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LEAP AND EDWIN LOPEZ IN MEXICO CITY.
DATE : 07/21/1978
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FRP: , , , , , ,
STAFF

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TOT: 2123542 JUL 78
DIRECTOR 261323

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STAFF 2123542 DIRECTOR 261323
TO: IMMEDIATE MEXICO CITY INFO IMMEDIATE DIRTECH
NIAC MEXICO CITY
MM/CIA ATTN

MNTEL RYBAT

213-727-3900

REFS: A. DIRECTOR 224314 (NOT IN CDS, COPY SUPPLIED UPON REQUEST)

B. DIRECTOR 229921 (NOT IN CDS, COPY SUPPLIED UPON REQUEST)

1. HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATION (HSCA) DEPUTY
STAFF DIRECTOR GARY CORNWELL ACCOMPANYED BY HSCA STAFFERS HAROLD
LEAP AND EDWIN LOPEZ ARRIVING MEXICO CITY 24 JULY 1978 (VIA AA,
ETA 1245) TO CONTINUE INQUIRIES THERE. POUCHING UNDER TM 126289
ENVELOPE CONTAINING HSCA MATERIAL. PLS HOLD FOR THEIR ARRIVAL.

2. ISSUE OF DIRECT HSCA ACCESS TO AGENTS HAS CONTINUED
UNSETTLED, WITHOUT RESOLUTION. DCI AND DDCI HAVE OFFERED HSCA
INDIRECT RPT, INDIRECT ACCESS, WHEREBY MEMBER OF INSPECTOR GENERAL'S
STAFF SERVES AS GO-BETWEEN, CONVEYING HSCA QUESTIONS TO AGENTS
AND AGENT REPLIES TO HSCA. THIS FORMULA UNACCEPTABLE TO HSCA.
DCI HAS REPORTED THIS ISSUE TO HIGHEST AUTHORITY AND HAS RECEIVED
His SUPPORT ON POSITION OF NO RPT, NO DIRECT ACCESS WITH THE
UNDERSTANDING THAT WE WILL TRY TO DEVELOP PROCEDURE WHEREBY
ANSWERS TO HSCA CAN BE OBTAINED WITHOUT DIRECT CONTACT WITH AGENTS.
THERE IS TENTATIVE AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE TO UTILIZE SECURE
TELEPHONE (OR OTHER VOICE COMM) AND/OR CLOSED CIRCUIT TELEVISION
(WITH DARKENED ROOM TO OBSCURE DETAILS AND APPEARANCE OF AGENT).
WOLUCK TECHNICIAN TRAVELLING MEXICO CITY 24 JULY 1978 ON ANOTHER
MISSION, WILL BRING TELEVISION EQUIPMENT. WOLUCK SENDING SEPARATE
MESSAGE THIS SUBJECT. ASSUME TECH WILL NEED ASSIST THROUGH
MEXICAN CUSTOMS. THIS EQUIPMENT BEING SENT TO SIMPLY ASSURE
AVAILABILITY OF FEASIBLE SYSTEMS IF WORKED OUT WITH HSCA.

2. CAPTAIN NILES R. GOODING (USN, RETIRED), WHO NOW ASSIGNED
INSPECTOR GENERAL STAFF, HAS BEEN SELECTED TO SERVE AS GO-BETHELEN
FOR HSCA. HE WILL BE ARRIVING MEXICO CITY ON 24 JULY 1978 VIA

SECRET

[Handwritten note: Pos. Carter]
BRANIFF NO. 51, ETA 1315 HOURS. CAPT. GOODING TRAVELLING ON EITHER TOURIST PASSPORT OR TOURIST CARD AND WILL CONTACT COS ON ARRIVAL. CAPT. GOODING WILL WORK WITH STATION AND MSCA ON DETAILS OF INTERVIEWS. HE IS FAMILIAR WITH THE LIMITATIONS ON HOW FAR TO GO WITHIN AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE. IT HEADQUARTERS INTEND TO CONDUCT INTERVIEWS IN HOTEL ROOMS AND REQUEST STATION RESERVE TWO ADJACENT RPT. ADJACENT TWO-ROOM SUITES IN MODERATE PRICE HOTEL FOR PERIOD 24 JULY THROUGH 26 JULY. CAPT. GOODING WILL OCCUPY ONE OF THE SUITES AND RESERVATIONS CAN BE MADE FOR ONE SUITE IN HIS NAME. IF SUITES UNAVAILABLE REQUEST FOUR ADJOINING SINGLE ROOMS THAT HAVE COMMON DOOR ENTRY BETWEEN ROOMS. ALSO REQUEST THAT STATION PROVIDE CASE OFFICER WITH DIPLOMATIC PASSPORT TO ACT AS TRANSLATOR AND ESCORT FOR CAPT. GOODING.

3. MSCA DESIRES INTERVIEW FOLLOWING FORMER AGENTS: LICOKKY/1; LITAMIL/7; LITAMIL/9; RAYMOND H. GERENDE (P); LIONION/1 AND FORMER UNWITTING AGENT LICANT/1. ALSO, FORMER CONTRACT AGENT EDWARD C. TICHBORN (P) AND LIHUFF/1. MSCA ALSO DESIRES INTERVIEW GENERAL JOSE JESUS CLARK FLORES AND NOE PALOMARES, NEITHER OF WHOM HAD A RELATIONSHIP WITH US ACCORDING TO HCS RECORDS. WILL PROVIDE ADDITIONAL DATA AND OTHER INFORMATION RELATIVE TO CONDUCT OF INTERVIEWS IN SEPARATE CABLE.

4. REQUEST STATION ATTEMPT DETERMINE IF PERSONS MENTIONED PARA 3 ARE STILL IN MEXICO AND ADVISE IMMEDIATE.

5. SINCE CAPT. GOODING DEPARTING EARLY MORNING 24 JULY, WOULD APPRECIATE IF YOU COULD PROVIDE NAME OF HOTEL AND ROOM NUMBER HE WILL BE OCCUPYING BY COB 22 JULY. IF SUITE UNAVAILABLE FOR 24 JULY, REQUEST SINGLE ROOM AT BRISTOL OR GENEVE FOR NIGHT 26 JULY.

6. FYI: SINCE WE ARE NOT RPT NOT AWARE AT THIS TIME IF MSCA HAS COORDINATED THIS VISIT WITH STATE DEPARTMENT AND MEXICAN GOVERNMENT. REQUEST COS ADVISE AMBASSADOR, INCLUDING TDY VISIT CAPT. GOODING.

7. WILL ADVISE CONCLUSIONS REACHED WITH MSCA FOLLOWING EARLY MORNING MEETING AT HCS ON 22 JULY 1976. IN THE MEANTIME WOULD WELCOME ANY STATION SUGGESTIONS WHICH WOULD IMPROVE ABOVE PROCEDURES AND CONTRIBUTE TO BETTER OPERATIONAL SECURITY.
E2 IMPDET.>
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END OF MESSAGE

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