

#103

TELEGRAM INFORMATION REPORT TELEGRAM

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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CLASSIFICATION - DISSEMINATION CONTROLS
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COUNTRY CUBA/USSR

REPORT NO. TDCSDB-3/651,223

SUBJECT 1. MILITARY CONSTRUCTION IN THE PORT OF MARIEL

DATE DISTR. 31 AUGUST 1962

2. DISCHARGE OF CARGO FROM SOVIET VESSELS AT MARIEL

PRECEDENCE ROUTINE

DATE OF INFO. 3. QUARTERING OF NON-CUBAN PERSONNEL AUGUST 1962

REFERENCES IN 13806

PLACE & DATE ACQ. APPRAISAL

NO.

THIS IS **UNEVALUATED** INFORMATION. SOURCE GRADINGS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

SOURCE

1. SINCE MID-AUGUST NO UNAUTHORIZED CUBAN PERSONNEL HAVE BEEN ALLOWED TO ENTER THE DOCKS AT MARIEL, PINAR DEL RIO. A TWELVE-FOOT CONCRETE WALL WAS CONSTRUCTED AROUND THE PORT IN LESS THAN 24 HOURS.

2. AT A POINT NEAR THE EDGE OF THE WATER, WHERE THE STATUE OF ANTONIO MACEO STANDS, A TOWER HAS BEEN BUILT ON TOP OF THE WALL WITH THREE LARGE SEARCHLIGHTS WHICH ARE TURNED ON AT THE SOUND OF AN APPROACHING VESSEL.

3. AMONG CARGO DISCHARGED AT THE PORT OF MARIEL DURING THE MONTH OF AUGUST WERE SOME PRE-FABRICATED CONCRETE BASES TWO METERS BY FOUR METERS BY TWELVE INCHES IN THICKNESS WITH SPECIAL HOOKS

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OR METAL PIECES ON THE ENDS. WHEN USED IN CONSTRUCTION THE BLOCKS ARE USUALLY WELDED TOGETHER AND CEMENT IS POURED BETWEEN TWO OF THESE SECTIONS. THESE BLOCKS ARE BASES AND PLATFORMS FOR ROCKET-LAUNCHING PADS. ROCKETS 40 FEET IN LENGTH AND 3 FEET IN DIAMETER HAVE ALSO BEEN OFF-LOADED. INCLUDED IN THE CARGO WERE LARGE SECTIONS OF STEEL PLATES. SOME OF THE SECTIONS HAVE WHAT APPEAR TO BE ROTATING ARMS APPROXIMATELY 10 FEET IN LENGTH AND 12 TO 14 INCHES IN DIAMETER. SOME TUBULAR EQUIPMENT THAT APPEARED TO BE ROCKETS 10 FEET IN LENGTH, 12 INCHES IN DIAMETER AND 35 OR 36 INCHES IN CIRCUMFERENCE WERE ALSO SEEN. CARGO HAS ALSO INCLUDED AMPHIBIOUS JEEPS (SIMILAR TO U.S. DUCKS), TANKS, HEAVY ARTILLERY AND SIX OR SEVEN TORPEDO BOATS. ([REDACTED] COMMENT: NO ONE VESSEL CARRIED ALL THE TORPEDO BOATS.) MUCH OF THE INCOMING EQUIPMENT HAS BEEN STORED AT THE FINCA LA CORONELA, FIVE TO SIX KILOMETERS FROM MARIANAO, HABANA, AND AT A CAMP LOCATED ON THE RIGHT SIDE OF THE HIGHWAY ABOUT FOUR KILOMETERS FROM THE PLAYA SANTA FE, MUNICIPIO DE BAUTA, HABANA, ON THE PUNTA BRAVA HIGHWAY GOING FROM PLAYA SANTA FE TOWARDS BAUTA.

4. TWO OR THREE WEEKS AGO THE RESIDENTS OF 30 LARGE HOMES ON A KEY BETWEEN THE PORT OF MARIEL AND THE FABRICA DE CEMENTO EL MORRO, NOW CALLED THE FABRICA DE CEMENTO RENE ALCAY, WERE GIVEN 24 HOURS TO MOVE OUT. SOVIET PERSONNEL ARE NOW RESIDING IN THESE HOMES.

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5. DURING THE MONTH OF AUGUST AN ESTIMATED 15 TO 20 SOVIET VESSELS HAVE DISCHARGED WAR MATERIEL AND PERSONNEL AT THE PORT OF MARIEL, PINAR DEL RIO PROVINCE.

[REDACTED]

ABOUT 30 SOVIET VESSELS HAD DISCHARGED CARGO OF WAR MATERIEL AND PERSONNEL AT THE COMBINED PORTS OF MARIEL, CABANAS, AND BAHIA HONDA, PINAR DEL RIO, DURING THE MONTH OF AUGUST. SOVIET SHIPS HAVE ALSO UNLOADED CARGO AT THE PORT OF OROZCO.

6. SOVIET PERSONNEL ARE BILLETED AT THE POLANCO, LA GOBERNADORA, AND GRANMA MILITIA CAMPS LOCATED NEAR THE TOWN OF QUIEBRA HACHA, WHILE CONGOLESE TROOPS ARE CAMPED AT GUANAJAY, PINAR DEL RIO PROVINCE.

7. MOST OF THE SEVEN TO TEN THOUSAND SOVIETS, CZECHS, CHINESE, AND CONGOLESE WHO HAVE ARRIVED AT MARIEL ARE DRESSED IN CIVILIAN CLOTHES UPON ARRIVAL; SOME ARE IN UNIFORM. HOWEVER, A MAJORITY, WHEN TRANSPORTED FROM THE SHIPS, CARRY ARMY-TYPE PACKS WITH THEIR WEAPONS ON THE FLOOR OF THE TRUCKS.

8. AN ESTIMATED 40,000 SOVIETS, CZECHS, CHINESE, AND CONGOLESE ARE NOW IN CUBA. MANY SPANIARDS HAVE ALSO BEEN BROUGHT FROM THE SOVIET UNION AND ARE IN KEY POSITIONS THROUGHOUT CUBA.

9. [REDACTED] AUG PASSENGERS WERE DISEMBARKING FROM A SOVIET VESSEL IN THE PORT OF MARIEL.

10. FIELD DISSEM: CENCLANTON - DISSEMINATION CONTROLS

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