

~~SECRET~~ (When Filled In)



Intelligence Information Cable

• ROUTINE

IN 073559

WARNING NOTICE
SENSITIVE INTELLIGENCE SOURCES AND METHODS INVOLVED

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THIS IS AN INFORMATION REPORT, NOT FULLY EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE

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[Redacted]

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DIST 19 OCTOBER 1976

REPORT CLASS ~~S E C R E T~~ WARNING NOTICE-SENSITIVE INTELLIGENCE
SOURCES AND METHODS INVOLVED--NOT RELEASABLE FOR FOREIGN NATIONALS

[Redacted]

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COUNTRY: VENEZUELA

DOI: [Redacted]

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SUBJECT: VENEZUELAN GOVERNMENT ATTEMPTS TO TIE THE SOCIAL
CHRISTIAN PARTY TO INDIVIDUALS LINKED TO THE BOMBING
OF A CUBANA AIRLINER

ACQ: [Redacted]

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SOURCE: [Redacted]

SUMMARY: OFFICIALS OF THE DIRECTORATE FOR THE SERVICES OF INTELLIGENCE AND PREVENTION (DISIP) HAVE BEEN ORDERED TO FULLY INVESTIGATE THE VENEZUELAN CONNECTIONS TO THE 6 OCTOBER 1976 BOMBING OF A CUBANA AIRLINER. UNOFFICIALLY, HOWEVER, DISIP OFFICERS HAVE BEEN INSTRUCTED TO BUILD A CASE LINKING COPEI TO THOSE INDIVIDUALS IMPLICATED IN THE INCIDENT. ON THE OTHER HAND, DISIP OFFICERS FEAR THAT INFORMATION LINKING SOME DISIP OFFICIALS TO CUBAN EXILE ORLANDO BOSCH MIGHT BECOME PUBLIC KNOWLEDGE, EMBARRASSING THE GOVERNMENT AND FURTHER TAINING DISIP. END OF SUMMARY.

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2. WHILE OFFICIALS OF THE DIRECTORATE FOR THE SERVICES OF INTELLIGENCE AND PREVENTION (DISIP) HAVE RECEIVED OFFICIAL INSTRUCTIONS TO CARRY OUT A COMPLETE INVESTIGATION OF ALL VENEZUELAN'S CONNECTED WITH THE 6 OCTOBER 1976 BOMBING OF A CUBANA AIRLINER, UNOFFICIALLY DISIP OFFICERS HAVE BEEN ORDERED TO CONCENTRATE THEIR INVESTIGATION ON MEMBERS OF THE SOCIAL CHRISTIAN PARTY (COPEI). DISIP OFFICIALS, THEREFORE, HAVE DRAWN UP A LIST OF LOW TO MEDIUM-LEVEL OFFICIALS OF COPEI WHOM DISIP INTENDS TO TIE TO LUIS POSADA, A FORMER DISIP OFFICER WHO IS CURRENTLY UNDER DETENTION IN CONNECTION WITH THE BOMBING. AS CURRENTLY PLANNED, DISIP WILL BEGIN PICKING UP THESE COPEI LEADERS FOR QUESTIONING DURING THE WEEK OF 18 OCTOBER. [Redacted] COMMENT: ALTHOUGH POSADA DOES HAVE COPEI CONNECTIONS, MOST DISIP OFFICERS DO NOT BELIEVE THAT COPEI PLAYED A ROLE IN POSADA'S ANTI-CUBAN ACTIVITIES. RATHER THEY

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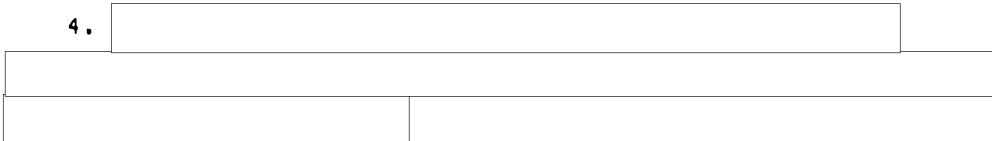
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(classification)

BELIEVE THAT THE GOVERNMENT IS ATTEMPTING TO IMPLICATE COPEI
FOR POLITICAL REASONS.)

3. AT THE SAME TIME THAT IT IS WORKING ON ITS CASE
AGAINST COPEI, DISIP OFFICIALS ARE CONCERNED THAT INFORMATION
CONNECTING DISIP OFFICIALS AND CUBAN EXILE LEADER ORLANDO
B O S C H, WILL BECOME PUBLIC. SUCH REVELATIONS, DISIP OFFICERS
BELIEVE WOULD BE HIGHLY EMBARRASSING TO THE GOVERNMENT OF
PRESIDENT CARLOS ANDRESA P E R E Z AND DISASTEROUS FOR DISIP,
WHICH HAS RECENTLY BEEN HURT BY CHARGES OF MISTREATING PRISONERS
ACCUSED OF BEING INVOLVED IN THE KIDNAPPING OF WILLIAM F. NIEHOUS.

4.



5. ON 14 OCTOBER DISIP DIRECTOR RETIRED GENERAL RAUL
G I M E N E Z GAINZA SAID THAT PRESIDENT PEREZ HAD ORDERED HIM
TO CARRY OUT AN EXTENSIVE INVESTIGATION OF THE VENEZUELAN
CONNECTION IN THE CUBANA INCIDENT. ALTHOUGH GIMENEZ SAID THAT
HE INTENDED TO CARRY OUT THE PRESIDENT'S ORDERS, HE PERSONALLY
FEARED THAT SUCH AN INVESTIGATION MIGHT LEAD TO PRESIDENTIAL
APPOINTEES OR TO COPEI LEADERS. IN EITHER CASE, GIMENEZ SAID

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THAT HE FELT THERE COULD BE DIFFICULTIES FOR THE PEREZ ADMINISTRATION.

6. IN THE FIRST INSTANCE, GIMENEZ SAID HE WAS PERSONALLY CONCERNED THAT ORLANDO GARCIA, PRESIDENT PEREZ' INTELLIGENCE AND SECURITY ADVISER WHO HAS BEEN ACTING AS DE FACTO HEAD OF DISIP, MIGHT BE IMPLICATED. GIMENEZ QUICKLY ADDED, HOWEVER, THAT THERE WAS NO EVIDENCE LINKING GARCIA TO THE BOMBING INCIDENT, BUT THAT HE IS KNOWN TO BE INVOLVED IN UNSPECIFIED ANTI-CUBAN GOVERNMENT ACTIVITIES. GIMENEZ SAID THAT AS AN ADDED PRECAUTION HE HAS ASSIGNED SPECIAL GUARDS FOR BOSCH AND POSADA, BOTH OF WHOM ARE CURRENTLY UNDER DISIP DETENTION.

7. [Redacted] COMMENTS FOR AN EARLIER REPORT ON BOSCH'S RECENT ACTIVITIES IN VENEZUELA AND POSADA'S AND GARCIA'S CONNECTION WITH HIM SEE [Redacted]

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[Redacted] IN NEWS BROADCASTS A LOCAL TELEVISION STATION (CHANNEL 2) HAS REPORTED THAT SEVERAL INDIVIDUALS CURRENTLY HOLDING POSITIONS WITH DISIP WERE SEEN ABOUT CARACAS WITH BOSCH. THE STATION INDICATED THAT IT WOULD REVEAL THE IDENTITIES OF THESE OFFICERS AT A LATER DATE.)

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8. AS FOR A POSSIBLE COPEI CONNECTION WITH THE CUBAN EXILE MOVEMENT IN VENEZUELA, GIMENEZ DENIED THAT HE OR THE PEREZ ADMINISTRATION ARE ATTEMPTING TO IMPLICATE COPEI IN THE INVESTIGATION FOR POLITICAL REASONS. THE FACT IS, GIMENEZ SAID, MANY PEOPLE WITH COPEI CONNECTIONS APPEAR TO BE INVOLVED IN THE CASE AND THEY MAY HAVE HAD THE BACKING OF UNSPECIFIED COPEI LEADERS. [Redacted] COMMENT: [Redacted]

[Redacted] VENEZUELAN AUTHORITIES HAVE FOR SOME TIME BEEN CONVINCED THAT POSADA'S PRIVATE INVESTIGATION COMPANY KNOWN AS COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL INVESTIGATIONS (ICI) WAS BEING USED BY COPEI.)

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9. [Redacted]

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10. THE VENEZUELAN GOVERNMENT IS AWARE THAT GARCIA AND POSADA TRAVELLED TO COSTA RICA TOGETHER SHORTLY BEFORE BOSCH CAME TO VENEZUELA FROM COSTA RICA IN SEPTEMBER. THE OBJECT OF THEIR TRAVEL TO COSTA RICA WAS TO MEET WITH BOSCH.

11. THERE IS CONSIDERABLE CONCERN WITHIN THE VENEZUELAN GOVERNMENT BECAUSE OF THE RELATIVE LARGE NUMBER OF CUBAN EXILES

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HOLDING POSITIONS OF INFLUENCE WITHIN THE VENEZUELAN SECURITY
SERVICES. FURTHERMORE, THERE IS GROWING ALARM WITHIN THE
GOVERNMENT THAT THESE EXILES MAY HAVE GOTTEN VENEZUELA INTO A
DIFFICULT SITUATION.

12. [Redacted] DISSEM: EMBASSY AT CARACAS; [Redacted]

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