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COUNTRY HAITI

DATE OF INFO. MAY 1964

DISTR. 5 MAY 1964

SUBJECT

REMARKS OF PRESIDENT FRANCOIS DUVALIER TO HIS FAMILY AND ASSEMBLED FRIENDS

PLACE & DATE ACQ.

SOURCE AND APPRAISAL:

REF

FIELD REPORT NO. HTP 590

EO 12958
3.4(b)(1)-25Yrs
(C)

1.

DUVALIER

PRESIDENT FRANCOIS

EO 12958
3.4(b)(1)-25Yrs
(C)

RECENTLY

READ AN AMERICAN NEWSPAPER ARTICLE ENTITLED, "THE HAITIAN PEOPLE HAVE CHOSEN MISERY FOR LIFE". DUVALIER SAID THAT THE AMERICANS WERE PLANNING NOT TO SUPPORT HIS LIFE PRESIDENCY AND WERE WAITING FOR HIM TO TAKE HIS OATH BEFORE OPPOSING HIM. COMMENT: (C)

EO 12958 3.4(b)(1)-25Yrs
(C)

DURING THE LAST TWO MONTHS THERE HAVE BEEN GOVERNMENT SPONSORED MANIFESTATIONS THROUGHOUT HAITI DEMANDING THAT DUVALIER BE DECLARED PRESIDENT FOR LIFE. IT IS EXPECTED THAT SOMETIME DURING THE MONTH

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EO 12958 3.4(b)(1) (C)

OF MAY DUVALIER WILL BE OFFICIALLY GIVEN THIS TITLE.) ON THE OTHER HAND, DUVALIER SPECULATED, THE AMERICANS HAVE TOO MANY OTHER PROBLEMS AT THE MOMENT SUCH AS GETTING RID OF CASTRO AND THE U.S. ELECTORAL CAMPAIGN TO BE CONCERNED WITH FRANCOIS DUVALIER.

COMMENT: DUVALIER OFTEN REFERS TO HIMSELF IN THE THIRD PERSON.)

EO 12958 3.4(b)(1) (C)

2. DUVALIER TOLD [REDACTED] THAT THE ODDS WERE IN FAVOR OF HIS SUCCESS. HE SAID HE KNEW THERE WOULD BE NO AMERICAN AID AND ADDED THAT HE HAD NEVER RECEIVED ANY AID PREVIOUSLY AND HAD "ALWAYS LIVED IN DIGNITY WITH HEAD HELD HIGH."

EO 12958 3.4(b)(1) (C)

SINCE 1957 THE HAITIAN GOVERNMENT HAS RECEIVED \$47,000,000 IN AMERICAN AID.) HE STATED THAT HIS PLANS FOR 22 MAY 1964 WERE A SECRET AND NO ONE WOULD KNOW ABOUT THEM IN ADVANCE.

EO 12958 3.4(b)(1) (C)

COMMENT: ON 22 MAY 1961 DUVALIER WAS REINAUGURATED PRESIDENT FOR AN ADDITIONAL TERM OF 6 YEARS. EVERY YEAR SINCE THEN THIS DAY HAS BEEN CELEBRATED AS A GREAT NATIONAL HOLIDAY.) DUVALIER SAID THAT WHEN HE WILL BE FORCED TO LEAVE THE PALACE IT WILL BE TO GO TO HIS FINAL RESTING PLACE, WHICH WILL BE THE CEMETERY. AT THAT TIME, DUVALIER CONTINUED, A SUCCESSOR WILL BE CHOSEN WHO WILL CONTINUE HIS WORK. DUVALIER TOLD [REDACTED] THAT CASTRO, NASSER, AND TITO HAD SUCCEEDED IN MAKING THEIR COUNTRIES GREAT BECAUSE THEY WERE "PREDESTINED." DUVALIER STATED THAT HE TOO WAS "ONE OF THE PREDESTINED."

EO 12958 3.4(b)(1) (C)

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3. [REDACTED] DISSEM: STATE, ARMY, CINCLANT, CINCso.

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(C)

END OF MESSAGE

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