

TELEGRAM INFORMATION REPORT TELEGRAM

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

Haiti

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SECRET <i>(When Filled In)</i>	CLASSIFICATION — DISSEMINATION CONTROLS NO FOREIGN DISSEM/CONTROLLED DISSEM	FILE
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COUNTRY	HAITI	REPORT NO.	
SUBJECT	OPPOSITION PLANS OF CLEMENT BARBOT	DATE DISTR.	28 MARCH 1963
		PRECEDENCE	ROUTINE
DATE OF INFO.	24 MARCH 1963	REFERENCES	IN 95931
PLACE & DATE ACQ.			
APPRAISAL			
THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION. SOURCE GRADINGS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.			
SOURCE			

1. AS OF 24 MARCH 1963 CLEMENT BARBOT, FORMER RIGHT-HAND MAN TO PRESIDENT FRANCOIS DUVALIER WHO IS NOW IN HIDING IN PORT AU PRINCE, AND ABOUT 20% OF HIS FOLLOWERS HAD A PLAN TO CAPTURE DUVALIER AND THUS BRING ABOUT THE DOWNFALL OF HIS REGIME. THE PLAN CONSISTED OF FIRST CAPTURING LUC DESIR, TONTON MACOUTE LEADER AND RIGHT-HAND MAN TO DUVALIER, AND THEN LURING DUVALIER INTO A TRAP BY INFORMING HIM THAT DESIR HAD BEEN SERIOUSLY INJURED. BARBOT FELT CONFIDENT THAT DUVALIER WOULD RUSH TO SEE DESIR. AN EFFORT TO CAPTURE DESIR ON THE NIGHT OF 15 MARCH FAILED BECAUSE HE WAS ATTENDING A FOOTBALL GAME AND THUS WAS OUT OF REACH. THE IDEA OF KIDNAPPING DUVALIER'S SON AND THREATENING HIS LIFE IF DUVALIER DID NOT LEAVE THE COUNTRY WAS ABANDONED

SECRET	CLASSIFICATION — DISSEMINATION CONTROLS NO FOREIGN DISSEM/CONTROLLED DISSEM	GROUP 1 Excluded from automatic downgrading and declassification
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IN 95931

PAGE 2

BECAUSE OF PROBABLE ADVERSE REACTION ABROAD AND OTHER CONSIDERATIONS, THE BARBOT GROUP HAD CONTACTS IN THE ARMED FORCES BUT HAD NOT REVEALED THEIR ACTION PLAN TO THE MILITARY.

2. THE BARBOT GROUP HAD ONE THOMPSON SUBMACHINEGUN AND FOUR M-1 RIFLES WITH ABOUT 150 ROUNDS OF AMMUNITION PER WEAPON. THEY ACQUIRED THESE ARMS FROM A FRENCHMAN LIVING IN NEW YORK CITY WHO FIRST SHIPPED THEM TO THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC AND THEN ON 5 MARCH DROPPED THEM FROM A LIGHT PLANE AT A PRE-ARRANGED POINT NEAR THE ETANG SAUMATRE, A LAKE NEAR THE DOMINICAN BORDER. THE GROUP, FOR REASONS OF ADDED SECURITY, WISHED TO ACQUIRE AT LEAST THREE MORE SUBMACHINEGUNS AND SOME GRENADES BEFORE MAKING ANOTHER ATTEMPT TO CARRY OUT THEIR PLAN TO CAPTURE DUVALIER. THEY HOPED TO TAKE ACTION BEFORE 15 MAY BECAUSE THEY BELIEVED THAT THE PSYCHOLOGICAL CLIMATE WOULD BE LESS FAVORABLE FOR THE OPPOSITION AFTER THAT DATE. (COMMENT: THE SIX-YEAR-TERM OF OFFICE TO WHICH DUVALIER WAS CONSTITUTIONALLY ELECTED WILL END ON 15 MAY.)

3. ON THE POLITICAL SIDE, BARBOT ADVOCATED THE REPLACEMENT OF DUVALIER BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE SUPREME COURT, CONSTITUTIONALLY THE FIRST IN LINE OF SUCCESSION TO THE PRESIDENCY, AND THE FORMATION BY HIM OF A PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT WHICH WOULD ORGANIZE ELECTIONS AT A LATER DATE. (COMMENT: ADRIEN DOUYON IS THE INCUMBENT PRESIDENT OF THE SUPREME COURT.) BARBOT WOULD BE A CANDIDATE FOR THE OFFICE OF PRESIDENT.

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IN 95931

PAGE 3

4. ADELPHIN TELSON, AN OPPOSITION LEADER ALSO IN HIDING IN PORT AU PRINCE, LEARNED THROUGH A FOLLOWER OF HIS WHO WAS CLOSE TO BARBOT THAT BARBOT HAD SOME ARMS AND WAS PLANNING TO TAKE ACTION TO OVERTHROW DUVALIER. TELSON ALSO LEARNED THAT BARBOT WAS BEING HIDDEN BY MILITIAMEN FROM THE NATIONAL PALACE AND SOMETIMES RODE ABOUT THE CITY IN A CAR DRIVEN BY MILITIAMEN. ALTHOUGH TELSON WAS NOT WORKING IN COLLABORATION WITH BARBOT, HE WELCOMED THE PROSPECT OF ACTION BY BARBOT TO OVERTHROW DUVALIER BECAUSE THAT WOULD, HE BELIEVED, LEAD TO A SEIZURE OF POWER BY THE MILITARY.

5. [] DISSEM: STATE, ARMY, CINCLANT, CINCARIB.

END OF MESSAGE

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