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Intelligence Information Cable

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FURTHER DISSEMINATION AND USE OF THIS INFORMATION SUBJECT TO CONTROLS STATED AT BEGINNING AND END OF REPORT.



[Redacted]

(b)(3)

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REPORT CLASS ~~S E C R E T~~--WNINTEL--NOFORN--NOCONTRACT

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CITE [Redacted]

DIST 11 MAR 80

COUNTRY: JAMAICA

SUBJECT: INDICATIONS OF A POSSIBLE COUP D'ETAT BY

THE JAMAICA DEFENSE FORCE ON OR ABOUT 12 MARCH 1980

SOURCE:

[Redacted]

(b)(1)
(b)(3)

1. THE RULING PEOPLE'S NATIONAL PARTY (PNP) GENERAL SECRETARY AND MARXIST, D.K. D U N C A N, SAID THAT UNKNOWN ELEMENTS OF THE JAMAICA DEFENSE FORCE (JDF) ARE PLANNING A COUP D'ETAT ON OR ABOUT 12 MARCH 1980 BECAUSE OF THEIR INCREASING CONCERN OVER THE CONTINUED DETERIORATION OF CONDITIONS IN JAMAICA. THEY BELIEVE THAT THE PRESENT GOVERNMENT IS NOT ABLE TO PREVENT CONTINUED ECONOMIC DECLINE, POLITICAL INSTABILITY AND THE INCREASE OF VIOLENCE IN FAMAICA.

2. ACCORDING TO DUNCAN, JDF PERSONNEL ARE NOW PROBING THE JAMAICA CONSTABULARY FORCE (JCF) TO ASSESS AND DETERMINE IF THE JCF WOULD OPPOSE A COUP ATTEMPT. DUNCAN SAYS THAT

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THERE IS A SIGNIFICANT OPPOSITION JAMAICA LABOR PARTY
(JLP) FOLLOWING IN THE JDF AND A CONSIDERABLE NUMBER OF
ANTI-MANLEY SYMPATHIZERS THROUGHOUT THE JCF. THESE GROUPS
PROBABLY WOULD NOT INTERFERE WITH A COUP ATTEMPT.

3. (SOURCE COMMENT: IT IS POSSIBLE THAT THE JDF IS
CONSIDERING 12 MARCH FOR A COUP ATTEMPT BECAUSE PRIME
MINISTER MICHAEL M A N L E Y IS PLANNING TO DEPART
KINGSTON, JAMAICA AT 0900 HOURS ON 12 MARCH FOR CURACAO
AND THEN ON TO GRENADA. MANLEY'S LATEST PLANS ARE TO
RETURN TO JAMAICA IN THE EVENING OF 13 MARCH AND SEND
DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER P.J. P A T T E R S O N TO BARBADOS.
MANLEY MAY BE COMING BACK EARLY BECAUSE OF THE UNSETTLED
IMF ISSUE PRESENTLY BEING DEBATED OR BECAUSE OF MANLEY'S
INCREASING PARANOIA OVER SECURITY CONDITIONS.)

4.

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

(b)(1)
(b)(3)

5.

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

(b)(1)
(b)(3)

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RVW 11M MAR 00 DRV D9C1 BY RECORDED REPORTING OFFICER. ALL
PORTIONS CARRY CLASSIFICATION AND CONTROLS OF OVERALL
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