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COUNTRY: CUBA/JAMAICA

DOI: SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER 1977

SUBJECT: CLOSED MEETING OF MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY
OF CUBA AT THE CUBAN EMBASSY IN KINGSTON ON
24 SEPTEMBER 1977

ACQ: JAMAICA, KINGSTON (26 SEPTEMBER 1977 REPORT NO. HJK-733

SOURCE: A CUBAN OFFICIAL VISITING JAMAICA. HE WAS PRESENT
AT THE MEETING DESCRIBED BELOW. ALTHOUGH IT IS
BELIEVED THAT HE ACCURATELY REPORTS WHAT HE HAS
BEEN TOLD, HIS RELIABILITY HAS NOT BEEN DETERMINED.

1. ON 24 SEPTEMBER 1977, ENRIQUE M O N T E R O
LEZCANO, MINISTER-COUNSELLOR OF THE CUBAN EMBASSY IN KINGSTON,
ADDRESSED THE REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING OF THE MEMBERS OF THE
COMMUNIST PARTY OF CUBA (PCC) ASSIGNED TO JAMAICA, MONTERO
WAS ACTING IN THE PLACE OF THE CUBAN AMBASSADOR TO JAMAICA,

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(classification)

RAMON P E Z FERRO, WHO RETURNED TO CUBA ON VACATION ON
21 SEPTEMBER, THE MEETING TOOK PLACE AT THE EMBASSY.

2. MONTERO SAID THAT INTERNAL DIVISIONS WITHIN THE
RULING PEOPLE'S NATIONAL PARTY (PNP) OF JAMAICA HAD RESULTED
IN THE RESIGNATION OF D. K. D U N C A N AS PNP GENERAL
SECRETARY AND MINISTER OF MOBILIZATION. MONTERO SAID THAT
THE APPOINTMENT OF RALPH B R O W N AS THE NEW PNP GENERAL
SECRETARY HAD BEEN GENERALLY WELL-RECEIVED WITHIN THE PNP.
MONTERO DESCRIBED BROWN AS A MATURE, EXPERIENCED PARTY
OFFICIAL WHO WOULD BE ABLE TO SERVE AS A "MODERATOR" BETWEEN
THE "RIGHTISTS," "MODERATES" AND "LEFTISTS" OF THE PNP.

3. MONTERO COMPLAINED THAT THE JAMAICAN PRESS HAD
EXPLOITED BROWN'S RECENT TRIP TO CUBA FOR ITS "CAMPAIGN OF
CONFUSION". IN FAILING TO REPORT THE PURPOSE OF THE TRIP,
THE PRESS IMPLIED THAT THERE WERE UNKNOWN, SINISTER
MOTIVES BEHIND IT. MONTERO SAID THAT BROWN HAD GONE TO CUBA
MERELY IN ORDER TO ATTEND THE FIRST CONGRESS OF THE CUBAN
COMMITTEES FOR THE DEFENSE OF THE REVOLUTION (CDR), TO BE
HELD 24-28 SEPTEMBER. MONTERO SAID THAT APPROXIMATELY 25
FOREIGN COUNTRIES WERE TO SEND DELEGATES TO THIS CONGRESS.

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(FIELD COMMENT: ACCORDING TO THE PRESS, BROWN LEFT JAMAICA ON 23 SEPTEMBER FOR A THREE-DAY VISIT TO CUBA, THE PURPOSE OF WHICH WAS NOT INDICATED. ON THE NIGHT OF 27 SEPTEMBER, IT WAS REPORTED ON JAMAICAN TELEVISION THAT BROWN HAD MADE A STATEMENT CONCERNING HIS TRIP FOLLOWING HIS RETURN THAT DAY TO JAMAICA. HE SAID HE HAD GONE TO CUBA SOLELY IN ORDER TO ATTEND THE CDR CONGRESS, AND HE CRITICIZED THE DISTORTED MANNER IN WHICH THE JAMAICAN PRESS HAD REPORTED ON HIS TRIP).

4. MONTERO BRIEFLY ADDED THAT DR. TREVOR M U N R O E, LEADER OF THE WORKERS' LIBERATION LEAGUE (WLL), TRAVELED TO CUBA FROM JAMAICA ON 21 SEPTEMBER. HE DID NOT INDICATE THE PURPOSE OF MUNROE'S VISIT TO CUBA. FINALLY, MONTERO SAID IT WAS QUITE PROBABLE THAT BELARMINO C A S T I L L A MAS, CUBAN VICE MINISTER OF CULTURE, WOULD VISIT JAMAICA DURING THE SECOND HALF OF OCTOBER.

5. MONTERO CALLED ON ALL PCC MEMBERS TO BE ALERT FOR ANY COUNTER-REVOLUTIONARY ACTIVITIES BY CUBAN EXILES AND TO MAINTAIN THE HIGHEST STANDARDS OF SECURITY. HE SAID THAT CUBAN EXILES RECENTLY SANK A CUBAN BOAT OFF THE COAST.

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OF PERU. HE ALSO SAID THAT CUBAN EXILES SUCH AS FNU D I A Z LAN AND OTHERS HAD BEEN INVOLVED IN THE ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY. MONTERO DID NOT ELABORATE.

6. FIELD DISSEM: EMBASSY AT KINGSTON (AMBASSADOR ONLY).
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