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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	Panama	REPORT NO.	
SUBJECT	Personal Antagonisms in Panamanian Government	DATE DISTR.	9 March 1955
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THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

SOURCE:



- In December 1954, former President Jose Antonio REMON, Bolivar VALLARINO, Chief of the Guardia Nacional (GN), Temistocles DIAZ, former Minister of Government and Justice, and Juan E. JIMENEZ, a local politician, met at a cocktail party. While intoxicated, REMON is said to have told the others that, so long as he was alive, the next President of Panama would be Harmodio ARIAS, former President of Panama.
- REMON reportedly knew that the following persons had the political aspirations indicated below:
 - Temistocles DIAZ - Presidency
 - Bolivar VALLARINO - Minister of Government and Justice
 - Juan E. JIMENEZ - Minister of Foreign Relations
 - Captain Timoteo MELENDEZ, GN - Executive Officer of the GN
 - Rogelio FABREGA - Chief of the GN
- Following this party, REMON took the precaution of having the keys to the GN armory placed in the hands of Lt. Col. Saturnino FLORES, Executive Officer of the GN, saying that FLORES was the only man he could trust. On 3 January 1955 VALLARINO is said to have made an unsuccessful attempt to get these keys from FLORES.
- On 7 January 1955 Captain MELENDEZ and Bolivar VALLARINO engaged in a fist fight, but the two men reconciled their differences for their mutual good.
- Later, Saturnino FLORES attempted to enlist the aid of Jorge Luis ALFARO, Chief of the Panama Secret Police (PSP), in an effort to solve the assassination of REMON, but ALFARO is said to have refused the offer. FLORES was reportedly

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STATE	#X	ARMY	#X	NAVY	X	AIR	X	FBI	X	AEC						
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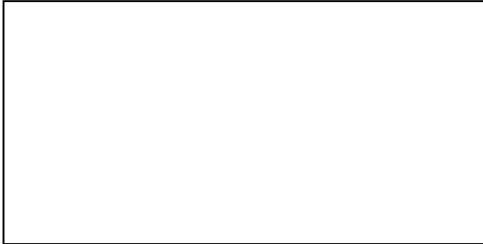
(NOTE: Washington distribution indicated by "X"; field distribution by "#")

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aware that the killing of REMON was part of a plot to have GUIZADO take over the Presidency and then later resign in favor of Temistocles DIAZ. The other officers of the GN are either loyal to VALLARINO or are afraid to oppose his desires.

[REDACTED] Comment. The lives of Alejandro REMON, presently Minister of Government and Justice, and Jorge Luis ALFARO are in danger; and Ricardo ARIAS will be President of Panama only so long as he has the backing of Bolivar VALLARINO.



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