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OCT 29 1976

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M DIRECTOR.

FBI
O RUEBWJA/ATTORNEY GENERAL
UEHC/SECRETARY OF STATE
UEAIIA/DIRECTOR, CIA

~~SECRET~~

VENEZUELAN PROTEST REGARDING ALLEGED FBI INFORMATION WHICH
APPEARED IN THE NEW YORK TIMES ON OCTOBER 24, 1976.

AN ARTICLE APPEARED IN THE NEW YORK TIMES ON OCTOBER 24,
1976, ENTITLED "SOME EXILES ARE STILL AT WAR WITH CASTRO," BY
DAVID BINDER. INCLUDED IN THIS ARTICLE IS THE FOLLOWING
PARAGRAPH:

"MR. BOSCH, THEY REPORTED, WAS WELCOMED LATE LAST MONTH
IN CARACAS BY CUBAN EXILES AND OFFICIALS OF THE PEREZ GOVERN-
MENT AT A \$1,000-A-PLATE DINNER IN THE HOME OF A PHYSICIAN,
DR. ILDO FOLGAR. ACCORDING TO A FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
REPORT, MR. BOSCH ALSO MET WITH PRESIDENT PEREZ."

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PAGE TWO DE RUEHFB #0668 ~~SECRET~~

ON OCTOBER 26, 1976, THE AMERICAN AMBASSADOR TO VENEZUELA
WAS SUMMONED BY THE VENEZUELAN FOREIGN MINISTER WHO EXPRESSED
TO HIM THE CONCERN AND ANGER OF VENEZUELAN PRESIDENT CARLOS
ANDRES PEREZ ABOUT THE CONTENTS OF THE ABOVE ARTICLE. THE
FOREIGN MINISTER STATED THAT HIS PRESIDENT WAS VERY UPSET BY
THE ALLEGATION AND WANTED TO KNOW IF LEGAL ATTACHE JOSEPH S. LEO
WAS THE SOURCE OF THE INFORMATION IN THE PARAGRAPH INDICATING
THAT THE PRESIDENT HAD MET WITH DR. ORLANDO BOSCH AVILA. IT
SHOULD BE NOTED THAT BOSCH IS WANTED AS A FUGITIVE BY THE FBI FOR
A MAJOR VIOLATION. HE WAS PREVIOUSLY CONVICTED OF TERRORIST
ACTIVITIES DIRECTED AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT OF CUBA AND IS
SUSPECTED OF BEING INVOLVED IN THE RECENT CRASH OF A CUBAN AIR-
PLANE AND OF THE ASSASSINATION BY BOMBING OF AN EXILED CHILEAN
OFFICIAL IN WASHINGTON, D. C.

Declassified Case: NW 55808 Date: 11-02-2013

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THE AMERICAN AMBASSADOR ADVISED THE FOREIGN MINISTER THAT HE COULD ASSURE PRESIDENT PEREZ THAT THIS INFORMATION WAS NOT DEVELOPED OR REPORTED BY THE LEGAT. THE FOREIGN MINISTER INFORMED THE AMBASSADOR THAT NEVERTHELESS IT WAS CONSIDERED TO BE A SERIOUS MATTER WHEN AN OFFICIAL OF A U. S. GOVERNMENT AGENCY SUCH AS THE FBI IS QUOTED AS THE SOURCE OF INFORMATION PUBLISHED BY A NEWSPAPER AND HE ASKED THAT AN INQUIRY BE MADE OF THE STATE DEPARTMENT TO CLARIFY THIS SITUATION.

THE FBI REQUESTS THAT AMERICAN AMBASSADOR TO VENEZUELA CONTACT THE FOREIGN MINISTER OF VENEZUELA AND ADVISE HIM THAT THE ABOVE REFERRED TO INFORMATION WAS NOT DEVELOPED OR REPORTED BY THE LEGAT OR ANY MEMBERS OF HIS STAFF IN CARACAS, THAT IT WAS NOT DEVELOPED OR REPORTED BY ANY SOURCE OR INVESTIGATIVE ACTIVITY OF THE FBI AND THAT IT WAS NOT RELEASED BY THE FBI TO THE NEW YORK TIMES OR TO ANY OTHER NEWSPAPER. THE FBI SHARES THE CONCERN OF THE PRESIDENT OF VENEZUELA CONCERNING THIS ARTICLE AND WISHES TO MAKE CLEAR THAT THE FBI HAS NO CONTROL OR INFLUENCE OVER INFORMATION REPORTED BY THE AMERICAN PRESS. IF THE PRESIDENT OF VENEZUELA SO DESIRES, THE FBI IS WILLING

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TO MAKE A PUBLIC STATEMENT TO THE EFFECT THAT THE FBI DID NOT DEVELOP OR REPORT THE INFORMATION REFERRED TO IN THE ABOVE PARAGRAPH AND IS, THEREFORE, NOT IN A POSITION TO COMMENT ON ITS VERACITY.

CLASSIFIED BY 2996, XGDS 2, INDEFINITE.

XGDS 2
BT
#0668

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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
OCT 29 1976 J. J.
G.R.O.M.
ATTORNEY GENERAL CRIMINAL DIV.
Int. Sec. Section