

~~SECRET~~

- 6 -

7/17-09

B

Reported Changes Taking Place as Aftermath of Nixon Trip

(S)(1)
(S)(3)

13. As an aftermath of the incidents which took place during the Vice President's trip, there have been reports from Caracas that important changes would be taking place in the Venezuelan Government. An early such report on 14 May cited the distrust and loss of confidence by the Military in President of the Junta, Rear Admiral Wolfgang Larrazabal who, in the opinion of the Venezuelan Defense Ministry, had ample time and information to have taken effective action against the expected manifestations. [REDACTED] On 17 May, while the possibility of a military takeover in Caracas had abated, the Ministry of Defense was considering declaring the Communist Party illegal and deporting key Communist personalities. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Colonel Miguel Ramon De La Rosa, Governor of the Federal District; Captain Jose A. Borthomiert, Chief Second Section General Staff; Lt. Colonel Raul Castro Gomez, Chief Military Intelligence; the Governor of the Federal District is being replaced by Colonel Vicente Antonio Marchelli Padron, who is described as being a strong anti-Communist. In addition, the press has reported that Major Martin Marquez Anez, Mayor of Caracas and Lt. Colonel Atilio Albornos Berti, Chief of Police were also removed.

15. [REDACTED] there was a good possibility that, as a result of the show of weakness in combatting Communists, and because of failure to resolve other internal difficulties, a joint civilian-military junta might replace President Prado.

Approved for Release
Date OCT 1999

~~SECRET~~

004221