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Intelligence Informa

IMMEDIATE IN 0429485 PAGE 001 OF 002

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

(b)(3)

Classified by Recorded Reparting Officer: Exempt from Go Colegory 58 (1) (2) Impossible to Determine Date of Auto

THIS IS AN INFORMATION REPORT, NOT FINALLY EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE

REPORT CLASS SECRET -- WNINTEL -- NOFORN-NOCONTRACT-ORCON

DIST 17 MAR 78

COUNTRY'S PANAMA

INITIAL REACTION OF GENERAL OMAR TORRIJOS HERRERA SUBJECT:

AND OTHER PANAMANIAN OFFICIALS TO RATIFICATION OF

THE PANAMA CANAL NEUTRALITY TREATY

SDURCE:

SENIOR PANAMANIAN OFFICIALS WHO WERE PRESENT WITH GENERAL OMAR TORRIJOS HERRERA, CHIEF OF GOVERNMENT, IN PANAMA CITY DURING AND AFTER THE SENATE RATIFICATION OF THE PANAMA CANAL NEUTRALITY TREATY DESCRIBED HIS REACTION AS DISSATISFACTION TEMPERED WITH RESIGNATION. TORRIJOS TOLD THOSE WHO WERE PRESENT THAT ALTHOUGH HE WAS NOT HAPPY ABOUT ADDITIONS MADE TO THE NEUTRALITY TREATY, IT WAS IMPORTANT TO REMAIN PATIENT DURING THE PROCESS OF DEBATE AND RATIFICATION OF THE PANAMA CANAL TREATY. TORRIJOS SAID HE WAS ESPECIALLY DISPLEASED WITH THE SENATE RESERVATION REGARDING UNITED STATES MILITARY INTERVENTION

(b)(1)

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WARNING NOTICE PAGE 002 OF 002 SENSITIVE INTELLIGENCE SOURCES AND METHODS INVOLVED

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TO RE-OPEN THE CANAL IF CLOSED, OR IF OPERATIONS WERE THREATENED, BUT THAT IT WAS ALWAYS POSSIBLE TO NEGOTIATE FUTURE ADJUSTMENTS TO MAKE THE MEASURE LESS OFFENSIVE.

2. SOME OF THOSE PRESENT WITH TORRIJOS WERE VEHEMENT IN
THEIR DENUNCIATION OF THE SENATE MODIFICATIONS TO THE NEUTRALITY
TREATY. HUGO E S P A D A F O R A, VICE-MINISTER OF HEALTH,
WAS MOST VOCIFEROUS AND SAID HE PLANNED TO RESIGN FROM HIS POST
IN PROTEST OVER THE SENATE ACTIONS. OTHERS PRESENT CALMED HIM
DOWN AND CONVINCED HIM THAT SUCH AN ACTION WOULD BE DETRIMENTAL
TO BOTH TORRIJOS AND THE GOVERNMENT DURING SUCH A DIFFICULT TIME.

(b)(1)

(b)(3)

REPORT CLASS SECRET-WARNING NOTICE-SENSITIVE INTELLIGENCE SOURCES

AND METHODS INVOLVED--NOT RELEASABLE TO FOREIGN NATIONALS--NOT

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AND EXTRACTION OF INFORMATION CONTROLLED BY ORIGINATOR.

CLASSIFIED BY RECORDED REPORTING OFFICER. XGDS-2.

SECRET

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