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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
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• ROUTINE

COUNTRY CUBA/GUATEMALA

TDCS DB-315/02278-65

DATE OF INFO 30 JUNE 1965

DISTR 6 JULY 1965

SUBJECT

PLANS OF ROBERTO ALEJOS ARZU TO UNDERTAKE
SMALL OPERATIONS IN GUATEMALA

PLACE & DATE ACQ. UNITED STATES, MIAMI (1 JULY 1965)

REF. IN 04494

SOURCE AND APPRAISAL: FIELD REPORT NO. UFG-7328

A CUBAN REFUGEE WHO HAS MANY CONTACTS AMONG CUBAN EXILE ACTIVISTS. PREVIOUS REPORTING FROM THE REFUGEE HAS PROVED TO BE FAIRLY RELIABLE. THIS INFORMATION WAS OBTAINED FROM [REDACTED]

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1. FIELD COMMENT: ROBERTO ALEJOS ARZU, GUATEMALAN MILLIONAIRE LIVING IN MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, HAD RECRUITED CUBAN EXILES IN THE MIAMI AREA WITH THE INTENTION OF TRANSPORTING THEM IN A B-25 TO MEXICO, TRAINING THEM, AND INFILTRATING THEM INTO GUATEMALA IN AN ATTEMPT TO OVERTHROW THE GOVERNMENT OF ENRIQUE PERALTA AZURDIA. HOWEVER, ON 4 MAY 1965, ALEJOS AND LUIS SIERRA LOPEZ, MILITARY LEADER OF THE CUBAN EXILES, HAD BEEN APPREHENDED AND THEIR ARMS CACHES SEIZED BY UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS.

2. ON 30 JUNE LUIS SIERRA LOPEZ SAID THAT HE WAS TRYING

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TO LOCATE THE WHEREABOUTS OF ONE SILENCER FOR AN M-3 SUBMACHINE GUN, ONE OF FOUR SILENCERS THAT WERE DELIVERED TO ROBERTO ALEJOS ARZU'S GROUP AFTER ITS CACHE OF WEAPONS HAD BEEN SEIZED BY UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS IN EARLY MAY. WHEN ASKED WHY HE NEEDED THE SILENCERS, SIERRA SAID THAT ALEJOS DID NOT TRUST THE GUATEMALAN GOVERNMENT CONCERNING THE PROPOSED HOLDING OF ELECTIONS ON 15 SEPTEMBER 1965. SIERRA SAID THAT HE HAD TALKED TO A MAN FROM GUATEMALA EARLIER IN THE DAY AND THAT THE FOUR SILENCERS THAT SIERRA HAD IN HIS POSSESSION WOULD BE SENT TO GUATEMALA.

3. SIERRA REVEALED THAT ALEJOS PLANS TO UNDERTAKE SMALL OPERATIONS WITHIN GUATEMALA AND TO USE ONLY TWO OR THREE MEN TO ACCOMPLISH THESE MISSIONS. HE SAID THAT ALEJOS WOULD NOT BE NEEDING ANY HEAVY ARMS TO CARRY OUT HIS PLANS.

4. SIERRA MENTIONED THAT ONE OF THE MEN WHOM HE HAD MET DURING HIS TRIP TO GUATEMALA IN LATE APRIL AND EARLY MAY, AN AIR FORCE OFFICER, TOLD SIERRA THAT ALEJOS WOULD NOT HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT THE GUATEMALAN AIR FORCE JETS BECAUSE THEY WERE LIGHTLY ARMED AND THEIR PILOTS WERE POORLY TRAINED. HOWEVER, THE OFFICER ADVISED SIERRA THAT THE PROPELLER-DRIVEN AIRCRAFT WOULD INDEED BE A THREAT BECAUSE THEY WERE HEAVILY ARMED AND WERE FLOWN BY WELL-TRAINED PILOTS. THE OFFICER THEN PROPOSED TO SIERRA THAT HE (THE OFFICER) BE NOTIFIED OF THE DATE OF ALEJOS' PLANNED COUP ATTEMPT SO THAT HE COULD ENTERTAIN SOME OF THE PILOTS AT HIS HOME ON THE NIGHT PRECEDING THE OPERATION. HE SAID THAT AFTER A FEW HOURS OF 'PARTYING', THE PILOTS WOULD BE RIPE

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FOR CAPTURE.

5. FIELD DISSEM: CINCSO, CINCLANT, COMKWESTFOR, MIAMI REPS
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SENT [PANAMA CITY], [GUATEMALA CITY], AND MEXICO CITY.)

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