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TO DIRECTOR AND SAC MIAMI

ALBERTO TLANCO

FROM SAC SAN JUAN 082135

CHARLES WILLIAM HORNEL, FOREIGN POLITICAL MATTERS - CUBA. ON DECEMBER 8, 1958, CIA OFFICER I, **CIA, SAN JUAN, PUERTO RICO** ADVISED THAT HE HAD RECEIVED INFORMATION FROM A USUALLY RELIABLE SOURCE AND EVALUATED HIS INFORMATION AS ~~TRUE~~ "PROBABLY TRUE." ~~THE~~ I ADVISED THAT BECAUSE OF THE RELATIONSHIP THROUGH WHICH INFORMATION WAS OBTAINED, NO ACTION WHICH MIGHT COMPROMISE HIS SOURCE SHOULD BE TAKEN WITHOUT PRIOR CLEARANCE FROM HIM. I SAID ON OCTOBER 26, 1958 A BEECHCRAFT AIRPLANE PILOTED BY HORNEL, A UNITED STATES CITIZEN, LANDED AT CAYMAN ISLANDS AIRPORT WITH THREE PASSENGERS. HORNEL STATED HE WAS ON FLIGHT FROM TAMPA, FLORIDA, TO THE CAICOS ISLANDS. HORNEL TOOK OFF THE FOLLOWING DAY CARRYING ONE PASSENGER IDENTIFIED AS ALBERTO AND LEAVING OTHER TWO PASSENGERS ON CAYMAN ISLANDS WITHOUT LUGGAGE OR PASSPORTS. PASSENGERS LEFT BEHIND WERE ONE ALBERTO CRESCENDO DE LA CRUZ MENERDEZ, GUATEMALAN LAWYER, 1920 MICHIGAN AVENUE, MIAMI, FLORIDA, AND OSWALDO ANTONIO CASTELL Y VALDES, HONDURAN IMPORTER AND EXPORTER, 1918 S. W. THIRD AVENUE, MIAMI, FLORIDA. ON NOVEMBER 1, 1958 ROBERTO BISMARCK MARTINEZ GUZMAN, NOT FURTHER IDENTIFIED, ARRIVED IN CAYMAN ISLANDS ON A SCHEDULED LACSA FLIGHT FROM MIAMI. HE PASSED MONEY TO MENERDEZ AND CASTELL, TELLING THEM HE HAD BEEN SENT BY HORNEL. MARTINEZ RETURNED TO MIAMI THE SAME DAY. ON NOVEMBER 8, 1958 A CARGO OF

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PAGE TWO, FROM SAC SAN JUAN 082135

ARMS, INCLUDING ONE ANTI - TANK RIFLE AND SEVERAL SUB - MACHINE GUNS, WAS DISCOVERED NEAR THE CAYMAN AIRSTRIP. MENENDEZ AND CASTELL, WHO HAD BEEN SERVED WITH DEPORTATION ORDERS THE PREVIOUS DAY, WERE QUESTIONED AND ADMITTED THAT THEY HAD UNLOADED THE ARMS FROM HORNEL'S PLANE, HIDDEN THEM NEAR THE AIRSTRIP AND INTENDED TO DELIVER THEM TO CUBA. (I) STATED CAYMAN AUTHORITIES SUSPECT BUT HAVE NO PROOF THAT THEY INTENDED TO STEAL A CAYMAN BRAC AIRWAYS TWIN - ENGINED AIRCRAFT FROM THE CAYMAN HANGAR AND FLY IT TO CUBA. HORNEL RETURNED TO THE CAYMAN ISLANDS FROM FLORIDA ON NOVEMBER 9, 1958 IN A CHARTERED AIRCRAFT AND WAS ARRESTED ON ARRIVAL. (I) SAID CAYMAN AUTHORITIES UNDERSTAND THAT HORNEL IS ON BAIL ON A CHARGE OF VIOLATING UNITED STATES CUSTOMS REGULATIONS AND PLAN TO RETURN HIM TO THE UNITED STATES. CAYMAN AUTHORITIES ASSUME THAT MENENDEZ AND CASTELL ARE AGENTS OF THE 26TH OF JULY MOVEMENT, AND BELIEVE THAT BOTH ARE CUBAN CITIZENS. DURING THEIR STAY IN CAYMAN THEY RECEIVED MESSAGES (TEXTS UNKNOWN) FROM THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS: LUIS ROGALES, 212 SW 18 COURT, MIAMI, FLORIDA, AND DOMINGO FORTELA, 950 SW SECOND STREET, APARTMENT 3, MIAMI, FLORIDA. INFORMATION SET FORTH ABOVE IS CLASSIFIED SECRET BY CIA. RUC.

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