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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

PRIORITY

Intelligence Information Cable

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COUNTRY PANAMA

TDCS -3/569,861

DATE OF INFO. 12 JANUARY 1964

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SUBJECT

SITREP [REDACTED]

EO 12958 3.4(b)(1)>25Yrs (C)

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PLACE & DATE ACQ.

[REDACTED]

REF

IN 96951

SOURCE AND APPRAISAL:

FIELD REPORT NO.

[REDACTED]

EO 12958 3.4(b)(1)>25Yrs (C)

1. [REDACTED] SEVERAL MOLOTOV COCKTAILS WERE THROWN AT THE TIVOLI HOTEL, TWO MORE CARS WERE BURNED, AND SNIPER FIRE BEGAN AGAIN FROM THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY BUILDING. A CROWD IS GATHERING IN THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY AREA.

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[REDACTED]

THEY ARE AGAIN MAKING PLANS TO BURN DOWN THE TIVOLI, USING MOLOTOV COCKTAILS AND GASOLINE.) [REDACTED]

2. THE NATIONAL GUARD (GN) IS CONCERNED THAT TONIGHT MIGHT BE WORSE THAN LAST NIGHT SINCE IT MIGHT BE THE LAST

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STATE/INR DIA ARMY/ACSI NAVY AIR JCS SECDEF NSA NIC AID USIA OCI ONE OCR ORR OO EXO

GROUP 1 Excluded from automatic downgrading and declassification

IMMEDIATE TO: DIRNSA (PROD WO) AFSSO WHITE HOUSE SIT ROOM
STATE (RCI)(FOR HUGHES) DIA/CIIC CINCMEAFSA
JCS NIC
CNO (OP 922 Y 1) DF1/ACSI

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CHANCE TO STIR UP REAL TROUBLE. TOMORROW PEOPLE WILL BE GOING BACK TO WORK AND THINGS ARE EXPECTED TO RETURN TO NORMAL. GN OFFICIALS FEEL THAT, IF THE AGITATION IS NOT SUFFICIENT TO KEEP THE PEOPLE AROUSED TONIGHT, MOST OF THE TROUBLE SHOULD BE OVER. [REDACTED]

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(C)

3. THE SITUATION IN COLON IS STILL CONSIDERED BAD AND A GREAT DEAL OF TROUBLE HAS STEMMED FROM AN APPARENT LACK OF LEADERSHIP BY GN OFFICIALS. MAJOR RODRIGUEZ AND CAPT BERNAL, THE TWO OFFICIALS IN CHARGE OF THE AREA, HAVE BEEN VERY NERVOUS AND HAVE NOT HANDLED THE SITUATION PROPERLY. GN COMMANDANT VALLARINO SENT THREE EXPERIENCED OFFICERS TO TAKE OVER IN COLON AND ALSO ORDERED TROOP REINFORCEMENTS FOR THE AREA. [REDACTED]

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(C)

4. DURING THE AFTERNOON OF 12 JAN LEAFLETS WERE SPREAD IN THE AREA OF THE PANAM BUILDING WARNING THE TENANTS TO EVACUATE THE APARTMENTS BY NIGHTFALL; HOWEVER, THE TENANTS HAVE REFUSED. THE GN IS AWARE OF THE THREAT AND HAS SET UP A LINE BEHIND THE AREA TO KEEP AGITATORS FROM MOVING INTO THE BUILDING. [REDACTED] THE THREAT PROBABLY CAME FROM COMMUNISTS OR PRO-CASTROITES WHO WANTED TO USE THE BUILDINGS FOR SHOOTING ON THE ZONE.) [REDACTED]

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5. [REDACTED] DISSEM: STATE, ARMY, NAVY, AIR, CINCSO,
CINCLANT, PANCANAL, CINCEAFSA.

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(C)

END OF MESSAGE

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