

• ROUTINE

IN 580596

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# Intelligence Information Cable



STATE/INR DIA NMCC/MC (SECDEF JCS ARMY NAVY AIR) CIA/NMCC NIC NSA SOO ONE CRS  
FBI I&NS COAST GUARD CUSTOMS EXO DDI

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DIST 11 APRIL 1972

COUNTRY COSTA RICA/CUBA

DOI MARCH-EARLY APRIL 1972

ALL FBI INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 1-22-2003 BY 60321 NLS/EP/00  
943511

*N. S. S.*

SUBJECT 1. DISCOVERY

OF CUBAN

*out* EXILE BASE AND WEAPONS IN COSTA RICA.

2. PROMISE BY PRESIDENT FIGUERES TO INVESTIGATE CUBAN

EXILE ACTIVITIES. *ANTI Fidel Castro Activities*

ORIGINAL FILED IN 109-12-209-76

ICQ

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*re: FM-Costa Rica*  
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SUMMARY: IN EARLY APRIL 1972

REPORTED ON CUBAN EXILE ACTIVITIES IN THE ATLANTIC

COAST AREA. ACCORDING TO THE REPORT, HAS FOUND AND

TAKEN SAMPLES OF WEAPONS, GRENADES AND BOMBS, AND ALSO HAS

INFORMATION OF THE ARRIVAL OF TWO FAST LAUNCHES WHICH ARE STILL APR 14 1972

IN THE PORT OF LIMON. THE CUBAN EXILES CLAIM THEY ARE IN THE

AREA TO ESTABLISH A FISHING INDUSTRY. PRESIDENT JOSE FIGUERES

FERRER ADMITTED THAT THE CUBANS ARE

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HIS PEOPLE, BUT HE SAID THAT HE WOULD INVESTIGATE REPORTS THAT THEY ARE INVOLVED IN ILLEGAL ACTIVITIES. END SUMMARY.

1. [REDACTED]

2. IN EARLY APRIL 1972 [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] INFORMED [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] ABOUT CUBAN

EXILE ACTIVITIES AROUND TORTUGUERO IN LIMON PROVINCE. [REDACTED] REPORTED THAT THERE HAD BEEN A NUMBER OF ARMED CUBAN EXILES IN THE TORTUGUERO AREA FOR SOME TIME; IN LATE MARCH SIX OTHER CUBANS ARRIVED WITH FAST BOATS AND HAVE BEEN VERY ACTIVE. ACCORDING TO [REDACTED] ONE OF THE CUBANS, JUAN (LNU), WHO USES A HOOK IN PLACE OF AN AMPUTATED HAND, BECAME INTOXICATED AND TOLD A LOCAL RESIDENT THAT THE CUBANS WERE THERE TO GUARD THE COASTS FOR PRESIDENT FIGUERES.

[REDACTED] COMMENT: THE CUBAN IS PROBABLY IDENTICAL WITH ROLANDO MARTINEZ, ALSO KNOWN AS "EL GANCHO" ("THE HOOK") WHO, [REDACTED] HAS BEEN IN COSTA RICA SINCE 18 FEBRUARY 1972.)

3. [REDACTED] SAID THAT OTHER PERSONS IN THE LIMON AREA WHO ARE AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT ARE DOING MORE INVESTIGATING [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] REPORTED THAT HE ENTERED AN ABANDONED HOUSE WHICH IS NOW USED BY THE CUBANS AND FOUND BOXES WITH DIFFERENT TYPES OF ARMS. ONE OF THE BOXES WAS FILLED WITH GRENADES AS WELL AS TWO LARGE BOMBS. [REDACTED] TOOK SAMPLES OF THE ARMS TO [REDACTED] INCLUDING ONE BOMB AND 16 GRENADES. [REDACTED] SAID THE GRENADES SEEMED TO BE IN GOOD CONDITION. [REDACTED] SAID HE HAS HIDDEN THE GRENADES AND BOMBS IN LIMON, AND HE TOLD [REDACTED] NOT TO BRING MORE, ALTHOUGH THE LATTER HAD OFFERED TO DO SO. [REDACTED] WAS TOLD [REDACTED] TO BE CAREFUL AND NOT OBTAIN MORE WEAPONS BECAUSE OF THE POSSIBILITY OF ARREST AND EMBARRASSMENT [REDACTED] HE WAS ALSO TOLD THAT THE WEAPONS ALREADY IN HIS POSSESSION CAN BE BROUGHT TO SAN JOSE TO BE USED AS PROOF OF CUBAN EXILE ACTIVITES.

4. [REDACTED] TOLD [REDACTED] THAT HE HAD TALKED WITH THE CUBANS, WHO SAID THEY ARE IN THE AREA TO ESTABLISH A FISHING INDUSTRY. [REDACTED] ALSO SAID THAT MANY OF THE HOUSES IN TORTUGUERO ARE ABANDONED AND ARE OCCUPIED BY THE CUBANS. [REDACTED] SAID THAT A LARGE BOAT ARRIVED IN LIMON ABOUT 19 MARCH AND UNLOADED TWO FAST LAUNCHES FOR THE CUBANS. THE LAUNCHES ARE STILL IN LIMON.

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5. [Redacted]

TOLD [Redacted] LATER THAT HE HAD TALKED WITH PRESIDENT FIGUERES ABOUT THE CUBANS, AND THAT FIGUERES SAID THEY WERE HIS PEOPLE. ACCORDING TO [Redacted] FIGUERES SAID HE WOULD, HOWEVER, INVESTIGATE TO SEE IF THEY WERE INVOLVED IN ILLEGAL ACTIVITIES.

6. [Redacted]

7. IN LATE MARCH PRESIDENT JOSE FIGUERES EMPHATICALLY DENIED HE IS PERMITTING CUBAN EXILES TO ESTABLISH TRAINING BASES IN COSTA RICA. FIGUERES SAID THAT ALTHOUGH HE IS IN COMPLETE SYMPATHY WITH THEIR AIMS, COSTA RICA IS TOO SMALL AND "OPEN" TO MAKE SECRET TRAINING BASES FEASIBLE AND THEY WOULD ONLY CAUSE PROBLEMS. HE SAID THAT HE HAS INVITED THE CUBANS TO COME AND SETTLE PERMANENTLY IN COSTA RICA TO FARM, ETC., BUT WILL NOT PERMIT THEM TO ENGAGE IN PARAMILITARY ACTIVITIES. APPARENTLY IN JEST, FIGUERES ADDED THAT FOUR OR SIX ARMED CUBAN EXILES ARE NOW AT TORTUGUERO FISHING FOR LOBSTERS.

8. ([Redacted] COMMENT: [Redacted])

[Redacted] LEADERS OF SEVERAL CUBAN EXILE GROUPS HAVE BEEN MAKING ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF EXILE CAMPS IN COSTA RICA. THESE CAMPS ARE INTENDED TO BE USED AS TRAINING AND SUPPLY BASES

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FOR MARITIME AND PARAMILITARY OPERATIONS AGAINST CUBA. SEVERAL MEETINGS WERE HELD BETWEEN EXILE LEADERS AND PRESIDENT FIGUERES, AND FIGUERES APPEARED WILLING TO AID THE EXILES IN THEIR PLANNING.)

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