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PAGE 001 OF 003
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DIRECTORATE OF OPERATIONS

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

[Redacted]

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REPORT CLASS ~~SECRET~~==NNINTEL==NOFORN

CITE [Redacted]
DIST 19 JAN 79

COUNTRY: JAMAICA

SUBJECT: PRIVATE COMMENTS OF ANTHONY SPAULDING, RADICAL MINISTER OF HOUSING, ON THE IMF, THE WORKER'S PARTY OF JAMAICA, AND THE INTERNAL POLITICS OF THE PEOPLE'S NATIONAL PARTY [Redacted]

[Redacted]

1. TONY SPAULDING, MINISTER OF HOUSING AND A LEADER OF THE RADICAL FACTION OF THE PEOPLE'S NATIONAL PARTY (PNP), COMMENTED IN PRIVATE TO DENNIS MURRISON, SPECIAL ADVISOR TO PRIME MINISTER MICHAEL MANLEY AND OTHER PNP OFFICIALS [Redacted] THAT HE AND MOST OF THE LEFTISTS IN THE PNP FERVENTLY HOPED THE GOVERNMENT OF JAMAICA WOULD NOT PASS THE NEXT SET OF IMF TESTS IN MARCH 1979. SPAULDING BELIEVES THAT IF JAMAICA FAILS THE IMF TESTS, AND THUS LIKELY BECOMES INELIGIBLE FOR FURTHER MONETARY LOANS FROM THE IMF AND WESTERN NATIONS, THE EASTERN EUROPEAN BLOC OF NATIONS, INCLUDING THE USSR WILL STEP IN AND

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IN 1865891

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PAGE 002 OF 003

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PROVIDE THE NECESSARY AID. SPAULDING SAID A FAILURE TO MEET THE IMF TESTS WOULD CONCLUSIVELY PROVE THAT CAPITALISM WOULD NOT WORK IN JAMAICA AND THAT THE PNP MODERATES WHO HAD ADVOCATED DEALING WITH THE IMF WOULD BE DISCREDITED, ALLOWING THE LEFTISTS TO ASSERT THEMSELVES AND TAKE OVER LEADERSHIP OF THE PNP.

2. SPAULDING ALSO SAID LEFTISTS HAD NO PLAN TO ACTIVELY SABOTAGE THE GOVERNMENT'S EFFORTS TO PASS THE MARCH IMF TESTS, BUT SINCE THE ECONOMY WAS IN SUCH A SHAMBLES, THIS WOULD NOT BE NECESSARY. SPAULDING SAID HE FELT THE RECENT DEMONSTRATIONS OF 8-10 JANUARY 1979 AIDED THE LEFTIST CAUSE BY SHOWING TANGIBLE EVIDENCE OF WIDESPREAD UNREST AND THE INABILITY OF THE IMF TO ALLEVIATE FINANCIAL DISTRESS AMONG THE PEOPLE.

3. SPAULDING SAID FAILURE OF THE MARCH IMF TESTS WOULD FREE MANLEY FROM THE PRESSURE OF MODERATE AND RIGHT WING PNP MEMBERS AND ALLOW HIM TO OPENLY FOLLOW HIS TRUE LEFTIST BENT. IF, ON THE OTHER HAND, JAMAICA PASSED THE MARCH IMF TESTS, SPAULDING CAUTIONED, THE FUTURE CHANCES OF THE LEFTISTS' GAINING CONTROL OF THE PNP LEADERSHIP WOULD BE GREATLY DIMINISHED. SPAULDING ALSO OPINED THAT THE WORKER'S PARTY OF JAMAICA (WPJ) WAS PRESENTLY ENJOYING THE TACIT APPROVAL OF THE PNP AND THAT WITHOUT THIS APPROVAL THE WPJ WOULD BE A NON-ENTITY. DURING A CABINET SESSION ON 9 JANUARY 1979, AFTER SPAULDING HAD ADVOCATED ALLIANCE WITH THE WPJ DURING THE 8-10 JANUARY 1979 DISTURBANCES, P. J. PATTERSON, DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER TOLD SPAULDING

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IN 1865891

PAGE 003 OF 003

(b)(3)

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THAT IF HE WERE SUCH A STRONG PROPONENT OF WPJ POLICY, HE
SHOULD JOIN THE WPJ AND LEAVE THE TASK OF GOVERNING JAMAICA TO THE
PNP.

4. SPAULDING SAID THAN UNOFFICIAL TACTIC INFORMALLY
AGREED UPON BY LEFTIST PNP MEMBERS OF THE CABINET WAS TO
DISAGREE WITH RIGHT WING OR MODERATE CABINET MEMBERS, ESPECIALLY
P.J. PATTERSON, ERIC B E L L, MINISTER OF FINANCE, AND
HORACE C L A R K E, MINISTER OF MINING, ENERGY AND NATURAL
RESOURCES, WHENEVER THE OCCASION PRESENTED ITSELF. COMMENT:
SPAULDING GAVE NO REASON FOR THIS TACTIC BUT IT
PROBABLY REPRESENTS LEFTIST PNP DESIRE TO DISSOCIATE FROM
THE MODERATES' POLICIES SO THAT WHEN THEY FAIL, THE LEFTISTS WILL BE
BLAMELESS.)

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