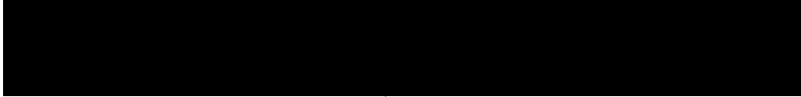
BRIEF 062348Z DIRECTOR 739830
TO: LATIN AMERICA BRIEF.



LATIN AMERICA BRIEF CO LAB 80-153 FOR 6 AUGUST 1980

FROM: NFAC/OFFICE OF CURRENT OPERATIONS

1. JAMAICA: MOVING TOWARD THE ELECTION



1. JAMAICA: //PRIME MINISTER MANLEY HAS TOLD THE
LEADERS OF HIS PEOPLE'S NATIONAL PARTY
HE WILL HOLD THE NATIONAL ELECTION BY EARLY OCTOBER,
18 MONTHS BEFORE THE END OF HIS CONSTITUTIONAL MANDATE.

//LEADERS OF THE MODERATE OPPOSITION JAMAICAN LABOR
PARTY, WHICH IS FAVORED TO DEFEAT MANLEY, REPORTEDLY BE-
LIEVE THAT THE ELECTION WILL PROCEED ON SCHEDULE. THEY
CONTEND THAT A DELAY IS UNLIKELY BECAUSE THE PRIME MIN-
ISTER HAS BEEN UNABLE TO RAISE ENOUGH FOREIGN CREDITS TO

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KEEP HIS GOVERNMENT AFLOAT AFTER OCTOBER. [REDACTED]

ELECTION PREPARATIONS ARE NOW SO FAR ADVANCED THAT MANLEY WOULD HAVE GREAT DIFFICULTY TURNING BACK. REGISTRATION OF THE OVER 800,000 VOTERS IS VIRTUALLY COMPLETE. BOTH PARTIES HAVE NOMINATED ALL THEIR 60 CANDIDATES, AND VIGOROUS CAMPAIGNING IS UNDER WAY. THE LABOR PARTY AND THE MODERATE-CONTROLLED ELECTORAL COMMISSION, WHICH MANLEY HELPED FORM, APPARENTLY BELIEVE THAT THE GROUNDWORK FOR A FAIR ELECTION IS BEING ESTABLISHED. [REDACTED]

//NEVERTHELESS, THE ATTEMPT BY SOME CUBAN-ASSISTED RADICALS IN MANLEY'S ENTOURAGE TO INCREASE VIOLENCE WILL CONTINUE TO THREATEN A FAIR ELECTION. [REDACTED]

//OPPOSITION LEADERS REPORTEDLY BELIEVE MANLEY'S RECENT EFFORT TO EXPAND THE SECURITY FORCES AND TO SIDE-LINE RULING-PARTY GUNMEN ARE SINCERE. MOST LOCAL OBSERVERS SEEM CONVINCED, HOWEVER, THAT THE UNPRECEDENTED LEVEL OF POLITICAL VIOLENCE IN THIS CAMPAIGN WILL CONTINUE THROUGH ELECTION DAY. [REDACTED]

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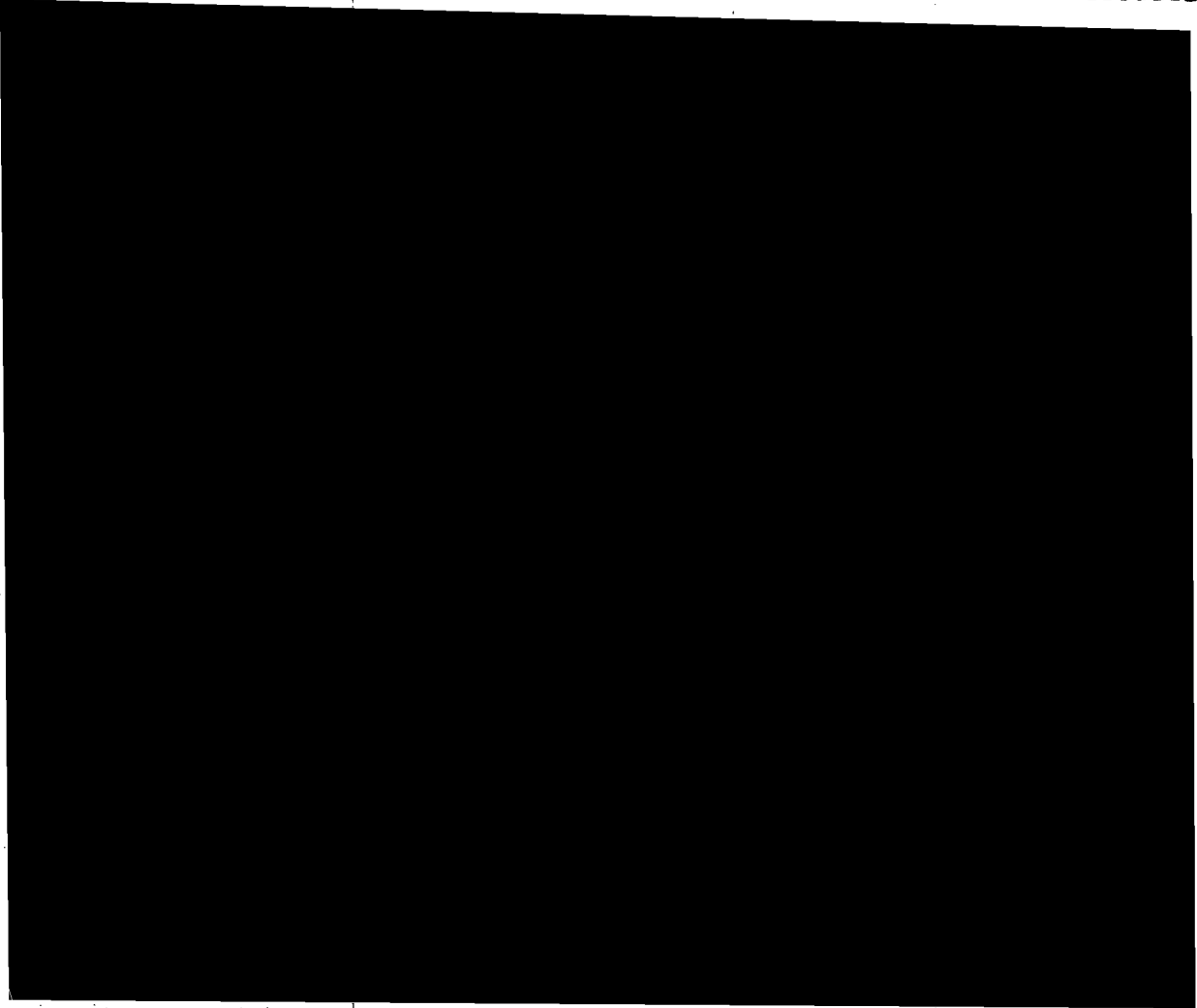
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