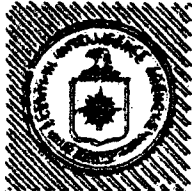


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ROUTINE
IN 0171386

FURTHER DISSEMINATION AND USE OF THIS INFORMATION SUBJECT TO PAGE 001 OF 002
CONTROLS STATED AT BEGINNING AND END OF REPORT.



(b)(3)

Classified by ~~SECRET~~ reporting Office Exemption from General Declassification Schedule of E.O. 13526 Exemption
Category 25 1, 2 Impossible to Determine Date of Automatic Declassification

THIS IS AN INFORMATION REPORT, NOT FINALLY EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE

REPORT CLASS ~~SECRET~~ - WARNING NOTICE - SENSITIVE INTELLIGENCE
SOURCES AND METHODS INVOLVED -- NOT RELEASABLE TO FOREIGN NATIONALS
-- NOT RELEASABLE TO CONTRACTORS OR CONTRACTOR/CONSULTANTS

CITE [Redacted]
DIST 28 DEC 77

(b)(3)

COUNTRY: PANAMA

DDI: DECEMBER 1977

SUBJECT: PREFERENCE OF GENERAL OMAR TORRIJOS HERRERA TO RUN
FOR PRESIDENT IN 1978

ACQ:

SOURCE:

1.

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

GENERAL OMAR T O R R I J O S

HERRERA, CHIEF OF GOVERNMENT, PREFERS TO LEAVE THE GN AND RUN
FOR PRESIDENT OF PANAMA IN 1978. [Redacted] TORRIJOS

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

[Redacted] FELT THAT PANAMA HAD SUFFERED GREAT
EMBARRASSMENT WHEN IT WAS POINTED OUT THAT THE PANAMA CANAL
TREATIES HAD NOT BEEN SIGNED BY AN ELECTED OFFICIAL IN WASHINGTON,

~~SECRET~~

SECRET

IN 0171386

(b)(3)

WARNING NOTICE
SENSITIVE INTELLIGENCE SOURCES AND METHODS INVOLVED

PAGE 002 OF 002

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

D.C. IN SEPTEMBER 1977.

2. WHILE PREFERRING ELECTIVE OFFICE, TORRIJOS TOLD [REDACTED] THAT IT WAS TOO EARLY TO MAKE ANY FINAL DECISION AND THAT HE STILL HAD THE OPTIONS OF CONTINUING AS COMMANDER OF THE GN AND CHIEF OF GOVERNMENT, OR REMAINING AS CHIEF OF GOVERNMENT AND APPOINTING SOMEONE ELSE AS GN COMMANDER. TORRIJOS SAID THAT HE PLANS TO WAIT UNTIL HE HAS A BETTER READING ON THE CHANCES FOR RATIFICATION OF THE CANAL TREATIES BY THE UNITED STATES SENATE BEFORE MAKING HIS FINAL DECISION.

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

3. TORRIJOS TOLD [REDACTED] THAT WINNING AN OPEN ELECTION WOULD CAP HIS POLITICAL CAREER. TORRIJOS SAID THAT AFTER SERVING A SIX YEAR TERM AS PRESIDENT HE COULD RETIRE AND BECOME AN ELDER STATESMAN AND BEHIND-THE-SCENES POLITICAL STRATEGIST.

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

4. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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

REPORT CLASS S E C R E T - WARNING NOTICE-SENSITIVE INTELLIGENCE
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