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[SANTO DOMINGO] <sup>16-10</sup> INFO DIRECTOR, [PORT AU PRINCE] <sup>16-8</sup>

31 Dec 68 163211

RYBAT TYPIC

REF [SANTO DOMINGO] <sup>16-10</sup> 6733 (N 54727)

1. FERNANDO PENABAZ OF REF IS PROBABLY IDENTICAL WITH FERNANDO PENABAZ COBURN (201-271566), DPOB: CIRCA 1921, BALTIMORE, MARYLAND. ACCORDING TO AN AMOT REPORT DATED 15 OCTOBER 1963, PENABAZ, A LAWYER AND JOURNALIST, ATTENDED DUKE UNIVERSITY AT SAME TIME AS PRESIDENT ELECT RICHARD NIXON AND IS GOOD FRIEND OF NIXON. PENABAZ PRACTICED LAW IN SANTIAGO DE CUBA AND REPORTEDLY FORFEITED U.S. CITIZENSHIP WHEN HE TOOK OATH AS CUBAN LAWYER. RETURNED TO U.S. IN 1960. STATION FILE IS SKETCHY BUT HE APPARENTLY WAS OF OPS INTEREST TO JMWAVE PSYCH WARFARE SECTION UNTIL LATE 1963 WHEN HE DROPPED BECAUSE OF INVOLVEMENT IN U.S. POLITICS. MIAMI HERALD OF 24 AUGUST 64 REPORTED HE HAD BEEN APPOINTED ADVISOR TO REPUBLICAN NATIONAL COMMITTEE ON CUBAN AFFAIRS. AN AMOT REPORT DATED 15 NOVEMBER 1966 STATES PENABAZ WAS MEMBER OF THE CHRISTIAN ANTI-COMMUNIST CRUSADE (CACC), A RIGHTIST GROUP ORGANIZED ALONG LINES OF JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY; AND UNTIL AT LEAST 1965 WAS ON PAYROLL OF CACC AS DIRECTOR FOR LATIN AMERICAN AFFAIRS. ACCORDING

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TO UFG-7798, 15 DECEMBER 1965, FROM A USUALLY RELIABLE SOURCE, PENABAZ, AN ASSOCIATE OF GENERAL EDWIN WALKER, WAS ARRANGING A MEETING BETWEEN GENERAL WALKER AND GENERAL ELIAS WESSIN Y WESSIN.

2. IN JANUARY 67 <sup>AGENT</sup> [REDACTED] REPORTED THAT HE AND ANOTHER CUBAN EXILE HAD MET WITH ONE RAYMOND MOLINA, SOUTH FLORIDA REGIONAL COORDINATOR OF THE JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY, TO DISCUSS SUPPORT FOR AN OPERATION AGAINST FIDEL CASTRO. MOLINA SAID HE WOULD CONSIDER THIS PLAN AND ALSO A PLAN FOR OPERATION AGAINST HAITI. IT WAS UNDERSTOOD BY <sup>AGENT</sup> [REDACTED] THAT THE SOCIETY MIGHT FINANCE THOSE OPERATIONS. ACCORDING TO MOLINA'S BUSINESS CARD, HE WAS ASSOCIATED WITH CONSOLIDATED INVESTMENT PROPERTIES, INC., MIAMI BEACH, AND/OR PALM BEACH DEVELOPMENT AND SALES CORPORATION.

3. FOLLOWING IS FROM STATION CARD. CARD INDICATES DOCUMENT (A [REDACTED] MEMO DATED 12 FEBRUARY 1969) IS FILED IN 201-265497 WHICH TRANSFERRED TO HQS IN MAY 1968. RAYMOND MOLINA, CUBAN, IS PROPRIETOR OF "AMERICANA SALES", AN EXPORT COMPANY WHICH APPEARS TO BE ONE OF THE SOURCES OF

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CONTRABAND ARMS AND OTHER PRODUCTS FOR COLOMBIA AND OTHER LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES. MOLINA HAD GONE TO PANAMA TO BUY WHISKEY WHICH WAS TO BE SMUGGLED INTO COLOMBIA.

4. SINCE PENABAZ AND MOLINA APPARENTLY ARE U.S. CITIZENS AND ARE INVOLVED IN U.S. POLITICS, STATION DID NOT QUERY AMOT. DEFER TO HQS FOR GUIDANCE ON HOW MUCH, IF ANY, OF ABOVE TRACES MAY BE DISCUSSED WITH EMWISE-7.

5. FILE: 201-271566. INDEX MOLINA.

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*(Handwritten initials)*