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FYI, FOLL IS MEMO HQS SENT TO STATE DEPT ON 7 MARCH:

"WITH REFERENCE TO THE HABANA PRENSA LATINA NEWS RELEASE OF 5 MARCH 1966, ALLEGING CIA INVOLVEMENT WITH ROLANDO CUBELA SECADES AND RAMON TOMAS GUIN DIAZ IN COUNTERREVOLUTIONARY ACTIVITIES, THE FOLLOWING OUTLINES THE AGENCY'S CONTACT WITH THESE TWO PERSONS.

"GUIN WAS RECRUITED BY A CIA AGENT IN AUGUST 1963 INSIDE CUBA AS A PRINCIPAL AGENT TO RECRUIT HIGH LEVEL MILITARY LEADERS. HE HAS HAD NO CONTACT WITH CIA STAFF PERSONNEL.

"CUBELA, THE MORE IMPORTANT OF THE TWO MEN, HAS BEEN IN CONTACT WITH THIS AGENCY DURING THE PERIOD 1961-1965. THE LAST AGENCY CONTACT WITH CUBELA WAS IN FEBRUARY 1965. HE HAS HAD DIRECT CONTACT WITH SEVERAL AGENCY OFFICIALS AND, IN ADDITION, IS KNOWN TO HAVE BEEN IN CONTACT WITH CUBAN EXILES, INCLUDING MANUEL ARTIME. CIA'S CONTACT AND RELATIONSHIP WITH BOTH CUBELA AND GUIN WAS FOR THE EXPRESS PURPOSE OF USING THEM TO COLLECT INTELLIGENCE ON MILITARY ACTIVITIES AND OBJECTIVES IN CUBA. THE AGENCY WAS NOT INVOLVED WITH EITHER OF THESE TWO MEN IN A PLOT TO ASSASSINATE FIDEL CASTRO, AS CLAIMED IN THE PRENSA LATINA NEWS RELEASE, NOR

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DID IT EVER ENCOURAGE EITHER OF THESE TWO PERSONS TO ATTEMPT SUCH AN ACT.

"MR. JAMES NOEL, MENTIONED IN THE PRESS RELEASE, IS A CIA OFFICIAL STATIONED IN THE U.S. EMBASSY IN MADRID, SPAIN, AND WAS IN CONTACT WITH BOTH ODON ALVAREZ DE LA CAMPA AND JOSE LUIS GONZALEZ GALLARRETTA, AS NOTED IN THE PRESS RELEASE. THE PURPOSE OF THIS CONTACT WAS LIMITED SPECIFICALLY TO OBTAINING INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION. THERE IS NO TRUTH TO THE ALLEGATION THAT CIA GAVE $100,000 OR ANY OTHER SIZABLE SUM OF MONEY TO EITHER OF THESE INDIVIDUALS.

"THE AGENCY HAS ALSO HAD LIMITED DIRECT AND INDIRECT CONTACT WITH JORGE ROBRENO, ALBERTO BLANCO RAMIREZ AND CARLOS TEPEDINO, NOTED IN THE PRESS RELEASE. AGAIN, THESE CONTACTS WERE RESTRICTED TO OBTAINING INTELLIGENCE."

END OF MESSAGE

c/WE-5 [redacted]

WH/C [redacted] by phone

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